

The OKLAHOMA BAPTIST

Serving Churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Oklahoma

Volume LVI

JANUARY 2021

Number 1

“Seven Resolutions That Make a Difference”

Over the years I've made several New Years resolutions. Some to stop doing things I need to stop doing, others to begin better habits of what I should be doing. Each time I was consistent with my commitments every day...for the first day. After that I usually lost interest.

That's the reason a lot of people have stopped making resolutions at the beginning of the year. Based on their track record, they know they will not likely stick with it for long.

Personally, I still think the beginning of the year provides a good milestone for making new commitments, especially, for us as Christians, I think it is an appropriate time to take stock and start again with our commitments.

Stop for a second and read Psalm 119:105-112. Then consider these seven resolutions that could change your life forever.

#1: Read God's Word

This is a commitment a lot of Christians make each year. To either read the Book through in a year, or to just start studying more. Take a look at these few tips on deeper times of study in the Bible.

Memorize blocks of text

Deuteronomy 11:18

I know most of us don't believe we can memorize, but I believe we need to try again. Commit large portions of the Bible to memory, and it will come to mind when you need it most.

Meditate on Scripture

Psalm 119:15

Throughout your day, stop and think about what you've read. Turn it over in

your mind time and again. Think about what it means, and what God wants you to discover.

Marinate in the Word

Psalm 51:10

Allow the Word to permeate your being. Pray and ask God to teach you through His Holy Spirit to change who you are. This was David's prayer, CHANGE ME!

Marvel at the Word of God

Psalm 119:161-162

At times we need to regain a lost sense of awe when it comes to God's Holy Word. Don't treat it as if it was just like any other book. Try to continually read it with fresh eyes, seek new insight, and ask God to honor your request.

Wouldn't it be great to approach the Word every day as a little child reading it for the first time? Children find amazement in such everyday events as a simple butterfly, a floating cloud, a shooting star or a beautiful sunset.

We can rediscover this awe as we remember God's Word is:

- A love letter from our Father.
- A guide to the abundant life.
- An incredible history of God's people.
- A detailed guide to God's plan.
- God's inspired Word.

Model what you learn

Psalm 119:1-3

Put into practice what you've learned. Find practical ways of application.

#2: Evaluate your commitment

Psalm 139:23-24

I believe it is a good idea to periodically consider just how committed we are to God and His way. It is probably a better idea to ask the Lord to bring to mind the way we need to improve our walk with Him. That was David's request.

Search me he pled with God. That request means to examine me intimately, to take a serious look within the deepest part of me.

Then he asked God to try him, to put him to the test. He makes it even more intimate when he asks God to know his heart, and to know his thoughts.

Finally, he requests God to lead him. That means to literally govern his actions.

Are you bold enough, brave enough, to ask God to examine your life, to evaluate your commitment, and to reveal the various ways He might want to change you from the inside out?

#3: Seek God in times of trouble

Psalm 61:1-4

This is difficult for a lot of Christians in our world, especially men. We find ourselves in dire straits, and we invest all our efforts in trying to fix our problems ourselves, before finally turning our eyes to the only One who can solve them. Isn't it amazing we wait until the last option to consider God.

We have to learn to swallow our pride, and admit our need for help. To acknowledge we cannot do anything without God.

At the worst times in our lives, David's prayer should be our prayer

Hear me
Expel the darkness
Lead me to higher ground
Protect me

#4: Offer up praise

Deuteronomy 30:15-19

It amazes me to hear people say they don't enjoy worship. God created us for this purpose, to worship Him, to praise Him. We will spend all of eternity in the practice of worship. We need to get as

(“Resolutions,” cont on pg 8)

“Being Clothed in Love”

By Ron Doherty

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.

Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.

Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord.

Fathers, provoke not your children to anger, lest they be discouraged.

Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eye service, as men pleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God:

And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.



Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven.

Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;

Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds:

That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time.

Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

Colossians 3:12-4:6

Here is a snapshot of the Christian's life...at least, it should be. Bear in mind that this follows Paul's statement about putting to death the sinful earthly nature and taking on the "new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator" (see Col. 3:10).

