



- A New Normal is a call to a new **behavior**.
- Culture is going to establish a new normal for our **safety**.

The natural tension:

- God has **called** us to a new **normal**.

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 2 Corinthians 5:17(NLT)

- The culture we live in should not **define** the culture we are called too.

Don't live any longer the way this world lives. Let your way of thinking be completely changed. Then you will be able to test what God wants for you. And you will agree that what he wants is right... Romans 12:2 (NLT)

Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out... Romans 12:2 (MSG)

- We can't let **safety** be our new normal **spiritually**.
- Safety is not what we **create** but something God **provides**.

The name of the Lord is a strong fortress; the godly run to him and are safe. Proverbs 18:10 (NLT)

- If we choose a safe life, at some point we will miss **God's life**.
26 Risk your life and get more than you ever dreamed of. Play it safe and end up holding the bag. Luke 19:26 (MSG)

- A new normal will not be **normal**.

Afterward Jesus returned to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish holy days. Inside the city, near the Sheep Gate, was the pool of Bethesda, with five covered porches. Crowds of sick people—blind, lame, or paralyzed—lay on the porches. John 5:2-3 (NLT)

One of the men lying there had been sick for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, he asked him, "Would you like to get well?" "I can't sir," the sick man said, "for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me." Jesus told him, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!" Instantly, the man was healed! He rolled up his sleeping mat and began walking! John 5:4-9 (NLT)

What prevents us from the new Normal:

- We look to **old ways** to experience something new.
... the man said, "I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. John 5:6 (NLT)
- The obstacles we face become **excuses**.
I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up...and someone else always gets there ahead of me. John 5:6-7 (NLT)

Experiencing God's new normal:

- Jesus **meets** us where we're at and he knows our **condition**.
- Jesus will ask the important **question**.
..."Would you like to get well?" John 5: 6 (NLT)

"Do you want a **new normal**?"

- Jesus will call you to a new **behavior**.
Jesus told him, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!" John 5:8 (NLT)

Sometimes we're asked to do the **unthinkable** to experience the unbelievable.

- What Jesus asks us to do, he will **enable** us to do.
For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him. Philippians 2:13 (NLT)



**TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE
IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.**

Questions for Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- What are some of the changes you think will define a new normal due to this Corona virus? What do you hope doesn't change?
- What do you believe God's new normal looks like for us?
- Discuss what this statement means to you: "The culture we live in should not define the culture we are called too."
- Do you believe that if we choose a safe life, at some point we will miss the life God calls us to? Explain
- Discuss the points under the sub-heading: "What prevents us from the new normal"
- Not everyone who follows Christ experiences the new normal that God has for them. Why do you think people don't experience God's new normal? Is there anything that concerns you personally about God's new normal for your life? What do you think that means?
- Why is it important to know that what Jesus asks us to do, he will enable us to do?

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Doing life together