



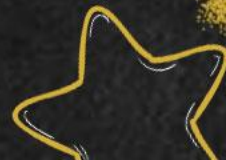
**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**

Making New Year's Resolutions



Here are 3 things to think about going into the New Year.

- What is your attitude going into the New Year.
- What part do you play in the process.
- What/who are you putting your trust in. (Notice most of the resolution are about ME)



- **Philippians 3:13-16** Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: **forgetting** what lies behind and **straining forward** to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you. 16 Only let us hold true to what we have attained. ESV



Forgetting –

- Looking back ends in going back:
- **Luke 9:62** But Jesus told him, "Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God." NLT
- **Luke 17:32** Remember Lot's wife.
- **Exodus 14:15** The Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. ESV (Get moving NLT)

Forgiving –

- Forgiving yourself!
- Forgiving others!
- **Matthew 6:14-15** "If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. 15 But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.
- **Mark 11:25** But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too." NLT
- **Luke 6:37-38** "Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven.
- **Luke 17:3-4** "If another believer sins, rebuke that person; then if there is repentance, forgive. 4 Even if that person wrongs you seven times a day and each time turns again and asks forgiveness, you must forgive." NLT
- **John 20:22-23** Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Forward –

- When you are running a race you don't look back!
- ***Philippians 3:13-16*** but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward — to Jesus. 14 I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back. 15 So let's keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision — you'll see it yet! 16 Now that we're on the right track, let's stay on it. **The Message**
- The Bible, as our landmark, shows whether we are progressing or reverting to an earlier and inferior condition.
- What is the Lord encouraging you into this New Year?

Focus –

- Pray with Simplicity - **Matthew 6:5-6** "And when you come before God, don't turn that into a theatrical production either. All these people making a regular show out of their prayers, hoping for stardom! Do you think God sits in a box seat? 6 "Here's what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won't be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace. **Message**
- **Matthew 17:5** While he was going on like this, babbling, a light-radiant cloud enveloped them, and sounding from deep in the cloud a voice: "This is my Son, marked by my love, focus of my delight. Listen to him." **Message**

Romans 4:19-25 Abraham didn't focus on his own impotence and say, "It's hopeless. This hundred-year-old body could never father a child." Nor did he survey Sarah's decades of infertility and give up. 20 He didn't tiptoe around God's promise asking cautiously skeptical questions. He plunged into the promise and came up strong, ready for God, 21 sure that God would make good on what he had said. 22 That's why it is said, "Abraham was declared fit before God by trusting God to set him right." 23 But it's not just Abraham; 24 it's also us! The same thing gets said about us when we embrace and believe the One who brought Jesus to life when the conditions were equally hopeless. 25 The sacrificed Jesus made us fit for God, set us right with God.

Message

Faithful -

• **1 Corinthians 1:4-9** I always thank my God for you because of the grace God has given you in Christ Jesus. 5 I thank God because in Christ you have been made rich in every way, in all your speaking and in all your knowledge. 6 Just as our witness about Christ has been guaranteed to you, 7 so you have every gift from God while you wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to come again. 8 Jesus will keep you strong until the end so that there will be no wrong in you on the day our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. 9 God, who has called you to share everything with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. NCV