That is why Paul included the "therefore" at the beginning of the first sentence of the above passage. It references what he had just said.

This same message can be found in many of Paul's writings and truly is the standard for the Christian's lifestyle. Yet, if we look for the core of the teaching we will find that it was not just Paul's teaching.

It originated with God's command in Leviticus to "love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD." (see Leviticus 19:18)

Later, it was Jesus who said, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35)

Jesus didn't say that all men would

know we were His disciples if we go to a specific building on Sunday morning. He didn't say that a bumper sticker on our cars would proclaim our allegiance to Him.

He never said that any amount of 'religious' activities or acquaintances would identify us with Him. He said, in no uncertain terms, that we are to love one another as He loved us!

He practiced agape, which is unconditional, God-like love, toward us. And when we become His followers He commands that we turn around and offer that same love to others.

Paul, in his writings, gave the practical, specific details on how to put Christ's love into action.

Note one thing, though. In the same way that actions alone do not mark our relationship with Christ, actions alone do not mean that we are practicing God's agape love.

No, we can give away all of our treasures to feed the hungry.

We can leave our homes and work in a mission for impoverished people.

We can do a myriad of honorable and compassionate things to help others.

We can even do these things to the point of surrendering our whole bodies to martyrdom for another person's benefit.

While all of these actions are good, if we do them with motives other than God's agape love, they mean little beyond the action itself.

If, however, we are inspired in love to honor God and bring Him glory by doing such things so that the ones we help can see God's glory through those actions, then there is an eternal significance to them.

There may also be eternal significance to the countless numbers of people who will come into contact with those who we share Christ's love with. When God is glorified others will be brought to Him.

Our reward is not to take the credit for ourselves, but simply to experience the miracle of Christ working through us.

"I Was Just Thinkin'"

By Narita Roady

"Facing the New Year"

I found this a couple of months ago while going through writings. It is very personal, and straight from the heart, but I would like to share it with my brothers and sisters in Christ. I wrote it the year after Jerry died.

Many moving into 2021 are going into the year with losses. It may be as I did in 2014 without a loved one. The loss could possibly be finances, an important relationship, a home, a job, health; you fill in the blank for you.

A New Year has begun. I am going to survive and go on without Jerry although right now my heart and body don't feel like it. That is because Jerry is not what my life is all about.

For almost 42 years he was in my physical sense, but not in reality.

Jesus tells me HE is the WAY the TRUTH and the LIFE. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

I may have wrongly put Jerry in His place at times, but now Jerry is gone and God is still here with me. He will always be.

That being said, it sounds so blunt and painful, but it is the unvarnished truth. I have to face my fears.

One is the fear of being alone. I went from my parents' home to a home we created when we married. I have never been completely alone until now.

In reality, I am not alone. Jesus said He will never forsake me or leave me.

"...for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

Hebrews 13:5c

Scripture assures me of this promise.

Deuteronomy 31:6,8

Isaiah 41:10,13

Hebrews 13:5

Matthew 28:20

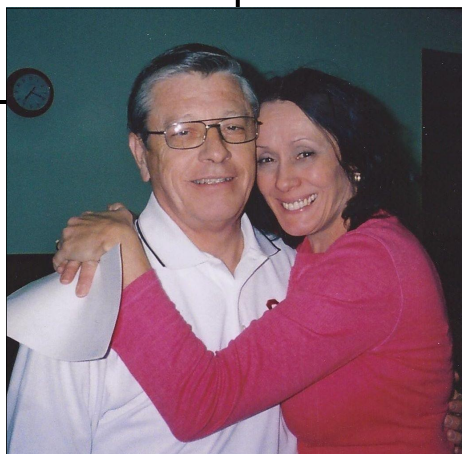
1 Chronicles 28:20

Another fear is having my needs met. I have never been solely responsible for providing for myself. I looked to Jerry for income, but ultimately that income came from God. It was He who provided for us in all ways we needed.

He tells me in Matthew chapter 6 not to worry He will provide. He tells me the birds and the flowers are cared for how much more so will I be?

"Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?"

Matthew 6:26



The Bible says the righteous have never been seen begging for bread.

