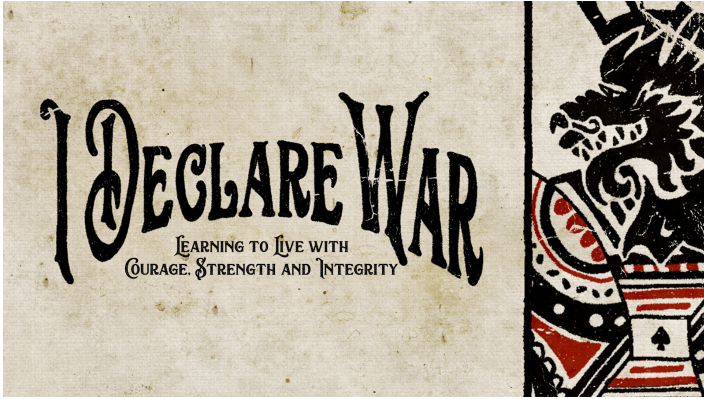


TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: I Declare War
Message: Form an Alliance
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: January 26/27, 2019

It is no secret that church attendance and participation in the US is declining, even among those who declare they are serious about their faith. In this week's message, we looked at several reasons people choose to be less committed to being vitally connected to a local church. Look at the list and add any you think should be there:

- Loss of independence; Don't want to be locked into commitment
- Communication required to get to really know others
- Personal weaknesses and secrets might be exposed
- Don't like it when challenged to change
-
-

We also looked at the benefits that come from being vitally connected to a specific local church. Check out the list and add others you think of:

- More resources available to help me grow and mature in my faith
- With others seeing my life, I have "blind-spot" protection
- Healthy expectations challenge me to change and grow
- Mutual support and motivation – not only do I get help, but I get to help others!
-
-

Jesus gave us a clear mandate regarding how His church should live and work together:

³⁴ So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. ³⁵ Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.

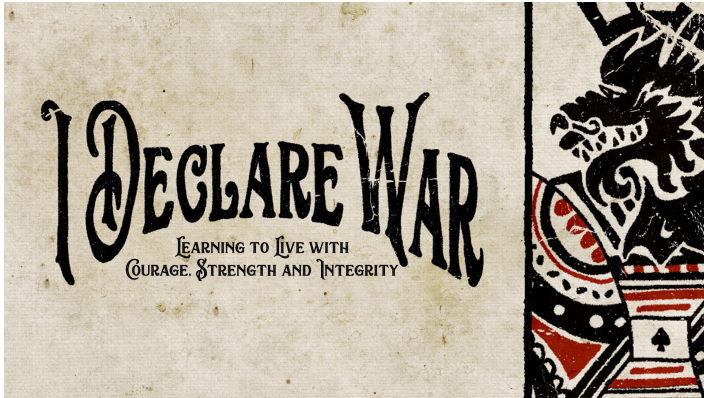
John 13:34-35 (NLT)

It is clear that our obedience to Jesus' command has a positive impact on us, but also on a watching world.

As you consider your current relationship with your church, how do you think God feels about it? Is He proud of the way you are investing in others and letting them help you?

What is a tangible step you can take this week to strengthen your alliance with Jesus' church?

MESSAGE NOTES



Series: I Declare War
Message: Form an Alliance
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: January 26/27, 2019

So far in our series, we have addressed:

- Getting our heads screwed on straight so we are in line with Truth
- Watching our words and making sure they represent God's values
- Evaluating and adjusting our actions to show our love for God

alliance (def): commitment to further common interests

Jesus' church exists for this very reason.

¹² Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. ¹³ You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God.

Hebrews 3:12-13 (NLT)

²³ Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. ²⁴ Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Hebrews 10:23-25 (NLT)

There are **real costs** to living this way.

- Loss of "independence"
- Communication
- Weaknesses and secrets exposed
- Discomfort when challenged

There are also **irreplaceable benefits.**

- More resources
- "Blind-spot" protection
- Healthy expectations
- Mutual support and motivation

