



How to Make this Year Your Best Year Psalm 1

Follow what is right and not what is popular!

¹ Blessed is the man^[a] who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

Text Message:

- *What is right is not always popular and what is popular is not always right.* Albert Einstein
- To make this our best year, we must be intentional in:
 - 1) The **counsel** we listen to- value/protect your mind!
 - 2) The **course** we follow- all roads do not lead to blessing!
The blessed one doesn't even stand where others walk!
 - 3) The **company** we keep- this is not just good for children!
- How to live this is given in the verse 2, but verse 4 explains why following what is popular over what is right is a bad idea: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- Chaff (or husks) is what is left after the grain is removed.
- Unlike the precious grain, chaff:
 - 1) Has nothing of value to offer anyone! You don't eat chaff!
 - 2) Lacks weight, substance, and stability!
- ... so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Ephesians 4:14

Commit to becoming a disciple of Christ and not a dabbler!

² but his delight is in the law^[b] of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Text Message:

- Remember, when we see the words “law” or “law of the Lord,” we can follow them to their destination: Jesus (Romans 10:4)!
- Delight yourself in Jesus, don't just dabble!
- Dabble- to work or involve oneself **superficially** or **intermittently** especially in a **secondary** activity or interest (Merriam-Webster).
- Notice the bolded words and apply them to our faith:
 - 1) Superficially- barely scratching the surface, shallow...
 - 2) Intermittently- Off and on, involved only when convenient.
 - 3) Secondary- Following Jesus takes a backseat and a back burner to other priorities and pursuits!
- Dabblers are not disciples and disciples are not dabblers!
- Disciples commit to “the six ships:”
 - 1) Worship: Proclaiming God's greatness with others!
 - 2) Membership: “You can count on me!”
 - 3) Fellowship: Being known and knowing other Christians.
 - 4) Stewardship: Serving God with our time, money, & skills).
 - 5) Follow-ship- reaching out, sharing Christ in practical ways with others, inviting others to experience God/His people.
 - 6) Discipleship- Doing what it takes to become like Jesus.

Choose to embrace the future and not live in the past!

³ He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

Text Message:

- This verse gives us three benefits of delighting in Jesus:
 - 1) **Results:** Note the keyword “its” – its fruit, its season.
We mustn't covet someone else's “fruit!” We are called to be in community with one another, not competition!
 - 2) **Resilience:** “...its leaf does not wither.”
 - 3) **Rewards:** “in *all* that he does, he prospers” (emphasis mine).



How to Make this Year Your Best Year Psalm 1

Follow what is right and not what is popular!

¹ Blessed is the man^[a] who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

Text Message:

- *What is right is not always popular and what is popular is not always right.* Albert Einstein
- To make this our best year, we must be intentional in:
 - 1) The **counsel** we listen to- value/protect your mind!
 - 2) The **course** we follow- all roads do not lead to blessing!
The blessed one doesn't even stand where others walk!
 - 3) The **company** we keep- this is not just good for children!
- How to live this is given in the verse 2, but verse 4 explains why following what is popular over what is right is a bad idea: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- Chaff (or husks) is what is left after the grain is removed.
- Unlike the precious grain, chaff:
 - 1) Has nothing of value to offer anyone! You don't eat chaff!
 - 2) Lacks weight, substance, and stability!
- ... so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Ephesians 4:14

Commit to becoming a disciple of Christ and not a dabbler!

² but his delight is in the law^[b] of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Text Message:

- Remember, when we see the words “law” or “law of the Lord,” we can follow them to their destination: Jesus (Romans 10:4)!
- Delight yourself in Jesus, don't just dabble!
- Dabble- to work or involve oneself **superficially** or **intermittently** especially in a **secondary** activity or interest (Merriam-Webster).
- Notice the bolded words and apply them to our faith:
 - 1) Superficially- barely scratching the surface, shallow...
 - 2) Intermittently- Off and on, involved only when convenient.
 - 3) Secondary- Following Jesus takes a backseat and a back burner to other priorities and pursuits!
- Dabblers are not disciples and disciples are not dabblers!
- Disciples commit to “the six ships:”
 - 1) Worship: Proclaiming God's greatness with others!
 - 2) Membership: “You can count on me!”
 - 3) Fellowship: Being known and knowing other Christians.
 - 4) Stewardship: Serving God with our time, money, & skills).
 - 5) Follow-ship- reaching out, sharing Christ in practical ways with others, inviting others to experience God/His people.
 - 6) Discipleship- Doing what it takes to become like Jesus.

Choose to embrace the future and not live in the past!

³ He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

Text Message:

- This verse gives us three benefits of delighting in Jesus:
 - 1) **Results:** Note the keyword “its” – its fruit, its season.
We mustn't covet someone else's “fruit!” We are called to be in community with one another, not competition!
 - 2) **Resilience:** “...its leaf does not wither.”
 - 3) **Rewards:** “in *all* that he does, he prospers” (emphasis mine).