September 12 Adult Spiritual Growth Class Synopsis

Our God of Hope: Making All Things New

Is God making things new in your life - do you see them?

Our God is always restoring, renewing, resurrecting; He is forever making new according to His perfect plan. His plan is to make all creation new in and through Christ, and yes, that includes each of us (*Revelation 21:5*).

While we like to keep things the way they are, God tells us to forget the former things and to look for the new thing He is doing in our world and in our lives (*Isaiah 43:18-19*). Isaiah prophesized ~700 years before Jesus' birth that God will do a new thing just as He will for the Israelites in their release from bondage in Babylon. As God will provide a way in the wilderness journey back to Judea for His people, He will provide yet a greater way - Christ Himself as the Way (Matthew 3:3, John 14:6)), the Truth and the Life. As God will make rivers in the desert for His people, Isaiah says that God will give a water that Jesus says quenches all thirst. He will give the Holy Spirit, rivers of living water that will flow from the believer's heart (*John 7:37-39*).

God has great plans for us (Jeremiah 29:11). Sometimes His plans are not so clear to us. His way can be uncomfortable and challenging at times. Most of the time His timing is not ours. We are called to let go of the old and trust in the new thing that God is doing. He is our Creator, who makes all things new according to His purpose. God's plans are exceedingly and abundantly better than any of us can imagine.

Through the promises in Christ Jesus (*John 3:16*) and the Holy Spirit (John 14:15-17), the God of Hope makes us a new creation. For by grace we have been saved (Ephesians 2:8-10) - the gift of God who gives us a new heart and puts a new spirit within us (*Ezekiel 36:26*).

We can rest in knowing that as God works His new creation in us, His love never ceases; His mercies are endless, which He pours out new on us every day *(Lamentations 3:22-24)*. God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit is our Unshakable Hope.

A song to reflect and pray on:

Big Daddy Weave - All Things New (Official Lyric Video) - YouTube