



Hopeful Hearts Ministry



*Sunday
1-2026*

*A Message From
Hopeful Hearts Ministry*



Dear Friends,

As we step into this new year together, I want to welcome you to the first Sunday of 2026 with a message of hope and renewal. A new year often invites reflection on where we have been and where God is leading us. It reminds us that, in Christ, every beginning is filled with grace.

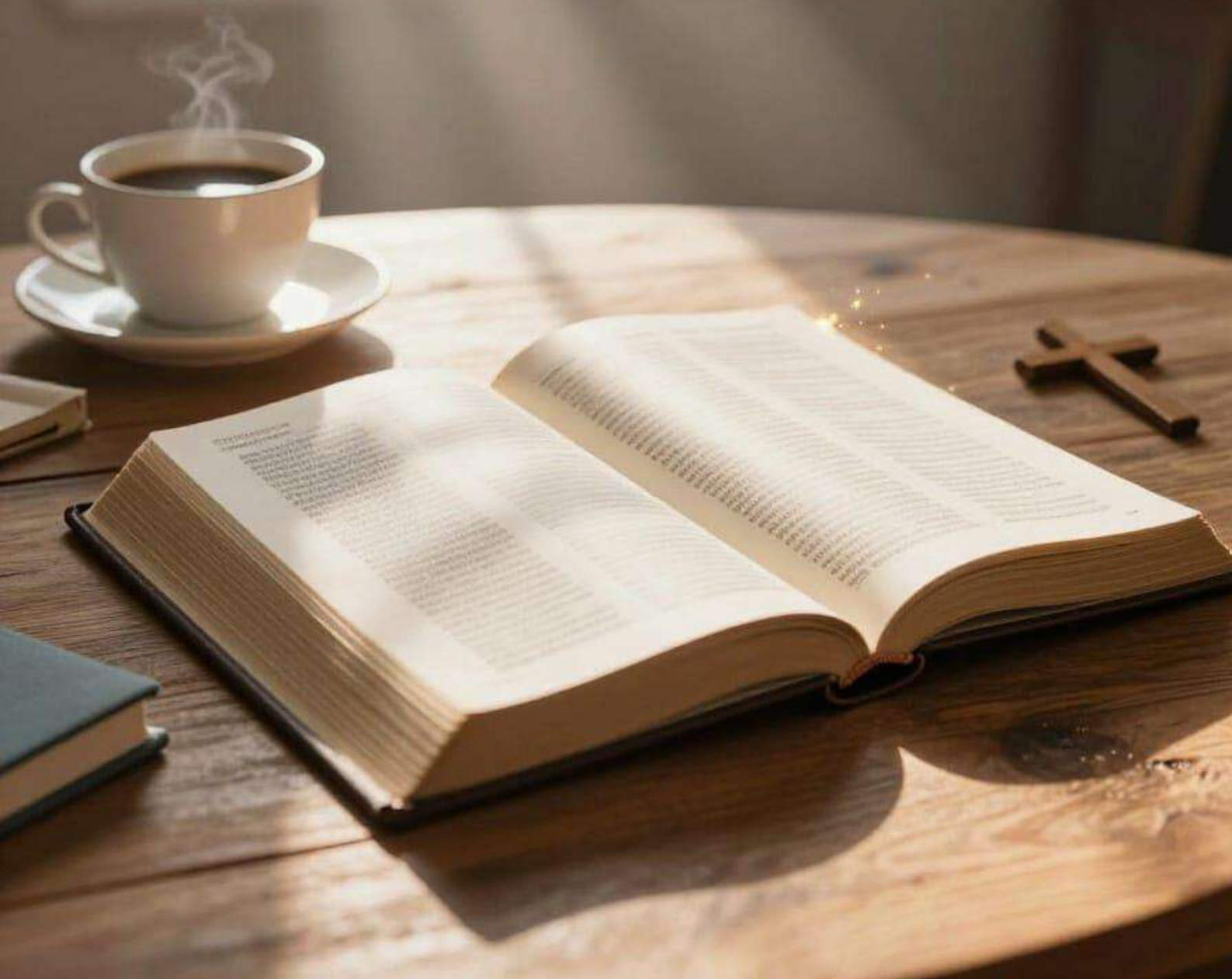
Scripture tells us that if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has passed away, and the new has come. This truth anchors our faith as we move forward into the year ahead. No matter what the past year held joys, challenges, victories, or struggles we are not defined by what lies behind us. In Jesus, we are made new.

