

# Your #1's for 2016: New Year's Service

*Pastor Jason Dennett's Notes*

## Rank Top 10 New Years resolutions for 2015

- 1 - Lose Weight
- 2 - Getting Organized
- 3 - Spend Less, Save More
- 4 - Enjoy Life to the Fullest
- 5 - Staying Fit and Healthy
- 6 - Learn Something Exciting
- 7 - Quit Smoking
- 8 - Help Others in Their Dreams
- 9 - Fall in Love
- 10 - Spend More Time with Family

## News Years Resolution Statistics Data

*Percent of Americans who make New Year's Resolutions - **45%***

*Percent of people who are successful in achieving their resolution - **8%***

*Percent who never succeed and fail on their resolution each year - **24%***

*People who explicitly make resolutions are **10 times more likely** to attain their goals than people who don't explicitly make resolutions*

## Length of Resolutions Data

*Resolution maintained through first week - **75%***

*Past two weeks - **71%***

*Past one month - **64%***

*Past six months - **46%***

## **Biblical Advice on Making New Year's Resolutions:**

*Several Christian ministry leaders in America offer some biblical wisdom as the New Year arrives. **Dr. D. James Kennedy** encouraged believers not to let the past drag them down, but to look to the new year with faith and hope. Dr. Kennedy said, "Many people are kept from planning anything for the future because they are so bound up with the failures of the past." He suggested making plans to*

get rid of past worries.

Evangelist **Billy Graham** suggested people not make resolutions centered on themselves, but instead to set goals around what God desires for them in the coming year. Dr. Graham said, "First, God wants you to know Him more fully. And if you do know Him, resolve to spend more time with Him this year in prayer, Bible study, and fellowship."

- I. **Seek God's HEART!**
- II. **Study God's WORD!**
- III. **Serve God's KINGDOM!**

I. **Seek God's HEART!** (Matt 22:34-40)

**"But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' "This is the first and great commandment. "And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 "On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."**

- Rev 4:11 - Love is our Mission!
- Jn 13:34 - Love is our Mark!
- Rev 2 - Love must be Maintained!

II. **Study God's WORD!** (Lk 10:38-42)

**"Now it happened as they went that He entered a certain village; and a certain woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His Word. But **Martha was distracted** with much serving, and she approached Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me." And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. "**But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her.**"**

- Ps.138:2 - God's Word is Priority!
- 2Tim 3:16 - God's Word is Profitable!
- Ps.1 - God's Word is Powerful!

III. **Serve God's KINGDOM!** (Matt 6:31-34)

**"Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' "For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. "Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."**

- Mt 4 - The Kingdom is Important!
- Rev 20 - The Kingdom is Immanent!
- 1 Cor 3 - T3 - The Kingdom Investments!