SPEAKER: James Teutschmann **DATE:** December 31, 2023

Sermon Title:

"New Year New Story"

Introduction

As we approach the New Year, we take some time to reflect and examine what spiritual steps we may need to take moving into the new year. Whether it's discovering what holds you back from living out the Gospel, or questioning what following Jesus costs you, we all must take steps towards having a deeper and more impactful relationship with Christ.

• Share one of the best New Year's resolutions you've made in the past. Were you able to keep it?

Seek the Word

- Read Romans 12:2. Here Paul encourages us to throw off the things of this world and be transformed by Christ. What are the influences in your life? How do they help or hinder your walk with Christ?
- Read Romans 12:9-18. Explore some practical examples of the qualities Paul lays out in this passage. How can we incorporate love, genuine affection, hard work, patience, and other qualities into our daily lives?

Go Deeper

Read Matthew 5:43-48.What are some of the challenges of loving those who seem against you? How does this passage connect with the passage of Romans to further deepen our understanding of living out the Gospel?

Talk About It

- What influences or habits do you need to let go of to better pursue Jesus in 2024? How can you practically make this change?
- Reflect on the practical examples of living out the gospel in Romans 12:9-18. Which of these areas do you find most challenging in your own life? How can the group support each other in these areas?
- How can you actively involve yourself in transforming the lives of others in 2024? Who can you invite to join you on your journey of following Jesus?

Wrap Up

Reminder: What new story is God wanting to write in your life starting in 2024?

Challenge: Take time this week praying that God show you how He is wanting to change your life in 2024 to better follow the mission of Jesus. Ask that He present you with the next step that you can take.