

STARTING OFF THE NEW YEAR RIGHT BY ROBERT NOTGRASS

As the old year has now closed, many begin to think about the New Year. 2010 is here and with it, comes all the hopes, dreams and ambitions to accomplish new goals. But before we can look into the months ahead, one ritual must be considered: The New Year's Resolution.



The resolution people make is filled with all sorts of promises. Some want to lose weight and be more in shape, some want to be better students in school, perhaps others desire to finally commit to that project we have put off for so long. But of all these things that help to make us a better person, have you thought about the other New Years Resolution?

Far too often, we consider what our physical bodies want or exactly how our homes must look. But, have we ever considered what our spirits need? Did it ever occur to you that your spirit may need to be more in shape or

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SERVING JAN. 3—AM

Greeters: Gary Wallace & David Shanks
 Announcements: Leroy Thomas
 Song Leader: Jerry McDonald
 Opening Prayer: Thomas McDonald
 Lord's Supper: Gary Wallace & Leroy Thomas

 Sermon: Robert Notgrass
 Closing Prayer: Andy Shanks

SERVING JAN. 3—PM

Song Leader: Jerry McDonald
 Opening Prayer: Elwood Runge
 Sermon: Robert Notgrass
 Closing Prayer: David Shanks

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Song Leader: Jerry McDonald
 Opening Prayer: Thomas McDonald
 Devotional: Robert Notgrass
 Closing Prayer: Gary Wallace

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a business meeting today at 4:15pm. • There will be a Potluck and meeting for VBS January 17th after morning worship. | <p>Times of Services</p> <p>Sunday Morning Bible Study: 9:30am</p> <p>Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am</p> <p>Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm</p> <p>Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please remember all those who are among the sick as well as all those who need are prayers who are facings great difficulties in their lives. |
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Teen Corner



For since the creation of the world God's invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. Romans 1:20

perhaps, a better student of the Word of God? Can we consider for a moment, that we want to be more spiritual minded as our resolution? It is certainly something worth looking at. But what can one do to be more spiritual?

How about this year try being more pleasing to God? Should we resolute to put him first in our lives instead of saying, "What about me?" Will we resolute to say that our life will, from here on out, "begin and end with God?" If we can unhesitatingly agree to this, then we must begin by looking at the Word of God. And, not just to say that you are religious. For, the scribes and Pharisees tried this, who were very religious and zealous, but they never pleased God (Matthew 15:8-9). Will you commit yourself to know your Bible? Will you study God's Word and being approved unto Him (2 Timothy 2:15)? Will you commit to know the Truth and to rightly divide it? You know, Truth sets us free from the yoke of Satan, darkness, the world, fear, death, sin and flesh. The Truth also fills our souls with hope and the free spirit of one who serves the Father.

Let us all make sure that we open our Bibles for this New Year Resolution and be more pleasing to God. I hope you will accept this challenge and commit your spirit to be more in shape because you choose to be a better student of God's Word.

A NEW LEAF

When we enter a new year, we often speak of "turning over a new leaf." Our picture is that of life as a book; we have written so many pages and now we are turning over a new leaf.

You are in your school years and have not yet gone far in the writing of your life's book. So, maybe you do not see the need of turning over a new leaf.

But, it is a good practice every year and maybe oftener, to take stock on life. Ask yourself, "Where am I?" "Where am I going?" "What are the things that clutter up my life?"

Paul said, "Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward . . ." (Phil. 3:13-14). What hates, what besetting

sins, what bad habits, what faults of character do you discover in your life? Get rid of them. Turn over a new leaf. Is it not foolish to let weeds grow up in a garden to eat the minerals and drink the rain that ought to go to the flowers and vegetables? Let us pull up these weeds by the roots!

Do not, of course, fret about the past. As the king said to Esther, what I have written, I have written. The past is gone; there is nothing you can do about it. Now as you turn over a new leaf is the time to determine to write better things in your book of life. Write a life that pleases God. Write a life of faith plus work.

