



## **New Years Eve 2023**

### **WE HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT WE ARE NOT ALONE!**

Philippians 2:12-13 (NLT)

For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.

### **DITCH ALL OR NOTHING THINKING AND ENJOY THE JOURNEY!**

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NLT)

For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven. A time to be born and a time to die. A time to plant and a time to harvest. A time to kill and a time to heal. A time to tear down and a time to build up. A time to cry and a time to laugh. A time to grieve and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones and a time to gather stones. A time to embrace and a time to turn away. A time to search and a time to quit searching. A time to keep and a time to throw away. A time to tear and a time to mend. A time to be quiet and a time to speak. A time to love and a time to hate. A time for war and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:9-13 (NLT)

What do people really get for all their hard work? I have seen the burden God has placed on us all. Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. He has planted eternity in the human heart, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God's work from beginning to end. So I concluded there is nothing better than to be happy and enjoy ourselves as long as we can. And people should eat and drink and enjoy the fruits of their labor, for these are gifts from God.

## **WE CAN'T LIVE ON AUTOPILOT**

1 Timothy 4:7-8, 14-16 (CEB)

Train yourself for a holy life! Practice these things and live by them so your progress will be visible by all. Focus on working on your own development and on what you teach, you will save yourself and those who hear you.

2 Peter 1:5-8 (NLT)

In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, to moral excellence add knowledge, to knowledge add self-control, to self-control add patient endurance, to patient endurance add godliness, to godliness add brotherly affection, to brotherly affection add love for everyone. The more you grow like this, the more productive and useful you will be in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**The first step to being intentional this year is to REFLECT.**

**The second step is to then LOOK AHEAD.**

### **PRAYER:**

Reflecting on this past year. What was your prayer life like? Was it prolific or lacking?

Pray the Psalms

Take a silent retreat

Keep a Prayer Journal

Copy Down the words of the Bible

Read Sacred Pathways by Gary Thomas



## **YOUR ASSIGNMENT FOR THIS WEEK:**

This week, look back on 2023 and write down what your prayer life was like. Name your struggles and your victories.

Go to GOD in prayer. Ask God what he wants for you in 2024. Then listen for a while with no distractions. Pay attention to what he says or what urging he is putting in your heart. Write down whatever is coming to the surface.

Using the feedback you've received during your prayer time with God, choose a kind of prayer to practice this year based on how you're feeling led...

Make your action steps. Carve out a protected time on your calendar to pray.

## LUKE 1:68, 74-79 (NRSV)

“Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them....[he came] to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear in holiness and righteousness before him for all of our days. And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins. Because of the tender mercy of our God, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”