

A.M. SERMON OUTLINE  
JAN. 4, 2015

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

(Joshua 24:13-16)

### INTRODUCTION

**"Resolution"** - set a goal; a formal statement of intent; commit to something; a determination.

The ten main points of this lesson are taken from:

McKenzie, Taylor A., **"Some Gifts That All Of Us Can Give – All Year Long,"**  
The Weekly Messenger, CofC Publishing, San Diego, December 21, 2014, page 1.

1. **KEEP A PROMISE** - follow thru on what you say are going to do (Matt. 5:37)  
  
It's the old phrase, "Your word is your bond." If you promise it, do it!  
And you shouldn't have to add, "I swear on a stack of Bibles."
2. **LET SOMEONE HAVE THE LAST WORD** - to develop the skill of listening (James 1:19)  
  
Biblically, listen to God's word, let God have the last word, the final say.
3. **LISTEN TO A CHILD** - the Lord does (Matt. 18:3)  
  
(Mark 10:16) "... and blessed them."  
Bless the children in this congregation by greeting them and listening to them.
4. **LISTEN TO AN ADULT** - you may learn something (Acts 10:33)  
  
We may learn from the experience of others.
5. **LET SOMEONE IN LINE - IN FRONT OF YOU** - it never hurts to be kind (1 Cor. 13:4)  
  
Again, this is a "gift" that all of us may give; it's good manners.
6. **KEEP A SECRET** - (James 3:2)
7. **SAY SOMETHING NICE TO SOMEONE YOU LIKE** - learn to encourage someone,  
learn how to strengthen someone (Eph. 4:29)
8. **SAY SOMETHING NICE TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T LIKE** - Spirit led Christians allow  
the Spirit of God to deal with fleshly inclinations (Col. 4:6) (see Gal. 5:16, v25)
9. **SMILE MORE AND FROWN LESS** - a pleasing disposition will draw others closer to you  
(Eph. 4:31)
10. **GIVE PEOPLE YOUR BEST** - somehow the best will be returned to you (Matt. 7:12)