

Sunday, 14 April

The God of New Beginnings

Lamentations 3:22-23:

*22 Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not 23
They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.*

This is a beautiful way of saying that God is ever ready to forgive, restore, and renew you. God is ever ready to give new beginnings, yet so many seem hindered by their past.

Truth to take hold of: God is ever ready to forgive, restore, and renew you.

1. Overcoming the old things that hinder you today.
 - 1.1 Gideon – Judges 6:11-12, 14-15
 - 1.2 What do you carry from day to day that hinders you from moving forward?
Guilt? A sense of failure? A sense of damaged identity? Perceiving yourself as inferior?
A second-class Christian? The fear of people? A fear of rejection?
 - 1.3 God does not want these things – lording over you...; Restricting you...; Binding you...;
Limiting you...
 - 1.4 People who were raised in negative, critical homes must overcome that influence.

- 2 Some people think the only way to experience a new beginning is to change something on the outside.

- 3 People who overcame the past and received a new beginning - Proverbs 24:16
 - 3.1 Moses - Acts 7:22-28
 - 3.2 Peter - Luke 22:31-34
 - 3.3 Paul - 1 Timothy 1:12-13, Philippians 3:13
 - 3.4 All of these men had to receive God's mercy and compassion to start over again.
 - 3.4.1 All these men had to come to a place of believing more in God's mercy for the present than in their own past mistakes.
 - 3.4.2 If they could do it, you can do it.

Conclusion: God is a God of New beginnings. His mercies are new every morning. Let go of the past and take hold of God's love, mercy, and abundant life.

Discussion Questions:

1. Is there anything from your past hindering you that you need to let go of?
2. How can you take hold of God's mercies every day and experience a new beginning?