

NEW YEAR NEW YOU

(2 Cor. 5:17)

Introduction:

1. It is not only the year that is NEW, but so ought to be every Christian and those seeking to be Christian.
2. The amazing things that God has done for us in and through Christ ought to inspire/compel all people to become new again via the blood of Christ (Rom. 6:4) and to then strive for conformity to Christ (Rom. 8:29; 1 Cor. 11:1).
3. Let us this morning consider the HOW, the WHAT, and the GOAL of not the New Year, but the New You!

Discussion:

I. The HOW of a new you!

- A. Those who were/are outside of Christ (Eph. 2:1-10).
- B. Those who are in Christ (1 Thess. 4:1-12).

II. The WHAT of a new you!

- A. To shine as Christian friends/neighbors, different than the world around us (Matt. 5:13-16; 1 Pet. 4:1-6; Luke 10:25-37).
- B. To shine as Christian spouses, different from the world around us (1 Pet. 3:1-7).
- C. To shine as Christian parents/grandparents, different from the world around us (Deut. 4:9; 6:7-25).

III. The GOAL of a new you!

- A. The transformational goal is Christ (Eph. 4:11-16).
- B. The transformational duration is unto death (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:6-8).

Conclusion:

1. Let us consider 2 Cor. 5:17 again. Note the facts and don't miss the condition. The only one who can prevent you from becoming a new creation, the creation God intended, is you.
2. IF, THEN. This is a reality of life and is especially true in the faith (1 John 5:13; 2 Cor. 13:5; Matt. 11:28-30).
3. Invitation.

MORE ON "NEW YEAR NEW YOU"

1. More on the HOW = John 6:54 + 1 Cor. 2:16 + Phil. 2:1-16 = Eph. 4:13, 15.
2. More on the WHAT =
 - Be Christ-like with friends and neighbors (Matt. 22:39 [Lev. 19:18]; Rom. 15:2, 3; 1 Cor. 10:24; Phil. 2:4; et al.
 - Be Christ-like with your spouse (Eph. 5:22-33).
 - Be Christ-like with your children/parents (Eph. 6:1-4).
3. More on the GOAL =

- It is all about conformity to the image of God (Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:3; John 14:9; John 6 [eat/drink Me] and John 21 [follow me]; Rom. 8:29; Note 1 Pet. 1:13-16.

- We are judged not on attainment (thank the Lord) but on our striving (Luke 13:24; Heb. 4:11; 1 John 1:7).

4. God created man upright but he chose to fall away. God provided the way for man to become upright yet again (new) and invites all to come and share His glory. What is the problem? The person in the mirror, egged on by a fallen angel.

PRAYER LIST FOR WEEK STARTING DEC. 31ST

Those with long term issues

Louise Williams, Cliff and Rachel Greenawalt and their family, Ruth Vaughn as she lives with diabetes and MS, and Harrison Waldron.

Those with short term issues

- ▶ Darrell McKee and Jeff Hofgren as they continue to recovery from cancer treatments.
- ▶ Frances Davis as she struggles with some health issues and is moving.
- ▶ John Pellin as he recovers from cracked ribs.
- ▶ Kyle Lingenfelter as he seeks to find the cause and a treatment for his right wrist/hand.
- ▶ Owen Hastings as he recovers from breaking his foot.
- ▶ Our members who are traveling.
- ▶ Our college students who are away from us in body, but not in spirit.
- ▶ Our leadership in the church; that they might be faithful, strong, and bold.
- ▶ Our community; that they may seek the Lord and we might be able to guide them into the truth.