

# NEW YEAR, NEW WORK | Topical Message | Pastor Mark Bofill | 12/31/2023

I. New Work Out. | II. New Work In Us. | III. New Work For Us | IV. New Door Opened To Us | V. New Song From Us

**INTRO:** So here we are, **the last day of 2023!** – A **New Calendar Year** reminds us that we have been granted a fresh start, that the old year has passed us by, and that the new year is ahead of us. – Every **new year** begins with **a new day** which gives us an opportunity to **do things "BETTER"** than our previous attempts. – Whatever your year may have been like, I want to encourage you to **concentrate more on spiritual matters in the new year!** So, I've entitled this sermon: **NEW YEAR, NEW WORK** – In this **New Year**, **God** desires to do a **New Work** **ON** us and **IN** us, and even promises to be **FOR** us and **WITH** us! Are you ready for it?

*It's all Begins with a...*

**I. NEW WORK OUT (tt. Phil 2:12-13)** – The **New Work** must take place **IN** us as prescribed **IN** God's Word... *Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, WORK OUT your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup> for it is GOD WHO WORKS in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.*

- Notice that our salvation requires a commitment to be Worked Out! (*i.e., exercised!*)
- Notice also that God empowers us in the change! (*God knows what best for our Devlp.*)

**A. A Personal Trainer is Needed this Year!** – Jesus Christ, who prescribes a personalized work out plan just for you! The Plan is found in God's Word which, when we study it faithfully and apply it consistently, *it will bring health to your flesh and strength to your bones (Prov 3:1-8).*

**B. As Physical Muscles Need to be Exercised, so do Spiritual Senses (tt. Heb 5:13-14)** *For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.* This brings transformation and new life!

**P/A – This New Work Out is only a Plan to keep on the right course.** When we are diligent to **work it out consistently, we will grow tremendously!** But oftentimes we find inconsistency in our own lives – Behavioral Modification only goes so far! God understands this, *that is why...*

*He promises to do a...*

**II. NEW WORK IN US (Ezek 36:16-28)** – Because of sin and our human weakness, **GOD** knew that He had to change two things **within us**. He does this so that **His Divine Purposes** could be accomplished **among us**. – We see this lived out with idolatrous Israel! **READ (Ezek 36:16-25) EXPOUND!** *Their actions brought defilement, and their idolatry resulted in impurity, which brought divine judgment! As much as He loved them, He was concerned for His holy name (21).*

*The Two Things God desires to Change within us are...*

**A. Our Hearts and Our Spirits (Ezek 36:26-28)** *I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. <sup>28</sup> Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.*

- Because of Adm's Transgression, we were all born into this world with defective hearts!
- I've heard it said that **"The Heart of the problem is the Problem with the heart!"** Author Unknown

**B. A New Heart is Exactly what we Need for the New Year!** – While it is vital that we maintain a healthy physical heart, God is more concerned with **the health of our Spiritual Hearts in 2024!**

- A healthy heart can still harbor defilement! **(Matt 5:18-19)** **"...those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. 19 For out of the heart**
- **In 2024, we can all ask Jesus for a new Spiritual heart!** A loving, compassionate, and caring heart for our fellow man. A heart like Jesus' heart! *As King David asked (Psalm 51:10)*

**P/A – Everyone who ASKS for a NEW HEART will get it for free**, with no strings attached and no waiting list. **Simply ask in faith and you will receive it!**

**C. When our hearts our right, then God does His part... He PUTS a New Spirit WITHIN US!** – That thought appeals to me because there are times when I don't have the right spirit within me. There are times when I have a wrong attitude and a wrong spirit. Yes, I can even be **short tempered** and **grumpy**. **The Work of God's Spirit IN US, is always Working ON US!**

- But praise God for the NEW SPIRIT! He PROMISED to put HIS SPIRIT **IN US** in (v.27)! **Think about it...** **The Holy Spirit of God dwelling WITHIN US** all day, everyday! *A Spirit of love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. <sup>24</sup> And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. (Gal 5:22-26)*

**P/A – Let me be clear church that this NOT just a NEW SPIRIT, but GOD'S SPIRIT!** (as He intended!)

*As He Dwells Within Us, God also Promises to do a...*

**III. NEW WORK FOR US – A New Thing!** (Isa 43:19) *Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

**A. CONTEXTUALLY**, this chapter speaks of **the New Work** that the Redeemer of Israel, wanted to do in their midst. **But they were unfaithful to call upon Him! (19,22)**

**B. SUBJECTIVELY**, this can be applied to ALL of God's People, even today! – Because God's Lives Within Us, **He promises to GO BEFORE US!** To prepare the way...The **rough terrain** or the **seemingly impassible mountains** in our lives will become clear paths when our Lord goes before us. **(Mark 11:22-24)** **"Have faith in God. <sup>23</sup> For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says..."**

**C. PERSONALLY**, this happened to me **WHEN** I finally asked GOD if He was calling me to be a Pastor. – **He RESPONDED by His Word and CONFIRMED His willingness! (Isa 42:5-9)** – He ended with **(Isa 42:9)** **Behold, the former things have come to pass, And new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them.** (I believed it...and here I am today, almost 20 years later!)