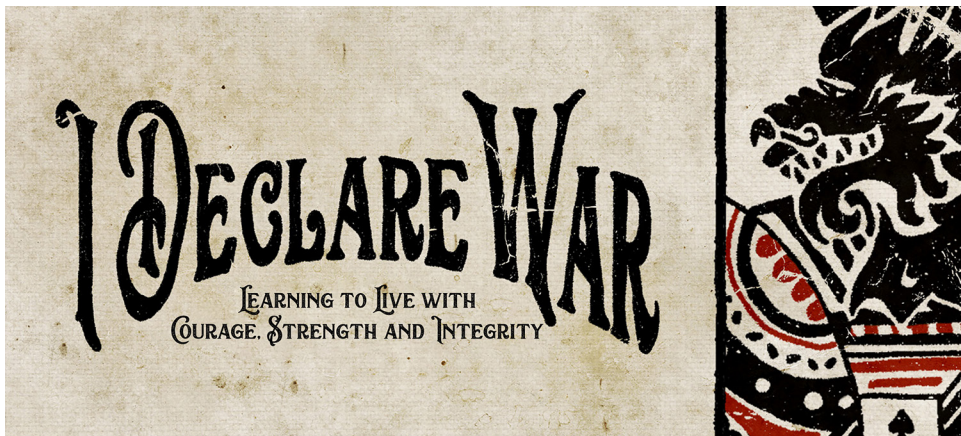
This is God's **assignment.**

The decision is mine.

Go to newhope.org and click on messages to download this week's Take Home Sheet or stop by Guest Services to pick one up.

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

NLT – New Living Translation



Life is a series of choices - a battle between right and wrong, better or worse, good and evil. We can choose to follow Jesus, who offers us love and life in abundance, or we can allow temptation, selfishness and sin to cloud our judgment. So, how do we get out of our own way and quit making poor decisions? In this series, we're going to explore the power of three words, I Declare War. We'll look at different ways our words, thoughts and actions can sabotage our good choices and how we can learn to rely on God's power and resources to gain healthy control of our lives. ***This week... Form an Alliance.*** The Bible doesn't tell us to try - it tells us to trust. When life gets hard, the best defense is a good offense. God has given us resources that will help us succeed. These include the Holy Spirit, the Bible and the Church.

FIRST TIME GUESTS

We promise we're not going to make you stand up in front of everyone or track you down, but we'd love to know you were here today! Simply fill out your communication card in the seat back in front of you and check the "First Time Guest" box. On your way out, stop by Guest Services at the front doors and get your FREE welcome gift. **We're glad you are here!**

**WE'RE
SO GLAD
YOU JOINED
US TODAY!**

newhope
CHURCH

We are honored when people choose to do church with us. New Hope is for anyone who wants to seek God - from those exploring whether or not God even exists, to devoted Christ-followers. Wherever you are, you'll find we are committed to showing everyone the love of Jesus and help them establish a relationship with Him. We are casual, laid-back, and far from perfect. **ALL are welcome!**

startingpoint®

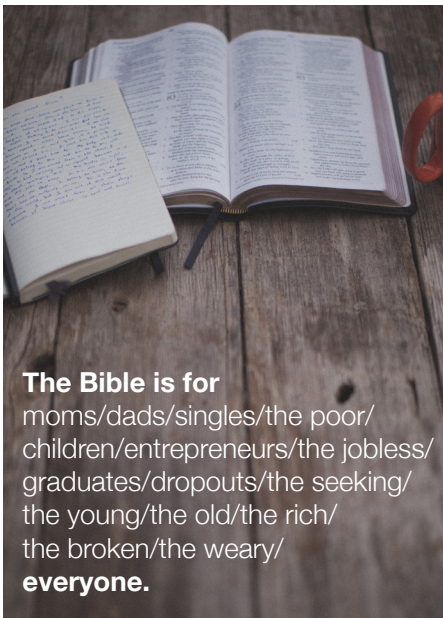
Starting Point is a conversational environment where people can explore faith and experience community. Starting Point groups are safe places for people with questions about faith, as well as those who want to learn about the Bible and Christianity. Groups meet for nine weeks to explore the grand story of the Bible.

You may have questions that you've always wondered about, but never felt you could ask at church, legitimate questions that would make many Christians uncomfortable. Ask them. Nothing is off-limits. We want to have conversations about the stuff that really matters to you—even when it's difficult to talk about—especially when it's difficult to talk about.

Starting Point is designed for:

- **SEEKERS:** those who are curious about God, Jesus, the Bible, or Christianity
- **STARTERS:** those who have just begun a relationship with Jesus Christ
- **RETURNERS:** those who have some church experience, but have been away for a while

The group will begin on Saturday, February 2nd and end on Saturday, March 30th. This group meets at New Hope during the Saturday 5:30 pm service. **To register go to bit.ly/spwinter2019.** Questions? Contact Kim Feld at kim.feld@newhope.org.



