



# Brand New A Life Worth Living

#npbrandnew

Week 1

1 of 4

February 2, 2020

**Bottom Line:** A life worth living begins with a new heart.

**Icebreaker:** What has been the biggest change in your life since the new year began? Was it a change you wanted, worked for, or a surprise?

**Key Verse:** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!*  
2 Corinthians 5:17

*. . . being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.* Philippians 1:6

When Paul wrote this letter he was under house arrest in Rome, attached to a Roman soldier by a chain that was three feet long. He was imprisoned in very bad conditions, awaiting trial and possible execution. Yet, he believed that his life in Christ meant he still had a purpose to bear fruit, and also caring for the future and health of his friends in Philippi was at the top of his list. When he said, "I have you in my heart," he was expressing his commitment to their best.

He tells them that as they have come to know Christ, they have truly become new, and that God's work to make them new will continue all throughout life. Paul shares that the life God designed for them and for us is brand new—it starts with a new heart, but it doesn't end there. We also get a new purpose, and we will be in process, discovering all the ramifications and blessings of it for our entire lives.

A new heart means new confidence in the power of God, compassion for the people of God, and concern for the priorities of growth in our lives. We work with God to grow in love, knowledge, and holiness. As we do, we discover power in our new purpose. Paul's purpose for living was to know Christ and to make Him known to others. He passionately shares the potential and power we have when we share the good news of Jesus with others. It is a calling to share with our lives, not just with our words.

Today the call and the power of the brand-new life is just as compelling. It's our privilege.

## THINK IT OVER >>>

What impacted you most from the message?

If you are facing major challenges or difficulties, be encouraged by the fact that you can be useful in the midst of your struggles. God can work through you in ways you might not expect. Does that sound like a pipe dream, or have you found it to be true? Explain.

How do you think Paul was able to have his unusual perspective?

Paul's affection for and deep relationship with the Philippians is obvious. When we serve and grow together, we develop a deep bond. Reflect and share from your experience.

How long ago did you become a believer? What does it mean to you in 2020 that the same God who began that good work in you then is committed to completing that good work?

## LOOK IT OVER <<<

Our new hearts lead us to GROW IN LOVE. Paul says his desire is that we would not only love much, but well (v. 9). What does that mean?

Our new hearts lead us to GROW IN KNOWLEDGE. That is not just head knowledge but insight and understanding (vv. 9-10). What's the difference?

Our new hearts lead us to GROW IN HOLINESS. Paul prayed that they "may be pure and blameless" (v. 10). The word "pure" describes an inner purity in which even our motives are unmix. The word for "blameless" means without offending, and refers more to the outer life. It means holy both inwardly and outwardly, "making Jesus Christ attractive to all" (vv. 10-11). Reflect and discuss.

How are you growing in those ways?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, "Your life as a Christian should make non-believers question their disbelief in God." That's the new purpose. Pray about it.

# NEXT STEPS

1. Attend DISCOVER Track.
2. Make a "LOVE AND LIVE" prayer list of people you believe God has put into your life to learn to love them and live before them in a way that attracts them to Jesus.
3. Pray regularly and strategize for that list.

## EVALUATION/ACTION

Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

**Bottom Line:** A life worth living begins with a new heart.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

## PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

## DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at [newpointe.org/daily](http://newpointe.org/daily):

Monday: Philippians 1:12-14

Tuesday: Philippians 1:15-18

Wednesday: Philippians 1:9-11

Thursday: Philippians 1:27-28

Friday: Philippians 1:6

***Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.***

*(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)*