

# New Year Resolutions

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Often, at the beginning of the year, we all make resolutions to improve or do better or just start doing what we know we need to do. Well, how about giving yourself a check-up on how you are doing relative to spiritual matters?

Why don't we all consider adopting the following resolutions for the New Year and continuing forward?

## **RESOLVE TO DRAW NEARER TO GOD AND CHRIST...**

1. By having a daily reading program of God's living and abiding Word (Heb. 4:12).
  - a. Read the Old Testament this year (cf. Rom. 15:4; I Cor. 10:11; II Tim. 3:14-17)
  - b. Read the New Testament also (James 1:21; I Pet. 2:2)
2. By being diligent in prayer (Heb. 4:14-16)
  - a. Let's be a thankful people (cf. Col. 4:2; I Thess. 5:17-18)
  - b. Perhaps Daniel's custom of praying three times daily would be worthy of emulation (Dan. 6:10)

## **RESOLVE TO BECOME CLOSER TO THE BRETHERN...**

1. By making it a point to learn every one's name (cf. III John 14)
  - a. Get a directory
  - b. Each week, connect a couple of names and faces until you learn them all and then greet them at services
2. By having a different person or family in your home each month (cf. I Pet. 4:9)
  - a. It doesn't have to be a fancy dinner
  - b. Just a simple visit to become better acquainted
3. Or by visiting a different person or family each month either at their home or out somewhere together or at the hospital if they are ill.

## **RESOLVE TO GET TO KNOW NON-CHRISTIANS BETTER...**

1. By having one new neighbor or co-worker in your home each month or invite them to services (cf. Gal. 6:10).
2. Or by visiting one new neighbor or co-worker each month.
  - a. It doesn't have to be a fancy meal or formal visit
  - b. It is amazing how far simple hospitality and neighborly kindness can go to build meaningful relationships and create opportunities to share the gospel.

For the elders (Gregg Woodall)