Happy New Year

1. Intro
   1. Traditional greeting for the new year: Happy New Year!
   2. Implies hope, prospects, and good things
   3. Let’s pray for a HAPPY New Year!
      1. I know we can choose Joy
      2. But lets pray that its HAPPY as well
2. Text
   1. Romans 12:1-2
      1. Be transformed, not Conformed
      2. It is the daily challenge of the believer
      3. But how do we apply that this year?
         1. Believe God!
         2. Be Convinced!
         3. Be Persuaded!
   2. Phil 1:6 And **I am sure of this**, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.
   3. Romans 8:38-39 (ESV) **38**For I am **sure** that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, **39**nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
   4. 2 Corinthians 10:7 (ESV) Look at what is before your eyes. If anyone is **confident** that he is Christ’s, let him remind himself that just as he is Christ’s, so also are we.
   5. Galatians 1:10 (ESV) For am I now **seeking the approval** of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.
   6. 2 Timothy 1:12 (ESV) which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and **I am convinced** that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me.
   7. Acts 17:4 (ESV) And some of them **were persuaded** and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women.
3. Point
   1. To Believe
      1. Belief is intended to grow, but must have a beginning.
      2. Romans 12:1-2: This begins the transformation process, and does not end until you are glorified.
      3. 2 Timothy 1:12
         1. I know whom I have believed…
         2. I know HIM
         3. THAT PERSUADES ME
      4. Paul is giving us a glimpse of the spirit filled life
   2. To Be Persuaded
      1. The growth of belief results in persuasion
      2. ILLUSTRATION: What does it look like to be Confident?
         1. If you walk through a store with confidence, you will be asked questions
         2. If you drive confidently, you might get a ticket
         3. If you dress confidently, you aint worried about your GIRTH
      3. I AM CERTAIN
      4. What are you certain of?
         1. Why?
         2. How long did it take?
         3. What happened to cause that belief in you?
      5. How differently do you walk when you are confident?
      6. Persuaded…Romans 8:38-39…the ultimate statement about being persuaded
      7. Persuaded…Phil 1:6…confident in Christ!
         1. This is not about the confidence in the flesh, but in the POWER OF GOD!
         2. I am CONFIDENT in Christ, and CHRIST ALONE
         3. That’s liberating!
      8. 2 Corinthians 3: 1Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you, or from you? 2You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. 3And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. 4Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. 5Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, 6who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.
   3. To Persuade
      1. Acts 17:4
      2. There is a reason and a purpose to our growth: To persuade others.
      3. GO. AND. MAKE
      4. You are called to multiplication.
      5. You are compelled by GRACE through FAITH!
      6. We have a renewed mission to reach our community, lets go PERSUADE others that Jesus is the only way!
      7. Why do we want folks to know this?
         1. Salvation
         2. Peace
         3. Favor
         4. Victory!
4. Close