The Bible is for

moms/dads/singles/the poor/
children/entrepreneurs/the jobless/
graduates/dropouts/the seeking/
the young/the old/the rich/
the broken/the weary/
everyone.

Welcome to the 2019 Bible Reading Plan! This year we are reading through the New Testament chronologically, meaning that we will read the events in the order they are believed to have occurred. Pick up a hard copy of the plan at Guest Services or download it at nhcbrp.com and print it out. Visit nhcbrp.com on your phone or computer and follow along week to week. You can also follow any of the New Hope Church social media accounts at nhclorton.com. Just spending a few minutes each day in God's Word is not only doable, but has the power to be life changing! We hope you will join us in this challenge and watch what God does in your heart and life this year.

Women's Breakfast

Saturday, February 9th • 8:30-10 am



Only \$5. Pre-registered childcare: \$3/ child, \$5 for 2 or more children.

Ladies - Join us for a delicious breakfast, great conversation and a time to recharge and connect with God. We'll be hearing from a panel of New Hope women about being on the outside. Whether it's with our career, our relationship with Jesus, our desire for marriage or motherhood, or sometimes even just being a woman, we can all relate to feeling left out in one way or another. Come and be a part of the dialogue as these women share their experiences and how God walked with them and what they learned. **To register, please go online to bit.ly/womensbfast2019.** Email Karenna at karenna.rowenhorst@newhope.org with any questions.

24

HOURS OF

PRAYER

"Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?"

Corrie ten Boom

Be part of 24 hours of prayer at New Hope.

Friday, February 1, 2019, 6:30 pm – Saturday, February 2, 2019, 6:30 pm.

Sign up for a one hour time slot to pray in our prayer room

at bit.ly/24hourprayerevent

*"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)



More Information Online at bit.ly/2019journey

If you have any questions, please contact Kim Feld, the Executive Director of Education and Outreach, at kim.feld@newhope.org.

Kingdom Man- This three-week Journey group for men is a follow up to the One Day Men's Retreat. The class will be held from 7-9 pm on Thursday, January 31st, Thursday, February 7th and Thursday, February 14th, led by Brandon Pendleton. Questions? Contact Brandon at pendleton.brandon.l@gmail.com. **To register for this class, please go to bit.ly/kingdommannhc.**

Financial Peace University- We all need a plan for our money. Financial Peace University (FPU) is that plan! It teaches God's ways of handling money. Through a nine-week video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more! This class meets on Thursday evenings from 7-9 pm, starting January 31st. Questions? Contact Tom Dolan at tdolan1@comcast.net. **To register for the nine-week class, please go online to bit.ly/fpuclass2019.**

Prayer Course- Want to go deeper in your prayer life? Journey with us through the Lord's Prayer as we cover topics such as intercession, dealing with disappointment, learning to

listen and spiritual warfare. Each workshop includes a short video, discussion and practice time. This course is intended for anyone interested in the subject of prayer, led by Emma Keeton. Class begins on Thursday, February 7th, from 7-9 pm, and runs for six weeks. Childcare is available for anyone that registers in advance. Questions? Contact Emma Keeton at emokeets@gmail.com. **To register for this class, please go online to bit.ly/prayerjournal2019.**

Parenting Through the Phases- You have approximately 936 weeks from the time your child is born until he or she graduates from high school. It goes by fast, and it's as if they change just as you begin to figure them out. It can make the responsibility to shape a child's faith and character feel overwhelming. The Parenting Through the Phases study is based on the four different stages of childhood and will help you discover what's changing about your kid, the six things your kid needs most, and the four conversations to have with your kid while they are in each phase. This is a six-week course that meets on Thursday evenings from 7 – 9 pm starting January 31st through March 14th (We will not meet February 14th.) **To register for this class, please go to bit.ly/parentjourney.**



UGANDA MISSION TRIP

If God is tugging at your heart to explore a mission, come to the interest meeting about the Uganda trip this summer (July 2nd -15th). The meeting will be held Sunday, February 10th (NEW DATE!!) at 12:45 pm in the Large Room upstairs. We would love for you to experience a mission outside your comfort zone, but smack in the center of God's zone. Experience the pure joy and deep faith of the Ugandan people. Experience worship that moves you to tears. Experience love and laughter engulfed by children longing for affection. Experience the camaraderie of a team of Christ followers who are passionate about serving the poor. Experience a country so different than ours, and then...experience a shift in your perspective and heart towards the things that matter to God. Experience the heartbreak of extreme poverty while you...experience the privilege of making a difference. **Please RSVP to Jenny at theherzogs1@verizon.net or let us know on your comm card.**

Baptism

A decorative graphic consisting of a series of dark blue and green scalloped shapes, resembling waves or a baptismal font, positioned below the word 'Baptism'.

