

5.9.21 | River Rock | Yolande Hasselbeck

Ice Breaker: What did you eat for lunch on Mother's Day?

Key Scriptures:

Isaiah 61:3-4, 1 Timothy 1:5-7, Philippians 3:14-17, Romans 7:24-8:2

Key Takeaways:

- In Genesis, we read that God formed us from the dust of the ground. Another term for rich soil is humus, which is an organic component of soil. Humus is formed by rotting plant material. Humus is caused from rotting but is a rich source for new life. It retains moisture and holds nutrients, but you don't get there without some dying. We are called to die to ourselves and allow God to restore our unhealthy/rotting places.
- In the genealogy of Abraham, we can see a pattern passed down through the generations. Lies/brokenness can run down through the generations, but God promises to renew, restore, rebuild to beauty for ashes. The gift of faith runs through this genealogy as well. Abraham leaves his family home, He offers Isaac knowing God will provide the sacrifice, Jacob & Rachel raise up Joseph as a man of faith in spite of living most of his adult life in a foreign culture with foreign gods.
- Ashes look lifeless, they are the remains of something burnt, often wood or organic matter. Nothing is wasted when we give our ashes to God. Our past /genealogy have both beauty and ashes. Value the beauty, give God the ashes.
- We are called to restore, renew, rebuild through God. We can lead ourselves 1st and foremost Spiritually, Emotionally, Mentally, Physically. We influence ourselves, our children, our neighbors, in-laws, fellow students, coworkers. We all have a past; even if we have been empty in our past generations, our current situation, or even as we are looking ahead, restoration is God's promise to us.

Discussion:

1. Is there a lie or unhealthy cycle you've seen passed down in your own family generations?
2. How can you make some decisions to lead yourself through the Holy Spirit in these areas?
3. Is there anyone in your life right now that you can intentionally influence towards a path of restoration through God? (Spouse, Family Member, Friend, etc.)