



Sermon Notes

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“Ingredients To a Fresh Start”

Isaiah 6

Introduction: Do you ever feel like you're stuck spiritually? Do you ever feel like you need a fresh start? You may be a Christian who wants something deeper or meaningful with God. Maybe there is an area in your life that you see is a little dry and needs a fresh start. Fresh starts aren't limited to Christians.

Let's identify what you need to when you want a fresh start spiritually.

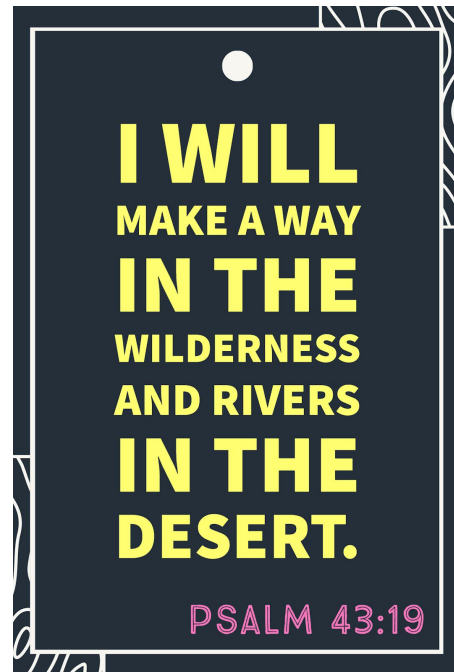
1. You Must Identify Your Pain

- a. A fresh start (change) in a person's life appears following a significant pain.
 - i. It may be the death of a dream, relationship, family shattered by divorce, or spiritual intimacy that you once had that has been strangled by apathy.
- b. To figure out what that pain is, ask yourself *“Why should I change?”*
- c. Some people cover up their pain and don't want to talk about it.
 - i. Feel like it's a done deal and doesn't really need to be brought up.
- d. We need to come clean and be honest with ourselves about what that pain is that is causing us to desire change. To desire a fresh start.

- e. Why should I change? You should change because the pain hurts.
- f. God may not necessarily bring that pain to you, but wants you to bring the pain to Him.
 - i. He is ready to deal with it so you can have a fresh start.

2. Clarify That It Is All About God (verses 1-3):

- a. Because of God, you can change.
- b. Many identify pain and turn to the wrong person for help.
 - i. They turn to infomercials and other things which leads to them leaving God as the last resort.
- c. Life altering changes are not going to happen without God.
- d. Isaiah says in chapter 6 that it is all about God that I don't want to waste my life.
 - i. I can change and will change because I don't want to settle for a mediocre, average, powerless life.
- e. God needs to be at the center of your life.
 - i. He is strong enough to give you a fresh start.



3. Testify To The Truth About Yourself (verse 5):

- a. Isaiah: Recognized that God is holy and he wasn't. God's glory fills the earth and his glory fills nothing.
- b. Things get real ugly when we see ourselves in the light of who God is.
 - i. Example, a two sided mirror. One side is regular with not much to see, and the other side shows a deeper look of you.
- c. Where is your heart?
 - i. If you want a fresh start, you have to answer that question.

- ii. If you look and evaluate your heart, you will see that it is not pretty (wicked thoughts, pride, impure motives...). It's ugly.
- iii. Many go through life and never evaluate.
- iv. When you evaluate, it draws you closer to God.

4. Nullify Your Past (verses 6-7):

- a. Regret:
 - i. God doesn't want you to live with regrets.
 - ii. He has given us an incredible gift called forgiveness.
 - iii. Regrets are inevitable and forgiveness is available.
 - iv. Psalm 32:5
 - v. God cares about fresh starts. Confess and He will forgive you.
- b. Guilt:
 - i. Guilt is not from God. Guilt is either from the flesh or the enemy.
 - ii. God will never bring up your past against you ever again. He promises us that in His word.
 - iii. We can nullify the past because God has nullified us from it.
- c. What are you holding on to?
 - i. Regret of failed relationships?
 - ii. Wrong choices or words? Hurtful things?
- d. Our Part and God's Part:
 - i. Our part is to acknowledge, confess and receive His forgiveness.
 - ii. His part is to forgive us.
- e. The problem is we want to relive the past.
- f. If God has forgiven you, then live like it.
- g. Don't paralyze your life.

5. Verify Your Availability To God (verse 8):

- a. Let God send you to do the work and will He has for you.
- b. Let God send you where He wants you to witness.
- c. There are very few things we can control.

- i. Don't give yourself an ulcer trying to control things that you cannot control.
- ii. What you can control, is your ability to say yes to God.

Conclusion: Isaiah experienced a fresh start with God. We can experience a fresh start with God as well. It's not as simple as you think. It takes a lot of work and faith to do that. Identify what pain is causing you the desire to change, know that it is all about God, see for who you really are, realize you are forgiven of your past, and let God send you (be available). Get started NOW!

