

# Godly Youth

*Young in Age, Strong in Heart*

## Spiritual Plan for the New Year

A new year is always exciting. Many people make promises (called resolutions) to do certain things to make their lives better.

A student might promise to always complete his homework and have his parents check it so he can make the "A-B" Honor Roll.

A karate student might promise to attend a certain number of classes and practice at home for 15 minutes to earn a black belt.

A singer or musician might promise to learn new music and practice so she can develop a stronger and more beautiful voice or play an instrument with more skill and confidence.

We should all have spiritual resolutions. Why not promise yourself that you will read at least five verses from the Bible every day? Why not also promise to pray to God every morning and night? Another good promise would be to always have your Bible class lesson completed.

You can promise to obey your parents, do at least one kind thing for your brothers and sisters, and do chores without being asked.

Be specific about what you promise so you will know when you have succeeded. Instead of "I will do better about cleaning my room" promise "I will clean my

room every Thursday afternoon." Instead of "I will do better in basketball" promise "I will practice an extra 20 minutes a day on shooting and foul shots."

After you come up with your promises, write them down on a list and put the list in a place where you will see it every day. This will remind you to work on your promises. These are promises you are making to yourself.

If you fail to keep a promise, forgive yourself and try to do better. It takes a while to develop new habits, good or bad. Don't be hard on yourself when you fail. The only true failure is when you quit trying.

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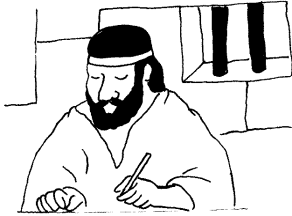
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This Year I Promise to:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

*" [They]  
searched the  
Scriptures daily  
to find out  
whether these  
things were so."*

*Acts 17:11*



### Lessons from Philippians

- Rejoice even in the bad times
- Do not think you are better than others but serve others
- Let all people see you live like Jesus even if they treat you badly
- Make heaven your goal and reach for it
- Pray to God so you may have peace
- Let your mind dwell on pure, good, and holy things

## What is the book of Philippians about?

The letter to the church in Philippi has often been called the letter of joy. Several times Paul urges the church to rejoice in the Lord. Even though Paul was in prison when he wrote the letter he could rejoice that the gospel was still being preached and the Christians in Philippi were faithful to God.

In this letter Paul urged the Christians to not think that they were better than other people. He reminded them how Jesus was better than them but did not act like it. Jesus served others and so those who want to be like Jesus must serve others also. Jesus was not selfish or boastful but wanted to help others. We must do this too.

Paul also told the Christians to behave like

God wanted them to since they lived around people who did not love God or follow His word. The Christian must be a light that shines the truth of God's word to those who are dark with sin.

Though he was in prison and the Christians would be insulted and harmed by their enemies, Paul told them to rejoice since God loved them and would take care of them.

Since Christians must live like Christ, Paul said that it was his goal and that he left behind all the things that used to be important to him and the times that he failed to reach forward to the prize of heaven.

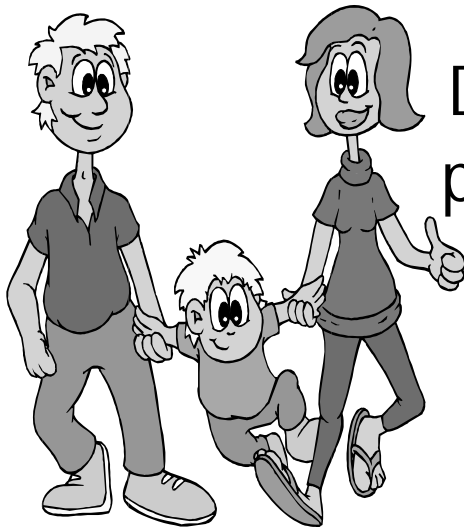
Sadly, Paul wrote of those who did not keep reaching for the goal of heaven and turned away from God. When they left God, these people

became His enemies. They were more concerned with things on the earth than the glories of heaven.

Paul concluded the letter by reminding the Philippians to not be worried about anything but to pray and let God take care of the things that they need. If they did this, the peace of God would rule in their hearts.

He also reminded them to let their mind think about things that are pure, lovely, noble, and good. When one focuses on the good things he is able to develop good thoughts. When we watch TV, play video games, listen to the radio, or read books, we must choose things that are good and pure. Things that are dirty, foul, and wrong will pollute our minds and our souls.

*Good Thoughts...*



Don't let your  
parents down;  
they've  
brought  
you up.

