

## Make Christ-Honoring Family Resolutions

### I. New Year's Resolutions are Good

- But so are Any-Time-of-The-Year Resolutions.
- Psychologically speaking, the start of the year is a great time for new beginnings and second chances. Of course, biblically speaking any time is the perfect time for fresh starts.
- Resolutions are an important part of the Parent's 5 Jobs.
  - We need to teach our children what God says about their lives.
  - We need to help them see that they should resolve to make a change in the areas where they lack.
  - We need to help them practically work through what it means to change in that area.
  - We need to support them as they strive to be successful in their resolutions beyond January.

### II. Christ-Honoring New Year's Resolutions are Rooted in God's Expectations

- **We need to know God's expectations.**
  - If we haven't studied the life of Joseph or Daniel, if we haven't considered the implications being a light in this dark world, if we've never heard about the one-anothers, then we have no hope to accomplish them in our lives.
  - With that said, I believe every Christian on the planet should start with this New Year Resolution — *"By the grace of God, I want to know His Word better this year."*
- **Resolve to be what God commands.**
  - We can easily resolve that, *"By the grace of God, I want to take His commands seriously in my life this year."*
  - We can help our children focus on the big-ticket items in their lives. Biblically speaking, here are the big ones:
    - Pride — this is the biggest root issue in all of our lives. From this ugly, malignant stump grows all sorts of sin. In fact, the rest of this list grows from pride.
    - Lack of Trust
    - Self-Worship
    - Dishonesty
    - Hate — as opposed to love
- **Submit your secondary resolutions to God's Truth.**
  - Is it okay to resolve to get better grades, finally learn to play the piano, make the bed more consistently, and try to cut out sugar from your diet? Definitely.
  - But real success is going to come from working toward God's goals for His purposes and in His power.
  - Why does it glorify God by making my bed? Why would the Lord be pleased by reducing my sugar intake? Study the Word, understand God's will for our lives, desire change for His glory, and take everything back to His Word.