

CCYM Devotional – January 2019 – Theme: New Beginnings & Love written by Adirondack District Youth from Queensbury United Methodist Church – Charley Miller, Joseph Sumner, Amelia Elmen and Chevy Sumner

New Heavens and a New Earth Isaiah 65:17

17 "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind."

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2019. We will be your spiritual tour guides for the 744 hours of January. We are here to tell you that last year is over and will never come back again. Any wrongs you did last year are behind you now, they no longer dictate who you are. This is your year. See the future, Be the future!

"Be the Change You Wish to See in the World" ~ Mahatma Ghandi

By Charley Miller and Joseph Sumner – 8th graders

17 "I am creating a new heaven and a new Earth; past events won't be remembered, they won't come to mind."

A New Year means many things to many people. One of these things is a new beginning, a chance to start over. Leave the old people in the past, the old you in the old year. And that is exactly what God promises to us. He promises that whatever we do in our "old life" before Him, will not be remembered in our "new life" with Him.

Doesn't that sound amazing! If we give our lives to God, he has created a new heaven and earth where our sins will be no more. Starting the New Year with God will give you a greater chance to start over than you could have possibly given yourself. A chance to give the difficulties of the past year to He who created all things, and continue the rest of your life closer to God.

It doesn't take some thrown together resolutions to make the New Year better. It's about surrendering the past year to God, and trusting Him to show you the beginning He created just for you!

Dear God, Please guide your people closer to you, and help us all to find our new life in Him this year. Amen.

By Amelia Elmen - 10th grader

Romans 8:38-39 New International Version (NIV)

38 "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Some say God loves us and nothing can separate us. Others say that Satan separates us from God. But then still others say you have to believe in Him in order to receive His love. It might seem hard to decide what to believe. I believe that God loves us and nothing can separate us. It doesn't matter if you are old or young, good or bad, tall or short, heavy set or skinny, NOTHING will keep you from God. God will love you no matter what. God is here, and will be here for you and nothing can get in the way of that. You have Jesus to thank!

Dear God,

Thank you for your unconditional love and for having your son die for us. We are glad you are there and will be there for us. Amen.

By Chevy Sumner – 7th Grader