

2016 Readiness Check! Part 1: "Reset!"

"...recalling the love and kindness of days gone by, but in the communion of taking our neighbor's hands, it also gives us a sense of belonging and fellowship to take into the future." –Auld Lang Syne

A SONG OF ENDINGS AND TAKING THE BEST INTO NEW BEGINNINGS! AS NEW CREATURES IN CHRIST TAKE A LOOK OLD THINGS ARE GONE, ALL THINGS BECOME NEW! -2 Corinthians 5.17

This 1st week of the New Year... Is a good time for "resetting!"

"Making the vision plain so that all who see it can run with it! The vision speaks of the future, it states the goal, it will come to pass. The faithful wait for it knowing it will surely come. The proud trust themselves but the just continue in faith!" **Habakkuk 2.2-4**

With any "vision" ask ourselves "Are we up for the run?" Fixing our eyes on Jesus! **2Cor 4.18** Running the race before us! **Heb 12.1** Taking up our cross day-by-day! **Luke 9.23** Living for the glory of God! Living in a way that brings Him glory! **1Cor10.31**

Our Model... Army Base Hospital! Either a patient or a doctor, or a patient doctor! Everyone part of the Army of God! Every person being treated is being prepared to return to field of duty! We exist to put people back together to make them medics and warriors, together!

Release/Consent Agreement... You understand that I am a "meatball surgeon..." Battlefield medicine! treat the trauma... stop the bleeding... do the surgery... But not a plastic surgeon! May not be "pretty..." Certainly won't be finessed! It will get you back in action!

1Corinthians 1.27-31 But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty, and the base things of the world and the things which are despised, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence... as it is written, "*He who glories, let him glory in the Lord.*"

Our Model... Our Sunday times together are mission-briefing times... Could make them "preaching" times... "story times..." "information gatherings..." But we are called to make them *mission-specific* times... Things that make us able/willing for the warfare! We are a field op's group! It's just who *we* are!

AS WE PREPARE FOR OUR MISSIONS ASSIGNMENTS WE WANT TO ENSURE THAT WE RUN FOR THE PRIZE! 1Cor 9.24-27, Phil 3.14

Readiness Check 2016!

Worship Attentively! It's important to know who we are coming to "attention" for... "Countdown" to His entrance! And to pay attention to the things we say and sing! Not be drifting in that's... Checking the time... Following thru with our words!

"Minstrels speaking a truth/telling a story/delivering a testimony!"

Jesus... "People worship what they know little or nothing about – but we know what we worship, for salvation is among the people of God. The hour has come when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth and He seeks those who worship like that!" John 4.22,23

Read steadily/studiously! “Man does not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God!” **Mt 4.4** “Your word, God, is a lamp unto my feet lighting my way!” **Ps 119.105** “Study to show yourself approved before God, a workman that won’t be shamed, rightly dividing the word of truth!” **2Tim 2.15**

READ THE WORD OF GOD AS THOUGH YOUR LIFE DEPENDED ON IT! Proverbs 3.8, 16.24

Serve exemplary! Transmit the testimony that serving God is the way of life! “How long will you stand with two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him!” **1Ki 18.21** “Mockers say it is vain to serve the Lord...” **Mal 3.14** “One generation will praise Your works to another, and will declare Your mighty acts.” **Ps145.4**

“If any man serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there will My servant be: if any man serves Me, him will My Father honor. John 12.26,27

Give consistently! Of yourself and your resources! “It required that stewards be found faithful!” **1Cor4.2** “If you have been faithful in little you will be made ruler over many things!” **Mt 25.21** “Do the weightier things but don’t leave the small ones undone!” **Mt23.23**

“Whatever you do in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus...” Colossians 3.17
“Let every detail in your lives—words, actions, whatever—be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God the Father every step of the way.” Colossians 3.17 MSG

Forgive Father-ly! Everyone loves the story of the Prodigal... Returning to receive the ring and robe, the footwear and feast... As long as it’s for themselves! But not many understand how to give it!

“In the new covenant I will remember their sins no more!” Heb8.12

This is the day of the new covenant! “Forgive as you have been forgiven or you will not be...” **Lk 6.37 Mk 11.26**

If you use the word, “FORGIVEN” swear to your own hurt... Ps15.4

No one has the right to dangle anyone on puppeteer strings! “Let me see you dance!”

FORGIVE TO REMAIN IN THE DWELLING OF GOD! ENTRUST YOURSELF AND PEOPLE TO GOD’S CARE! Ps 15.4, 31.15, Lk 23.46