
DAY 41

**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation
has come: The old has gone, the new is here!**

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

I don't know about you, but I get so excited about those moments of the year that offer a new start. Sometimes it's the beginning of a new year. Other times, it's the summer, where families get a fresh experience of spending time together. In other cases, it's the fall, where the school calendar picks back up in August and everyone gets their binders, notebooks, and bookbags, ready to discover what a brand-new school year holds. Sometimes my birthday feels like a fresh start, or simply the changing of the seasons . . . those first warm spring days when the flowers start blooming or those first crisp days of fall.

These moments in our yearly calendar remind me that God always gives us a fresh start, but also that He loves us enough to keep moving us forward from where we once were like we talked about on Day 30 (Phil. 1:6). He's never just repeating the same season over again with nothing to show for it. Instead, He's always moving us onward and upward, transforming us into the image of His Son, even when it doesn't feel like it. He promises that the "old you" has gone—who we once were apart from Christ isn't how God sees us anymore—and that the new creation, the person we were always meant to be, is now here because of Jesus. And more than that, we keep becoming more and more like Him over time. I love that He is continuously making us new, and loving us into the best version of ourselves.

Grateful for the reminder that we are new creations. We aren't the "old" us anymore! No matter how loud lies might be that say otherwise, God's Word speaks a louder Word. If anything or anyone

tries to tell us different, let's use these fighting words today: the old has gone, the new has come!

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- What times of the year feel like a “new start” for you? Why?
 - How did God take you from being an old creation to a new one?
 - When do you most often need the reminder that the “old you” is not how God sees you anymore? How might you help yourself remember the truth of this verse in those moments?

🔥 Father, thank You for transforming me from an old creation to a new one! Help me remember that You no longer see who I used to be, but who I am in Christ—and strengthen me to trust that You will never leave me as I am.
