

01/14/24 Message

Part of Messages Not in Series

January 13, 2024

Message: Same God, New Me

Series: New Years 2024

Welcome to FCC! This is our intro message to 2024 and we hope it will challenge you to live closer to God in 2024 than ever before!

God is the Same

1 Corinthians 12:6 (NLT)

God works in different ways, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

We live in a place where its king is the prince of darkness. And yet we're surprised when the world dishes out a hefty dose of reality bathed in darkness, pain, despair, disappointment... And when it happens, we dwell on it, and can't see past the past in order to live in the present and look forward to the future! I have good news this morning - for every believer and follower of Jesus Christ - hell is in your past and heaven is in your future! Death is your past but life is your future! I'm so excited about my present and even more excited about my future... I can't wait to see where God leads me. I can't wait to see what God brings me through. I can't wait to see how God is going to work and show out in my life!

—Pastor Chad

The first section of 1 Corinthians 12 gives us a trinitarian emphasis - pointing directly to God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the Holy Spirit. God works in different ways through the Holy Trinity, but He is still the same God!

God works in us and through us in different ways - as promised in Philippians.

Philippians 2:13 (NLT)

For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

When life doesn't go your way (or the way you expect it to), and you are left drained, defeated, and/or discouraged... Do you ask yourself the Philippians 2:13 question?

He gives us the desire and power to do, "What pleases Him."

The Philippians 2:13 question is - Were you doing _____ to please Him?

Always the Same

Hebrews 13:8 (NLT)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Even though He doesn't change, we change!

There are times we reach out and seek God, but it is often based on our wants and our needs. He wants us to connect with Him to get to know Him better or to let Him into our lives.

He's the same yesterday, today, and forever. He doesn't change! We change!

Jesus is the Same

Peter quotes David (from Psalm 16:8-11):

Acts 2:25-28 (NLT)

25 ...the LORD is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me.

26 No wonder my heart is glad, and my tongue shouts his praises! My body rests in hope.

27 For you will not leave my soul among the dead or allow your Holy One to rot in the grave.

28 You have shown me the way of life, and you will fill me with the joy of your presence.'

Then Peter went on to say...

Acts 2:36 (KJV)

Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

That same Jesus!

This promise is not just for the people at Pentecost...

Acts 2:39 (NLT)

This promise is to you, and to your children, and even to the Gentiles—all who have been called by the Lord our God.

Diving into the Greek, it's obvious Peter is saying this promise is to ALL. It's to everyone, near and far, now and in the future, for your children, and their children, and their children.

It's a promise that God does what He does in His way, in His timing, in His will, for His glory! He will change His ways, but the fact He does what He does for you - will never change! He is always good, always loving, always powerful... He is the same yesterday, today, and forever... He is the same God! Now it's time for a new you!

—Pastor Chad

Same God, new me!