

## New Year's Resolutions *to help you grow in faith in 2018*



Are you part of the 41% of people who usually make New Year's resolutions each year? I definitely am. I LOVE making resolutions and setting goals — the bigger the better!

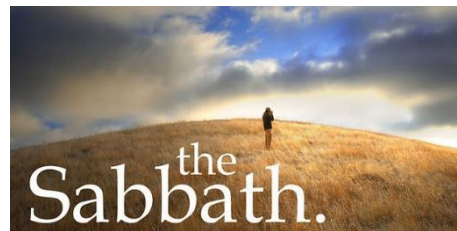
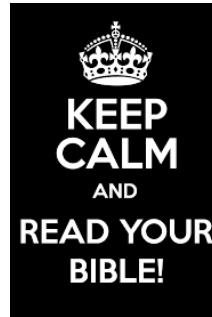
But a few years ago, I noticed something: My resolutions list didn't match my priorities.

What I mean is — If growing in faith is truly my #1 priority in life, shouldn't it top my list of resolutions too?

Sure, there's nothing wrong with losing weight, or paying off debt... but what about my faith? What about my Christian New Year's Resolutions? Where were those??

So I went ahead and compiled a list of 20 Christian New Year's Resolutions. Thought it might spark some ideas (for me and you!) and be helpful in picking a really good one.

1. *Read Your Bible 20 Minutes a Day, Every Day*
2. *Go to Church Every Week*
3. *Set Aside 15 Minutes Each Day to Pray*
4. *Join a Bible Study*
5. *Try Fasting*
6. *Ask a Friend to Church*
7. *Begin Volunteering*
8. *Start Tithing*
9. *Read a Certain Number of Christian Books Each Month*
10. *Memorize Scripture*
11. *Forgive Past Grudges*
12. *Break an Addiction*
13. *Find a Mentor or Accountability Partner*
14. *Be a More Loving/Involved Wife, Mother or Friend*
15. *Be Content With What You Have*
16. *Keep the Sabbath*
17. *Refuse to Gossip*
18. *Listen to Christian Music*
19. *Stop Complaining*
20. *Do Random Acts of Kindness*



Brittany Ann

[www.equippinggodlywomen.com](http://www.equippinggodlywomen.com)

## AUCKLAND CHINESE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

105 Vincent Street, Auckland City  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2017

### praying for others

- **Rev Tang & Rev Vogel as they minister at ACPC** – for wisdom & God's guidance in leading our ministries. In particular we pray for travelling mercies as the family are in Malaysia.
- **ACPC congregations** – that we be intentional in 2018 about nurturing and maturing our personal relationship with Jesus.
- **For our neighbours in the city** – that we take the opportunities to show Your kindness, love, mercy, grace and hope to our neighbourhood, especially those without homes.
- **For those who are unwell** – We pray for their comfort and healing, may their health and energy be restored. In particular, we place Jenna and Uncle Harry in Your precious care for healing and increasing strength.
- **That in the coming year** – we pray that we can make You our number one priority in all we do.



Living daily  
the mind of Christ!  
**Philippians 2: 5-11**

*John Probert*

*A very warm welcome to everyone,  
especially visitors,  
to the service today!  
Please join us for morning tea  
afterwards.*

contact us:  
rev stuart vogel

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## Serving @ acpc

Service Leader  
 Music Leader  
 Bible Reader  
 Ushers  
 Techno  
 Cup of Tea & Dishes

## This week

Rob O'Callahan  
 Darren Koo  
 Janet O'Callahan  
 Francis Yu, George Lowe  
 Rob Fong, Avery O'Callahan  
 Jean Wong, Benson Fong

## Next week

Stephen Tsang  
 Ant Yan  
 George Lowe  
 Robert Wong, Suan Tan  
 Mandy Lowe, Rob Fong  
 Quin Gee, Jean Wong,  
 Benson Fong



## Save the Date – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January

Our ACPC barbeque starts the year at One Tree Hill (Cornwall Park) on the Sunday of Auckland Anniversary Weekend! More details closer to the time for a night of fun, food and fellowship.

## Sermon Notes

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## Growing in Discernment

*'And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him—the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the reverential and obedient fear of the Lord.'*

Isaiah 11:2

Jesus lived His life by discernment. His discernment was not based on the superficial senses of His flesh—it was the result of His intimate communion and relationship with His Father God.

This same gift of discernment is available to you and me through our relationship with God.

So how does it work? Before you do anything, you must quickly check with your spirit to see if the thing you are about to do is okay. If you have peace, then proceed. But if you are uncomfortable, confused or frustrated, remain still.

For instance, at times I've been at the mall getting ready to purchase something, but before I reached the checkout counter, I sensed a frustration in my spirit, which was like a nudge from the Holy Spirit not to make the purchase.



The exciting thing about moments like these is every time you and I choose to listen to and follow the Holy Spirit's promptings, our spirits grow stronger in God, and more and more of God's power is released in our lives to operate in the fruit of the Spirit.

Yield to the Holy Spirit and follow His promptings and you will grow in the same discernment that Jesus walked in.



**Prayer Starter:** God, I don't want to make decisions based on my own superficial or selfish desires. I want to walk in discernment. As I check with You when I'm making decisions, frustrate the desires I have that are not of You, and give me peace to follow Your way.

Joyce Meyer

## The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, Is Ended

The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended,  
 The darkness falls at Thy behest;  
 To Thee our morning hymns ascended,  
 Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank Thee that Thy church, unsleeping,  
 While earth rolls onward into light,  
 Through all the world her watch is keeping,  
 And rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island  
 The dawn leads on another day,  
 The voice of prayer is never silent,  
 Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking  
 Our brethren 'neath the western sky,  
 And hour by hour fresh lips are making  
 Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord; Thy throne shall never,  
 Like earth's proud empires, pass away:  
 Thy kingdom stands, and grows forever,  
 Till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.



John Ellerton 1870