

A New Day Is Dawning

Reflect

- “Tomorrow is a new day” is a phrase often used to inspire hope in others. How is a new day hope-filled?
- What prevents a new day from being hope-filled?
- When have you desired a new day?

Read Your Bible

- Jeremiah 31:31-34
- Mark 1:1-8
- 1 John 1:7-9

Apply God’s Word to Your Life

1. In Mark’s Gospel, John the Baptist is preparing the people of Israel to receive the Lord, Jesus Christ, through a baptism of repentance – a baptism of remorse and regret for sins committed. What are some forms of repentance you can do to prepare your heart to receive Jesus?
2. How can owning past mistakes help prepare you to receive something new and good in Jesus?
3. 1 John 1:7-9 reminds us that through confession and being truthful to ourselves and God, God wants to give us a new start every day. Knowing you are given a new start today through confessing your sins and the forgiveness we receive in Jesus, what can that free you up to focus on instead of past sins and hurts?
4. What sin, hurt or mistake do you need to hand over to Jesus today so you can receive a new start and hope?
5. Read Jeremiah 31:31-34 again. We not only have the promise of forgiveness through a new covenant in Jesus, but God wants us in deeper relationship with him. He will be our God and we are his people. He will put in our minds and write on our hearts his Word. Now that you have been forgiven in Christ and the day is new, what steps can you take today to give God your mind and your heart, drawing closer in your walk with him?

Conclusion/Thesis

True hope comes from the forgiveness of sins and the promise of eternal life God offers us in Jesus. Knowing we are forgiven, that the past doesn’t define us, but the grace and love of Jesus does, is the foundation for us to live into each day with a renewed sense of hope. Each day God offers us the opportunity to confess our sins, to leave our burdens behind and to have our slate of sin wiped clean. God does this, so we are free to be launched into a new day, full of promise and purpose in love and service to the Lord.

Pray

Heavenly Father, thank you for the opportunity to start each day new through the forgiveness of sins that comes through your Son, Jesus. You are so good and the gift of grace you give us in Jesus is too wonderful for me to fully wrap my mind and heart around. I confess that I have been sinned against you

in thought, word and deed, by what I have done and what I have not done. Help me to receive your forgiveness so that I can be free to live into the hope and purposes you have for me. I love you, Lord. Amen.