

## Study Guide for January 4, 2026 | The Present: The Gift of Every New Day

The Christmas season is over, and the new year is here. There is one more present you still need to unwrap... one day at a time! Perhaps you've heard this saying before:

*“Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is a mystery. Today is the present, that’s why they call it a gift.”*

It's a bit cliché, but true, nevertheless. This series explores a variety of topics related to the gift of every new day. Let's see what God's word has to say!

**Read Philippians 3:1-14, focusing on verses 13 and 14.**

*1 Further, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you. 2 Watch out for those dogs, those evildoers, those mutilators of the flesh. 3 For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— 4 though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. 7 But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8 What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. 10 I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. 12 Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. 13 My dear friends, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

MORE ON THE BACK!

## **Start a conversation regarding the key points below.**

This ONE THING I DO today! In the new year, I will...

1. Rejoice in the Lord!
2. Put no confidence in the flesh.
3. Abandon worthless things.
4. Be found in Christ.
5. Make it my purpose to know Jesus.
6. Press forward!

First, connect each point to the corresponding verses in Philippians 3:1-14 above. Next, suggest additional Scripture that can be used as a cross-reference for support. Pick one from the list below or use one of your own.

**References:** [Philippians 3:1-14](#); [Galatians 1:6-8](#); [Isaiah 64:6](#); [Ephesians 2:8-10](#); [1 Thessalonians 4:15-17](#); [Job 23:8-12](#); [Psalm 65:11](#); [Philippians 1:6](#) **[SPANISH]**

## **Ask questions related to each area above.**

1. What stands out to you? Which point or verse speaks to you the most? Why?
2. What is one takeaway from this lesson? What insights did you gain? Summarize everything in one sentence.
3. How does this apply to your life? Suggest one way you can put this into practice this year.
4. Improve the following example by being more specific.

*I will pursue Christ by forgetting the past and pressing toward the goal of the upward call in Christ Jesus.*