

Covered In Dust-Head: Character

Text: Luke 3:7-9; 2 Corinthians 7:11-13

Purpose: To be aware of the Holy Spirit's work in convicting us so we can turn from our sin and become people who bear fruit.

Opening Question: *What is one character trait you would like to grow more in?*

Read and Discuss: Luke 3:7-9

1. *How is repentance the key to producing fruit? How is repentance a good thing for us?*
2. *What are the signs that a person is ready to change? What does it look like for a person to change their character?*
3. *Read 2 Corinthians 7:10. Worldly repentance is the desire to repent, but a challenge that keeps us from change. Which one of the examples below can you relate to best and how can you overcome these challenges?*
 - Mere confession that you need to change without changing.
 - Repenting of everyone else's sin, but not your own. (Pharisee and tax collector)
 - Worldly sorrow because you fear the consequences of getting caught
 - Bargaining with God to manipulate what you want.
 - General repentance without specific sorrow over what has been done. (we all make mistakes/I'm not perfect)
 - Excuses (I was raised that way/I can't help it/I have a temper problem)

Read and Discuss: 2 Corinthians 7:11-13.

4. *"What eagerness to clear yourselves." How can we ask God to convict us? Do we want God to convict us?*
5. *How does unresolved sin keep us from bearing fruit?*
6. *"What readiness to see justice done." Is there any relationship in your life that needs repaired? Any person you need to forgive? Why is it important to forgive others and seek justice?*