

BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING - MAKING OUR RESOLUTIONS STICK 1/9/22

GETTING OUR FEET WET- why don't resolutions always work?

DIVING INTO SCRIPTURE

A. GOD'S DREAM FOR US

- Gen 1²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." 9:1 Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth."
- Gen 12 The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. ² "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."
- Num 6²³ "Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:²⁴ "'The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.'"
- Lk 14¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, crippled, lame, and blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."
- Lk 24⁵⁰ When Jesus had led them out..., he lifted up his hands and blessed them.
- Jas 1²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.
- I Pet 3⁹ Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.
- Rev 22⁷ "Look, I am coming soon! Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll."

B. ARE RESOLUTIONS BIBLICAL?

1. Abraham
2. Job
3. David
4. Jonah
5. Nehemiah
6. Jesus
7. Paul

C. Why don't resolutions always work? Lk 8:11-15

- Seed = God's Word, the gospel, & God's v_____
- Soil = our heart – which we can lead!
- Fruitfulness = our response

4 SOILS	How have you seen this in your own life?
HARD-resistant	
SHALLOW-dis_____	
THORNY-dis_____	
FRUITFUL- persevere w/ a noble & g_____ heart	

TAKING IT HOME- What's God calling you to resolve in 2022?

1. Frustration- what's bogging you down? Eccl 10:1- the dead fly
2. Fear- if you were not afraid, what would you do? I Pet 5:8- the roaring lion
3. Growth- Jesus' model- where is God calling you to grow? Lk 2:52
 - Wisdom-intellectual-
 - Stature-physical-
 - Favor w/ God- spiritual-
 - Favor w/others- relational-
4. Time- the power of rhythms
 - Yearly, monthly, weekly, daily, hourly- Gen 1:14, Hebrew calendar
 - Do your best work at your best time- morning, afternoon, evening -Mk 1:35
5. WWJD? How will you bless others in the new year?

❖ WHAT'S GOD SAYING TO YOU? – write it down, pray it back, share it with others!

Heavenly Father, thank You for the new year, new month, new week, new day, new opportunities! Help me this year not be resistant, discouraged or distracted, but loving & fruitful. Help me to constantly obey Your Word and voice, and share Your gospel. I especially feel You saying to me...