

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

DO YOU REALLY WANT A HAPPY NEW YEAR?

Matthew 6:24-34

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What can you and I do to ensure a Happy New Year?

1. We can choose the right master.

"And if it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." Joshua 24:15

A. Everyone is going to serve someone.

B. There is only one true and worthy Master.

"You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am." John 13:13

2. We can seek the right master.

"Do not be anxious then, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'With what shall we clothe ourselves?' For all these things the Gentiles eagerly seek; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." Matthew 6:31-33

A. It is a great privilege to seek the Lord.

"Listen to me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin: the LORD is with you when you are with Him. And if you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you."
2 Chronicles 15:2

B. It can be a great struggle to seek the Lord.

But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. 1 Timothy 4:7-8

And everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; but I buffet my body and make it my slave, lest possibly, after I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified. 1 Corinthians 9:25-27

“According to my judgement the most important point to be attended to is this: above all things see to it that your souls are happy in the Lord. Other things may press upon you, the Lord's work may even have urgent claims upon your attention, but I deliberately repeat, it is of supreme and paramount importance that you should seek above all things to have your souls truly happy in God Himself! Day by day seek to make this the most important business of your life. This has been my firm and settled condition for the last five and thirty years. For the first four years after my conversion I knew not its vast importance, but now after much experience I specially commend this point to the notice of my younger brethren and sisters in Christ: the secret of all true effectual service is joy in God, having experimental acquaintance and fellowship with God Himself.”

— **George Mueller, 1805-1898**

C. Remember that life is about Him, not you.

3. We can enjoy the right master.

... and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:33

A. He will bless us with His presence.

B. He will bless us with His provision.

C. He will bless us with His peace.

"Therefore do not be anxious for tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. "

Matthew 6:34

Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!

2 Thessalonians 3:16

Will you seek Him each day in the New Year?