

# MAKING THE NEW YEAR TRULY NEW

December 29, 2019

*I do not mean that I am already as God wants me to be. I have not yet reached that goal, but I continue trying to reach it and make it mine. Christ wants me to do that, which is the reason he made me his. ...I know that I have not yet reached that goal, but there is one thing I always do. Forgetting the past and straining toward what is ahead, I keep trying to reach the goal and get the prize for which God called me through Christ to the life above.*

– Phil. 3:12-14 NCV

## 3 KEY QUESTIONS AS WE START A NEW YEAR:

### 1. What do I need to put off, and what do I need to put on?

*You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. – Eph. 4:22-24 NIV*

*The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. – Rom. 13:12 NIV*

*But clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ and forget about satisfying your sinful self. – Rom. 13:14 NCV*

*And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. – Gal. 3:27 NLT*

### 2. Where are the closed doors, and where are the open doors?

*There is a wide-open door for a great work here, although many oppose me. – 1 Cor. 16:9 NLT*

*“See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut.” – Rev. 3:8 NIV*

*Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word on the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.” – Acts 16:6-10 NIV*

### 3. What is most important, and what is truly unimportant?

*“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important*

*than clothes? But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” – Matt. 6:25, 33 NIV*

*What is important is faith expressing itself in love. – Gal. 5:6 NLT*

**2020 Daily Bible Reading Plan:**

January 1:	Genesis 1
January 2:	Genesis 2
January 3:	Genesis 3
January 4:	Genesis 4