



New Year, New.....?

SERMON OUTLINE

Sunday January 3rd, 2021

- **What Have You Lost?**

- **New Year, New...?**

Here's the good news: 2020 is in the books! It's over! It's in the past! But the emotional, spiritual and physical impact of 2020 sits with us.

- What will 2021 look like?
 - i) There will be blessing
 - ii) There will be hardship
 - iii) There will be uncertainty
 - iv) There will be change

- **Grieving the past to make room for the future**

Psalm 137

- I. Whenever there is loss, there is grief
- II. Lack of compassion drives the grief deeper
- III. The fear in grief is we will lose our center
- IV. The fear is we will forget God
- V. When you feel betrayed it results in hurt and confusion
- VI. When Anger Takes Over

"Weeping may last through the night, but joy comes with the morning." (Psalm 30:5, NLT)

“Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.”

(Ephesians 4:26–27, ESV)

“And “don’t sin by letting anger control you.” Don’t let the sun go down while you are still angry, for anger gives a foothold to the devil.” (Ephesians 4:26–27, NLT)

- **A Prayer of Grief**

- Make a list of your losses. Be honest and real, don’t spiritualize it.
- Pray through your list.
- Dear Jesus, I bring to you my loss of _____. My heart and soul hurt with disappointment and anger because of what I have missed. I ask you to help me place my grief in your loving hands, receive your healing grace and trust your greater plan for my life. As I grieve in this moment, I forgive _____ for how they have hurt me. Lord Jesus, release me from being captive to my hurt and give me hope for the future. In my freedom let me live as a light to others in my world. I pray this in your name. Amen

- **Lay Down Your Loss So You Can Take Up The Blessing**

“May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace.” (Numbers 6:24–26, NLT)

The Blessing - Elevation Worship

Come Receive Jesus

Go Be Jesus

KEEP CONNECTED THIS SEASON

Life Groups are officially on break until January 2021. *HOWEVER, that doesn't mean that we are on break from each other.* Now more than ever, being engaged in community is key to our wellbeing. Below are suggestions for staying connected in intentional, Jesus-centered relationships:

LECTIO 365.24-7 PRAYER

<https://www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional>

Lectio 365 is a free daily devotional resource that helps you pray the Bible on your computer, phone or tablet. It is written in real-time by leaders from the **24-7 Prayer movement**, so it is truly pertinent to our times. This resource helps you engage with Scripture to inspire prayer and shape your life.

YOU VERSION BIBLE APP - bible.com

The Bible App is a free, with no advertising and no in-app purchases resource. Choose from more than 1,200 Bible versions in over 900 languages on your computer, phone, or tablet - with many available as audio Bibles. This resource also allows you to connect with friends. Many of our Life Groups are finding that the shared experience of **doing devotionals together** is a great way to keep in touch, while encouraging each other with real-life applications and insights.

ZOOM <https://zoom.us>

Face-to-face interaction is the next best thing to being together in-person. Connect and chat on your computer, phone or tablet. Zoom and other virtual platforms can help your group **see each other while still keeping socially distant**. If you need help getting your group set-up on Zoom, please contact the church.

SMALL HOME GATHERINGS

Nothing beats actually getting together in-person to stay engaged in **supportive relationships**. During these pandemic times, small home gatherings where safety precautions are in place, are good ways to celebrate this season, and beat the holiday blues.