



“New Year Living”

Pastor James Heyward

A new year is upon us with new opportunities to embrace EMERGED New Year Living. How do you leave 2020 behind and move triumphantly into 2021? The Apostle Paul tell us outlines the steps to living triumphantly in 2021 in his letter to the church in Ephesus.

*“So watch your step. Use your head. Make the most of every chance you get. These are desperate times! Don't live carelessly, unthinkingly. Make sure you understand what the Master wants.” **Ephesians 5:15-17 (MSG)***

If you follow the four action steps given in these verses you can experience Emerged New Year Living. Beware, it is harder than it sounds.

- Action Step 1: *“So watch your step. Use your head.”*
Live wisely and well (Psalm 90:10)

- 1. What does it mean to you to live ‘wisely and well?’**
- 2. What can you do to live wisely this year?**

- Action Step 2: *“Make the most of every chance you get”*
Make the most of the time you are given

- 3. How do you use your time in a typical week?**
- 4. What distracts you or robs your time?**
- 5. In what area of your life can you make better use of your time this new year?**

- Action Step 3: *“Don't live carelessly, unthinkingly”*
Live with purpose

- 6. In what areas do you find yourself living ‘carelessly or unthinkingly’?**

7. How can you start to be more purposeful in how you live?

- Action Step 4: *“Make sure you understand what the Master wants.”*

Know what God wants

8. Have you spent time seeking what it is God wants for you this new year?

9. What do you think God would have you do, or change, in this new year?

Be aware of the ‘overloads’ that rob you of your time or distract you from living your life ‘wisely and well’.

- Being overloaded with commitments
- Being overloaded with possessions
- Being overloaded with work
- Being overloaded with information

10. Which of these ‘overloads’ is robbing you of your time?

11. What can you begin to do now to get out from under the demands of your ‘overload’?

Family Connect Discussion Starter:

Start by discussing things that take up too much of your time. Next, ask each person what they would do if they had the time. Decide as a family how to free up more time for the things you really want to do or accomplish.