

MOVING FORWARD TO A GREATER YEAR

As I was thinking about another year behind us, I was pondering the thought that some people may feel like the past year was just somewhat overwhelming. Maybe you faced some health challenges, maybe some personal failures in your obedience to the Father's will for your life, or maybe you made some poor choices. Deep down you'd like the year ahead to be a greater year for you in your personal life and in your spiritual life. If so, you know some changes are in order. You can't just consider making changes. You have to be proactive in making those changes.

As I thought about how changes should be made, I thought about our travels to England years ago. As most of you may know, driving in another country sometimes means you drive on the opposite side of the highway. This means we have to purpose our minds to remember to drive completely opposite of what we have been used to doing. We don't have a choice in the matter. If we want to live, if we want to protect the lives of others, if we want to avoid a head-on collision, and if we want to avoid the police giving us a ticket, then we had better drive totally opposite of what we have been used to...immediately. We can't just think about it. We must JUST DO IT.

This is the same with changes in our personal lives and in our spiritual lives. You and I must be intentional in our actions. Change, healing, and restoration comes when we are intentional in our actions. Nothing is impossible when God is on your side. Your strength and your hope can rest in Him. He gives us the ability to accomplish great things when we do it His way.

Be encouraged my friend. If in your past year you feel like you fell short of all you could have accomplished, or who God expected you to be, or how you should have handled yourself in situations, God's Word declares, "*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*" (Philippians 4:13) Determine to make the changes to make the year ahead the greatest year you have ever had! God knows you can do it! He is on your side! Let your life bring honor and glory to HIM.

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