

## 2015 - The Difference Maker

The Lord is the one who thought of new beginnings – in Genesis the Bible starts with “In the beginning.....”

He sent the flood in Noah’s time for a new beginning, thank you Lord for no more floods – but God is a God of new beginnings and new seasons – dates are important to the Lord and I get the feeling that 2015 is the year of significance – the year of standing and making a difference!!!!

The Bible is full of stories on new seasons and new beginnings – we as a church and individually are here today facing a new year full of opportunities, it may be unknown to us as it still has to unfold – but it is known to God – Corrie Ten Boom said the following: **“Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a KNOWN GOD.”**

While preparing and praying to the Lord about this new year message God took me to a scripture in Isaiah, prophet Isaiah was calling the nation of Judah back to God and prophesying of God’s mercy and love, let’s look at Isaiah 43:18-19 “Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wastelands.”

I believe 2015 is a year of **Supernatural Breakthrough** – things that are so dramatic and amazing that you would have to be spiritually dead not to recognize that it is the Lord at work.

Bill Johnson says “If it is too good to be true – you can be assured God is involved in it!!!!”

2015 – A year of Hope – God loves to release Hope – what is hope?

To desire something with confident expectation of its fulfilment – Bill Johnson describes it as – this is biblical hope – **“Is the rock solid assurance something wonderful is about to happen and I am leaning into it!!!!!!!!”**

Colossians 1:27 “Christ in you - the hope of glory”

As we look to 2015 we can all choose to do it our way or God’s way – we can have a normal mundane year or we can heed the call from God do away with

all distractions and have an absolutely supernaturally mind blowing year – this all depends on our headedness to God and His call to us!!!!

We cannot remain the same we are called to bring His kingdom and make a difference in our homes, churches, businesses, families, neighbourhoods and the entire world (mission teams) – no not the person next to you – YOU!!!!

We need to bring hope to the hopeless and share with an overriding confidence in God that He will bring about change in each and every circumstance and situations that people find themselves in – The God of hope!!!!

**NB!!! Can you be the difference maker that God is looking for in 2015?**

Can you be that person – 2 Chronicles 16:9

“For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on the behalf of them whose heart is perfect towards Him.”

**Main Point – God’s presence is the key**

**God is our reference point for everything said and done EG: due north on a compass**

We all know that our individual encounter with God’s presence is what changed us!!!!

We owe the people that we serve and are trying to reach and encounter with God’s presence, for this to happen we need to be constantly full of the Holy Spirit – FULLNESS IS MEASURED BY OVERFLOW (Bill Johnson)

**GOD’S PRESENCE THE KEY!!!!!!!**

You are this person God is looking for **STAND UP!!!!!!!**

Perry Noble says the following about difference makers – “Champions aren’t built on desire; they’re built on discipline. And discipline is the difference between average and abundance!!!”

What is your next step to a disciplined 2015 – God is looking for a yielded life totally committed and surrendered to Him and His will.

**Introduction and life story of LOUIS ZAMPERINI – WHAT A LIFE, WHAT A STORY AND WHAT A MAN. Approximately 5 minutes**

Everyone of us is heading towards something – every second the clock of life ticks and we are moving forward and getting a little bit older – we should all be attempting in 2015 to reach a certain goal (could be in your spiritual life, family, business or sporting career) unfortunately for some of us there are certain obstacles that get in our way: lack of time, distractions, procrastination, fear, worry, not good enough, not spiritual enough, bad decisions from the past – and so on. **RUG SACK!!!**

**WE CANNOT CONTINUE BELIEVING THE LIES OF THE DEVIL IN 2015 – we need to move on we cannot afford to go around and around the same mountain year after year!!!!**

The beginning of the year brings joy to everyone – a new start a new beginning a fresh and blank page ready to write a new story (**each chair a blank A4 page**)

Years are God's creation – and 2015 is a special one!!!!

**2015 – THREE PRIORITIES IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE:**

**PRIORITY ONE-**

**YOUR VISION FOR THE YEAR MUST ALWAYS BE HELD IN FRONT OF YOU.**

Proverbs 29:18 “Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keeps the law, happy is he.” (KJ)

The two main words in this verse are: **VISION & PERISH**

**VISION** – many view the word as a clear goal or mission however the Hebrew meaning refers to a revelation from God. The first part of the verse is that we need a constant revelation from God – in the context of a new year – we need fresh revelation from God for 2015 – concerning our purpose in Him: individually, family, church, our calling and business (work).

**PERISH** – this word also means “throwing off restraint” this word is the same used in Exodus 32:25, it is breaking loose – in this verse the people had thrown off the restraints and began to crazily worship the golden calf, perish also means removing all restraint.

Thus the verse is teaching that “where there is no message from God, the people throw off all moral, ethical and religious restraint.”

This verse is powerful:

- Teaching us that a consistent message (revelation) from God is needed if we are going to overcome the human tendency to throw-off restraints and do as we desire.
- Warning us that the word of God must always be before us.
- Warning to us Christians to make sure we are delving into the word of God constantly and living a life fully consecrated to God.
- And a life that expects God’s supernatural power to work constantly
- God is for us who can be against us!!!

## **PRIORITY TWO-**

**RUN YOUR RACE TO THE FULL.**

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 “Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.” (NIV)

- Our race has a purpose in 2015.
- Our calling and gifting God has given us in advance to run with endurance.
- We are disciplined we train, prepare and grow.
- We run with a vision in mind the prize – which God calls you heavenward for – eternal life.

- We never give up – we are determined and focused.

### **PRIORITY THREE-**

#### **STAY PASSIONATE**

**Mark 11:30 “Jesus said, love the Lord God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy.” (MSG)**

**The word “Passion” in Greek is the word “Heart”, God is saying to us:**

- Put some muscle into it
- Put some energy in
- Put some emotion into your relationship with Me
- Don’t be wishy-washy
- Don’t be a wimp concerning your relationship with Me
- Don’t be half-hearted
- Give it all you’ve got.

**I believe God is saying in this verse, “If you’re going to follow Me, you’ve got to go for it with passion. You’ve got to give it some oomph, some spark, some zip, some enthusiasm, some zest. I want you to live passionately.”**

**In closing, I believe God is saying to us we need to seek Him, Love Him, serve Him, obey Him and trust Him passionately.**

**And if you didn’t get it He goes on to say in Colossians 3:23 “Whatever you do, do it with all your heart (Passion) as unto the Lord and not unto men.”**

**God says He wants us to do everything passionately when it comes to:**

- Loving Him
- Serving Him
- Living for Him

**I believe God is going to bring a supernatural turn around in many people’s lives this year – 2015**

- Restore relationships with God – igniting that fist love

- **A total surrendered life to God**
- **Restoration of brokenness – self worth & relationships**
- **Business strategies from above**
- **Supernatural favour – impacting our communities**

**Jesus wants to turn your frustration into fruitfulness, your confusion into clarity.**

**Time to get off the sidelines and step into the race God has planned for you.**

**2015 a year that you are called to make a difference in a dying world!!!!**

**AMEN.**