

Fresh Start Part 1: Reflection

Genesis 1:27-28; 3:8-13; Psalm 139:23-24

- What was most memorable, challenging, or encouraging from the message this week?
- 2. What are some issues that are easy to spot in other people's lives, but are difficult to spot in your own life?
- 3. "Experience makes you wiser." Do you agree or disagree?
- 4. How does blaming instead of claiming affect those around you? Provide an example of how blaming instead of claiming affected someone else in your life.
- 5. Read Genesis 1:27-28. What do you notice about the responsibility God gave Adam and Eve?
- 6. Read Genesis 3:8-13. Knowing we have a tendency to blame instead of claim since the very beginning, why do we continue to do it?
- 7. If God is willing and ready to give us a fresh start, why do so many people refuse to take Him up on his offer?
- 8. What can you do this week to own your piece of the past so you can have peace with your past?

MOVING FORWARD

Even when we want a fresh start in some area of our life, oftentimes there's something in us that keeps us from actually experiencing it. Our blaming creates conflict—conflict with our families, friends, co-workers, even strangers. So the first step in making a fresh start is to pay attention to our piece of the past so we can make peace with our past. After all, experience doesn't make you wiser, evaluated experience makes you wiser.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

Psalm 139: 23-2