

WELCOME

Our Mission is to . . .

- Connect you to Jesus
- Connect you to His community for discipleship
- Connect you to your mission and purpose in life

We are not here to tell you what to wear, eat, listen to, vote for, or even believe. These are things you must determine for yourself if you want to have real faith. We are here to give you truth, facts, tools and point out that every choice, every belief, and every action you make is tied to an outcome in your life. You can't do life without developing a strong foundation and becoming a person of substance. This is your journey, your discovery, and you will reap the benefit of the work you do.

FHNew - Our mission as a church is to do everything we can to help you grow your faith. If you would like to get to know us a little better or begin or continue your journey of faith, text **FHNew** to **53123** and we will send you a link to a few short videos about Foothills Church, or stop by the **Connection booth in the Atrium.**

You can also fill out a **Connect card** using the QR code on the screen or the actual card on the back of the chair in front of you. If you have a **PRAYER REQUEST**, this is a good place to write it out and place in the ORANGE offering box in the back of the Sanctuary.

FHBaptism - One important step in your faith journey is being baptized. To learn more about baptism, text **FHBaptism** to **53123** and we will send you the teaching on Believers' Baptism.

ONGOING/UPCOMING

- MomCo - [Foothills MomCo - Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](https://www.churchcenter.com)
- Small Groups - [Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](https://www.churchcenter.com)

INTRODUCTION: Interim Pastor Trent Renner

PARDON OUR DUST – The “US” In DUST: Guilt, Anger, Greed, Jealousy

Have you ever noticed the word “US” in DUST? We all have a little dUSt in us...

Life has a tendency to try to chop us down. In fact, if you had to guess...what would say is the hardest part of life? THE FIRST 100 years!

Here's the reality...we are all “messed-up” and it is astonishing how mad I can get at you simply because you are messed up differently than I am.

So, we all, in the first 100 years, can get a little salty-sassy-silly-and DUSTY!

Do you have feelings of anger, resentment or hatred toward someone who has hurt you?
Do those feelings linger with you?

- A sure sign of the presence of un-Christlike living is the dusting of guilt, anger, greed or jealousy that settles in our life and we never dust it off!
- This kind of living creates anxiety and stress, and it literally begins to suffocate you from the inside out.

Some people are able to notice the dust and dust it off, and others stay dusty. They can't surrender and humbly face the feelings and the meaning of guilt, anger, greed, or jealousy, so they end up sneezing on everybody around them...blowing the dust onto others ... infecting others.

- WATER BOTTLE ILLUSTRATION: WHY DID WATER COME OUT?

Jesus said in **Matthew 15:18-20 (NLT)**, *“But the words you speak (actions) come from the heart—that’s what defiles you. For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander. These are what defile you.”*

Today I want us to be aware of the **4 greatest dust particles in us**. This dust blankets our hearts, and it affect our souls, minds, and our strength. I want us to learn together how we can dust them off.

FOUR KINDS OF DUST THAT “G.A.G. J.ESUS”

- G.UILT
- A.NGER
- G.REED
- J.EALOUSY

1. The dust particle of GUILT

The Bible is loaded with stories of people who behaved in ways that ended their lives in violent and terrible circumstances. Most of it was self-contributed. Guilt is a dust that suffocates us from the inside out.

Likely the best Bible example is the life of Judas Iscariot...the one who sold out Jesus for 30 pieces of silver and betrayed Jesus with a kiss.

- THE REST OF THE STORY: Judas gave back the coins but ran out and committed suicide.

What would Jesus have done from the cross if Judas had run to Him and apologized?

Guilt is fear of the loss of community because of what I’ve done.

- Guilt says “_I_ owe you.”

How to clean up my GUILT-DUST?

- **I must apologize.** "Please, PARDON MY DUST"

Thoughts about GUILT & HURT

Sometimes, people do not feel guilty for hurting you, because they literally do not know they hurt you. When this is a reality, what should you do, if you are the hurt one?

- Should you run to others and tell them how this person has hurt you?
- Should you run to the elders and tell them how you've been wounded?
- Do you gossip about the person who hurt you?

No! Jesus said in **Matthew 18:15-17** to go directly to the person and try to work it out.

- We are told in scripture to approach one another individually to work out our differences and Jesus then tells us that if that doesn't work, to bring others into the conversation.

