

Genesis 12:1-4: “The Lord had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you. 2 “I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you. 4 So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Haran.”

Hebrews 11:8: “By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.”

RESOLVE #3: I Resolve to Take _____ for God.

Matthew 14:22-33: “Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. 23 After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, 24 and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. 25 Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. 26 When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear. 27 But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” 28 “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.” 29 “Come,” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!” 31 Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?” 32 And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. 33 Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

RESOLVE #4: I Resolve to Pursue _____ & Turn from _____.

1 Peter 1:14-15: “As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

Hebrews 12:14: “Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord.”

“Resolved, never to give over, nor in the least to slacken my fight with my corruptions, however unsuccessful I may be.”

Edwards, Jonathan (2010-09-17). *The Resolutions Of Jonathan Edwards*. Resolution #56 (Kindle Locations 73-74). Kindle Edition.

“Resolved, to inquire every night, as I am going to bed, wherein I have been negligent, what sin I have committed, and wherein I have denied myself: also at the end of every week, month and year. Dec. 22 & 26, 1722.” **Edwards, Jonathan (2010-09-17). *The Resolutions Of Jonathan Edwards*. Resolution #40 (Kindle Locations 45-46). Kindle Edition.**

RESOLVE #5: I Resolve to _____ Christ My Master.

1 Peter 4:10-11: “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. 11 If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.”

Luke 17:7-10: “Suppose one of you has a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Will he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, ‘Come along now and sit down to eat’? 8 Won’t he rather say, ‘Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink’? 9 Will he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? 10 So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”

RESOLVE #6: I Resolve to _____ Christ with the _____.

Colossians 4:2-6: “Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. 3 And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. 4 Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. 5 Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. 6 Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”

Ephesians 5:15-16: “Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, 16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.”

Matthew 5:13-16: “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. 14 “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Neither do people light a

lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

RESOLVE #7: I Resolve to _____ What I

_____.

Matthew 6:19-21, 24: “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also . . . ²⁴ “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.””

FINAL THOUGHTS

“Being sensible that I am unable to do anything without God's help, I do humbly entreat him by his grace to enable me to keep these Resolutions, so far as they are agreeable to his will, for Christ's sake. Remember to read over these Resolutions once a week.” **Edwards, Jonathan (2010-09-17). *The Resolutions Of Jonathan Edwards* (Kindle Locations 2-4). Kindle Edition.**

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you from this week's message? How did the Holy Spirit speak to you? What did you learn that was new? What did you get reminded of?
2. Have you made any New Years Resolutions? Are they in line with the first two quotes in the message outline? How might your success in keeping your resolutions change this year if you build them based off the first two quotes?
3. What do you think is the MOST IMPORTANT of all resolutions we can make? Why is this the hub and everything else the spokes that come from the hub? Consult Resolve #1 in the message outline for help.
4. Which one of the “Resolves” in this message do you find particularly important in your life at the moment? Why? How might your small group help you to succeed in keeping this resolve?

Pray for each other.

Today's Message: “I Resolve” Pastor Cory Anderson / SMC / 01.08.12

Introduction:

“Resolved, that I will do whatsoever I think to be most to God's glory, and my own good, profit and pleasure, in the whole of my duration, without any consideration of the time, whether now, or never so many myriad's of ages hence.” **Edwards, Jonathan (2010-09-17). *The Resolutions Of Jonathan Edwards. Resolution #1* (Kindle Locations 4-6). Kindle Edition.**

“Being sensible that I am unable to do anything without God's help, I do humbly entreat him by his grace to enable me to keep these Resolutions, so far as they are agreeable to his will, for Christ's sake.” **Edwards, Jonathan (2010-09-17). *The Resolutions Of Jonathan Edwards* (Kindle Locations 2-4). Kindle Edition.**

RESOLVE #1: I Resolve to _____ My Relationship with _____.

Philippians 3:10: *“I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.”*

2 Peter 3:18: “But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

“Resolved, to study the Scriptures so steadily, constantly and frequently, as that I may find, and plainly perceive myself to grow in the knowledge of the same.” **Edwards, Jonathan (2010-09-17). *The Resolutions Of Jonathan Edwards. Resolution #28* (Kindle Locations 33-34). Kindle Edition.**

Psalms 1:1-3: “Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, ² but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. ³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.”

RESOLVE #2: I Resolve to Live by _____, Not _____.