

Spilling the Beans on Starting Over

Let me ask you, have you ever wished you could rewind and start your life all over again without making the mistakes you've made in the past? Well, I want to tell you that you can do the next best thing.

Now, how is this possible? It's possible by giving your life to Jesus Christ; then you can actually have a clean slate to start over again. This is not just my view; it's in the Bible. In 2 Corinthians 5 verse 17 (NKJV) we can read this: **Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.** So, what will this start over be like with Christ in your life?

Well first of all, all guilt will be removed because the Lord is a forgiving God. Scripture makes this quite clear in Psalm 103 verse 12 (NIV). This is what we can read: **As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.** And 'He' is God. You therefore just need to understand that after you give your life to Jesus, who is the son of God, you're totally forgiven. Any feelings of guilt you may experience from your pre-Christian days, your behaviour and actions at those times, is not from the Lord.

Now secondly, you'll be changed inside for the better. This won't be instantaneous because it's a process, but when the Holy Spirit resides in you, as He does with all Christ-followers, you will begin to feel a difference, which over time will see you become a much better version of yourself – one that is more Christ-like.

If you have fear, you'll also begin to see it disappear as Christ begins to show you the truth of His promise, which is also Biblical, recorded in Romans 8:28 (NIV) which states that: **In all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.** When you have that promise, why would you live in fear?

Now last, but by no means least, you'll begin to receive uncommon favour because God takes care of own. He takes care of His faithful and obedient children. This will occur in so many ways, not least in the training He'll give you day by day as you walk with Him.

Now, this time of year, we hear much talk about New Year's resolutions often about trivial issues in life.

My message to you today is to make the greatest New Year's resolution that you will ever make in your life, which is to start over with Christ.

God bless you throughout 2020.

Discussion Questions

1. When Jesus enters your life, why is it that you have a chance to start over? [[L]]
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2. What does 'guilt is not from the Lord' mean? [[L]]
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3. Why does the promise of Romans 8:28 actually free you from all fear? [[L]]
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4. If Christians attract God's uncommon favour, why are they not all wealthy? [[L]]
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The Little Church World
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