



WEEKLY STUDY

God Loves Lost Things - Week Five

In this week between Christmas and New Years, we have a chance to reflect on all that God has done and where we need God in the coming year. As you study and pray each day, consider how each passage prepares you to faithfully follow Jesus in 2025.

Happy New Year!
Pastor Mark Youngman

If you are studying with your Providence Small Group or Discipleship Group, you can share from your own daily reflections and consider the Group Discussion questions below. If you would like to get connected visit prov.church/smallgroups.

DAILY STUDY

MONDAY: EPHESIANS 1.18-19 (NIV)

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

- When do you experience the power of God in your life?

- **Prayer Prompt:** *That power is the same as the mighty strength²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 1.19-20)*

- *God, I want to tap into the power that you have for me. Strengthen my belief and guide me. Amen.*

TUESDAY: 2 CORINTHIANS 5.17-19 (NIV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them.

- What do you think Paul means by “the new creation” that has come?
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- **Prayer Prompt: *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (2 Corinthians 5.17)***
- *Jesus, you are making all things new. Renew my heart and prepare me to see you at work in the world around me! Amen.*

WEDNESDAY: ISAIAH 43.18-19 (NIV)

*“Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.*

¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

*I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.*

- What seems to be blocking the way to the life you imagine God wants for you?
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- **Prayer Prompt: *I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. (Isaiah 43.19b)***
- *God, continue to make a way for me in 2025. I will be looking for the path that you are making in the wilderness. Amen.*

THURSDAY: PROVERBS 3.5-6 (NIV)

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;*

⁶ in all your ways submit to him,

and he will make your paths straight.

- Are you seeing a straight path going into the new year? What would it take to straighten it out?

- **Prayer Prompt:** *in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. (Proverbs 3.6)*
- *Jesus, iron out the crooked places of my heart and of my plans. Make my next steps clear and smooth. Amen.*

FRIDAY: EPHESIANS 4.22-24 (NIV)

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds;²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

- Can you identify the deceitful desires that have controlled your actions or inactions?

- **Prayer Prompt:** *Put off your old self....be made new.*
- *God, I know that you are transforming me as I follow your Son. Send others that will help me to notice the ways in which I am holding on to the old self. Amen.*

SATURDAY: JEREMIAH 29.11-14 (NIV)

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."¹² Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.¹³ You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.¹⁴ I will be found by you," declares the LORD,

- Call on God and pray to Him in the space below.

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- **Prayer Prompt:** *Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. (Jeremiah 29.12)*
 - *God, sometimes I feel like I am calling out, but I'm not sure you hear me. Let me cling to this promise that you listen to me and have plans for my future. Amen.*

GROUP DISCUSSION

In worship we shared our hopes and prayers for ways we'd like to see God moving in 2025. Share with one another the various places you hope to see God at work in the coming months. Commit to pray for one another as you move into the new year.