## 4.18.21 | Harris Hill | Pastor Jon Hasselbeck

Ice Breaker: If you could live one day again, which day would you choose and why?

Key Scriptures: Genesis 1:26, Romans 8:1

## **Key Takeaways:**

- The Old Testament ends with curse. The entire New Testament talks about Christ breaking the curse and the blessings he brings. Often it is easy to start with Genesis 3, talking about the fall of man. But importantly, Chapters 1-2 talks about blessings.
- In verse 1, God *breathes* life into dust to create us, not because he needed us, but because he wanted to share family. God's family was perfect with the son and holy spirit, and creation shared that image of family. Often when we first meet a baby, we look to see if they look like their mother or look like their father.
- Similarly, we were made to be in God's image. Often, we can find ourselves doing things in life to prove that we are worthy or earn God's love. We also can find ourselves jealous of others who may seem more deserving, when, jealousy can be the byproduct of not understanding who we are in Christ.
- God's purpose of us on earth was not to be orphans trying to earn God's love, but to each uniquely be different facets of God- being made in his image. Sometimes we hide from God because we fear what he may really think of what is inside of us, like Adam and Eve hid themselves when they realized they were naked.
- Though we sometimes feel like orphans, Jesus came to break the curse to allow the holy spirit to be with us always. We don't have to do anything but receive the amazing grace and love from God.

## **Discussion:**

- 1. Do you have areas that you lock away from God out of fear? Feel free to share.
- 2. Do you see yourself as an orphan earning God's love, or a child open to receive the father's love? Why?
- 3. What role does comparison or jealousy play in your life?
- 4. How much would your life differ without comparison?
- 5. Do you feel you embody being a child of Christ? What steps do you take to fully understand and believe this truth?