

7.29.12

Walking Dusty...

teacher: Dan

Being an American is often synonymous with being comfortable. If it's too hot, we turn up the air. If nothing in our fridge sounds good, we go out to eat. If we don't like the clothes that are hanging in our closet, we go shopping. But at Mosaic yesterday, I felt uncomfortable. In the video that was shown, there were pictures of poverty and hurting people. Those scenes remind me that what I waste my time and energy on are of so little value – and certainly no eternal value.

When Dan talked through the idea of LOVE.LIVE.LEAD I felt uncomfortable again. Loving God and understanding what His love for me really looks like takes a lot of work. I have to read Scripture – not just the newest Christian best seller. I have to go to Him with my problems – not just complain about them in the lunchroom at work. And I have to talk to Him. It's a little more complicated than simply posting a comment on Facebook.

Living the Christian life also makes me uncomfortable. I'm always messing things up – and people are watching. I don't get it right as often as I'd like, and my children, husband, family, and friends see my faults. They know I've failed. They can see when I choose not to lead by example ... when I take the easy way out ... when I avoid the difficult conversations. Very often they don't see Jesus in me.

But if I was comfortable, I wouldn't be growing. If I was content with the injustice in the world, I wouldn't be feeling. If I was satisfied with all my relationships, I would be stagnant. And I don't think that's where God wants me. He wants me to feel. He wants me to hurt. And he wants me to be burdened for the pain around me. It's at that point that I will seek Him. It's then that I will know I can't do it alone. And when I see my weakness, it's then that I will see God's strength.

Questions to Consider:

The Greatest Commandment is "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37, 39) Can I love, live, and lead like Jesus?

What vision has God given me for where He wants me to serve? What am I wired to do? Where has God opened my eyes?

What makes me uncomfortable?

In what areas am I too comfortable?

This month's memory verse: *On hearing this, Jesus said to them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."* Mark 2:17 TNIV

Reminders: SEE WEBSITE!

Radical Reminder:

I will pray for the entire world.

I will read through the entire Word.

I will sacrifice my money for a specific purpose.

I will spend time in another context.

I will commit my life to a multiplying community.