

Spirit-Filled Pastor: Just One Word for a New Year

Read Time: 2 Minutes 35 Seconds

Here we are at the beginning of a brand-new year. Each year holds its share of ups and downs, joy and sorrow.

We know that God has our very lives in the palm of His mighty hand.

What would happen if you asked God for one word for the new year? As I pondered that question, I imagined that word would align with the fruit of the spirit for many. I hear God say to one, "Your word is love." He looks at His notes and declares this year to expand their capacity to love the unlovable and see with His eyes. Yet, to another, He says "peace" as He speaks peace to the storm causing chaos in their life. Since the fruit of the spirit is growth, I see good fruit developing as you step into 2023. One could say the gardener is in the house and planning for the harvest.

For others, you are receiving a different type of word. You hear words like "strength" as the invitation to receive the Lord's strength for the journey ahead. Someone else hears "courage" as they need the courage from the Lion of Judah as they step into 2023.

If we boil this down, one word from the Lord, planted deep in our hearts, can align us for a year of walking together with God. We step into 2023, not knowing what it holds. However, we hang on to the hand of the one to whom ALL is known.

☒ Heavenly Father, I ask you for that one word for 2023 that I can nurture throughout the year. Would you take that word, plant it deep within me, and let it bear tremendous and mighty fruit as I walk through 2023. I am so thankful that you

know what the year holds, and I can trust you to guide my steps. I commit this year to you, in Jesus' name. Amen

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Ruth Hendrickson is an ordained pastor, itinerant speaker, ministry trainer and board-certified Biblical counselor who has extensive experience in the development, training, and oversight of emotional healing ministry teams, recovery ministries, prophetic ministry, prayer ministries and women's ministry. In addition, she is a course facilitator for Patricia King Institute and Charisma courses. She writes for *Elijah List* and *Charisma* and has a podcast titled "Real Truth with Ruth." Through biblically based teachings and practical applications infused with love and laughter, her goal is to introduce people not only to the living God who saves, but also to the God who desires an intimate relationship with each one of us. Her books "Positioned – How to be Aligned & Empowered to Walk in Your Diving Destiny" and "Everyday Prophetic" will help you grow in your walk with God. Visit her website at .