

# TALKING POINTS

## NEW YEAR, NEW VIEW - NEW YEAR, NEW VIEW

### LEANING IN

Whenever a New Year begins, we get all excited to start it and better ourselves. It's a New Year - New You. Before any of that happens, before the New You occurs, you need to have a NEW VIEW.

We need to change how we view things going into this year so that we do not repeat last year. So many times we get caught up with the destination - "I can't wait until I... move out, get married, have kids...". But, *it's in the journey, not the destination that we find something significant*

Our most important journey is our journey of faith - where we trust Jesus *in the midst* of chaos, loss, fear and confusion. Where we trust Jesus is the one who stands in the center of it all. Where we trust He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Where we recognize everything was made by Him and for Him. And in Him all things hold together.

We all need to remember Jesus is still touching lives and the POWER OF GOD is still available and accessible for all of us in the journey we're on - today.

Read Luke 8:40-50

Can you share a time when you witnessed the power of God firsthand in your life?

### LIVING IT OUT

So, to approach the New Year with a deeper understanding of how God is present in our *journey*, here are three keys to taking new views in this coming year:

**New View Of Self** - sometimes problems in our lives are so large they begin to swallow up our identity. In fact, they can even become our identity. But, the truth is, faith is born when when our ability fails. Faith starts at the point of our human limitation. It is very difficult to believe God for what we can do for ourselves. Most of us do not pray about the things that are within are ability and capacity to perform. But, when we become *desperate* for God, it opens doors to us in our walk with God which complacency will have shut. It can actually be a *blessing*.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 2:10, 1 Peter 2:9

Do you believe desperation can be a blessing? If so, how?

**New View Of Others** - it's easy for us to view someone else's blessing, compare it to our burden, and become bitter. When we see someone's life change, even though ours hasn't, that should act as a reminder that God is still on the throne, that God is still working. It's not to discourage us, but to encourage us that GOD IS ABLE!

Read Philippians 2:3-4, Philippians 4:11-13, Proverbs 14:30

How do we rejoice in other's blessings, even when we're not experiencing them ourselves?

**New View Of God** - to have the right view of God, recognizing His Power & His Authority is critical! Faith is our anchor. It's the substance of things hoped for the evidence of things unseen. Our faith must be connected and tethered to His authority. The authority of His Word & Power. Our view of God should never be limited to our surroundings. God can do anything, any time, in any way, with anyone.

Read Matthew 8:5-13, Matthew 28:18, Psalm 147:4-5, Hebrews 1:3

Do you ever find yourself limiting what God could do in your life? Do you believe He can do the impossible?