"I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread".

Psalm 37:25

In all honesty, I have NEVER done without.

I fear being unprotected. Without my husband I feel very vulnerable to the world; people, circumstances, things that would harm me. God sends His

angels to keep watch over me.

"For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." Psalm 91:11

I am never out of His sight.

I fear the future, the unknown. What will happen, what other heartache and loss will I experience? My Father in Heaven already knows the future and He is in control of mine. Nothing will happen to me that He does not allow and for my good.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." Jeremiah 29:11

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Romans 8:28

In this life I know facing trying times is not "if" but "when".

"Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:"

1 Peter 4:12

**"My world is turned upside down,
but God specializes
in turning worlds right side up."**

("New Year," cont on pg 7)

Central Baptist College Gearing Up for Spring

As you are reading this article, Central Baptist College will be in the middle of finals week for our traditional students. Fall PACE classes ended last Thursday, December 3.

The campus will begin to get quiet once again as students travel home for the Christmas holiday break. This has definitely been an interesting and challenging semester!

No one knows what will happen in the next few weeks, but the employees of Central Baptist College are already diligently preparing for the beginning of the Spring 2021 semester.

PACE courses will begin on January 11 and the traditional semester begins on January 14.

I want to commend our faculty and staff for their tremendous work in the midst of the COVID-19 global health pandemic. They have gone above and beyond to ensure that learning continued for our students!

And not just learning, but academic excellence presented in a Christ-centered environment, that our students, and you our faithful supporters, expect.

I know that our faculty and staff will be ready to meet whatever challenges face us after the new year and as we begin the Spring 2021 semester. Please pray for them, and for me and the Executive Leadership Team, as we prepare.

Following are a few important dates to take note of.

Fall Priority Scholarship Deadline Reminder

This Friday, December 10, is the Priority Scholarship Deadline for high school seniors and transfer students, who

will be attending CBC for the Fall 2021 semester. Students meeting this deadline will receive the best scholarship awards of the year.

To be eligible, students must apply for admission at cbc.edu/apply, submit transcript(s) and ACT/SAT/Accuplacer test scores, and complete the FAFSA* (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at studentaid.gov.

Students who complete these steps will automatically qualify to be the first Central Baptist College applicants of the academic year to receive a scholarship award package.

Spring Registration for Current Students

Spring & Winter term registration is now open for both our current traditional and nontraditional (PACE) students.

Current students should contact their academic advisor immediately to schedule an advising appointment. More information is available at cbc.edu/registration.

Admission for Spring 2021

Applications are still being accepted for new students for the spring semester. New students should visit cbc.edu/apply to get started.

The final spring semester registration opportunity for all traditional students is January 11-13. PACE students have multiple enrollment opportunities and should visit cbc.edu/pace for all spring semester enrollment dates.

Give the Gift of Education this Christmas!

The year 2020 has been a year unlike any other that I have experienced in my lifetime. But even in the midst of uncertainty, fear, and what some would call chaos, I have been reminded that God is faithful. He alone is our Provider, Sustainer, Comforter!

Our country is changing. The COVID-19 global health pandemic continues. Christians are being asked to compromise their beliefs and conform to this world.

The theme of our weekly chapel services this year is Esther 4:14, "For such a time as this." I believe that Central Baptist College was founded, and continues to exist, "For such a time as this!"

I can tell you without reservation that Central Baptist College is at a pivotal time in our history. I am finding increasing pressure to conform to issues that would potentially compromise our mission. You have my word — we will protect our mission.

But we need your help!

There are some things that must occur for us to not just survive, but to thrive. To

("CBC Spring," cont on pg 5)



CENTRAL
BAPTIST COLLEGE

“CBC Spring” cont from pg 4

continue in our mission of transforming lives by integrating Christian faith and academic excellence, we need you!

If you are reading this message right now, it is because you are one of our most faithful supporters. You have allowed God to use you to sustain the College through prayer and financial support. Because of you, the mission and ministry of Central Baptist College continues.

I've often said, "I think everyone who has been touched in a positive way by this place can and should be giving to CBC." I really believe that!

