



Small Group Discussion Guide — January 4, 2026

- Sermon: “Church Alive”

FOLLOW-UP FROM LAST WEEK

What is one memory from this Christmas that you will carry with you?

CONNECT

What is one thing you hope for in this new year? It could be a goal, a new habit, a dream, or something really simple.

As we enter a new year, we want to remember together as a church who we are, what we do, and where our hope lies. With this in mind, David shared some thoughts around each of the verses below. Read each of them aloud, and select 4-5 to share your thoughts about how these verses help us as followers of Jesus to look ahead to the future with hope rooted in Him. Take care to move from the head to the heart — with personal application of each verse.

Genesis 12:1 The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you...”

Isaiah 30:15 In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength...

Isaiah 43:19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Jeremiah 29:11 “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 16:9 In their hearts humans plan their course, but the LORD establishes their steps.

Colossians 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

John 4:23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks.

John 14:26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Mark 10:45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Luke 19:10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Revelation 21:4-5 He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!”

PRAYER

Lord, as we enter 2026, help us trust You more deeply—confident that You know what lies ahead and that Your grace is enough. Shape us into a people who worship You faithfully, are formed into the likeness of Jesus, and joyfully join You in Your mission. Draw our hearts toward what matters most, and let love be the mark of Your people. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

QUOTES

“God does not have a mission for His Church. He has a Church for His mission.”
Christopher Wright