New Beginnings

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2 Corinthians 5:17 -"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." NEW BEGINNINGS

Top New Year's Resolutions for 2023

- ✓ Exercise More 52%
- ✓ Eat Healthier 50%
- ✓ Lose weight 40%
- ✓ Save more money 39%
- ✓ Spend more time with family/friends 37%
- ✓ Spend less time on social media 20%
- ✓ Reduce stress on job 19%
- ✓ Reduce spending on living expenses 19%





Story of a Little Girl

Lamentations 3:22-24 – "Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."



Does God offer us new beginnings?

John 10:10 – "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Isaiah 43: 18-19 - "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. ¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?....."



Do you need a Fresh Start? S-T-A-R-T by Rick Warren

- Stop making excuses for not starting
- Take stock of what you have
- > Act in Faith
- Refocus your mind
- Trust that God knows what he is doing



Other Tips for Christians making a Fresh Start

- Shift your focus from yourself
- Forgive others
- Seek Godly counsel from mature Christians
- Pray for making a fresh start
- Seek balance and choose your own adventure



How does Christ make us New?

2 Corinthians 5:17 -"Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

- New Relationship
- New <u>Citizenship</u>
- New Family
- New Purpose
- New Power
- New <u>Destiny</u>
- New <u>Journey</u>



How does Christ make us New?

- 1. New Relationship: Ephesians 2:12 "remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.
- 2. New Citizenship: Acts 5:29 Peter and the other apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than human beings!"
- 3. New Family: You are not alone!
- 4. New Purpose: We are living for Christ, just not ourselves!



How does Christ make us New?

- 5. New Power: Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
- **6. New Destiny:** Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
- 7. New Journey: Your new beginning doesn't end!



How to find your new beginning?

- ➤ Stop making excuses
- ➤ Take stock of what you have
- ➤ Act in Faith
- >Refocus your mind
- ➤ Trust that God knows what he is doing

- ➤ Shift your focus from yourself
- > Forgive others
- ➤ Seek Godly counsel
- ➤ Pray for making a fresh start
- ➤ Seek balance and choose your own adventure



Seek your first love – the one who loved you first! Jesus!