



12 Resolutions for 2012 that will change your life in 2012

What if we lived this year like everything Jesus said was actually true?

1. **I will commit to 21 days of praying and fasting and drawing closer to God starting today (Fasting is humbling ourselves before God in order for God to speak and intervene on our behalf)**
 - **Normal** - *abstaining from food.*
Example: Jesus "ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them was hungry" (Luke 4:2).
 - **Absolute** - *abstaining from food and water; normally no more than 3 days.*
Examples: For three days Paul was blind, and did not eat or drink anything" (Acts 9:9), Moses (Deut. 9:9), Israel (Ezra 10:6), Israel (Esther 4:16).
 - **Abstaining** - *abstaining from a specific item such as meat or drink*
Examples: Daniel and his friend's only eating fruits and vegetables, however this was because the law required them to not eat meats sacrificed to idols (Daniel 1:8); Jesus is fasting the fruit of the vine until he drinks it with us in his Kingdom (Matthew 26:29)
 - **Special Day** - *fast days that commemorate an event or weekly fasts on a regular day.*
Examples: Day of Atonement (Lev. 23:27; Ps. 35:13; Is. 58:5), a fast day (Jer. 36:6); four separate festivals (Zech 8:19); twice a week (Luke 18:11-12).
 - **Public** - *fasts called to times of special need and emergency.* Almost all regular fasts were public fasts, but all public fasts are not necessarily regular ones.
Examples: King Jehoshaphat when Judah was invaded (2 Chron. 20:1-4), Ezra returning the exiles (Ezra 8:21-23) Ninevah, as a result of Jonah's preaching (Jonah 3:5,10).

2. **I will commit to reading and/or listening to the bible everyday this year until I've completely read it in its entirety.**
 - Psalms 119:11 - I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you
 - 2 Timothy 3:16 - All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

3. **I will commit to blogging or journaling everyday about the things God is showing me**
 - Habakkuk 2:1-2 - I will climb up to my watchtower and stand at my guardpost. There I will wait to see what the LORD says and how he^a will answer my complaint. ² Then the LORD said to me, "Write my answer plainly on tablets so that a runner can carry the correct message to others.

4. **I will commit to attending Church every Sunday making being a part Christ's bride a priority for me and my family**
 - Hebrews 10:25 - And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.
 - Romans 12:5 - so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

5. **I will commit to inviting/bringing some to Church every week this year**
 - Matthew 5:14-15 - "You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house.
 - Matthew 28:18-20 - Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations,^a baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

- Colossians 4:5-6 - ⁵ Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. ⁶ Let your conversation be gracious and attractive^[a] so that you will have the right response for everyone.

6. I will commit to attending a Church Alive iGroup during the week to strengthen my walk with God and sharpen others

- Proverbs 27:17 - As iron sharpens iron,
so a friend sharpens a friend.
- Acts 2:46 - they worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity^[a]—

7. I will commit to daily prayer for my Church, Pastor, and iGroup

- 1 Thessalonians 5:25 – Paul says “Brothers pray for us”
- Colossians 4:2-4 - ² Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. ³ Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ. That is why I am here in chains. ⁴ Pray that I will proclaim this message as clearly as I should.
- James 5:16 - Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

8. I will commit to bringing to God, through the local church, the first tenth of all income He blesses me with this year

- Malachi 3:10 - Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so there will be enough food in my Temple. If you do,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, “I will open the windows of heaven for you. I will pour out a blessing so great you won’t have enough room to take it in! Try it! Put me to the test!

9. I will commit to reading at least four Christian books this year to help strengthen my walk with God

- Proverbs 1:5 (NKJV) - A wise *man* will hear and increase learning,
And a man of understanding will attain wise counsel,
- The way of a fool *is* right in his own eyes,
But he who heeds counsel *is* wise.

10. I will commit to treat my body as the Temple of the Lord

- Ephesians 2:10 - For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.
- 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 - Don’t you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body.

11. I will commit to using my God given gifts and talents everyday for the Glory of His Kingdom

- Matthew 25:14-30 - parable of the talents
- 1 Corinthians 12 - we are all member of the same body with different gifts

12. I will commit to the Vision of Church Alive to love and serve others

- Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus said to him, “ *You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.*^[a] ³⁸ This is the first and great commandment. ³⁹ And *the second is* like it: *You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*^[a] ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”