

Spiritual Resolutions

Isaiah 46:5-11 New Living Translation

- ⁵ “To whom will you compare me?
Who is my equal?
- ⁶ Some people pour out their silver and gold
and hire a craftsman to make a god from it.
Then they bow down and worship it!
- ⁷ They carry it around on their shoulders,
and when they set it down, it stays there.
It can’t even move!
And when someone prays to it, there is no answer.
It can’t rescue anyone from trouble.
- ⁸ “Do not forget this! Keep it in mind!
Remember this, you guilty ones.
- ⁹ Remember the things I have done in the past.
For I alone am God!
I am God, and there is none like me.
- ¹⁰ Only I can tell you the future
before it even happens.
Everything I plan will come to pass,
for I do whatever I wish.
- ¹¹ I will call a swift bird of prey from the east—
a leader from a distant land to come and do my bidding.
I have said what I would do,
and I will do it.

God	Idols
God made us; we did not make Him	
God is sovereign; He is not powerless	
God is everywhere, we don't have to carry Him on our shoulders	
God's law is based on His moral purity - He has given us the Bible to say what He desires of us	Idols leave it up to you; do what is right in your own eyes.
God responds to us; He answers our prayers	

Idols are people or things that take the place of God in our lives.

As you look back over the last year ask yourself if you have grown in your relationship with Christ. Have you greater passion for God? Do you feel closer to Him? Is the fruit of the Spirit more evident in your life (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control)? Have you shared your faith with others?

Spiritual Resolutions



Resolutions related to good spiritual disciplines:

1. **Read the Bible everyday** – *Challenge*: read the entire Bible in a year.
Bible reading plans – Bible reading Apps – Audio Bible.
Read less, but read better (the New Testament in a year); new Christians – the Gospels.
NOT JUST ABOUT READING – LISTEN TO WHAT GOD IS SAYING TO YOU.
2. **Worship weekly**
Resolve to be in fellowship with believers regularly; expose yourself to the Word of God, as well as the opportunity to give and receive encouragement needed for spiritual growth.
3. **Make time to pray**
Time to talk to God and allow him to impress your thoughts and lead you.
It's something we all have to keep working at.
4. **Honour God with good stewardship**
Time, finance, gifts and abilities – Make it a priority to invest in God's Kingdom.
5. **Hide God's Word in your heart**
Memorise portions of scripture (*February's Memory Challenge*).
Write down verses that jump out at you as you read every day - review them periodically.
6. **Read some good Christian books**
Books that will challenge you. Check your local Christian bookshop; www.pathwaybookstore.com
7. **Share your faith when you have the opportunity**
Plant seeds in people's lives.

Resolutions related to the development of Christian character:

- a. **Work on growing in contentment**
Rather than looking at what you don't have, be grateful for what you have.
- b. **Look at criticism others bring to you** – a tough one!
Be open to instruction and correction when necessary, instead of reacting or making excuses.
- c. **Work on forgiveness**
Pray, "*Lord help me to forgive, as you have forgiven me.*"
- d. **Be an encourager**
Magnify positives; don't focus on negatives.
- e. **Live in the reality everyday that this could be your last day before you stand before the Lord**
Perhaps read through your list of resolutions once a week.

**Along with your goals for this year,
"Plan to grow spiritually."**