But I don't think we have done the best job of challenging our alumni and friends to give. I'm asking you to do just that!

Give a gift to CBC this holiday season and know that every single contribution helps us continue our mission of "transforming lives."

Our annual fund program is called "Gifts that Transform." With nine focus areas (listed at cbc.edu/transform), you can direct your gift to the fund where you would like to see the greatest impact.

This Christmas season, as you reflect on the many gifts you have received from God, please consider a "Christmas" or "End of Year" gift to Central Baptist College. Every contribution is a "transformational gift" because it is used to further the mission and ministry of Central Baptist College.

Many people also consider a memorial or honor gift this time of year. When you give this way, a note will be sent acknowledging that you have given a donation (without revealing the dollar amount of the gift) to the family of the person you want to remember or to the person you want to honor.

To give online, visit cbc.edu/give. If you prefer to pay by check, please make your check payable to Central Baptist College and include the name of the fund you wish to support or the person you wish to honor or memorialize on the memo line.

Checks may be mailed to

**Central Baptist College
1501 College Avenue
Conway, AR 72034**

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact

**Amy Reed
Director of Development
areed@cbc.edu or 501.205.8934**

Merry Christmas!

I rejoice in all God has allowed Central Baptist College to enjoy and I am looking forward to His continued blessings on this place.

Our challenges are huge, but they are not bigger than our God! I join the CBC administration, faculty, and staff in wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Latest News From New Generation Baptist Church Norman, Oklahoma

Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support. We appreciate each one. I had some surgery recently and am dragging, so please pray regarding that. Our attendance seems to be remaining fairly constant with both in person and online attendance combined.

Here are some excerpts from Chris' report:

I have been meditating on the reason for Christmas the last several weeks – why did Jesus have to be born into the world? And the reason for that, this year, is crystal clear: we are broken people who live in a broken world and we need to be healed! But thankfully Jesus decided to enter into our brokenness so that we can have hope! God is with us!!

Please continue to pray for Steve! He's on the road to recovery from his surgery, but is still feeling weak! Jeff Coles had the Corona virus, but he is also recovering thankfully, and should be out of the hospital by Christmas, praise the LORD! Also, during this time to celebrate the birth of our Savior, we get to celebrate that a new child has been born into our church! Congrats Melissa and Luis for the birth of your daughter Lainey!

Which reminds us of the surprising truth that the hope of the world was born lowly in a manger.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."
Isaiah 9:6

Thank you for your continued support and the opportunity to serve the Lord and his people in Norman.

Steve & Lynn Puckett, Representing Christ in Norman Oklahoma
724 Fairway Dr. Norman, OK 73069
Contact Information: Email – ngbcnorman@hotmail.com
Cell – 405 570-8325

"That Reminds Me"

By Jesse Spurlock

"The Mighty Big Mouse"

We don't normally have mice in the house. However, the garage is attached to the house and mice do get in there from time to time. When we see one, or their evidence, I set out a trap and get rid of them.

However, oftentimes they stay out of sight and I don't know they're there, until after they've brought their family with them. When that happens, the old adage, "You don't have a mouse, you have mice," becomes a reality.

Because the garage is attached to the house and the entry door, we sometimes prop the screen and the door open to bring in the groceries from the car. During that period of time we don't have a guard posted, so one of the furry critters will make his way into the house.

Recently, we had run very low on groceries so we had bought a large amount. Since I hadn't seen a mouse or any evidence of them in a couple of years, we had propped the door open, brought the groceries in, and put them away. I had just gone into my office when my wife let out a blood curdling scream.

I ran to her rescue, expecting to find, at the minimum, an axe murderer in the kitchen. However, Lelia was standing in the doorway of the kitchen ready to flee. She said, "I just saw a mouse! He was this big!" She was holding her hands about two feet apart.

I asked incredulously, "How big???"

Still holding her hands about two feet apart she repeated, "I'm telling you he was THIS big!"

I didn't have a trap for anything that big so I just got a couple of normal sized traps and set them out.

The next morning I had caught the mouse. He was so small I decided to measure him. Although, he had a three inch tail, his body was actually on three inches. I showed him to Lelia who said, "His big brother is still in there!"

