

# Fresh Starts

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## **Fresh Starts** May it be said of us . . .

### Setting the Stage: Last Week

- Whatever he's got, I want some of it
- Personal: year-end soul searching...and it's my week to preach...

### Sermons: Having to say something versus having something to say

- What do I have to say?
- When was the last time I really heard from God? When was the last time you did?
- Confessions of a Pastor
- Matthew 6:33 - keeping the horse before the cart
- This past week: step 1 - experience God; step 2 - let the sermon take care of itself

### Revelation 2-3:

- First love (2:4-5) - do the things you did at first
- Alive/dead (3:1-3) - maybe you feel this way?
- Lukewarm (3:14-18) - American Christianity

### Living by the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-26)

- Not by the sinful nature
- Requires prayer - see below

### The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

- Start with verses 7-8 (Ecc. 5:1-3)
- Not WHAT to pray, but HOW
- God as Father (in Heaven)
- Hallowed (honored) be your name
- Your kingdom come/will be done, not mine
- Daily bread - not too much or too little (Pr. 30:7-9)
- Forgive us as we forgive others (contingent?)
- Protect us from the temptations of the evil one
- If you don't know how or what to pray, start here

The goal/role of the church: to help each other become the type of people that when others are around us, they'll know that we've been around Jesus.