

The Proclaimer

JANUARY

Pierce Park Baptist Church

2016

Dear Pierce Park Family,

With Christmas behind us 'tis the season for hoping to live a better more fulfilling life in the coming year. It's the time when many make New Year's resolutions. As believers in the Lord Jesus Christ what type, if any, should we make? I'd like to share an article I read from Got Questions Ministries with you and encourage you to draw closer to the Lord and trust Him in the coming year. May you have a blessed New Year.

"What kind of New Year's Resolution should a Christian make?"

The practice of making New Year's resolutions goes back over 3,000 years to the ancient Babylonians. There is just something about the start of a new year that gives us the feeling of a fresh start and a new beginning. In reality, there is no difference between December 31 and January 1. Nothing mystical occurs at midnight on December 31. The Bible does not speak for or against the concept of New Year's resolutions. However, if a Christian determines to make a New Year's resolution, what kind of resolution should he or she make?

Common New Year's resolutions are commitments to quit smoking, to stop drinking, to manage money more wisely, and to spend more time with family. By far, the most common New Year's resolution is to lose weight, in conjunction with exercising more and eating more healthily. These are all good goals to set. However, 1 Timothy 4:8 instructs us to keep exercise in perspective: "For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." The vast majority of New Year's resolutions, even among Christians, are in relation to physical things. This should not be.

Many Christians make New Year's resolutions to pray more, to read the Bible every day, and to attend church more regularly. These are fantastic goals. However, these New Year's resolutions fail just as often as the non-spiritual resolutions, because there is no power in a New Year's resolution. Resolving to start or stop doing a certain activity has no value unless you have the proper motivation for stopping or starting that activity. For example, why do you want to read the Bible every day? Is it to honor God and grow spiritually, or is it because you have just heard that it is a good thing to do? Why do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God with your body, or is it for vanity, to honor yourself?

Philippians 4:13 tells us, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." John 15:5 declares, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." If God is the center of your New Year's resolution, it has chance for success, depending on your commitment to it. If it is God's will for something to be fulfilled, He will enable you to fulfill it. If a resolution is not God honoring and/or is not in agreement in God's Word, we will not receive God's help in fulfilling the resolution.

So, what sort of New Year's resolution should a Christian make? Here are some suggestions: (1) pray to the Lord for wisdom (James 1:5) in regards to what resolutions, if any, He would have you make; (2) pray for wisdom as to how to fulfill the goals God gives you; (3) rely on God's strength to help you; (4) find an accountability partner who will help you and encourage you; (5) don't become discouraged with occasional failures; instead, allow them to motivate you further; (6) don't become proud or vain, but give God the glory. Psalm 37:5-6 says, "Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun."

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Bill

The Prayer Team
meets on Wednesday
at 5:30 p.m.
Everyone is welcome
to join us.

PRAYER TEAM

Pierce Park is blessed with an awesome Prayer Team! If you would like to be added to the email prayer list, Lori Young needs your email address. We would also love to have you join the group that meets on Wednesday evening at 5:30 p.m. You are welcome to pray in silence or out loud over the requests that are submitted and other known needs. If you have a prayer concern and would like to have the team pray for you, please contact:

John Hotchkiss 208-336-5620 w7cni@yahoo.com

Lori Young 208-863-7382 lyoung9463@hotmail.com

LADIES-COFFEE & CONVERSATION



Date: January 7th

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Place: Pierce Park Baptist Church in the Fellowship Hall.

For more information contact Laura Johnson or Gail Mullin.

LOTTIE MOON



Thank you for your generous donations!
Total donated: \$940.00

Funny, Isn't It?

- ◆ Funny how a \$100 “looks” so big when taken to church, but so small when taken to the mall.
- ◆ Funny how long it takes to serve God for an hour, but how quickly a team plays 60 minutes of basketball.
- ◆ Funny how long a couple of hours spent at church are, but how short they are when watching a movie.
- ◆ Funny how people can't think of anything to say when they pray, but don't have difficulty thinking of things to talk about to a friend.
- ◆ Funny how people get thrilled when a baseball game goes into extra innings, but complain when a sermon is longer than the regular time.
- ◆ Funny how hard it is to read a chapter in the Bible, but how easy it is to read 100 pages of a best selling novel.
- ◆ Funny how people want to get a front seat at any game or concert, but scramble to get a back seat at church services.
- ◆ Funny how people need 2 or 3 weeks advance notice to fit a church event into their schedule, but can adjust their schedule for other events at the last moment.
- ◆ Funny how hard it is for people to learn a simple gospel well enough to tell others, but how simple it is for the same people to understand and repeat gossip.
- ◆ Funny how people believe what the newspaper says, but question what the Bible says.
- ◆ Funny how everyone wants to go to heaven provided they do not have to believe, or to think, or to say, or do anything.
- ◆ Funny how you can send a thousand 'jokes' through email and they spread like wildfire, but when you start sending messages regarding the Lord, people think twice about sharing.

Funny, isn't it?

Are you laughing?

Are you thinking?

Spread the Word and give thanks to the Lord for He is good!

THE AMAZING RACE

Thanks to all who have been giving. God will bless you for it. The balance of our church loan was \$28,199.95 on December 28th. We can pay this off before the end of 2016 if we all work together. If you have a question as to which team you are on or if you aren't on a team and would like to be included, please see Shirley Tinstman, Fred O'Brien or Chris Johnson. The teams are also posted in the office hallway.

The January business meeting will be on Sunday, January 17th following the morning worship service.

MEN'S BREAKFAST



Date: Saturday, January 9th
 Time: 8:30 a.m.
 Sign up at the Welcome Center.

IRONMEN-MEN'S GROUP



IronMen-Men's Group meets every other Tuesday morning at 6:30 a.m. Join us at The Original Pancake House 5900 W. Fairview Ave., Boise. Mark your calendar for the January dates: 1/5 & 1/19. We meet for a devotional, fellowship and breakfast.

JANUARY POTLUCK



Our monthly potluck will be on Sunday, January 31st following the worship service. Last names beginning with A - H, please bring a dessert. Last names beginning with I - P, please bring a main dish. Last names beginning with Q - Z, please bring a side dish or salad. Volunteers needed for set-up and clean up. Please contact Kevin Chipman.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



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|------|----------------|------|-----------------|
| 1/6 | John Mullin | 1/13 | Mary Forte |
| 1/7 | Barbara Rutter | 1/18 | Sherry Bazile |
| 1/10 | Meriah Park | 1/18 | Mary Young |
| 1/12 | Twila Johnson | 1/28 | Victoria Berger |
| 1/12 | Wayne Whitlock | 1/28 | Toni Elliot |

Pierce Park Baptist Church

5350 N. Pierce Park Lane
Boise, ID 83714

Phone: 208-853-0447
Fax: 208-853-8063
Email: ppbcboi@msn.com



“Bringing the Joy Within to the World Without”



PPBC WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday
9:00 am Worship Team
9:30 am Fellowship Time
9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship Service

Tuesday
6:30 am IronMen-Men’s Group
Every other week we meet at:
The Original Pancake House
5900 W. Fairview Ave., Boise

Wednesday
5:00 pm Dinner
5:30 pm Prayer Time
6:15 pm Pioneer Clubs (K-6th Grade)
6:15 pm Youth Group (7th-12th Grade)
6:30 pm Groundwork with Pastor Bill

Thursday
10:30 am Ladies-”Coffee & Conversation”