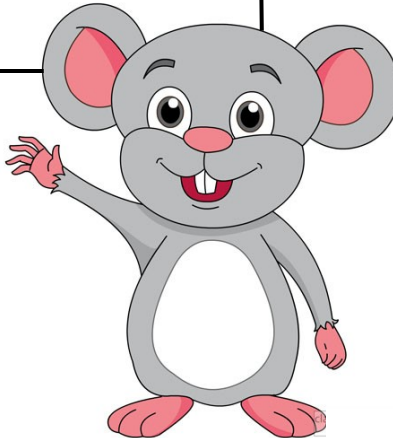
Lelia's impression of the mouse reminded me of the victim of a robbery in Los Angeles. The robber had held him up with a pistol. I asked the man what caliber it was.

He said, "I don't know, but the end of the barrel was THIS big around!" And he made a circle with his finger and thumb on both hands measuring about five inches across.

When I was in seminary, the professor often referred to such exaggerations as "ministerially speaking," which is much nicer than saying a preacher was lying about something.

In this, I'm also reminded of Jerry Clower's joke about the young boy who was constantly exaggerating.

One day he came



running in the house yelling, "There's a lion in the yard!" His parents looked out and saw it was only a yellow collie dog.

They sent the boy to his room to pray about his lying. He soon came back down and said, "I talked to God about it, and He said when He first saw that dog, He thought it was a lion too."

Although we often find humor in exaggerations or not telling the truth, it is well for us to keep in mind that God hasn't got anything good to say about that.

However, I don't know anyone that hasn't "stretched the truth" from time to time. We may think it is really not all that important, but we need to be very thankful that Jesus died to save us from all our sins, not just the ones we consider big ones.

Even stretching the truth is a sin that has the wage of death attached.

See Romans 14:23 and 6:23

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“New Year,” *continued from pg 3*

“These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”
John 16:33

The Lord is there to go through it with me. As I said before, He will never reject or abandon me.

“When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.”
Isaiah 43:2

“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.”
Psalm 23:4

I will not lie. I am struggling of letting go of my past life, of accepting God’s will for my new one. I fear knowing how to handle all these new things and make the right decisions, but he will give me wisdom just for asking.

“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”
James 1:5

He tells me to be anxious for nothing but bring all my concerns to him.

“Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”
Philippians 4:6-7

Slowly, He is removing my tight grip,

pulling my fingers away one by one from the life I had with Jerry. Turning all we had together, the love, the laughter, the fun, the companionship into treasured memories.

He wants me to put away our special dreams and plans. Nothing can be nothing compared to His. God’s plans are much greater than ours could ever have been.

The very fact that I am still here for how long or how little I live proves He has plans for me. As He pulls me away I scream in resistance and pain, I don’t want things to change.

“I may have wrongly put Jerry in His place at times, but now Jerry is gone and God is still here with me. He will always be. That being said, it sounds so blunt and painful, but it is the unvarnished truth. I have to face my fears.”

How foolish of me because everything in this life is going to be gone at some time. How much greater now do I understand Matthew 6:19.

“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal.”

Jerry is with the Lord, safe and happy. I will see him and be with him again. My world is turned upside down, but God specializes in turning worlds right side up.

Cannot I rush this. Some believe they can. Cannot I skip this and check the, “I do not want to participate box.”

Mourning and accepting a new direction in life takes time. This is true of all of us. We want the pain numbed and taken away right now!

But there is no pain killer as with physical pain. There is One who can ease the pain, who will hold me up.

This is not a quick fix and there are many lessons for me to learn; about

God, His goodness, His love for me personally, His mercy and compassion, that He hurts with me. These I could not have seen before because I had Jerry with me.

You don’t really know how much God is there for you until there is no one else. My small earthly mind and heart cannot take it in all at once, especially in the face of my grief.

Am I happy about this? No. Would I have chosen this path? No.

But I know HE does know and His purpose and plan are not only for me, but also for my family and all those whom Jerry touched. A plan that fits into eternity, not this small wisp of time we call life.

