



A FRESH NEW START

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father), full of grace and truth.

John 1:14 (ASV)

When Jesus came to live among His creation, although He never yielded to the sway of sin, He came into this world in the likeness of sinful flesh. He emptied Himself of His deity, purposefully relinquishing his own power, strength and ability in order that He might be the example that His beloved creation would need to live the life He has called us to. He set aside His own will and ability yielding Himself fully to the Will and purposes of His Father. This is the true picture of the grace of God.

Too often, as we approach the dawn of a new year, we begin thinking ahead to the changes and accomplishments that we would like to make in the year ahead in the form of a New

Year resolution. These plans are usually *not* made prayerfully having inquired of the Lord for His insight in the matter. Our resolutions are just that, a concentrated effort resolving to accomplish our own plan in our own strength.

The word resolve can be defined as, a fixed purpose of mind, and settled determination. When we compare *resolve*, with the *grace* of God, defined as being the divine influence upon the heart being made manifest in the life, we can see that there is no real comparison at all. Determination, and self-resolve will always come up short. We need God's divine ability imparted to us daily.

If our Savior needed to be filled with God's grace to accomplish His work among us, surely, we too, will require the empowerment of grace for our own journey. Scripture reminds us that in and of ourselves, we can do nothing. (John 15:5) Without God's direct influence in our lives, we are left with only the futility of our own *self-sufficiency*.

Matthew 6:33 exhorts us, to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right) and all these things shall be added unto us. Whatever we have need of, and *everything* we need, is found first in seeking God as our source in all things.

It's only in seeking God for His wisdom and direction that we're able to live our lives victoriously. Let's resolve to know nothing apart from God and His wisdom, asking for His multiplied grace to be upon us daily. When we do, we can live each new year in victory.

Start fresh today allowing God to be the first source you seek for your life direction. Say good morning to grace each and every day.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)