



# EXCERPTS OF SERMON

**Sunday 5 January 2025**

**Title of Sermon** : **Set a target this year 2025.**  
**Minister** : **Dr Bruce Woolard**  
**Reading** : **Philippians 3:13-14**

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The Christian life is often described as a journey. When embarking on a journey its important to know ones destination. If you don't know where you are going you are lost. As believers facing the new year let us set some markers along the way.

Mark Twain said, "If you aim at nothing you are guaranteed of hitting the target." In the words of the apostle in our texts it says we need to leave the past and commit ourselves to the goal before us.

## Management

**Time Management** is vital as we organise ourselves for each new day.

**Thought Management** is another important component in terms of managing our lives. Your thoughts affect your emotions. Change your thoughts and it changes your feelings.

*Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

*Philippians 3:13-14*

## Mediocrity

The word "mediocre" is derived from two words "*medius*—middle" and "*ocis*-mountain". It means getting halfway up the mountain and settling there.

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## Attitude

Attitude toward life's journey leads to a higher altitude. Don't stop doing what is right—refuse mediocrity.

## Motivation

We must face this year by focusing on the **FACTS**. The **fact** that God has *saved you, written your name in heavens register, promised you eternal life.*

These facts should motivate us to face the year with excitement and realism.

Besides motivation by facts we are to be motivated by faith.

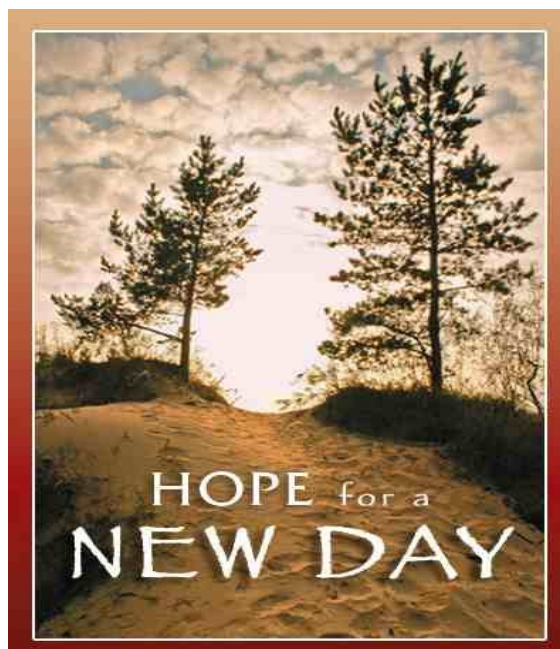
## Faith

Faith is defined as trust. We have to activate our faith in God's provision, providence and purpose as we face each new day.

So, my dear beloved friends, may we manage our time and thoughts this year. Refuse mediocrity by changing our attitude so we can reach a better altitude on life's journey.

Let's be motivated by the facts and embrace this new year in faith.

***A happy new year to you all.***



*I leave behind the old in song,  
I recall the right and forgive  
the wrong.*

*I choose to forget the things of  
the past,  
and hold onto the values that  
will last.*

*I will go forward with a heart  
that is new,  
and live my life with purpose  
that's true.*

*I will inspire others who carry  
a load,  
and encourage them to walk  
the road.*

*By the Grace of God I'll over-  
come fear*

*And face the future of the New  
Year!*