We are excited to announce that our first Baptism Celebration Weekend will be on February 23rd and 24th. Baptism is going public about your faith in Jesus and communicating to the world your heart-felt commitment to following Him. It's the next step after committing your life to Jesus Christ. **If this is you and you are 13 years old or older, please join us immediately after each service in the auditorium this weekend, the 26th or 27th. Kids, 12 and under, will meet in the Remix Room after the services next weekend as well.**

2018 YEAR END FINANCIAL UPDATE GENERAL OFFERING

DECEMBER TOTAL

BUDGET	ACTUAL	OVERAGE(SHORTAGE)
\$284,350	\$268,117	\$(16,233)

END OF YEAR TOTALS

BUDGET	ACTUAL	OVERAGE(SHORTAGE)
\$2,350,000	\$2,374,629	\$24,629

Thank you for your generosity and continued financial support of the ministry of New Hope Church and helping all people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.



LADIES: WANT TO GET CONNECTED IN 2019? New women's small group starting Tuesday, February 12th at 7:00 pm in the Lorton/Springfield area! Don't miss this opportunity! The group will begin with an eight-session video-based study called Community. You'll learn why your unique story matters.... to God and to the people you do life with. **Contact Renee Demmel at rdemmel45@gmail.com to sign up or get more information.** Thanks!

New Hope Church is collecting toiletry items to help federal workers affected by the partial shutdown of the U.S. Government. All donations will be delivered to the Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC) in Lorton to be



distributed to local families. A collection area will be in the front lobby of the church for you to drop off your donations. Additionally, the Kid and Student Ministries of New Hope Church, along with the Silo Center Programs, will be collecting new, white crew socks for the Central Union Mission in Washington, DC for distribution to the homeless population. The socks will be collected during the month of February and can be dropped off in the front lobby as well. Thanks!

Toiletry items being collected:

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Bar Soap

Please note: All items should be new and sealed. Thanks!

For those who are seriously dating or already engaged, New Hope Church is launching a new pre-marriage class. This class is designed to help couples better understand God's plan for marriage and learn how to navigate the challenges of marriage by better understanding one's future spouse. The unique and permanent bonding of a man and woman in marriage is a great blessing and the anchor on which society is built. But doing marriage successfully requires a unique set of skills and perspectives for couples to learn and develop. The class will look at compatibilities and differences in partners, effective communication strategies, building a home together and honoring God in your commitment.

The class will be taught by Bill and Lorna Soderberg in their home and will be scheduled around the mutual availability of all participants. **The class will meet six times, once per week for 90 minutes each session.** Instruction/discussion is built around the book, "Preparing for Marriage" by Boehi, Nelson, Schulte & Shadrach, and general editor Dennis Rainey.

Please reach out with any questions or to let us know if you would like to join the class. Call Bill or Lorna at 630-606-8051 or you can email them at lornasoderberg@gmail.com.

We ♥ Our Volunteers

We love our volunteers and we take pleasure in spotlighting them each week. **This week, we'd like to recognize Josh Ritchie.** Josh serves on our Parking Team. Some days it's a DREAM position to fill, other days, like in the middle of winter, not so much! But Josh is always out there welcoming our guests with a smile on his face. **Thank you, Josh!! We appreciate you!** The Parking Team is an important team here at New Hope. The volunteers on this team are the very first faces we all see when coming to church. They are the ones that usher in first time guests to our prime parking spots to give them a bit of New Hope hospitality. Next time you are passing through the parking lot, especially on those cold, rainy, windy days, thank a parking volunteer for serving us! **If you are interested in volunteering on one of our ministry teams, please contact Carol Ann at carolann.gregoire@newhope.org.**

As you know, we were asked in early September 2018 by Inspire Church in Woodbridge to merge with New Hope. After significant effort and prayer regarding what actions we should take, **we have determined that it is not within the Lord's will that we take on Inspire Church in a merger and as a New Hope campus.** The Senior Staff feels God's leadership in this decision and does not believe this means we will not be able to establish a multi-site later on, but believe that God has closed the door on this particular opportunity. We also don't view this as a failure, just a closed door with many lessons learned. **If you have questions and would like to speak to one of us about this, please send an email to info@newhope.org and we will follow up with you.**

newhope
CHURCH

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