

with God. Life lived in a wonderful loving intimacy, where he shows his affection for me, where we daily walk and talk together.

Which really amounts to nothing if I don't do it!

What do you think; if I don't talk with Jesus regularly, from my heart, what sort of relationship am I living? How would you describe that?

I'm ecstatic that Jesus has come to dwell with me, to take up life with me; in that loving and affectionate, conversational relationship. I'm ecstatic that Jesus doesn't condemn me for being a bit slow in picking up on the importance of talking with him, of inviting him into every area of

life, so his presence can breathe his newness into it.

I'm ecstatic to know this year I get to live anew, every day, as I recognise more and more Jesus' presence with me. I'm ecstatic to know the Spirit is with me; anew every day. Every day I get to rise and walk into a new day; the first of Nissan, I'm birthed into life with God through Jesus with Spirit.

I thought we might finish hearing God's blessing for life, new life daily shared with him; hearing that blessing in Hebrew. Just for fun; enjoying life with Jesus.

29 December 2019
NEW, NEW, NEW!
Romans 6:4



The other day I stumbled over a Youtube clip discussing if the 25th of Dec. was when Jesus was born. I don't know why I bothered to watch this clip as I think arguing over such things can mean we miss the point. What's the point of Christmas? Jesus was born; fact. Born our Saviour; fact. Born that we might know him personally; fact.

Though after watching this clip I thought I'd sell my car and get a new one; a Nissan. Did you know 'Nissan' in Hebrew is the first month of their calendar?

I'd like to share a small clip from that clip; enjoy.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ptlsXtTf6n0>)

Had you always thought of the New Covenant as simply coming after the Old Covenant? You've got the old and now you've got the new. I had; but not anymore. I'd totally missed that Jesus ushers in a covenant of newness. I loved that thought, that in Jesus everything is always new, new, new!

The new covenant never gets old; it is the covenant of newness, because in Jesus we get to live with God personally. Every day!

It is always day one of the first month. We're not trapped in the past. We're not stuck on some path

of performance, always seeking to prove ourselves, always seeking to arrive, but never arriving.

We live in the new day, everyday, when we live with Jesus. For when the Messiah comes everything becomes new; for we are dwelling with him, abiding in his presence, living in the intimacy of his love for us. And that never gets old.

Have you noticed how being loved never gets old? How being valued and wanted never gets old? How feeling delighted in never gets old?

The power of the Messiah's presence is to make everything new. When we receive his presence

Christ Church Lutheran

Worship Times - 9.00am & 10.45am
Pastor: Tim 0427326553



Jesus' disciples multiplying disciples

everything becomes new. Which would be totally impossible if the Messiah had not made himself present with us; if the Messiah hadn't come to dwell with us, to tabernacle with us, with you.

In the Old Testament the symbol of God's presence was the tent of meeting called the tabernacle. That's where the Ark of the Covenant was, with the two stone tablets Moses had received from God. That's where the cloud of God's presence hovered over. God was present with his people; but not personally. The Messiah was yet to come.

In Jesus, the Messiah has been born, one with us. Born our brother, that we might share life with him; that we might tabernacle with him. That old phrase indicates that Jesus has come to walk

and talk with us through the whole of life in a wonderful intimacy.

An intimacy which is new every morning. What an amazing relationship of love and affection Jesus has created for us to live in and enjoy each and every day.

In the Messiah Every Day New

Whenever we receive Jesus' presence, everything becomes new. So we are the people of the second chance; for in Jesus, God's love for us comes anew everyday.

Wouldn't it be horrid to think we were trapped in yesterday's failures, mistakes, missed opportunities? I seem to have this wonderful ability to make mistakes, to miss opportunities, to fail; what about you?

Without Jesus being real, being present, being there for me, for you, what hope would I have? I'd be left with my failures seeking to rule my life, my mistakes dominating me, my missed opportunities eating away at my conscience. That almost sounds hellish!

Instead I live with Jesus, who makes my day new, every day.

Why, because his love for me is new, every day. That's the nature of relationships; and that is what Jesus has created for us to live in. A relationship of love and affection; a conversational relationship where we discover life together, a new every day.

So how do we receive the Messiah's presence, that we might live with him daily in that wonderful new life he brings?

If Jesus is symbolically born on the first day of the first month; the first day of Nissan, symbolising a new day, ushering in a new year. I think it fair to presume that Jesus wants to live this new life with us. Why else would he have been born, one with us? Why else would Jesus have come personally, if it wasn't to share a personal, intimate relationship?

And the way you share a personal relationship revolves around sharing your thoughts and dreams with the other person. Allowing the other person to see into you; that's intimacy. And there is no place we keep more secret than our hurts and pains, our failures.

I think that's why Jesus invites us to share with him those hurts and pains. To share our failures with him; which is to

allow him in. That is to allow Jesus to dwell with us; opening the door to him, you could say.

What a wonderful new day that ushers in; fear, regret, disappointment, rage are replaced by Jesus and the love he brings, the forgiveness he offers,

The heartbeat of faith is prayer; talking with Jesus.

the hope he creates, that we get to live a new.

Maybe the heartbeat of faith is prayer; talking to Jesus, inviting him into our lives, to be there personally. Jesus isn't interested in being a theory; he wants you to be living in the reality of his presence. That's what makes everything new; his presence.

Where do you make time to share with

Jesus from the heart? Where do you make time to listen to Jesus' heart?

That's not meant to be a telling off; you're a bad person for not praying. That's not what Jesus creates; more fear, more guilt, more disappointment because you didn't do it right. That's not what Jesus is after. That's the old day, not that wonderful newness of his presence.

So I like the thought of Jesus being born in the first month, the month on 'Nissan' on the first day, ushering in a newness of life for us to live in, anew every day.

My passion for this new year is to dwell more and more with Jesus. To make time to share with him from the heart. To be open to hear from his heart. To believe Jesus is the Messiah, the one who has come to open us up, open me up, to life