

# New Beginnings

## SERMON NOTES

January 2, 2022

Galatians 5:22-23 Nehemiah 1:3-4; 6:1-3



### I. The Power of Possibility

- A. Coming into the new year, you basically have two groups of people – dreamers and \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. We need to view the new year through the lens of \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. The question we need to ask ourselves is ‘what does \_\_\_\_\_ think is possible for you in the new year?’

### II. Staying Focused – Lessons from Nehemiah

- A. We don't want our busy schedules to \_\_\_\_\_ us from what's most important.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ is put in charge of resurrecting the city of Jerusalem.
- C. Nehemiah is saying why should I stop doing what's most \_\_\_\_\_ and makes the most difference to the people who are most important to me.

### III. Application Questions for the New Year

- A. What is your \_\_\_\_\_? What is the thing you dare not come down from until the work is done?
- B. What are the \_\_\_\_\_?
- C. Which one characteristic of the ‘Fruit of the Spirit’ will you \_\_\_\_\_ on this year? Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, or self-control?

### *Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message*

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# ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *January 3-8, 2022*

## INTRODUCTION

The New Year is full of possibilities that fuel the potential for a better future. That's why we make resolutions . . . even though those resolutions often fall by the wayside. But there's something simple you can do to make the most of this year. It begins by looking past what you think is possible in your life to what God thinks is possible.

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### Monday: Ecclesiastes 3:1-9

We are all in different seasons of our lives. But the new year presents new possibilities for all of us. Do you typically make New Year's Resolutions? If so, how well do you typically keep them? Even if you don't make resolutions, what is the one thing that you need to prioritize this year?

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### Tuesday: Galatians 5:22-23

Which one characteristic of the 'Fruit of the Spirit' will you focus on this year? Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, or self-control. Imagine how your life and relationships will be different if you grow in that area throughout the year?

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### Wednesday: Matthew 6:31-34

Why is it so challenging to live out what Jesus commands in this verse? This year, how will you become more dependent on Jesus?

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### Thursday: Nehemiah 6:2-4

What is your wall – the one thing you dare not come down from until the work is done? What obstacles need to be removed in order for you to stay focused on your number one priority this year? Is that potential distraction something you need to say "no" to just for now, or forever?

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### Friday: Exodus 4:10-17

Is it difficult for you to believe that God sees potential in you that you cannot see in yourself? Why or why not?

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## MOVING FORWARD

As the new year begins, discern 'what does God think is possible for me this year?' One simple answer to this question is to focus on one characteristic of the 'Fruit of the Spirit.' Try to grow in that area throughout the year. But don't let new opportunities, busy schedules, or fear distract you from the one thing you must do. Say with Nehemiah, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down."

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*Answers to the sermon notes: IA) realists, B) possibility, C) God. IIA) distract, B) Nehemiah, IIC) important. IIIA) wall, B) distractions, C) focus.*