

RESOLUTIONS

In 1722, Jonathan Edwards drew up a list of 70 resolutions, dedicating himself to live in harmony with God and others. The following resolutions give a picture of the serious purpose with which Edwards approached his relationship with God. He resolved:

- To do whatever is most to God's glory.
- To do my duty, for the good of mankind in general.
- Never to do anything, which I should be afraid to do, if it were the last hour of my life.
- To study the Scriptures steadily, constantly, and frequently.
- To ask myself at the end of every day, week, month, and year if I could possibly have done better.
- Until I die, not to act as if I were my own, but entirely and altogether God's.

In Nehemiah 10, God's people made an oath, vowing to follow all the commands, laws, and regulations of the Lord. This oath was so serious that they were willing to accept the curse of God if they failed to keep these commands.

Our resolutions need not be so serious as that. But any resolution to follow God is not a casual promise. Rather, it is a solemn and serious declaration that - with the help of the Holy Spirit - *we can renew every day.* - Marvin Williams, *Our Daily Bread* -

Life, A Fragile Thread

I just unwrapped a new calendar;
Three hundred-sixty five pages smooth and cold.
I fanned them through my fingers,
And wondered what each day would hold.
Joy, happiness, death - or sod?
There's no way one can know,
But the answer lies in walking daily
By the side of the living God.

- Benny B. Bristow -



More About Resolutions

I have been reading in church bulletins about resolutions. It seems that January 1st is the time most people make an effort to improve. I find nothing wrong with that at all. In fact, if it helps, do it! However, instead of trying to list all the things we need to do, improvements we need to make, and items we need to leave off, why not try a simple resolution. I read where one preacher said he would make the following promise for the New Year.

- I will go nowhere I couldn't take Jesus.
- I will say nothing I wouldn't want Him to hear.
- I will do nothing I wouldn't want Him to see.

I think this about covers it for me. How about you?

- J. R. Chism, (*Bulletin Digest*) - adapted -

A New Year's Prayer

*A whole new year is mine today ...
May I be wiser, Lord, I pray!
I'd strengthen friendships, old and true,
And learn to cherish new ones too;
To keep on learning and to grow
A little deeper as I go.
To cast aside each grudge and grief,
And hold fast to a firm belief
That life is joyous, gracious, good,
When lived in terms of brotherhood.
To welcome fun, and play awhile,
To lighten work with a pleasant smile!
To thank the Lord and every day
Remember Him, and kneel to pray,
In gratitude for strength and health,
And blessings which are all my wealth.
This year's a gift from God to me
To spend, or use, or set me free ...
A whole new year is mine today ...
May I be wiser, Lord, I pray!
- Author Unknown, *Bulletin Digest* -*



"Perhaps the best resolve is to live so that next year's resolutions will be unnecessary."

- Calvin Coolidge, 30th President of the United States, from *Calvin Coolidge Says*, Dec. 30, 1930 -

News & Notes

COVERED DISH DINNER: TODAY about noon at the Fellowship Building followed by our **early afternoon service at 2:00 p.m.** at the Church Building.

ADD TO YOUR JANUARY CALENDAR: Jan. 2, Jim/Marilyn Hadley-1960.

Jan. 18, Kevin Richmond. **Jan. 22,** Kinsley Hitt

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, Jan. 7th, 8:00 a.m. at EJ's.

HOME VISITS: Beginning this month, our Elders and Bro. Rico will be making visits to delinquent members' homes in an effort to restore them.

PANTRY: Spaghetti and sauce.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS: SICK & SHUT-IN: At Home: David Strum, Jim Hadley, Linda Parkes, Mike West, Barbara DeLong, Claudette Miller, Cheryl Renfro Walker. **Fox, Pepperberry Suites, Chester:** David McCoy. **Weston, WV:** Rick & Sharon Beck, 807 Camden Ave., Weston, WV 26452.

10 Values Of Church Attendance

1. It keeps your *HEART* in constant tune with God.
2. It keeps your *MIND* on the great necessity for having God's word spread throughout all nations.
3. It improves your *CHARACTER* by learning the great examples that Christ gave to us.
4. It improves your *DISPOSITION* by learning to be meek and humble like Christ.
5. It helps in your *EVERYDAY LIFE* by learning to love one another even as Christ loved you.
6. It teaches you to *GIVE* and know the wonderful joy you receive by giving.
7. It teaches you to *PRAY*, for prayer is the answer to many of our problems.
8. It gives your *SOUL GREAT JOY* and comfort to worship and know that God is near.
9. It shows the world that you are *WORKING* for Christ and His kingdom.
10. It is what *CHRIST INTENDED* for you to do *"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."*

- Sixth & Washington Streets Church of Christ, Marietta, OH

Give Yourself A Spiritual Tune-Up

- > Make certain your light is glowing.
- > Set your timing so as to be in the assemblies.
- > Adjust the brakes of your tongue; it's slippery.
- > Tune up your heart and have peace.
- > Align your direction and stay on the right road.
- > Lubricate your spirit with the oil of gladness.
- > Antifreeze your heart; be fervent in spirit.

- Russell Bankes, Jr. -