

The lesson I had prepared for January was entitled "Our Journey into the New Year"

We had to cancel January's class because of the untimely death of our daughter, Robbyn.

I will present that same lesson today but with more emphasis on the fact that life is short and fleeting.

James 4:14 Reminds us that we are as a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes away

1 Peter 1:24 All flesh is as grass and all the glory of man is as the flower of the grass - The grass withers and the flower fades

So when I talk about stepping out into the Unknown year - I now know by experience that we step out into the Unknown month - The Unknown week the Unknown Day - The Unknown hour and minute

But I can say with confidence because of my faith in Christ Jesus that I know who holds tomorrow and I know He holds my hand

- Forrest - Opening Prayer

- Dean - 2 Songs

OUR Journey into the New Year

PRESENT (21)

Page 1
January
16-2025

The year 2024 is now History and we Embark on our journey into 2025.

What that year will bring or how we will experience it, we do not know. We will step into The Unknown. —

Do we go forth with fear and trembling or with head held high with hope?

From Birth until death, our entire life is a Journey - From the Cradle to the grave. - ever changing chapters of our life.

A mixture of Joy, sadness, expectations, disappointments, adversities, one step, one day at a time, molding us into who we are now and what we will be like in the future.

What will we need as we journey into the New Year?

Let us explore the breakdown of any journey - First and foremost, we must have a destination in mind - Where do we want this journey to end?

That final destination for a Believer is Heaven

What might we need for our trip?

We need a Road map To Show us the way - That map is God's Word.

① PS
★ Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

② ★ Read Romans 1:16-17

We need a light to show us the way through the darkness.

.. Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path

This verse beautifully illustrates the guidance and direction that God's word provides for our lives - Just as a Lamp illuminates our path in the dark, God's word shines light on our journey helping us navigate life's challenges and uncertainties

(PS)

We need the appropriate clothing for our journey

✓ ★ Isaiah 61:10

Some days our path will lead us through lush green pastures - Other times we will walk across dry deserts - Sometimes through rivers of sorrow and often fires of Betrayal and disappointments.

But our journey is ever upward and our Lord is by our side.

We cannot escape His presence,

✓ ★ Read Psalm 139 1-12 God is everywhere - All the time

He is with us through the pain and sleepless nights. He goes with us through the fire as He did with the 3 Hebrew children in the Furnace. He is our Deliverer

We sing a song "Does Jesus Care"

The chorus reassures us "Oh yes, He Cares: I Know He cares, His heart is touched with my grief - When the days are weary, the long Nights dreary, I Know my Savior Cares"

Another hymn that we all love is "IN THE GARDEN" - where it reads "He walks with me and He talks with me"

What does Jesus tell me?

- He tells me that He is the WAY, The Truth and the Life -
- He tells me that He loved me enough to die for me
- He tells me Not to worry - He will provide for my Needs
- He tells me He will never leave me Nor forsake me
- He tells me that He will walk with me through the Valley of the Shadow of Death and He is preparing a Home for me in Heaven
- He tells me that He will give me peace

★ Read John 14:27

So we can walk bravely and securely into the Unknown with Jesus as our Guide

And we can say every day -

- This is the day which The Lord hath made - We will rejoice and be glad in it -

⑤

★ Read Lamentations 3:22-26

IN closing, I would like to read
this short poem. written by Louise Haskins

And I said to the man who stood at the
gate of the year,

"Give me a light that I may tread safely
into the Unknown -

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your
hand into the hand of God.

That shall be to you better than light
and safer than a known way

So I went forth, and finding the Hand
of God, trod gladly into the night.

And He led me towards the hills and
the breaking of day in the lone East

— So whatever each day brings - Hold onto His Hand
and He will give you the strength to go on —

Happy New Year to all of you -

May God richly Bless you on your
life's Journey and let us all
encourage our fellow travelers

- Our Brothers and Sisters in Christ
as we all step out in^{to} Faith - Amen

~~into to Faith~~ INTO THE NEW YEAR.