



## TALK IT OVER

Today's News Yesterday

### BOTTOM LINE

Today's (tomorrow's) News  
Yesterday

### CONVERSATION STARTER

What was a peak moment of  
2023 for you? What was a pit  
moment?

### THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

### RESOURCES

- The Daily:  
[newpointe.org/daily](https://newpointe.org/daily)
- [31 Best Bible Verses for the  
New Year](#)

### KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

*What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun.* Ecclesiastes 1:9 NIV

Jesus: *"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*  
John 16:33 NIV

*You will seek me and FIND me when you seek me with all your heart.*  
Jeremiah 29:13 NIV

"As much as some things continue to change, some things never change."  
– Dave VanDonge

"As long as His presence is with us, we can also be purposefully present."  
– Dave VanDonge

"We can be overcome. Jesus is never overcome." Dave VanDonge

### TALK IT OVER

What's your favorite life verse? Why is that the one? What evidence do you see personally or historically that "as much as things change, they remain the same"? Is there any place in your life right now that causes you to identify with the exiled Israelites – not where you want to be, feeling God isn't hearing you, wondering if there's any hope? If you feel comfortable to share, do. How does the struggle to remember that ultimately God is in control show itself in your situation? What can you do to reinforce your faith in Who is in the position of power in your "exile"? Do you need to rethink "good and bad" in your situation? How can you be purposefully present while in a deeply dissatisfying situation? When we insert our short-term ideas of what "future" is, we set ourselves up for disappointment with God. Discuss. What do you do/will you do to make certain your hope is solidly in God, not our preferred outcome? What does it mean to seek; to pursue God? What disciplines do you have in place to do that?

### ACTION STEP

I will write a mission statement for 2024 stating my commitment to find purpose in my situation and pursue the promise. I will detail my daily choices that will make it possible.