

A TWO-PART SERIES FOR THE NEW YEAR

Sermon Outline Collection

Expect greater. Believe bigger. Begin the year open to God’s work, then learn to remain faithful when the answer takes time.

01 | THE YEAR OF MORE - PART ONE

Ephesians 3:20-21

Expect greater and make room for God to work.

02 | THE YEAR OF MORE - PART TWO

Romans 4:17-21

Hold on to expectation when fulfillment is delayed.

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Concise preaching outlines with Scripture references and brief point summaries. Develop each message for your own congregation.

PART 01 | PREACHING OUTLINE

The Year of More

Primary Scripture: Ephesians 3:20-21

Central idea: Enter the new year expecting more of God. Make room for His work through prayer, surrender, and confidence in His power within us.

Opening direction: Use the idea of a television rerun to describe entering a new year with unchanged expectations. Introduce a closed jar as a picture of a guarded heart that needs to open to God.

1. Expect Greater

Ephesians 3:20-21

Paul praises God’s abundant ability while writing from confinement. Our circumstances do not define God’s capacity. Let His ability reshape our expectations, prayers, and willingness to obey.

2. Believe Bigger

Ephesians 3:20

God works through His power within His people. Respond with greater prayer, surrender, trust, and courage; take obedient steps beyond what feels comfortable or manageable.

Closing response: Return to the jars: closed, open but already full, and open with room to receive. Ask listeners to identify what needs to be surrendered or removed, set a needed boundary, and make space for God. Expect greater; believe bigger.

Scripture references
Ephesians 3:20-21.

PART 02 | PREACHING OUTLINE

The Year of More

Primary Scripture: Romans 4:17-21

Central idea: When fulfillment is delayed, keep your expectation anchored in what God has promised. Faith acknowledges reality, gives God glory, and endures through the waiting.

Opening direction: Move from a New Year's "weight" problem to a "wait" problem. Connect part one's openness to this question: What do I do when I expect more, but nothing has changed yet?

1. Expect Greater When Hope Is Thin

Romans 4:18

Abraham's hope rested on what God had said when natural circumstances offered little reason for confidence. Ground expectation in God's promise rather than optimism or denial.

2. Believe Bigger Without Denying Reality

Romans 4:19

Abraham recognized his age and Sarah's inability to conceive. Faith faces the facts honestly while trusting God's ability to fulfill His word.

3. Faith Is What You Do While You Wait

Romans 4:20

Abraham grew strong in faith while giving glory to God. Continue worshiping and trusting before the answer arrives; praise helps keep disappointment from settling into unbelief.

4. Fully Convinced Happens Over Time

Romans 4:21

Confidence deepens as we continue trusting that God can do what He has promised. Waiting becomes a place of spiritual formation, strengthening dependence and endurance beyond changing emotions.

Closing response: Part one called listeners to take the lid off; now call them to keep it off. Stay expectant, faithful, and anchored through regular time in the Word, prayer, and participation in the church.

Scripture references
Romans 4:17-21. Connection to part one: Ephesians 3:20-21.