

Fresh!

Pastor Grant Fishbook
January 8 & 9, 2011

A Fresh Promise from Jesus

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."
– Revelation 21:5

Something Fresh for the Coming Year

Fresh Bread

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. – John 6:35

When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was.

Moses said to them, "It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat. This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Each one is to gather as much as he needs. Take an omer for each person you have in your tent.'"

The Israelites did as they were told; some gathered much, some little. And when they measured it by the omer, he who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little. Each one gathered as much as he needed.

Then Moses said to them, "No one is to keep any of it until morning."

However, some of them paid no attention to Moses; they kept part of it until morning, but it was full of maggots and began to smell. So Moses was angry with them. – Exodus 16:14-20

Principle: You can't live on yesterday's bread.

Fresh Focus

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. – Hebrews 12:1-3

Principle: You can't run free when you are chained to your sin.

(Continues on back)

Fresh Clothes

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. – *Colossians 3:12-1*

Your Wardrobe for 2011

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| a. Compassion | e. Patience |
| b. Kindness | f. Forgiveness |
| c. Humility | g. Love |
| d. Gentleness | |

Principle: We are called to dress from the inside out.

Fresh Start

"Who dares despise the day of small things, since the seven eyes of the LORD that range throughout the earth will rejoice when they see the chosen capstone in the hand of Zerubbabel?" – *Zechariah 4:10*

Principle: In order to start fresh, you have to start.

Next Steps

Baptism: If you've started a new life with Jesus Christ but haven't been baptized yet, be sure to attend one of the baptism classes on the weekend of January 22 & 23 at either campus. Full details are in the Classes & Workshops section of What's Happening. Grab one in the Commons today.

Go DEEP: Grab a DEEP Discipleship Guide in the Commons today to learn how you can deepen your relationship with Jesus – no matter where you're at in your spiritual journey. Pick up a What's Happening flyer to learn about dozens of opportunities this winter to go deep.

Small Group Questions



- 1) What has the spiritual highlight of your holiday season?
- 2) What is your opinion of New Year's resolutions? How does the biblical standard of "letting your yes be yes and your no be no" affect your understanding of making commitments?
- 3) What habit or sin do you want to "throw off" this coming year?
- 4) From the list above, which piece of spiritual clothing is the most challenging for you to put on this coming year?
- 5) As you begin 2011, what do you believe that God will make new?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?