

The logo features a stylized yellow cross with a circular base, followed by the word "TRANSFORMED" in a bold, yellow, distressed font. Below this, the text "DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The background is dark blue with abstract, leaf-like shapes in a lighter shade of blue.

TRANSFORMED

DEVOTIONS CONNECTING TEENS TO CHRIST

Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

Ephesians 5:15-16

Fresh Start – #1 Evaluate

A new year is a great time to think about our lives and where we're headed. A new year means a fresh start. We can start brand new in 2019. We can start brand new in Jesus, because he has forgiven all of our sins. This month, our devotions will look at what God says to us about our new year and our life in Christ.

First, we need to evaluate our time. God gives each one of us the gift of twenty-four-hour days. Each one of us has been given the gift of life and breath today from the same God. Each one of us has been forgiven all of our sins by the same Savior. It's a brand-new gift that our God gives us freely and daily.

How will we use this time? How will we use fresh set of twenty-four-hour days that our God gives us? What is the best way to use our days and to make the most of every opportunity?

It's a time to look at how we're using our phones. (Check out your phones and see how many hours per day or per week that you're using your phone. My iPhone tracks my phone usage for individual tasks.)

It's a time to consider how we're using our time with family and friends. Do we live for ourselves or in service to others?

It's a time to consider how we're using our time to grow in our faith. Do we set aside time for God to speak to us in his Word?

It's a time to consider how we can make the most of every moment in every day to seek God and to share him with the people in our lives. Do we know someone who really needs God's gift of forgiveness?

So, take a look at your calendar. May your use of time reflect your appreciation for this gift as you joyfully serve him and others.

Prayer: Dear Lord, you have given me each moment of my day. Each moment is a gift from you. Help me to use every moment for you and for your glory. Amen.