re:new - New Year Sermon Series

Week 1: Renewed Life — Choosing God's Way

Theme Overview

God invites us to choose life — not just existence, but abundant life in Christ. Each new year, we have an opportunity to realign our choices with His will. This session explores how choosing God's way leads to freedom, blessing, and purpose.

Icebreaker

If you could go back and re-make one decision in life, what would it be and why?

Bible Reflection

Read: Deuteronomy 30:11–20; John 10:10

In Deuteronomy 30, Moses sets before Israel a clear choice — life or death, blessing or curse. God's life isn't about comfort, but covenant relationship. In John 10:10, Jesus offers "abundant life."

Discussion Questions

1. Why was this sermon so important to the Israelites at that time?
   o Why might 'choosing God's way' have been about to get harder for Israel at this point in their history? (see Deuteronomy 8:11-14). Do we relate to that in any way?
2. Is Moses proclaiming a 'prosperity gospel' here? What did 'prosperity' look like for Israel and what might it look like for us?
3. Why does God give them a <u>choice</u> of 'life' or 'death'?
4. What did Moses command them to do to 'choose life'? (see v16, 19-20). Discuss each of the phrases here: what does it mean to you and how easy do you find it to do these things?
5. What does "choosing life" look like for you your daily decisions, attitudes, or relationships?
6. Moses warned them about 'bowing down to other gods' (v17). What do you think are the 'gods of this age' and what might worshipping them look like for us (especially here in Malvern)? What might it look like for us to stop worshipping these gods of our day?

Practical Application & Prayer

- Take a few moments of quiet and ask God to show you one area of your life that feels out of alignment with His way. What might it look like to 'choose life and not death' in this instance?
- If you feel comfortable, share that in 2s or 3s and pray for each other.
- What might it look like as a group to collectively "choose life" together this year (e.g. commit to prayer, outreach, or accountability). Pray about this together.