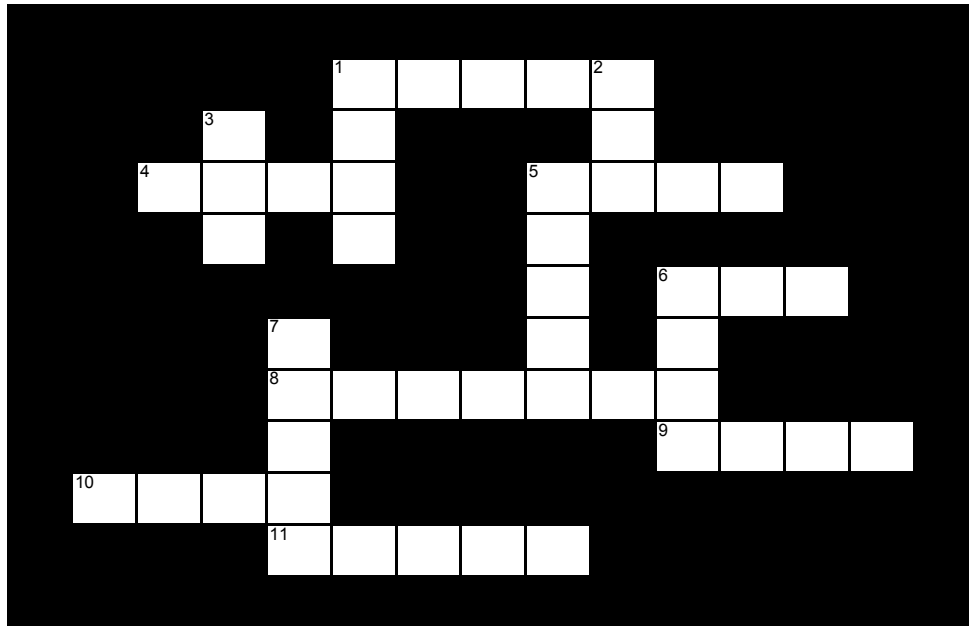
### Who Am I?

1. I was Moses' assistant.
2. I was one of 12 men Moses sent to spy out the Promised Land.
3. I was one of two spies who said that Israel could defeat their enemies and take the Promised Land.
4. After Moses died I led the people of Israel.
5. The sixth book of the Bible bears my name.

*(Answer below)*

*Answer: I am Joshua!*

# Crossword: Miracles of Jesus



**Down**

1. "Arise, take up your bed and \_\_\_\_" (John 5:8)
2. Jesus walked on this (John 6:19)
3. Jesus healed \_\_\_ lepers outside of a village (Luke 17:12)
5. This kind of man came to Jesus to be healed (Mark 1:40)
6. Jesus fed a large group of people with a couple of these (Mark 8:7)
7. Jesus healed a man who had this problem from his youth (John 9)

**Across**

1. A great storm covered a ship with these (Matthew 8:24)
4. Jesus said, "I will come and \_\_\_\_ him." (Matthew 8:7)
5. "The blind see and the \_\_\_\_ walk." (Matthew 11:5)
6. Jesus cursed this type of tree and it died (Mark 11:20-24)
8. This man was raised from the dead (John 11:43)
9. Jesus cured a man's withered \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 12:10)
10. Jesus told Peter to get this from a fish's mouth (Matthew 17:27)
11. Jesus cast the \_\_\_\_\_ out of the mute man (Luke 11:14)



Memory Verse: Numbers 32:23

**"Your sin will find you out."**

Sometimes children will act right when their parents are around but misbehave when they leave. Some students only behave when the teacher is in the room.

Though the parent or the teacher may not see all the wrong things done, God always sees and knows who is obeying Him.

However, often the people that these children and students try to fool know of their misbehavior. Someone might tell the teacher about the person's

wrongdoing. The person may say or do something that lets the teacher or parent know that they did wrong. If we do wrong, we may think no one knows may be wrong.

The passage in Numbers warns that a person's sins will find him out. Though he may try to escape from them and wish that he did not sin, God knows and will punish the wrongdoer. Instead of being stubborn and trying to hide our sin, we need to tell God that we know we did wrong and

ask Him to forgive us.

Even when God forgives us we may still have to suffer a penalty for our sin. A person who steals may feel sorry and return what is stolen but may also have to be punished for stealing. A person who hits someone but says he is sorry may still have to be punished for hitting the other person.

We will not always do the right thing but when we sin, we need to ask God's forgiveness because we cannot escape our sin.



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**Note: The October Issue should have read October/November 2004. There was no December issue**

I hope you enjoyed this issue of *Godly Youth*. If you have ideas for articles or questions you want to ask, you can email me at [rhodesdavis@joimail.com](mailto:rhodesdavis@joimail.com) or write to the address below.  
Past issues on <http://www.justchristians.info>

## Godly Youth Newsletter

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A SPECIAL NEWSLETTER  
JUST FOR YOU!

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