

# Group Leader Guide- Jan 5 2025

## Sermon Recap

*Revelation 21:5; Romans 8:19-21; 2 Corinthians 4:16; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 5:26-27; Revelation 19:7; Psalm 85:6; Colossians 3:1-2; Psalms 85:8; Hebrews 4:12; Psalms 19:7; John 11:43; Mark 5:41; 1 Samuel 3:1, 19-21; 2 Chronicles 34:14, 30-31; Ezra 7:6,10; Ezra 9:7-10*

Pastor Alex emphasizes the importance of renewal as we enter a new year, inviting the congregation to reflect on God's past faithfulness while seeking His guidance for the future. He highlights that just as seasons change, so too are we called to embrace transformation in our spiritual lives. Through Scripture, he illustrates how God's Word revives, renews, and shapes us individually and as a community, urging everyone to actively seek a deeper relationship with God. Ultimately, this renewal process leads to rejoicing in God's presence and fulfilling our purpose as His people.

## Quotes

"God does not leave us as we are but, is always seeking to shape us to more like His son, Jesus."  
~Pastor Alex

"Renewal is not meaning we have to be perfect, rather it's about a consistent pursuit of Jesus and being changed by Him." ~ Pastor Alex

## Discussion Questions

What are some specific ways that we can seek renewal in our daily lives as suggested in the sermon?

- Pastor Alex discusses how a new year can be a fresh start and a time for renewal, encouraging us to reflect on who we are and who God wants us to be.
- Think about one area in your life where you feel you need renewal. What steps can you take this week to pursue that?

Pastor Alex quotes Revelation 21:5, where God says, 'I am making all things new.' How does this promise impact your view of challenges or hardships you face?

- This verse reflects God's character and His desire to renew and restore creation.
- Can you identify a recent challenge in your life that could be seen as an opportunity for renewal? How might changing your perspective help?

What role does God's Word play in the process of renewal according to the sermon?

- Pastor Alex emphasizes that God's Word brings life and renewal, using examples of its power throughout scripture.
- How can you incorporate scripture reading into your routine to encourage personal renewal?

In what ways can we as a community, or church, come together to support each other in seeking renewal?

- The sermon highlights that we are not Christians in isolation but part of a community that God is renewing.
- What are some practical ways you can encourage a friend or fellow church member to pursue renewal in their life?

Why do you think the pastor stresses the importance of asking God for renewal in our lives?

- Pastor Alex discusses that asking God is a fundamental step in seeking renewal, reminding us of our dependence on Him.
- Take a moment to pray about an area in your life where you desire renewal. What specific request can you make to God?

## **Prayer**

- Ask God to help you identify areas in your life where you need renewal this week.
- Pray for the strength to pursue God more wholeheartedly.
- Request help in seeking out God's word daily for guidance and growth.
- Share any prayer requests and ask God to work in those areas as well.