

Instead of Your New Year's Resolutions, Choose God's Divine Solution

I stood by the table piled with my books after addressing a large group at a women's conference. And right after I autographed her book, a sweet lady squeezed my hand. "Honey, I loved what you shared about what helped you get through the sorrow you experienced," she said. "I also have known tragedy. But the reason I made it through is because Jesus gave me the answer. He first became my comforter. Then He became my counselor. And He never left me."

There you have it: the wisdom of a heart turned from pain to peace. She didn't bother with resolutions. Instead she embraced the ultimate solution that carried her from day to day, from month to month and from year to year.

And as we begin this year, while the world is busy talking about their New Year's resolutions, let's welcome God's solution. It's powerful enough to change our outlook, our heart and our destiny. He promises to be:

- **Our Comforter.** When the burden weighs heavy, the load drains, He will whisper to our soul: "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me. For I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light" (Matt. 11:28-30).
- **Our Counselor.** Who reminds us, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with gratitude, make your requests known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will protect your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue, and if there is any praise, think on these things. Do those things which you have both learned and received, and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you" (Phil. 4:6-9).

- **Our Captain.** When buffeted by rough waters of adversity, His Word speaks to our soul: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine. When you pass through waters, I will be with you. And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame kindle on you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I gave Egypt for your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in your place" (Isa. 43:1-3).

Father, I look forward to a new year with you by my side. Challenges might come, bad news might increase and problems might multiply. But nothing will alter my security. I trust in your protection as my comforter, my counselor and the captain of my ship in the sea of life. In Jesus' name, amen.

What solution from the Lord can you count on in this new year?
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