

Resolve

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I. Introduction

II. First – First Things First

Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

- A. First thing each day – I will seek God.

Psalms 63:1 (NLT)

O God, you are my God; I earnestly search for you. My soul thirsts for you; my whole body longs for you in this parched and weary land where there is no water.

Mark 1:35 (NLT)

Before daybreak the next morning, Jesus got up and went out to an isolated place to pray.

- B. First thing each week – I will worship God.

Acts 20:7 (NLT)

On the first day of the week, we gathered with local believers to share in the Lord's Supper.

Hebrews 10:23-25 (NLT)

²³*Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.*

²⁴*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.*

- C. First thing each month – I will give to God.

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NLT)

You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."

Romans 7:15 (NLT)

I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate.

Romans 7:19 (NLT)

I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway.

III. Three Reasons We Don't Succeed

- A. We focus on the what but don't understand the how.

- B. We don't see progress fast enough.

Galatians 6:9 (NLT)

So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.

C. Our distorted identity sabotages our success.

Romans 6:6 (NLT)

We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

IV. Who Do I Want to Become in 2020?

Hebrews 10:25 (NLT)

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Forget the past. Look forward.

Philippians 3:12-14 (NLT)

¹²I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. ¹³No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.