

Use “The Scene” to introduce “Confidence” the High School Sunday school lesson for December 29, 2019. The lesson is found on page 31 of *High School Teacher* by 21st Century Christian.

# the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

Many people approach the beginning of a new year with great hopes and expectations. Some resolve to change in some significant way in order to make themselves better persons. Let’s look at how some other people have approached this idea of a fresh start.

“To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.” —Winston Churchill

“You are never too old to reinvent yourself.” —Steve Harvey

“The beginning is the most important part of the work.” —Plato

“A year from now, you’re gonna weigh more or less than what you do right now.” —Phil McGraw

“Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other.” —Abraham Lincoln

“There are far better things ahead than any we leave behind.” —C.S. Lewis

“Character is the ability to carry out a good resolution long after the excitement of the moment has passed.” —Cavett Robert

“Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties.” —Helen Keller

*As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the above news story to read. After all teens have had the opportunity to read the article, discuss it in this way:*

**What do you think about making resolutions at the start of a new year? What resolutions would you like to make?**

**What is one thing you are confident about as you face a new year? Why are you confident about it?**

**What is one area of your life that you would like to change? How do you feel about making changes? Is that something that makes you feel good about yourself or do you have low self-esteem and think you can’t succeed?**

**Many of us have things we would like to change about ourselves. That isn’t necessarily a bad thing. But living with low self-esteem can cause problems. Today we’re going to look at the life of Paul and learn three things that gave him confidence and that can give us confidence too.**

