



# A CHRISTIAN'S NEW YEAR RESOLUTION: PRACTICAL LIVING OF A CHRISTIAN

By Anthony Scherffius

Many new year resolutions will be made this year. Every year people make resolutions to do better on their eating, health, activity, fitness, and education. Sometimes people try to do something new, like learning a new language, traveling more, trying new hobbies. According to a Forbes Health survey, the average New Year's resolution lasts just 3.74 months. That means most goals are abandoned well before the halfway mark of the year. One research shows that nearly 80% of resolutions are abandoned by February, making the first month of the year a critical period for success. ReShonda, in her article titled *"The Sobering Truth: Most New Year's Resolutions Fail. Here's How to Succeed"* stated, "The second Friday in January has earned the dubious nickname "Quitter's Day" as it's often when motivation wanes and people give up on their resolutions. Only 6% of New Year's resolutions, according to a 2023 Forbes poll, last beyond a year. That's a sobering statistic for anyone aiming to make lasting changes."

Every year people set goals for this life and usually never meet them. I wonder if people put in the same amount of effort into their spiritual lives and their desire to improve it? People will make plans to do better in their lives here on earth and not only fail to meet those goals, but they forget to improve on their spiritual life, making resolutions to do better in serving God yet falling short. Here is a list found throughout Scripture that will help us make a list of things to improve on in our own lives, growing closer to God and perhaps being that 6% who go far and beyond:

### Be Self-controlled/Disciplined (1 Corinthians 9:24-27)

- \*Vs 24—Discipline yourself as one who is trying to get the one prize.
- \*Vs 25—Discipline yourself as one who is trying to obtain an imperishable prize.
- \*Vs 26-27—Discipline yourself as one who is trying to compete with a purpose.

### Be Honest In All Things (1 John 1:5-10)

- \*Vs 5-7a—Be honest so you may have fellowship with God and His family.
- \*Vs 7b-9—Be honest so you may have your sins washed away.
- \*Vs 10—Be honest so you may have His word dwell within you.

### Be Studious In The Scriptures (2 Peter 3:17-18)

- \*Vs 17a—Study so that you may not be carried away by error.
- \*Vs 17b—Study so that you may not fall from your own steadfastness.
- \*Vs 18a—Study so that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus.

### Be Hardworking And A Good Laborer (Matthew 9:37-38)

- \*Vs 37a—Be hardworking because the harvest is plentiful.
- \*Vs 37b—Be hardworking because the laborers are few.
- \*Vs 38—Be hardworking because the Lord needs workers.

### Be Humble And Submissive (James 4:6-7)

- \*Vs 6a—Be humble and submissive because God opposes the proud.
- \*Vs 6b—Be humble and submissive so God can give you grace.
- \*Vs 7—Be humble and submissive so you may overcome the adversary.

### Be Wise And Sacrificial With Your Time (Psalm 90:9-12)

- \*Vs 9-10—Be wise with your time because your days are numbered.
- \*Vs 11—Be wise with your time and do not take it for granted.
- \*Vs 12—Be wise with your time so you can present an acceptable heart to God.

### Be A Good Steward (1 Corinthians 4:1-2)

- \*Vs 1a—Be a good steward because people are watching you.
- \*Vs 1b—Be a good steward because God is watching you.
- \*Vs 2—Be a good steward so that you may be found trustworthy.

**IMPORTANT DATES**  
**December 31-** Singing Night/End of Quarter  
**January 11-** NH Worship Svc./2:00  
**January 25-** Pot Luck Luncheon

# Remember in Prayer

**Terry Whitt** has a strained neck.

HOUSEWARMING  
 For  
 Anthony & Hailey Scherffius  
 January 18<sup>th</sup>  
 More info to come!

### Remember also:

Melva McManus, Archie & Nancy Underwood, Joy Tull, Margrie Holloway, Debbie Perkins, Judy Mitchell, Pat & Kelly Beck, Jeff Elam, Kevin Burnett, Carey Samford, Samuel & Diana Ramirez, Brandon Duncan, Steven Coats, Steve McClellan

## *Privileged To Serve In Public Worship*

**January 4, 2026**

Announcements: Ron Davis

Scripture Reading: AM-Terry Littlejohn PM- Chris Lowry

Song Leader: Dennis Thomas

Opening Prayer: AM-Blake Grimes PM- Jim Gammon

Closing Prayer: AM-Tyler Thomas PM- Larry Clamon

To Serve Communion:	Doug Guinn	Caleb Lowry
	Bob Patterson	Landry Gammon
	Jacob Dyer	John Dyer

Sermons: Anthony Scherffius

Sound Room: Bo Graham

Greet Visitors: Ethan Graham

Count Contribution: Joel Ray Kelton Ray

Attendance Cards: Brayden Marcum Braxton Marcum

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Scripture Reading: Tom Trull /I Corinthians 15:20-28

Devotional: Nicolas Lowry