

January 2020 Newsletter

From Heaven's Heart

“Happy New Year”

Perhaps I should have titled this, how happy will Your New Year turn out to be? Or, How happy do you plan for you new year to be?

You may be thinking, “Well that all depends”? And I'd respond by asking, “Depends on what”?

What if the degree of your personal happiness you will or will not experience in 2020 depends on you! What if your happiness does not depend on your circumstances, not on winning the lottery, not on your health, not on the gifts you receive, not on your relationships, not on anything but you and me...and how we respond to 100% of the things, the people, the circumstances we face each and everyday of our lives. Is it possible that your happiness and mine depends totally on you and me!

If this is true, then the truth is, I can be happy if I choose to be happy...right!

Let's focus on the centerpiece of the matter of happiness. That is this. If anyone wants to be happy, one must have a close, loving, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Power comes from a relationship with Christ. And the source of that power comes from reading, studying, praying about it and putting into practice what God says about what He calls the abundant life that He wants us, His children to experience. God wants to

motivate us to spend more time with Him so we can have the life He promises. You and I will never get it if we refuse to give it...to give Him our life which means we give Him our time so He can give us what we need...truth. God is in the self-motivation business.

Zig Ziglar said, "People often tell me that motivation doesn't last, and I tell them that bathing doesn't either. That's why I recommend it daily".

God wants our alarm clock to become our opportunity clock. We need to do ourselves a huge favor and when our opportunity clock goes off in the mornings, we need to thank the good Lord for another great day with purpose and opportunity. The world can be yours because the world is His and if you are His, then the world is yours so to speak.

And what does the Bible tell us about all of this. In my own words, this is what God says. Money bought us a nice house and farm in Lexington, but it won't buy us a HOME. It will buy me a companion, but it won't buy me a FRIEND. It'll buy me a good time, but it won't buy me PEACE Of Mind. It'll buy me a bed, but it won't buy me a good night's SLEEP.

Want 2020 to be a happy new year? Don't count the things you do. Do the things that count. It's not starting the New Year well. It's finishing the New Year well. But we will never finish well if we put off getting starting.

How does our Heavenly Father define happiness? He defines it by the things He gives us when we are His. They are offered to everyone but only after they find their HOME as members of HIS family...He calls us Christians. Here's what He gives us.

Peace, joy, forgiveness, love, hope, a satisfying, fulfilling life, abundance, purpose, plans for a good future, eternal life, healing, opportunity...Is it possible to have all this and more and not experience happiness this coming New Year.

Here's God's truth. You can have and experience His free gifts starting today. It's your choice and mine.

My prayer for the New Year is that you will grow close enough to the Lord this year that you will experience first hand the amazing love of your Father in Heaven and begin to share what He is doing for you with others...so they will have what you have...The Love and the Power of Jesus Christ.

Happy, Happy New Year,

Pastor Steve