

EPISODE: 362

TITLE: **Preparing For a New (Big) Year on Mission**

We're all living in the midst of so much uncertainty, and when your plans have evaporated, when it feels so tiring to look ahead... the future can feel a little scary. But we all long for something new; something that brings freshness to our lives and faith.

Here are three key things to believe and consider about preparing for the new year on mission:

- 1. Not intentionally preparing (ourselves and others) for the year ahead on mission is in fact a type of preparation in itself.** But it may be preparing to fail. Or preparing to remain frustrated with things that you *could* be changing.
- 2. With all of this may come new responsibilities, new challenges and the need for a renewed reliance on God for *everything* in your life and ministry.** Even our righteous acts done apart from faith are but filthy rags! You can trust him with yourself, your family, and the community you're a part of and leading. Remember, it is God himself, through Christ, who is making all things new! Your value and "success" is not based on what you do, or get others to do... it's based on what Jesus has already done.
- 3. Don't be afraid to "dream forward" and ask God to lead you to that hoped-for future reality.** Without faith it is impossible to please God. Prepare your heart first, do that work. Then, in faith, start preparing your family, intentionally introducing new language, rhythms and relationships. Then ask, "What's next, Lord?" with your church or community. What is the very first step you will take to prepare your church for bigger engagement on the mission of making disciples in everyday life next year? Remember, you might want to go back and listen to episode 252: First Steps To Becoming a Missional Church .

"Imagine yourself at some point in the future — maybe a few months or a year from now, living the life of your dreams. This is a normal day, not a holiday or a special day; rather, it is a typical and perfect everyday. What do you see? What do you feel? What do you hear? Who are you with and what are you doing? Describe the day in present tense, from the moment you wake up to the moment that you go to sleep. Creation begins with imagination." ~Hollye Jacobs

Also: If you want to learn a full framework for discipleship and developing others for Mission in the new year, I'd like to tell you about the coaching and mentorship that we offer. Let's set up a short Zoom call to get to know each other better and I'll tell you all about it and answer any questions you have.

Check out: everydaydisciple.com/coaching

Thanks for listening... we'll see you in the next episode!

~Caesar