## RESTORE OUR FORTUNES, O LORD

On their pilgrimage up to Jerusalem, the Jews would sing a very powerful song. They reflected upon a time when the fortunes of their people weren't the best, and Yahweh brought them back to a place of blessedness.

Psalm 126
A Song of Ascents.
1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."
3 The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad.
4 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like streams in the Negeb!
5 Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!
6 He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.
We don't have to look far to notice that things aren't going like we know they should. Unfortunately, this is true not only for our world, nation, and culture but also for God's people. Especially in the time of Spring, when we see new life sprouting around us, we feel the pain of famine and the fear of scarcity. In sadness, we weep bitterly.

Yet, all is not lost. Because when we can't. God can. However, sometimes we lose sight of this. We work and work towards God's intent, but not much happens. The needle doesn't do much but quiver. The tank is nearly empty. However, we long for revival and restoration. It is important to remember the words of Paul in God's greatest endeavor as he reflects:

1 Corinthians 3:7
So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.
The questions we must ask ourselves: Are we praying and longing? Are we preparing and remembering? As we enter his presence today, do we long for what God can do? Are we relying upon him to do it? Are we positioning ourselves in faithfulness and allegiance to receive with shouts of joy?

God can! And God will! Are you ready?
Shalom, Ryan

