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JANUARY 12TH AND 13TH
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My Year End RESOLUTION

LEARNING TO FINISH WITH GRATITUDE AND FAITHFULNESS

1. Worship
2. Learn
3. Serve

#FinishGrateful #FinishThankful

WEEK NINE
FINISHING RESOLUTE
Joseph Sissac, Senior Pastor
Ezekiel 33:31



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HEARING ONE, DOING ANOTHER

Here at the conclusion of our series, we again look at the words spoken by the Lord to Ezekiel the prophet,

"They come to you as people come, and sit before you as My people and hear your words, but they do not do them, for they do the lustful desires expressed by their mouth, and their heart goes after their gain."

- Ezekiel 33:31

Why are believers often excited to hear the Word, yet lacking in execution?

The Lord gives us answers in Ezekiel 33:31:

1. **Lustful** desires
2. **Greedy** hearts

SAMSON'S FAULT

An example of this is seen in the story of Samson. He was blessed by God with great strength to protect and judge Israel, yet he also did things contrary to the will of the Lord. Multiple times Samson is found in a **difficult** situation because of yielding to the lust of the flesh (Judges 16:1-2, 4-5, 15-17). As the judge appointed by God over His people (Judges 16:31), Samson no doubt had Godly **wisdom**. But when faced with the lustful desires, it would seem that wisdom lost and flesh won.

INNER PEACE?

In modern-day psychology the term **cognitive dissonance** means: **the state of having inconsistent thoughts, beliefs, or attitudes, especially as relating to behavioral decisions and attitude change**. This issue taking place in the soul of a person

causes inner **disharmony** (dissonance) or what the Bible calls double-minded (James 1:8, Romans 7:14-25). **To regain inner harmony between beliefs and behaviors, one of the two must change**. So even though there are believers who have heard the Word, if their habitual behavior is contrary, it is the truth of the Word that often gets reasoned away in order to gain (false) inner peace.

ALIGNED, RESOLUTE & BLESSED

By the grace of God, we can be **resolute of heart** and consistently **align** our beliefs and behavior with His will. Instead of reasoning yourself out of the truth, **meditate** your behavior into alignment with it (Joshua 1:8). *"Now therefore, O sons, listen to me, for blessed are they who keep my ways."* - *Proverbs 8:32* (emphasis added). The Lord God has an abundance of life and blessings in store for the heart that is aligned with His. As we approach a new year, let's resolve to be men and women, young and old who live with hearts in complete harmony with our Lord.

"We are destroying sophisticated arguments and every exalted and proud thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought and purpose captive to the obedience of Christ..."

-2 Corinthians 10:5 (AMP)

NOTES
