2017 New Year’s Resolution

Consider a reading track for 2017 that will help you to grow in your Christian faith! Below are a few different ideas that you might want to consider prayerfully for growing closer to Jesus Christ. If you are new to reading Scripture on a regular basis, then pick a plan that you can commit to and please remember that God won’t love you any more if you pick a more intense plan and he won’t love you any less if you pick a more manageable plan. Just start praying now to see where God might be nudging you to grow in reading of his holy word.

- **Track #1** – Commit to reading from the Gospels (i.e., Matthew, Mark, Luke or John) for five minutes a day (or ____ minutes a day).
- **Track #2** – Commit to reading a chapter a day from the New Testament for the entire month of January.
- **Track #3** – Commit to reading a chapter a day from the Old Testament for January and February.
- **Track #4** – Commit to reading a Psalm each day (there are 150 of them).
- **Track #5** – Commit to reading the New Testament in a year; COS can supply a reading plan (contact the church office to get one), you can find one online or use a smartphone app.
- **Track #6** – Commit to reading the Old Testament in a year; likewise, we can supply a reading plan, you can find one online or use an app.
- **Track #7** – Commit to reading the entire Bible in a year using the same tools as above.

Did you know that at the normal rate the Bible is read from the pulpit, you can read through the entire Bible in a year by spending an average of 12 minutes a day?! Moreover, many of the smartphone apps allow you to accelerate the spoken speed up to twice the regular rate.

Do you commute? You’ll be amazed at how much of the Bible you can listen to in 15-30 minutes a day for a full year! Again, there are free apps for your smartphone that allow you to listen to God’s word; see the article below for free online resources and reading plans that can be tailored to your specific desires.

The Bible is God’s love letter to us; the more we read, digest and appropriate its truth, the stronger will be our relationship with Jesus. Some of you might have friends who would like to journey with you through God’s word. Why not form dyads or triads to discuss what you are reading by connecting in person or over the phone once a week or biweekly? This works particularly well for those who do better with an accountability partner.

What say you? Are you willing to prayerfully consider making a Bible-reading resolution for 2017? Let’s keep this resolution a no-guilt and bunches-of-grace commitment! BTW, if you would like to get a jump on this resolution and start today, that is warmly encouraged. By getting into God’s word, God gets his word into us!

For the sake of the Name,

*Kevin Flannery*

Senior Pastor