

One Year New Testament Devotionals

Small group discussion questions related to the weekend message will resume in September during our next 10-week group semester. Small group registration is now open. Until then, use these One Year New Testament questions to discuss with your small group or answer individually.

Devotionals

Society tells us to be vocal, opinionated, and self-promoting. We have individual agendas of who we are and what we think on display for all to see. Social media doesn't help with this. Regardless of what society tells us, we all want to be heard and feel like our opinion matters. We all want to feel like we matter. God calls us to a different perspective. He calls us to be great listeners: "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." (James 1:19) The art of listening can be powerful. Too often we are slow to listen, quick to speak, and quick to become angry. Listening well to others will bring value and respect to those we love and will help us live the abundant life we all desire.

Sunday, August 26 — 2 Corinthians 1:1-11

Why do people sometimes blame God for difficult circumstances? How does God want us to help one another in difficult situations? What can you do this week to show love and concern for a Christian brother or sister who is suffering?

Monday, August 27 — 2 Corinthians 1:12-2:4

How did Paul support his claim that he had been sincere with the Corinthians? (1:12) In light of Paul's experience, how should you seek to discern God's will for your daily plans? How can you remind yourself to listen to the Holy Spirit's guidance and direction in your daily life this week?

Tuesday, August 28 — 2 Corinthians 2:5-17

When is it most difficult to forgive someone? What is it like to experience God's forgiveness? What should you do if you feel wronged by another person? What is the first step you should take this week to forgive and reaffirm your love for someone who has sinned against you?

Wednesday, August 29 — 2 Corinthians 3:1-18

In what circumstances do people in our society wear veils or coverings? How have you experienced the Spirit's freedom in your personal life? In what ways do you struggle to allow the Holy Spirit to control your life? With whom could you share the message of the new covenant?

Thursday, August 30 — 2 Corinthians 4:1-12

What areas of life are difficult to entrust completely to God? What did Paul call his sufferings? (4:10) What value did Paul see in his sufferings? What motivated Paul to preach the gospel in spite of hardship? How could you encourage another Christian who is confused or bogged down by the cares of life?

Friday, August 31 — 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:10

How could Paul feel confident in the face of ill health and death? How can Christ be glorified through the weaknesses of men and women? What does it mean to live by faith and not by sight? In what small way can you detach yourself from worldly things?

Saturday, September 1 — 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

When have you seen someone change in a significant way? Why was Paul concerned about justifying his ministry to the Christians at Corinth? What does God do with our sins when we are reconciled to Him? (5:19) What is one way you can represent Christ to your friends and co-workers this week?

Trust God in it.

Transitions create anxiety.

"This is my command—be **strong** and **courageous**! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is **with you** wherever you go." *Joshua 1:9*

Trust in the Lord always, for the Lord God is the eternal rock. *Isaiah 26:4*

Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us. *Psalms 62:8*

When I am afraid, I put my **trust** in you. *Psalms 56:3*

God has a plan.

"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for **good** to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." *Genesis 50:20*

And we know that for those who love God **all things** work together for **good**, for those who are called according to his purpose. *Romans 8:28*

God is good.

The Lord is **good**, a strong refuge when trouble comes. He is close to those who trust in him. *Nahum 1:7*

You are **good**, and what you do is **good**... *Psalms 119:68*

What transition do you need to trust God in?

...do not be **anxious** about anything, but in everything by **prayer** and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the **peace** of God, which surpasses all understanding, will **guard** your **hearts** and your minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:6-7*

And we know that for those who **love** God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. *Romans 8:28*