

## **New Years Service 2014**

*2 Corinthians 3:12- “Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, & where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, w/ unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.”*

### **1. Gospel Brings Transparency:**

- VS. 16- “But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed”
- Hebrews 4:15-16- “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize w/ our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet w/out sin. Let us then w/ confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy & find grace to help in time of need.”

### **2. Transparency Brings Freedom**

- 2 Corinthians 11:30- “If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.”
- 2 Corinthians 12:9-10- “But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

### **3. Freedom Leads To Transformation:**

- VS. 18- “And we all, w/ unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.”

- Matthew 4:18-20- “While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

#### **4. This Transformation Makes Us Full Of Hope:**

- VS. 12- “Since we have such a hope...”
- Hebrews 6:19- “We have this as a sure & steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain,”

#### **5. Finally, Hope Produces Boldness:**

- VS. 12- “Since we have such a hope; we are very bold”
- The hope that doesn’t come from faking it, from hiding...the hope that leads to real change...this makes us “very bold”
- Romans 1:16- “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes”
- Jeremiah 20:9- “If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, & I am weary w/ holding it in, & I cannot.”