

THINGS TO REMEMBER

IN THE

New Year

January 6, 2019

Ephesians 2:1-13

ENGAGE

What was your greatest take-away from this message?
Did you learn something new?

EXAMINE

We have been given the greatest Gift, Jesus Christ many will cash in and become His followers. Some will sit by and never accept Him. God has given each of us various talents and He wants us to share those with Him and His people. 2019 gives us a new opportunity to do both!

1. Our Past Identity (Vs 1-3, 12)

We had a very unflattering and bad standing & a very dim future.

2. Our Present Identity (Vs 4-10, 12, 19)

God's free gift of salvation shows His great love toward us
& offers a new start and new identity.

3. Our Incredible Future (Vs 7)

In our future we will see Jesus and be like Him.
In Heaven our faith will be rewarded.

4. Our present opportunity (Vs 10)

God has a task & a timetable for each of us.
Have you made your peace with God?

Do you have a clear understanding of who you are in Him?

Is there something that He is calling you to right now?

EXPLORE

Read 1 Corinthians 10:23-33

Pastor Kevin encouraged us to use our unique abilities to glorify God. In Vs 31 of this passage we see that EVERYTHING we do should glorify God. Our culture tends to be "me" oriented and we can easily lose sight of the greater good in pursuit of personal satisfaction. Paul was warning against the lure of food offered to idols. Today, we are lured by so many things the world has to offer. Be alert, not just for our own spiritual health but for the sake of others.

Vs 23-24 Freedom in Christ must be balanced with the desire to build up others.

1. When should we speak up? How do we know when to be silent?
2. Can you think of other scriptures that address how we speak to others?

Vs 31-33 We find some of our answers in these verses.

1. Why do you think Paul mentioned Jews, Greeks, and The Church?
2. What example was Paul trying to set?

Read Phil 2:5-8

1. Jesus Christ was the ultimate example of humility and sacrifice in order to glorify God.
2. What is your reaction to this passage?

EQUIP

Is there something in my life that is not glorifying God and keeping me from a growing faith?

Is there an area of my life that is not beneficial to those around me?

Applications:

I must actively seek to avoid things that would distract me from growing

I must seek the good of others in light of Christ's humble sacrifice

I must use the unique gifts God gave me to build others up

*"Humility and patience are the surest proofs
of the increase of love."*

- John Wesley