

Topical

# All Will Know

New Year's 2026 & Church Vision

John 13:35, Hebrews 10:24

<p><b>It's a new year and time for many to make resolutions</b></p> <p>Wanting a change for the year, something different, better, or keep going well</p> <p><i>PF sponsoring NYE</i></p>	<p><b>Instead of empty <u>works-based</u> resolutions that fall off, <u>we hopefully want real life - new year's resurrection</u></b></p> <p>To be filled by the Holy Spirit and to see His kingdom advance in 2025.</p> <p><i>For those around us. For ourselves. For His church.</i></p>
<p><b>Is there anything special about another arbitrary date on a calendar?</b></p> <p>Ours certainly isn't tied to the exact moment of Creation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8th year - new beginnings</li> <li>• 50th year - year of jubilee</li> <li>• America's 250th</li> </ul>	<p><b>A good time to reflect personally, <u>with the Lord</u>, are we on the right track?</b></p> <p><b>How about corporately?</b> Are we being the church God wants us to be?</p> <p><b>So today, let it be a time to consider No matter what comes this year</b></p>
<p><b>With a new year there's a risk of putting our <u>hope</u> in merely a change of calendar itself</b></p> <p>In a future we can't actually control</p> <p><b>A new day can be good though:</b></p> <p><b>Lam 3:22-23</b> - [Through] the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. <b>[They are] new every morning</b>; Great [is] Your faithfulness.</p>	<p><b>Every new day God gives us is a new day to receive His mercy. Get forgiven. Start fresh.</b></p> <p>You don't need to wait for tomorrow. Or next year.</p> <p><i>Friend's burpee challenge</i> <i>If I really want to start, I can start now</i></p> <p><b>Many times we just let it be an excuse to procrastinate the change - next year, next month, next time...</b></p>

**At the same time,  
we need to be mindful of  
our plans vs. the Lord's plans**

**James 4:13-15** - Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that."

**it's good to look back and consider**

- where we've come from,
- what's gone well, what hasn't

**And look ahead (with Jesus)**

- ask Him where he might be taking us

**What does He want to do?**

*So often we just ask Him to help us do what we want to do*

**If we're born again, we're His,  
We should be following Him - just like the  
disciples - in faith (Romans)**

**Let this be a year of faith**

- Not blind faith
- faith guided by Him and His word

**Start today! Even though it's the 4th.**

**The Word for us as a body this year:**

**John 13:35** - "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

**[Pray]**

**If you love someone, you're going  
to try to be around them**

*Sierra is "my buddy" lately*

**As believers, like it or not, we're a part of  
the "body" of Jesus. The church.**

**It's simple: If we love Jesus,  
We're going to love His church.**

**We can't be healthy apart from it - even if  
it's imperfect.**

**Love isn't about perfection,  
it's about relationship. And a  
relationship with Jesus requires a  
relationship with the church**

**Hebrews 10:23-25** - Let us hold fast the confession of [our] hope without wavering, for He who promised [is] faithful. **And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as [is] the manner of some, but exhorting [one another], and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.**

### What is the church?

- The church, the body is you and I - if we're believers.
- We're members of Jesus' body
- *God Has Set the Members,*  
2/11/24, 1 Cor 12:12-27

**The church is not the building,  
but the believers in the building**

**If the church is just a building,  
it's dead**

**Acts 17:24 NKJV - "God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands.**

**So as a believer,  
we should want to be the church  
Be around His church,  
And to love His church, no  
matter what building they go to**

### **As the individual goes, so does the church**

The church cannot be healthy apart from each of our spiritual health

**The evidence of Jesus' real disciples,  
a real church is**

- Not the size of the congregation
- Not the name on the building
- Not the style of music
- Not the amount of activities going on
- Not the bumper stickers
- Style of dress
- Not even if there's Bible study
- These might be secondary and tertiary evidence

**The evidence of real (or at least healthy)  
Christians - Is if the believers truly love  
each other**

**AND**

**That's how people - the world and other  
believers -  
will know if we're Jesus' disciples**

**1Co 13:1-8, 13 - Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, **but have not love**, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have [the gift of] prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, **but have not love**, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed [the poor], and though I give my body to be burned, **but have not love**, it profits me nothing. Love suffers long [and] is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. **But whether [there are] prophecies, they will fail; whether [there are] tongues, they will cease; whether [there is] knowledge, it will vanish away. ... And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these [is] love.****

**All those things are important.  
But not at the expense  
of truly loving each other.**

**It's what the world wants, longs for  
- but doesn't have**

*If an unbeliever, or someone who's hurt, or  
burned out comes to church - what do they  
get? Used or loved?*

**It's a shame when the church wants  
everything the world has -  
and gives up love in the process**

**Not wrong to have a building,  
or sound equipment, or nice things**

**But that's not what makes  
a church the church**

**It's not a business.**

**It's not built with human hands.**

**It's built by God's hands,  
God's work - agape love (define)**

**This year, the Lord would have us  
focus on loving each other -  
and anyone he brings**

**Acts 2:46-47** - So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and **breaking bread from house to house**, they ate their food with **gladness and simplicity of heart**, praising God and having **favor with all** the people. And **the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.**

**That as a church, how do we grow?  
How should we want to grow?**

- Simply love each other
- And anyone God brings

**The church should grow by those God adds to it - and those being saved**

- Either backslidden and back
- Growing and hungry - looking for more love, more Jesus, more Word
- Those saved by Him - in the wild, or in the service

**Is advertising wrong?  
Is outreach not a good thing?**

**1Co 16:13-14** - Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. **Let all [that] you [do] be done with love.**

**And if we're truly worshipping  
Jesus, and He's among us -  
there will naturally be love**

*Sometimes I think it's what's missing in  
places I've visited (from the church at large)*

