

Going Deeper

Your weekly guide to understanding God with others

Tribe - Part 2

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Introduction

The impact of current world events has caused some of us to undertake home improvement projects. We love to renovate and redesign our homes and in times of turmoil this may become a welcome distraction. But there is a risk that such outward transformations can avert us from the necessary inner transformation that God wants us to address. God calls us into the renewal and restoration of our inner lives and relationships, towards His perfection and not ours.

Read

Colossians 3:1-17; 2 Corinthians 3:18

Discuss

1. Do you have a favourite television lifestyle or renovation show? What is it about this show you enjoy?
2. Our lives are full of imperfections. What are some challenges or frustrations you are facing? Is it the imperfect marriage, imperfect parenting, imperfect career? Why is it easier to focus on material renovations in our home, rather than dealing with turmoil in our inner lives?
3. "God isn't holding up a perfect picture in front of us." Do you agree with this statement? God wants to create new things in our lives towards His perfection. What are some of the things that could be hindering you from opening your heart to God? Why is this a challenge?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 3:18. What would need to change to let the Holy Spirit transform the imperfections in your life? What are some of the things that God may be seeking to adjust in your life today?

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5. Read Colossians 3:1-9. There are some things that we need to throw away in our lives. What is one thing God is showing you that you need to throw away in your personal world today?
6. Read Colossians 3:10-17. There are other things we may need to strengthen, restore or renovate. Why do we find personal restoration hard? What is a barrier to potentially restoring a broken relationship?
7. God gives us hope and the powerful resources of prayer and praise to sustain us in our challenging circumstances. Do you find it easy or difficult to utilise praise and prayer? Why might this be so?

Respond

We live in an imperfect world, but God is perfect. We can be assured that the Lord is graceful, and He is always there to hear our prayers. Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help us in our troubles and imperfections. Whatever you are facing today, be open to God's restoration work and commit all the imperfections to Him. What is one thing God is calling you to throw away today? What is one thing God is calling you to restore in your life? Commit to act upon one of these things this week.