P/A – **PRACTICALLY...** God is waiting for you to step out in faith this year! He knows that **the exercising of your faith allows you to see Great and Mighty things** that you do not yet know of!

Q: Are there things in your life which you **KNOW** need to be **left behind in 2023?** – **(Phil 3:13)**  
**"forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead"**

– **I encourage you to take your bulletin RIGHT NOW and write down those hindrances!** **"...let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us..."** (Heb 12:1)

*If we are faithful to do God's Work in 2024, a...*

**V. NEW DOOR OPENED TO US (tt. Rev 3:7-8)** – Jesus' instruction to the seven churches in Revelation are each branded with a distinct characteristic. **Ephesus/Loveless, Smyrna/Suffering, Pergamos/Compromising, Thyatira/Adulterous, Sardis/Dead, Laodicea/Lukewarm,** and lastly **Philadelphia is labeled as a FAITHFUL CHURCH!** – *Let's read what Jesus said to them...*

**And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens":<sup>8</sup> "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name..."** (Rev 3:7-8)

**A.** Even though they had little strength, *Jesus said, "You have kept my word"* **A Faithful church can be small, but very alive!** How does our church accomplish that? **By Keeping His Word!** Jesus also warns **not add to it or take away from it**, but **simply KEEP it!** (*a pastors' sacred charge*)

*When we Keep His Word and do His Work,*

**B. God will Opened doors to Minster Effectively!** Paul said, **For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries (1 Cor 16:9)** – **We too must view hostility against God's Word as an Open Door to share the gospel!**

P/A – **How do you know WHEN God is opening a door for you in 2024?** Simply question 'if it is an opportunity to minister to others and does it bring Glory to His name! **Too many time we over-spiritualize things! Stop that.** Just ask God to use you for his glory, and I guarantee that He will open an effective door for you in 2024

*Total Obedience to God in 2024 will bring...*

**IV. NEW SONG FROM US** – When you get to the point where you **realize that your life really isn't about you anymore**, you found the place of spiritual liberation! – When you consistently **work out your own salvation** with Godly reverence and dependency, and **God is working His Divine Purposes IN YOU**, you'll find yourself **Singing a Different Tune!** **(Isa 40:3)**  
**He has put a new song in my mouth— Praise to our God; Many will see it and fear and will trust in the Lord!**

- **Your obedience serves as a witness to man!** It may even cause others to believe in the Lord! Yes...**working out your own salvation** can lead to other's Salvation...wow! (*Oh, that our church would be impacted by this truth!*)
- **I pray that 2024 is going to be the year for the church to sing a new song.** It's time for us to sing a new song about God's Love, Goodness, Mercy, Joy and Grace!

- **Church...lets break some records today!** All those old records that we have sung for years, reminding us of our defeat, loss, depression, negativity and insufficiency... **break them now, in Jesus name!**

**P/A** – *What do you get when you play a country song backwards? You get your wife back, you get your house back, you get your truck back, you get your dog back...* That sounds funny but, many folks in the body of Christ have been singing a sad old song for so long that they have **FORGOTTEN** how it feels to sing about the Goodness of God. (Psalm 96:1) *"O, sing unto the Lord a NEW SONG"*.

**CLOSING THOUGHTS:** **Let's enter 2024 with a NEW SONG in our hearts & on our lips.** My prayer is that you *Know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; and that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.* – *Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen! (Eph 3:19-21)*

### **Important Ministries and Announcements for the New Year**

- Office Open (T – F) 10am – 3pm
- **Prayer Nights** (Tuesday Nights Bi-monthly) Resume Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>
- **Youth Ministry!** (*Praying for Leader and for Space Solutions*)
- Classes Offered: Cornerstones/Evangelism/Servant-Leadership
- Men's and Women's Bible Groups will resume.

### **Communications for the New Year**

- New Invite Cards  
Website ([www.calvarychapelvenice.org](http://www.calvarychapelvenice.org) or simply [www.ccvenice.org](http://www.ccvenice.org))
- Best way to stay informed - **Church App** (Downloadable for IOS and Android)
- **Online Giving** (is on the webpage, app, in-house, mail – Your offerings are part of it all!)
- Church Database (From 0 – 275)
- We want to be accessible to you! (*Pastoral Care - Counseling, Prayer, Weddings, Funerals*)

### **PRIESTLY BLESSING**