

9. **Philippians 3:13-14 – What Paul did was not easy but it's important for all believers:** "Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of [the fullness of eternal life] yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." // Paul could have been depressed about his past sins of *severely persecuting followers of Jesus*. **But**, instead, he knew – by *God's grace* – that His sins were forgiven and separated from him, "*as far as the east is from the west*" (Ps. 103:12). **Therefore**, he focused on ➤ living for Jesus and ➤ finally being called home to Paradise!
10. **Colossians 3:23 – So much of life is about attitude – ➤ how we view the Bible, ➤ how we interact with others, ➤ how we deal with difficult situations, ➤ how we approach our work. Here is some great advice:** "Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men..."

- a. Even though we see our boss, let us remember that our **Ultimate Boss** is our Lord Jesus! He **†**is the Son of God, **†**took away our sins, **†**is fully aware of our job situation.
- b. **Therefore**, regardless of our circumstances – good or bad, *let us do our VERY BEST to*

**GOD'S GLORY!** When we do so, the Spirit might even use us to transform our earthly boss into our brother or sister in Christ!

11. **Psalm 37:4-5 – How are we living for the Lord – ✓ forcing ourselves to do His will OR ✓ doing so gladly, knowing His ways are best:** "Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it." // **Did you catch that HUGE promise?** When we **gladly** seek to **know** and **follow** the will of the Lord, *He will give us those deep and pure desires in our hearts*. The world says, "No," but let us – as *Bible-believing Christians* – be sure: **HE WILL DO IT!**

## Conclusion

**Let Us Pray:** Dear LORD, we thank You for Your word! Help us to go forward to ➤ believe it and ➤ gladly do it!

This site inspired some ideas in this sermon: [25 Bible Verses to Inspire a Fresh Start in the New Year](#)

## Connect With Us

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# Bible Verses to Guide and Bless Us



## Introduction

Dear friend: It's common for our lives to become **cluttered** and **complicated** and **worldly**. Therefore, on various occasions – ✓ a **new year**, ✓ a **birthday**, ✓ after an **illness**, ✓ after the **death of a loved one**, or ✓ after the **end of an important relationship**, it's **healthy** to:

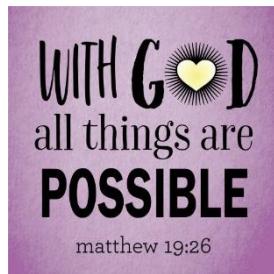
- Evaluate our lives.
- Leave our sins and foolishness behind.
- Step into the future with clarity and optimism.

As I touch on eleven Bible passages, may the Holy Spirit grant us **guidance, follow-through, and countless blessings!**

## Bible Verses

1. **Isaiah 43:18-19 – Let us unchain ourselves from the past and know that all things are possible with God:** "Do not... ponder things of the past [when I brought you out of Egypt],

parted the sea, and fed you with manna]. Behold, I will do something new [something much greater – by sending the Messiah], Now it will spring forth; ...I will even make a roadway in the wilderness, Rivers in the desert.” // Let us remember the LORD’s past blessings and give Him thanks **but let us especially look forward to the awesome blessings yet to come through Jesus!**



2. **Lamentations 3:22-23 – Let us recall these words every day:** “The LORD’S lovingkindnesses [love for us and the generous things He does for us] indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.” // Wow, they **never** cease, they are **new** every morning!



3. **2 Corinthians 5:17 – Let us remember who we are through knowing Jesus:** “...if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old

things passed away; behold, new things have come.” // Now, **being children of God**, Let us **let go of the old and live as God’s holy children!**

4. **Jeremiah 29:11 – Let us permit the joy of God’s plans to dominate our thoughts. The LORD declared:** “...I know the plans that I have for you, ...plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.” // Let us always cling to **God’s never-failing promises!**



5. **Philippians 1:6 – God will finish what He has started:** “For I am confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work [of salvation] in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.” // God has saved us! Now, **let us cooperate with His work in our lives!**

6. **Proverbs 3:5-6 – It’s normal and natural for us to do what WE desire, but what is best?** “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.” // **What does that mean?** Let us **be open to God’s word, believe it is best, and follow it in every decision going forward!**

7. **Psalm 32:8 – We are not on our own, the LORD said:** “I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.” // **Therefore**, let us **pay close attention to the LORD, follow His teaching, and be at peace – because He is watching over us!**

8. **Ephesians 4:22-24 – Let us put off the old and put on the new:** “...in reference to your former manner of life, ...lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit [desires of dishonesty], and... be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in *the likeness of God* has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.” // When **we are tempted to sin AND we want to sin, let us know it’s a lie – it’s dishonest!** Even though our old nature says **“Yes,”** let our new nature say **“No,”** and **gladly go God’s way!** This is an excellent time to get rid of our bad habits and **replace them with new ones that align with the Bible!**

