

WEEK THREE

2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT)

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.”

2 Corinthians 10:5 (NIV)

“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

Philippians 4:8 (NLT)

“Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.”

Philippians 3:12-14 (NLT)

“I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.”

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.”

FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

1. What was your biggest takeaway from this weekend’s message?
2. What is one of the silliest, funniest or most outrageous excuses you’ve ever heard someone make?

3. Statistics tell us that by the end of January, 40% of New Year’s resolutions are already abandoned, and by the middle of February, more than 75% of people have given up on their resolutions. Why do you think that is?
4. 2 Timothy 1:7 (NLT) says this: “For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.” How does fear influence us to make excuses?
5. Think about your friendships, personal health, family and walk with God. What negative emotional, physical or spiritual consequences might we face if we continue to make excuses in these areas?
6. If you were trying to keep someone from accomplishing their goals, what would you throw in their way to cause failure? Can you think of ways the enemy is trying to do the same in your life?
7. “Most people have good intentions, but what we need are ‘God intentions.’” What exactly is the difference, and why might one be more sustainable than the other?
8. Pastor Steve invited us to answer two questions:
 1. What does God want me to do in 2019?
 2. Why does He want me to do it?Why do think so much emphasis was placed on answering the second question?
9. Ephesians 2:10 says that God “created us anew in Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.” Pray together as a group, asking God to help us quit making excuses so we can do the things God has called us to do.

QUIT!