

**2022 Resolutions
Making Positive Changes
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor James Jacobs
January 02, 2022**

Big Idea: Resolutions for Life Changes are a Process not an Event

Remember Verse: Therefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things have passed away. Look, all things have become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (MEV)

1. Jesus Challenged

They said to Him, “Why do the disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, and likewise the disciples of the Pharisees, but Yours eat and drink?”

Luke 5:33 (MEV)

2. Jesus Answers

He said to them, “Can you make the attendants of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them. Then in those days they will fast.”

Luke 5:34-35 (MEV)

3. Jesus Illustrates

He told them a parable also: “No one sews a piece of a new material on an old one. Otherwise, the new would tear, for the new piece does not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins, and it will be spilled, and the wineskins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into new wineskins, and both are preserved. And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new. For he says, ‘The old is better.’ Luke 5:36-39 (MEV)

1st Illustration – sewing a piece of new cloth to patch a hole in an older well-worn garment.

2nd Illustration – new wine is effervescent and gives off gas as it ages and if it is placed in a new wineskin they expand together as the wine settles and wine ages.

3rd Illustration – a wine connoisseur or anyone who enjoys a fine vintage wine who has become comfortable with consuming a certain older smoother vintage of wine, does not jump quickly at the opportunity to exchange it for a newly bottled young wine.

Jesus was illustrating the point that the Christian journey, we call this the sanctification process, is a gradual growth and maturing over time process not an event.

Notes: _____

4. GOD gives an Example

Now when Pharaoh had let the people go, God did not lead them through the way of the land of the Philistines, although it was nearby. For God said, “Lest the people change their minds when they see war, and they return to Egypt.” Exodus 13:17 (MEV)

5. Our Lesson to Learn

“Let them be accustomed awhile to the religious exercise, and then they will abound in them as much as you do, but we must not be too hasty with them.”

Matthew Henry Commentary

1. Jesus proportioned the changes to them according to their Strengths.
2. Jesus reserved their Trials for a later time.
3. By God’s Grace, they became the prepared and fit Warriors for Christ!

Notes: _____

6. Our Resolution for 2022

To become the mature person in Christ we were chosen to be through regular reading and study of God’s Word, by living according to God’s Will in our life and continuing the maturity process by taking up our cross and following Jesus daily.

Next Right Steps:

- I will set a schedule to meet with Jesus regularly
- I will find a time to read and study my Bible daily
- I will find a small group to join mid-week for fellowship and growth
- I will consider ways to guide my family to improve their relationship with Jesus
- If I have not, I will repent of my sins and ask Jesus to save my soul and make Him Lord of my Life

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Family Corner: [Choose one day this week to ask questions to go deeper in faith as a family. Try this over dinner. Keep it to 12 minutes or less.]

Ice Breaker: What is the shortest-lived New Year's Resolution you have attempted before giving it up? Why did you fail?

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Remember Verse: Therefore, if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things have passed away. Look, all things have become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (MEV)

1. Why do you think the religious leaders wanted Jesus Challenged? Read Luke 5:18 – 26 as background.

2. Why do you think Jesus chose to not confront the Pharisees for their hypocrisy but chose to defend and vindicate His disciples' actions?

He said to them, "Can you make the attendants of the bridegroom fast while the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them. Then in those days they will fast." Luke 5:34-35 (MEV)

3. Read Luke 5:36-39 again. Can you think of another modern example using the theme from this parable that can be used to illustrate the same point?

He told them a parable also: "No one sews a piece of a new material on an old one. Otherwise, the new would tear, for the new piece does not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins, and it will be spilled, and the wineskins will be destroyed. But new wine must be put into new wineskins, and both are preserved. And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new. For he says, 'The old is better.'" Luke 5:36-39 (MEV)

4. Do you know of other examples of GOD protecting His children by preventing them from undergoing a test before they were mature enough to endure it?

5. My New Year's Resolution:

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.
