

## Your New Year's Resolution

So, did you make any resolutions for this new year?

What if you change things up and making spiritual New Year's resolutions instead?

Why do we give up on our resolutions so quickly?

It's because we struggle with consistency. Our struggle goes way beyond making resolutions. Making commitments and not keeping them is part of being broken human beings.

So, what is our problem?

*Our intentions are not aligned with God's will.*

We don't seek God before we make resolutions or commitments. James 4:13-17

*Our plans may or may not be God's plans.*

If we want to be successful with any New Year's resolution, or any commitment that we make, we must seek God's will.

Each of us must ask the question-*What does God want for my life?* When He reveals or convicts you, He also equips you to follow through with the plan. When you know you are following God's plan, then you have more strength to do it, allowing Him to work well beyond your normal January 3rd quitting date. James 5:7-8

The farmer waits patiently for the Lord to bring the growth, but it doesn't mean he sits on his porch doing nothing. It's not easy being patient.

Like the farmer, we must do what we need to do, so that God can do what only He can do to produce results in our lives.

Now, while there is nothing wrong with making resolutions about weight, exercise, and money, why limit yourself to these, only?

### **God would be honored if you made spiritual resolutions.**

Read the Bible every day; pray every day; get involved in a ministry at church or with a para-church organization; share your faith with friends; make a step of faith that is so big that only God can make it happen. Resolve to represent Him no matter what the cost. Hebrews 13:13, 1 Peter 4:19

Here are some spiritual resolutions you can do before making any other resolutions or commitments in the new year.

### **Spiritual Resolution #1 – Pray About It**

-Seek God's face. Ask Him what you should do and /or be in every aspect of your life. Ask Him to help you distinguish between the urgent and the important. Matthew 7:7-11

-Ask for wisdom. 1 Kings 3:4-10

### **Spiritual Resolution #2 – Give Your Time & Attitude to the Lord**

Let's resolve to give our attitudes to the Lord. Commit to making a difference at home, in the workplace, the marketplace, on the roads, and even at church.

Colossians 3:14-15

### **Spiritual Resolution #3 – Don't Do It Alone**

Thomas Fuller made this statement:

*Seek Him and His wonderful plan for your life. The two of you will make a great team—united in your determination to fulfill your destiny. A strong will, a settled purpose, an invincible <sup>11</sup>~~11~~ determination can accomplish almost anything.*

The two of you make a great team!

So often we think we are forging our path alone. We live as though life is completely up to us. Yet, if we are “In Christ” we are part of a team. Romans 3:26; Colossians 3:17

Life is not always easy. Following through on simple commitments can even be difficult when bombarded by everyday affairs. In addition, the attacks of Satan will challenge us at every turn. Because of this, I offer this prayer on your behalf.

*Now I commit you to God and to the word of His grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. — Acts 20:32 (NIV)*

So, what spiritual New Year's resolutions will you make this year?