**New Year’s Resolutions For 2015**

*Philippians 3:12-14* (Rather than growing complacent about your place in life, press on toward the goal. Strive to get better!)

**Introduction**

1. As we approach the New Year our attitude should reflect that of the apostle Paul.
2. He never stopped trying to improve his spiritual life.
3. He was going to continue earnestly until his time on earth was complete.
4. There are various things we must keep in mind while entering 2015.
5. Study (bible class, bible reading, bulletin)
6. Read

* 1 Timothy 4:13 – There is an immense amount of value in reading God’s word.
  + There are daily reading schedules that plan for you to read the entire bible in a year! Take advantage of those things.
  + Also value in reading other teaching materials (bulletin). Give attention to doctrine…
* 2 Timothy 2:15 – In order to rightly divide the word of truth you must be familiar with it as a whole.
  + NASV – “Accurately handling the word of truth.” – Read it, accept it, practice it.

1. Meditate

* 1 Timothy 4:15 – Further thought about what you’ve read proves most beneficial. It is then that you must put them into practice.
  + Psalm 1:1-2 – The blessed man is one who gives himself wholly to God’s word in thought, and practice.

1. Pray

* 1 Thessalonians 5:17 – A regular prayer life is important for a Christian.
  + Colossians 4:2 – *“Continue earnestly in prayer”*
  + Romans 12:12 – *“continuing steadfastly in prayer”*
* Petitions
  + For yourself – Hebrews 4:16; Philippians 4:6
  + And the saints – Ephesians 6:18; James 5:16
* Thanksgiving
  + God deserves our praise and thanks – Colossians 3:17
* Make prayer your custom! – Daniel 6:10

1. Evangelize

* 1 Peter 3:15-16
  + We must not be afraid to proclaim God’s word! We must have a desire to spread it to others!
  + As did the first century Christians – Acts 8:4 – Wherever we go we should have God’s words on the tip of our tongues.
  + We must always contend for the faith as well! – Jude 3

1. Attend
2. Assembly – Hebrews 10:24-25

* The design God put forth is for our benefit. We can grow from attending.
* It is also a good work we fulfill toward others of like precious faith!
* Be happy to attend! – Psalm 122:1

1. Other Learning/Edifying Opportunities

* Matthew 5:6 – Do you hunger and thirst for spiritual things?

1. Care (apathy)

* Revelation 3:14-22
  + The church of the Laodiceans grew complacent in their spiritual standing with God.
  + They were satisfied with where they were, and did not know they were destitute!
  + God demands zeal and repentance!

1. Sin Less

* Psalm 119:10-12 – We study and meditate so that we may cease sinning!
* Hebrews 12:1-2 – In order to reach our goal we must cut the sin out of our lives.
  + Not only the sin, but also those things which weigh us down!

**Conclusion**

1. Our approach to the New Year should be to better ourselves as servants of God.
2. We should strive to grow spiritually daily.
3. Our spiritual resolutions should be prioritized above our physical ones! – *“For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.”* – 1 Timothy 4:8