

New Year's Resolutions

During this time of year, many people are making their New Year's Resolutions. There are things that each of us can change about ourselves. There are things that we want to do better and some things that we want to eliminate from our lives. As we are coming to a close of 2004, we are looking forward to 2005.

Everyone wants to start the year off the right way, especially when it comes to spiritual matters. One of the most frequently asked questions is: "What can I do to be better this year?" Here are a few suggestions that may help.

1. Spend more time in prayer
2. Read your Bible every day
3. Make a commitment to be at each service of the church
4. Invite someone from the community to worship with us
5. Invite members of this congregation into your home
6. Giving of your time to help one another
7. Give to others whenever possible
8. See each day as a gift from God
9. Use your time wisely
10. Make a commitment to put God first in your life
11. Get more involved in the church by teaching a Bible class, visiting the sick and shut-ins, sending cards to the sick and those who miss worship, etc.

Each of us has a responsibility to examine ourselves to see if we are faithful (*II Cor. 13:5*). It may be that we need to improve in some of the areas listed above. It may also be that we are doing these things, but need to improve in other areas of our life. Whichever the case may be, there is room for improvement in each of us.

Not only do we have a responsibility to ourselves, we also have a responsibility to the Lord's church. If the Lord's church is going to thrive in this community, it is up to us to do the work of the church. No one is going to do this work for us. If this church is going to be active, it is up to the members to be active.

God has blessed us with tremendous blessings. He has given us an opportunity to see another year come to a close. May we use all of our days for His service, and the furthering of His kingdom.