

A TIME FOR REFLECTION BY PASTOR

While listening to the radio I heard Barry Manilow sing a song I had not heard before. It was "*It's Just Another New Year's Eve*". Immediately my spirit questioned that statement. You see, in just a day it will be New Year's Day. Perhaps there are many people who look at each year as "*just another year*". Not me.

It is good to look back at the previous year to see the many experiences, good and bad, we have faced. We must believe they are stepping stones in our lives that help us grow. Certainly, it is important for us to learn from our past and to incorporate the wisdom we have obtained to help us in the future. **No matter the situation, the Lord is with us. He will lead and guide us as we seek Him.**

Isaiah 58:11 teaches us:

And the LORD shall guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; and you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail.

Now as we look into the New Year we can look with fresh eyes filled with faith, trust, and hope.

Psalms 39:7 states:

Now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You.

Also, the Word says in Psalm 25:5:

Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; on You I wait all the day.

Barry Manilow may feel that New Year is just another day or each New Year is the same as the previous one, but our thoughts should be of expectation for what the Lord has for us. Whether it is a need for a better job, increase in finances, healing in our bodies, salvation of loved ones, a new home or car, or whatever your need may be.

God promises to take care of us and that means 2019 as in Philippians 4:6-7:

⁶ *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with gratitude, make your requests known to God.*

⁷ *And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will protect your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

Happy New Year!

December 30, 2018



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM

Unity In Prayer: 6:00 PM

Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM;

Kid's Club & Youth

Prayer ½ hour before services

Offering – There is an offering box as you enter the sanctuary on the right side just inside the door. Thank you for your giving faithfulness.

Sunday Evening Prayer – will take place in our homes during the winter. Let intercede for a real move of God.

Wednesday Bible Study – the Book of Romans and our children’s program. Come study God’s Word while your children enjoy learning together.

Promoting Our Church – please take a flyer on the table in the foyer and use it to promote our church. God bless our efforts!

Free For The Taking – in the basement next to the last room we have some items donated to the church. Please stop by and see what you might want and take it. We also have a crib, portable crib and stroller along with some other items for children in the foyer under the coat rack. If you can use any or know of someone who can, please take them.

New Year’s Eve Service – tomorrow, December 31st, at 10:00 PM. We will be celebrating Holy Communion as the New Year comes in.



SERMON NOTES

PRIORITIZE JESUS

TEXT: John 3:30

Our problem is our inability to turn these resolves into _____.
_____. Matthew 19:17, 20-22; Exodus 20:3

1. **GOD'S** _____

By living our lives for God’s Kingdom we’re asking Him to exert His _____ in our world so His kingdom _____ can be achieved. Colossians 1:13-14

The Kingdom of God was Jesus’ _____ message. Mark 1:14-15

The word for _____ means “_____” or “reign.” Matthew 6:10; 18:20; 6:33; Luke 17:20-21; 11:20

2. **GOD'S** _____ – John 5:19; Luke 22:42

God wants us to be everything He has created us to be, so we can reach our God-given _____ and _____.

Ephesians 5:15-17

A. _____ **God** – Matthew 22:34-40:

The way we _____ God how much we love Him is to _____ those He’s placed in our path.

B. **Being** _____ – Matthew 28:19; John 20:21

3. **GOD'S** _____ – John 1:29; 15:13-17; Luke 9:22; 1 John 3:16; Romans 12:1

This third priority is to be those living sacrifices, _____ down our lives for God’s kingdom to come, and laying down our _____ so that God’s will can be done on earth as it is in heaven.

James 4:1-3

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