

## RESOLVE 2022

→ Have you made any New Years Resolutions this year? If not, why not? If so, why? How are you going a few days in?

→ What good, old habits have been trashed by Covid? Has it forced you to make any new and profitable ones?

### 1. SPEND MORE TIME ON THE ROCK (Matthew 7:24-27)

\* MORAL: The more WORD, TRUTH, WISDOM you build with the better.

\* Your SUCCESS or indeed FAILURE in 2022 will be DIRECTLY PROPORTIONAL to the amount of time you spend on the ROCK.

→ Do you agree with this premise? What does 'rock' mean to you? What about 'sand'?

→ "God's plan / intent for you is to live on Rock, whose name is Jesus: Feet firmly-planted, faith deeply-rooted, life securely-founded." What does it mean to have your feet firmly planted or your faith deeply-rooted or your life securely founded?

→ What storms did you face in 2021? Did you stand firm or did your house crumble, and why?

#### How do you make sure you spend more time on the Rock?

a) Could you spend more time consuming CHRISTIAN RESOURCES and less on SOCIAL MEDIA?

b) Do you have regular BIBLE READING habit?

c) How might you kick-start your PRAYER LIFE?

d) To whom / what did you give too much NEGATIVE INFLUENCE in 2021?

e) What's MIRY CLAY to you? (Psalm 40:1-3)

f) What's biggest LIE you bought into in 2021 and how could you actively DISEMPOWER it?

g) If you 'get out what you put in,' how are you going to SERVE your CHURCH in 2022?

→ Work your way through each of those questions, each of which represent an intentional movement from sand to rock. Which one jumps out to you? Any of those areas grown stale (a)-c)? Any insightful revelations (d)-g)? Have you made any helpful changes you might share or recommend?

### 2. POINT YOUR PASSIONS AT THE MAIN THING

→ Have you become more passionate or less passionate through the two Covid years? What have you been passionate about? Has it been the main thing? If you're honest, have you inadvertently been chased down any 'rabbit-holes'?

→ Is social media a good place to share / express / promote passions? What are the advantages? What are the pitfalls? How many of the passions you've seen raging on those platforms have been the 'main thing'?

\* It's a good thing to have PASSION. As followers of Jesus, we should be overflowing with PASSION for the THINGS of God, COMPASSION for the PEOPLE of God and righteous ANGER at the lies, agendas & injustices of the Enemy.

→ What does it look like to have passion for the things of God? What does it look like to have compassion for the people of God? What is righteous anger? What things make you angry and are they 'righteous'?

→ If we're all made different, is it okay for us to have a wide range of passions? How should we react if other people do not share ours? Are there any passions we should share as Christians?

\* What's the MAIN THING? Love the LORD your GOD with all your heart, soul, mind & strength, and love your NEIGHBOUR as yourself.

→ How could this statement be used as a filter for your passions?

#### SANCTIFIED PASSION

→ What does it mean to have 'sanctified' passions? What are the dangers if they're 'unsanctified'? How do you make sure they are 'sanctified'?

\* Always take it to Lord in your PRAYER CLOSET first.

\* Always test it against the WORD.

\* Always check the WITNESS of the Holy Spirit.

\* Make sure it's REDEMPTIVE, RESTORATIVE, draws people TO JESUS.

#### PASSION POINTERS

a) God belongs on the THRONE.

→ Why is this one so important when it comes to pointing our passions at the 'main thing'?

b) People will know we're His disciples by the QUALITY of our love for one another.

→ This one is a caution. How strong should we be in the expression of our passions? Should we be careful how or where we vent them? Could the enemy exploit those passions if we're not careful?

c) The work of Jesus in our heart should be making us MORE LIKE HIM.

→ Are you kinder than you were 12 months ago? Purer? More patient? More compassionate? Are you angrier? More frustrated? Are you more like Jesus? What role have your passions taken in that?

d) People all around you NEED JESUS too.

→ "Are we attractive to seekers or has the way we've publicly directed our passions made us inadvertently repulsive?" Discuss! What are the dangers / opportunities here?