

JANUARY

FRESH

2019

Crossroads

WEEKEND SERIES

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

When we look through the scriptures, we realize how much God desires a FRESH start for all of us. Over and over again, God: refreshes, renews, heals, blesses, makes whole, cleanses what is dingy, clears up what is blurry, resurrects what has died and recovers what is lost.

Read each passage slowly: What do you notice? What word or phrase captures your attention? What is God saying to you? Talk to God about it.

- Is 42:5-9** *Fresh things I now announce...*
- Is 43:16-21** *No need to recall the past... See, I am doing a new thing.*
- Is 48:6-16** *Now I am revealing new things to you... created just now, this moment.*
- Is 55:10-13** The freshness of rain and snow on the earth is compared to the new life of God's creation.
- Is 65:16-25** *...for past troubles will be forgotten and hidden from my eyes.*
- Lam 3:19-24** *The favors of God are not all past... every morning they are renewed.*
- Sir 43:13-33** *He sprinkles snow like birds alighting. ... The eye marvels at the beauty of its whiteness.*
- Ez 36:15-28** *I will cleanse you with clean water... I will put my spirit in you.*
- Is 1:16-18** *Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow.*
- Ps 4** *You have given more joy to my heart than others ever knew.*
- Ps 33** *God, let your love rest on us as our hope.*
- Ps 46** *There is a river whose streams refresh the city of God.*
- Ps 51** *Put into me a new and constant spirit.*
- Ps 94** *In the midst of all my troubles you console me and make me happy.*

- Ps 104** *You give breath, fresh life begins, you keep renewing the world.*
- Ps 118** *The LORD is God; he smiles on us.*
- Ps 121** *The LORD God guards you when you are leaving and coming home.*
- Ps 136** *His Love is everlasting.*
- Ps 145** *Patiently all creatures look to you to feed them throughout the year.*
- Mk 2:1-12** Jesus gives a new beginning to the paralytic.
- Mk 6:30-44** Jesus saw that the people needed new energy.
- Mk 7:31-37** Jesus opens up a fresh new world of sounds to man who was deaf.
- Mk 9:2-8** Seeing Jesus in a surprising, new way.
- Jn 4:43:54** The deep faith and new life Jesus promises.
- Jn 5:19-30** Jesus speaks of the freshness of the Father who is the "source of life."
- Jn 6:53-58** Jesus tells us that we will have new life if we believe and partake in the Bread Of Life.
- Jn 17:21-26** Jesus asks his Father to refresh us with God's Love
- Heb 8:8-12** *The days are coming when I will establish a new covenant...*
- Rev 21:1-8** *Now I am making the whole creation new.*

QUESTIONS FOR JOURNALING

Week 1:

Think about your past year and the mix of blessings, tears, triumphs and challenges. What grieves you about your past year? What brings you JOY?

Week 2:

What refreshing things do you hope to experience this New Year? For yourself, your family, our church family, your work, our society?

Week 3:

What were the moments this week when you felt a sense of guilt or regret? What were the moments when you felt God's blessing or freedom?

Week 4:

Try to recall the most refreshing time of your life. When was it? What was happening? How did you feel? As you review this past month, what were your most refreshing moments, spiritually?