As a pastor, my prayer for this year is that we would walk confidently in this new identity. May we leave behind what no longer reflects God's purpose for us and embrace the transforming work of His Spirit. Let us grow together in faith, love, and obedience, allowing Christ to shape our hearts and our lives.

Welcome to a new year. Welcome to new beginnings. And above all, welcome to the continuing work of God making us new in Christ.

**With love and blessings,
Pastor Dan
*Hopeful Hearts Ministry***

Bible Lesson of the Week.



A New Creation in Christ

One of the most powerful truths of the Christian faith is that life in Christ brings real and lasting change. When we come to Jesus, we do not simply receive forgiveness we are made new. In 2 Corinthians 5:17, the apostle Paul reminds us that faith in Christ marks the beginning of a transformed life.

To be in Christ means more than believing facts about Jesus. It means placing our trust in Him, receiving His grace, and entering into a living relationship with Him. When we are in Christ, our identity is no longer defined by our past mistakes, sins, or failures. Instead, we are defined by who Christ is and what He has done for us.

Paul says, The old has passed away. This does not mean that believers instantly become perfect or free from all struggles. Rather, it means that our old way of life dominated by sin, guilt, and separation from God no longer has authority over us. Through Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and given a new direction.

Being a new creation means we now live with a new heart, a new purpose, and a new hope. God begins a lifelong work of renewal within us. Our desires, attitudes, and choices slowly align with His will as the Holy Spirit works in us. This new life is not something we earn; it is a gift of grace.

As new creations, we are called to live differently.

To walk in forgiveness rather than guilt.

To choose love instead of bitterness.

To live with hope rather than fear.

Our lives become a testimony to God's transforming power. Others should be able to see the change Christ is making in us.

This Week's Prayer





**Heavenly Father,
We come before You with grateful hearts, thanking You for the gift of
new life in Christ. Your Word declares that if anyone is in Christ, they
are a new creation. Today, we receive this truth again and rejoice in the
grace You have given us.**

**Lord Jesus, thank You for taking away the old and bringing forth the
new. Help us to release past failures, regrets, and fears that no longer
define who we are. Teach us to walk in the freedom and forgiveness
You have secured for us through the cross.**

**Holy Spirit, continue Your transforming work within us. Renew our
minds, shape our hearts, and guide our steps throughout this week.
May our words, choices, and actions reflect the new life we have in
Christ. Where we feel weak, remind us that You are at work, making all
things new.**

**As we move through this week, help us to live as new creations loving
others, seeking peace, and walking in obedience. May our lives be a
testimony of Your grace and power, bringing glory to Your name.**

**We trust You with this week and with our lives.
In the name of Jesus, Amen.**



Bible Quiz

Learn. Grow. Shine.



1. According to 2 Corinthians 5:17, who becomes a new creation?

- A. Anyone who does good works
- B. Anyone who follows religious rules
- C. Anyone who is in Christ
- D. Anyone who never sins

Answer: C — Anyone who is in Christ

2. What does the verse say has passed away?

- A. The law
- B. The old life
- C. The future
- D. The body

Answer: B — The old life

3. What has come for those who are in Christ?

- A. A new set of rules
- B. A new creation
- C. A perfect life
- D. Instant perfection

Answer: B — A new creation

4. What is the main message of 2 Corinthians 5:17?

- A. Change comes through effort alone
- B. God forgets our past
- C. Life in Christ brings real transformation
- D. Only certain people can change

Answer: C — Life in Christ brings real transformation



My
Practice
for This
Week

This week, I choose to live in the truth that I am a new creation in Christ. Rather than being shaped by my past, I will allow God's Word and Spirit to guide my thoughts, actions, and decisions.

1. Remember My New Identity

Each morning, I will remind myself that I belong to Christ and that my life is being made new. I will begin the day with gratitude for God's grace rather than focusing on yesterday's failures.

2. Let Go of the Old

I will intentionally release habits, attitudes, or thoughts that no longer reflect who I am in Christ. When old patterns surface, I will bring them to God in prayer.

3. Walk in Newness of Life

I will look for opportunities to live differently choosing love over judgment, forgiveness over bitterness, and faith over fear.

4. Renew My Mind with God's Word

I will spend time reading and reflecting on Scripture, allowing God's truth to reshape the way I think and respond throughout the week.

5. Reflect Christ to Others

As a new creation, I will aim to be a living testimony of God's grace through kindness, patience, and humility in my relationships.