While I'm not big on New Year's Resolutions, I have been making plans for 2017. They encompass travel, food, health, conditioning, giving, saving, spending, prayer, study, relationships, and sharing. The plan is already under way. And because it's a plan, it is subject to refinement. But hey, it's a plan. So what's your plan for the New Year? This morning I will be speaking from the Gospel of Mark 4:21-34. The context finds Jesus speaking in parables or stories describing God's work among those who seek and follow Him. The big challenge before us: we need to "Plan to Share His Good News."

Present the good news (4:26-29)

Pray for open doors (Colossians 4:2-6)

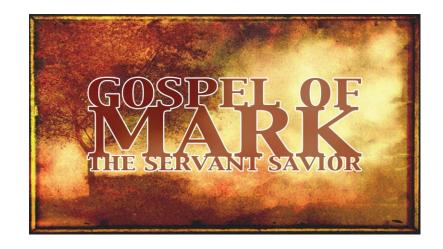
Picture this (4:30-34)

Prepare to share God's good news (Mark 4:24-25)

Personal Application and Interaction

- 1. What will you most remember from 2016? What are you especially looking forward to in 2017?
- 2. What images or pictures come to your mind as you pray for open doors to talk with people about Jesus?
- 3. How do you prepare your heart to speak about the good news that can be found in Jesus? What do you do to make sure you are ready to talk to people about Him?
- 4. What gives you the confidence to talk about Jesus to people who seem to be far from God?

5. What do you think is God's plan for the growth and impact of our church and school? How do you see yourself and your friends fitting into that plan?



What's your plan?

Mark 4:21-34

Pastor John January 1, 2017