**A lot going on,  
but it's busy work, not love**

**So in love, how does the church operate?  
with the gifts God has given each of us**

**1 Corinthians 12:1, 4-11** - Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, **I do not want you to be ignorant:** ... There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. **But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:** for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. **But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.**

<p>This year (and always)</p> <p><b>That our mission would simply be an overflow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Of our relationship with the Lord</li> <li>● in love from Him to us to others</li> </ul> <p>Using the gifts he's given <u>each</u> of us - out of love, in love (agape)</p> <p><b>But that nobody would be <u>compelled</u> or <u>burdened</u> by any of it</b></p>	<p><i>Why we don't do membership or pass the plate. If you love the Lord, and this is where He's led you, you'll do what He wants you to do. And we'll help each other do that, but never <u>force</u> it.</i></p> <p><b>That as we meet, we'd all</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● be fed</li> <li>● Prayed for</li> <li>● Loved on</li> <li>● Encouraged</li> <li>● Lifted up</li> <li>● Given opportunity</li> </ul> <p><b>And from there - whatever the Lord wants</b></p>
<p>I'd like for us to spend more time with each other, be more knit together as a family</p> <p><b>Not forced, but just opportunity</b></p> <p>Our monthly fellowships Maybe ice skating, outings, etc. Especially keep meeting more and more to worship, fellowship, study the Bible, pray</p> <p><b>And as we do that the Lord will add who He saves</b></p>	<p><b>But we've got to keep loving each other.</b></p> <p><b><u>And I think we're doing that</u></b> <b><u>But not to lose sight of it</u></b></p> <p>1 - to keep loving Jesus personally the most 2 - to keep loving each other</p> <p><b>That way if God brings anyone else, they can be loved on, too</b></p> <p>To not point the finger at other groups But just heads up to Jesus and do as he leads as best as possible</p>

<p><b>I want to be a good steward of things, but God cares about people and so we should be good stewards of the people in our lives</b></p> <p><b>Especially of our church family</b></p> <p><b>If you stay or if you go,</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• as long as you're following the Lord,</li> <li>• We should be ok with that</li> </ul> <p><b>But if you leave because you don't like what God's word says</b> (some stay in a church because they're comfortable and never confronted by God's sharp word)</p>	<p><b>But let it never be because we didn't <u>love</u> each other</b></p> <p><i>Folks in NY always feeling the love Some leaving rightly in hard times Some leaving wrongly in good times</i></p> <p><b>We won't <u>ever</u> be perfect</b></p> <p><b>We'll need to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ask for forgiveness</li> <li>• and give it</li> </ul> <p>(that's part of love and family)</p> <p>(again)</p> <p><b>Love isn't about being perfect It's about being made perfect, in it</b></p>
<p><b>The church is a family</b></p> <p><b>It's why pastoral and leadership qualifications start with:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is the pastor taking care of (loving) his family?</li> <li>• Running his life and family well</li> </ul> <p>If he can do that, then <b><u>the church has many parallels</u></b> as the bride of Christ, as children of God, as the adopted heavenly family</p>	<p><b>Like family, sometimes that means saying hard things - because you love them</b></p> <p><i>Growing up my family tended to hang out for a bit, but once the small talk was over it'd disband before there was ever anything hard talked about - because we'd disagree or argue - out of lack of forgiveness or repentance - civil for a bit, but not deep</i></p>
<p><b><u>church should be deep relationships</u></b></p> <p>We should stick around, hang around, hang out, and occasionally things come up - good and bad - <b>but we know we love each other</b></p>	<p><i>Hanging with Mia, "lectures" Informal discipleship Moses school of ministry</i></p>

**Ephesians 4:11-16** - And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, **for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the**

**fullness of Christ**; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-- from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

<p><b>Being the church together</b>  <b>Loving each other</b>  <b>Means helping each other <u>grow up</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Talking about younger generations being "soft"</i></li> <li>• <i>The way we guys interacted in the northeast</i></li> </ul> <p><b>And grow up in what?</b>  <b>Who?</b></p> <p><b>To be more like our Father, Jesus!</b></p>	<p><b>Individually, corporately</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find ways to love on each other</li> <li>• exercise those gifts</li> <li>• As we're led,</li> <li>• as it becomes apparent</li> <li>• <u>But always unto the Lord</u></li> </ul> <p><b><u>If the Lord doesn't give it, we don't need to make it happen</u></b></p> <p><b>But maybe he's calling you to step out in faith personally, and that's how it'll happen corporately</b></p>
<p><b>Finally, Church isn't a club, organization, event, although it may do those things</b></p> <p><b><u>5-fold mission, as individuals, and the church</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prayer</li> <li>• Fellowship</li> <li>• Bible study</li> <li>• Evangelism</li> <li>• Worship</li> </ul> <p><i>Our meeting together is for the equipping of the saints. The ministry here is to the saints. The ministry out there is to the world. But the world is welcome to come here!</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas, Easter outreaches</li> <li>• <b><u>Yeshua fest only big focus</u></b></li> <li>• Unless the Lord brings something else</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Still available for Calvary, definitely know the Lord led me, but it's on them and we're here for them if they want it</i></b></li> </ul> <p><b>We don't need to bring someone to church, we need to bring them to Jesus.</b>    Bringing them to church is just one way, one part of the way, to do that.</p> <p><b>So stick around. Hang around. Dig in. Be Bible and fellowship junkies. Love Jesus. Love each other. Love anyone who comes through those doors.</b></p> <p><b>live your resurrected (not resolutioned) lives in faith - <u>and all will know</u></b></p> <p><b>2 Corinthians 5:17</b> - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, <b>all things have become new</b></p>