(ESV) 15 "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. **16** But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. **17** If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

Some people think that GOSSIP is only when you talk about someone else. The reality is, **we gossip when we even receive an accusation about someone else.**

- Gossip is a 2-party system...the talker and the receiver

So, how do we dust off GUILT?

- James 5:16 says, "Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another that you may be healed."
- Guilt says, I owe you, therefore... **I must APOLOGIZE.**

2. The dust particle of ANGER

- Anger says, "You owe me."
- Anger needs a Target.
- ANGER is one letter away from DANGER

Anger has as many shapes as people have. When angry, children wet beds, husbands withdraw behind work and cell phones, anger leads to gossip over the phone, some drown in drinks, food, pills, drugs, etc.

If the dust of anger is allowed to settle on your life...

- Your body will rebel with asthma attacks, ulcers, hyper tension, headaches, colitis, arthritis, coronary disease, and mental illness.
- Unresolved anger often results in self-hatred and depression.
- If you say you never feel angry, then likely you are converting your anger into illness
- Everybody gets angry on occasion. Even Jesus got angry!

There ARE many ways of positively dealing with anger.

- Some work by chopping wood, scrubbing floors, taking a hot shower.
- These are ways to get your anger dust in the dust pan but your problem now is that you never let go of the dust pan or dump the dust pan!

THUS... Past hurts remain and the anger dust layer gets thicker -- layers of Anger!

- Many find when they can pin their feelings down into words and then share how they feel, the anger from past hurts begins to heal.
- Clearing out Anger happens in PARDONING! This means believing that Jesus's sacrifice was the full payment needed for that person's offense.
- If you don't forgive and release the anger, you end up in a prison.
- Anger says... You owe me! So, to dust off anger, **I must PARDON/FORGIVE.**

FORGIVENESS IS NOT...

- Just letting time pass
- Disregarding the wrong another person has done against you
- Pretending that their offense did not matter
- These are not true forgiveness and you will not experience freedom from your prison. Your offender was in the wrong, but you are the one who ends up in bondage (RENT FREE)

Your prison of anger and unforgiveness has 4 prison bars of unforgiveness

- THE OFFENSE--this is the wrong the person did to you
- THE HURT--This is how you feel as a result of the offense
- THE RAMIFICATIONS--This is how the offense affected your life afterwards (ripples)
- MY SINFUL REACTIONS--The wrong choices I made as a result of the offense (Hurt People)

Have you ever offended/hurt anyone? Did Jesus die for your sins?

- To conquer anger is to set a prisoner free... only to realize the prisoner was me!
- Guilt says “_I_ owe you.” **I must Apologize**
- Anger says, “__You _ owe me.” **I must Forgive**
- Greed says, “_I__ owe me.” **I must be a Giver**

3. The dust particle of GREED

- The greatest way to conquer being a greedy person is to learn to be **generous**.

1 John 3:17 says, “If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?”

Psalms 112:5 says, “Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely.”

- IMO, generosity begins at 11% of my income.

“Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. “But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.” **1 Chronicles 29:11-14** (King David)

Guilt says “__I__ owe you.” **I must Apologize**

Anger says, “___ You __ owe me.” **I must Forgive**

Greed says, “__I__ owe me.” **I must be a Giver**

Jealousy says, “God owes me.” **I must . . .**

4. The dust particle of JEALOUSY

- Jealousy dust sneakily settles on your whole life
- It has a goal to isolate you from others
- Once it gets a couple layers on you, it leaves you feeling dehydrated -- it makes you thirst for what others have
- When this strong layer of dust makes its home in your heart, it even causes you to rejoice when others fail
- Jealousy best shows itself through Money, Sex and Power -- “Triple braided cord.”

If jealousy dust dehydrates you, remember that Jesus says that **He is living water that quenches all your thirsts!** When you are full and content and can celebrate other’s successes, then you truly become a person of love.

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.” **1 Corinthians 13:4-7**

- **Now use your own name in place of “love”**

The best way to dust off Jealousy is to celebrate others' successes.

- Guilt says "I owe you." **I must Apologize**
- Anger says, "You owe me." **I must Forgive**
- Greed says, "I owe me." **I must be a Giver**
- Jealousy says, "God owes me." **I must Celebrate Others' Success**

Matthew 5:21-26 (ESV) *"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' 22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. 23 So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. 25 Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. 26 Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.*

Once you get dusted off, what now?

- Love the Lord with your all heart

MATTHEW 22:36-40 *"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*