SERMON NOTES:

A New Normal | Part 2: Remnant

Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

³³ Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.

Challenge of Developing These 4 New Habits:

- 1. Establish a Sunday morning routine
- 2. Establish a Small Group routine
- 3. Keep your kids connected
- 4. Pray for your church

Zechariah 8:4-13 (NLT)

⁴ "This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: Once again old men and women will walk Jerusalem's streets with their canes and will sit together in the city squares. ⁵ And the streets of the city will be filled with boys and girls at play.

⁶ "This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: All this may seem impossible to you now, a small remnant of God's people. But is it impossible for me? says the Lord of Heaven's Armies.

⁷ "This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: You can be sure that I will rescue my people from the east and from the west. ⁸I will bring them home again to live safely in Jerusalem. They will be my people, and I will be faithful and just toward them as their God.

⁹ "This is what the Lord of Heaven's Armies says: Be strong and finish the task! Ever since the laying of the foundation of the Temple of the Lord of Heaven's Armies, you have heard what the prophets have been saying about completing the building. ¹⁰ Before the work on the Temple began, there were no jobs and no money to hire people or animals. No traveler was safe from the enemy, for there were enemies on all sides. I had turned everyone against each other.

¹¹ "But now I will not treat the remnant of my people as I treated them before, says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. ¹² For I am planting seeds of peace and prosperity among you. The grapevines will be heavy with fruit. The earth will produce its crops, and the heavens will release the dew. Once more I will cause the remnant in Judah and Israel to inherit these blessings. ¹³ Among the other nations, Judah and Israel became symbols of a cursed nation. But no longer! Now I will rescue you and make you both a symbol and a source of blessing. So don't be afraid. Be strong, and get on with rebuilding the Temple!

God's plans and purposes for us are good, even when things around us look bad.

The real question is whether or not we will remain <u>faithful</u> start to finish.

Psalm 18:25 (NLT)

²⁵ To the faithful you show yourself faithful;

to those with integrity you show integrity.

Zechariah 4:10 (NLT)

¹⁰ Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel's hand."

A new season of growth cannot begin again if we do not <u>plant</u> nor <u>water</u> the seed.

John 15:4 (NLT)

⁴Remain in me, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me.

The best way to <u>sustain</u> our spiritual life through the hardships of life, is to <u>remain connected</u> to Christ through His Body.

You and I are invited to look above the <u>chaos</u> and <u>work</u> with <u>hope</u> for the coming of God's Kingdom.