I have to learn to trust Him in a new and greater way, I way I could have never conceived. I have to develop a new and closer relationship with Him

that I never would have had as long as my sweet husband was here. It’s all new. Not new as in a new car, a new house, a new baby, but new in a very painful and frightening way. I am learning to turn everything over to Him.

“The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”
Psalm 27:1

It has been seven years since I penned these raw emotions from a broken heart. None of those fears are with me now. I have trusted the Lord with each one and God has taken care of all of them.

I still miss Jerry more than I can put into words, but God has been faithful and I feel His presence at all times. The scriptures came to mind as I wrote, but I referenced them for the article.

***Have a blessed
New Year***

“Resolutions,” continued from pg 1

much practice as we can down here.

God is worthy of our worship, but we need to make a choice, a commitment to it. We need to make worship of God a priority in our lives. To remind ourselves that worship is not about us, or the way we feel, but it is what is due God.

Consider these ideas from the Deuteronomy passage.

-True worship is an expression of love.

Remember, worship doesn't create love, it reveals it.

-True worship demands a choice.

No choice means no love.

-True worship demands total submission to God's ways. Jesus said, "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

-True worship suggests an intimacy with, and dependency upon, God.

Worship Him because you know Him.

Worship Him because you need Him.

#5: Leave the worlds ways alone

1 John 2:15-16

This can be a difficult commitment in today's culture. James tells us we are drawn away by our own lusts and enticed, the double whammy.

Love not the world, don't give yourself over to this. I'm not saying you can't be good at acquiring things. But remember, wealth is a tool. You can use it, or it will use you. Money is not the root of all evil, the love of money is.

And don't give in to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, or the pride of life. These have always been Satan's tactics to draw God's creation away. It's the way he convinced Eve to taste the forbidden fruit. He even tried it on Jesus as he tempted Him in the wilderness.

#6: Validate God's ways in the eyes of the world

Romans 12:1-2

Let the world see your visible commitment to God and His ways. I want the world to see God's ways are good

and acceptable and perfect. They may not bring immediate happiness, but they are absolutely the best way for us to discover what Jesus called the "abundant life."

So take Paul's advice from Romans 12 and prove His plan by your actions by...

-Presenting yourself as a living sacrifice. Set aside your own desires, your own dreams, at times, when they are contrary to the desires of God for you.

-Recognizing, this is your "reasonable service". It's not above and beyond, or a grand gesture on your part. Sacrificing in the fashion is just reasonable.

-Not conforming to the world. This will support resolution number five. Don't allow yourself to give in to the ways of the world.

-Being transformed by the way you think about things. Transformation is not changing the way you feel about life, but the way you think. By a renewing of your mind.

#7: Engage God's principles in all areas of your life

James 1:21-24

Put the truths you've learned into practice in everyday life. It's one thing to say we are committed to God and His ways, that we want to share God's incredible truths with a lost and dying world, to not follow the path the world sets before us.

But it means something more in all this if we are truly applying all we have learned from God to the choices we make in life. When we make a genuine effort to see God's plan in every decision we make.

So, as you study God's Word:

-Ask Him to reveal ways you can put what you find into practice. You may not immediately see the direction the

UPCOMING EVENTS

Central Baptist College Preview Days

January 29

February 10

**BMA of America
National Meeting
April 19-April 21, 2021
Farley Street Baptist Church
Waxahachie, TX**

Lord has laid out before you, how it is to be practiced in a daily walk.

It would be so simple just to read His Word and just move through our lives without consideration of what it says. To look into the mirror and walk away not seeing the flaws that need to be corrected.

Do you have the courage to ask Him to show you how to apply His message to your life?

-Be doers, not merely hearers. Could James make it any more clear? We sit in the pew, we spend time in private study, we receive wisdom from others, but we still walk away, nodding our heads in agreement, yet nothing changes. Hearing from God is one thing. Actually becoming a doer of what He has told us is another.

-Don't walk away from times of study, without self examination. This lends itself back to the second resolution. Letting the light of God's incredible Word shine in our lives and reveal areas He wants to reveal to us.

Resolutions are meant to change us, to push us to a more productive lifestyle. To guide us to all we really want to become. Isn't it time for change?