

REBUILD THE RUINS

Life Group Notes



CONNECT QUESTIONS

What is the tallest building you have ever been in?

If you had \$100 to spend, and you had to spend it on yourself right now, what would you buy?

Isaiah 61:1-4. The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor. They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations.

Jesus paid for our sins on the cross! He died and rose again that we might have life. However, the cross is not the end of the story – it's the beginning! When we come to Jesus we are made new – it is then that we begin a journey of becoming more like Jesus. Describe what your journey has been like to date:

We may be forgiven, we may be saved, but we also may be scarred by things from our past. Jesus wants to rebuild the ruins of our former (and maybe present) lives – he wants us to experience restoration. Are there areas in your life that you have experienced restoration and healing? Are there areas in your life that you believe still need to be healed and restored?

Check out **Ephesians 1:19-20.** God wants to rebuild and restore the ruins in our lives so that we might experience and know His power! Oftentimes we forget that this power is available and try to fix things in our own strength – or to live our lives in our own way. Are there areas in your life where you might need to let go and let God?

When God's power is at work in our lives, miracles happen! Scarred or damaged aspects of our lives can be restored and made whole – hope in the midst of the storm! When we allow God's power to work in us we become a living, walking testimony of God's power. How do you think your life reflects the power of God? What do you think people see when they look at the way you deal with challenges?

Check out **John 14:26**. The Holy Spirit wants us to rely on Him and His power – not on our own strength! What are some keys to learning to rely on God's power? How do you think you can access this power?

Ps. Treena gave us four keys to keep in mind when we think about rebuilding our lives:

1. Admit to our ruins (bring the bad into the light)
2. Keep rebuilding in spite of our ruins
3. Elevate our thinking – no more victim mentality – allow hope and faith to come to the forefront
4. Stop doubting – God is on our side! Believe in possibilities – not limitations

Which of these four keys resonate with you? Are there are areas that you feel you need to work on or need help with? Are there any areas where you feel you have grown or gained ground – share your breakthroughs with one another as well – and encourage one another with your stories of hope and faith.

What is ONE thing that you will do differently this week in order to put this message into action?

PRAYER

Pray for one another = pray that we would discover God's power to rebuild and restore the ruins in our lives

Pray that God's power would be evident in our lives and a real testimony to those around us