



Tues 10/ 11 January 2023 ~ 2 Corinthians 3:18 ~ God's New Year Resolution

- What's your experience of New Year Resolutions – something you avoid or embrace, something you smash or are smashed by?!
- Here's a fun 2mins video that may be of help... <https://gochattervideos.com/downloads/new-year-the-promise-i-cant-keep/>

Read 2 Corinthians 3:7-18

Context: Paul is comparing the ministry of Moses in the Old Testament with the far more glorious ministry and lasting spiritual life that comes through Jesus in the New Covenant. Under Moses, the experience was limited (v7 and v.9), temporary (v.7 and v.13), veiled and brought no heart change (v.14-15). But with Jesus, there is true freedom (v.16-17). That freedom is a freedom from spiritual blindness and a freedom to know the Spirit's transforming work in our lives (v.18).

1. According to Paul, how much better and glorious is the ordinary Christian's experience in knowing Jesus, compared to what Moses experienced?

Read verse 18 again

Becoming like Jesus.. (*The Lord transforming us is His Priority, at His Pace, and in His Power*)

2. In v.18, where do we see that God transforming us into Christ's likeness is the Spirit's work in us, not down to our own effort? How's that reassuring?
3. How does the fact that we are all 'works in progress,' and being changed "slowly but surely," mean that we can be real with one another about areas we'd love to grow in? In what ways can you look back over the last year and give thanks for that transforming work in one another?
4. So, then, [perhaps in pairs/threes] in what specific ways – in thought, word and deed – would you love to grow to be more like Jesus this year?

...by Beholding Jesus

5. Why does looking, by faith, at Jesus lead to becoming like Him? Can you testify to that?
6. John Newton often summed up the Christian life in this way:
"Looking unto Jesus." The duty, the privilege, the safety, the unspeakable happiness, of a believer, are all comprised in that one sentence.
But he also wrote: *"I find that to keep my eye simply upon Christ, as my peace, and my life—is by far the hardest part of the Christian life."*

In what ways, as we start 2023, do we relate to those sentiments?
7. What would it look like, as a Connect Group this term, to make "becoming like Jesus, by beholding Jesus," the main thing we are about? How would that priority shape our discussions and our prayer for one another?



Do pray for areas in life in 2023 you'd love to be transformed into Christ's likeness.



A reminder of how the HTC family are encouraging one another to Behold Jesus this year:-

