

The beginning of a new year is an ideal time to stop, look up, and get our bearings. To that end, here are some questions to ask prayerfully in the presence of God.

1. What's one thing you could do this year to increase your enjoyment of God?
2. What's the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your family life this year?
3. What is the single biggest time-waster in your life, and what will you do about it this year?
4. What is the most helpful new way you could strengthen your church?
- 5.. What one thing could you do to improve your prayer life this year?
6. What area of your life most needs simplifying, and what's one way you could simplify in that area?
7. Who is the person you most want to encourage this year?
8. What's one new way you could be a blessing to your pastor (or to another who ministers to you) this year?
9. What's one thing you could do this year to enrich the spiritual legacy you will leave to your children and grandchildren?
10. What one thing do you most regret about last year, and what will you do about it this year?
11. In what area of your life do you most need change, and what will you do about it this year?
12. Who is the person you need to forgive this year?

The value of many of these questions is in simple fact that they bring an issue or commitment into focus. For example, just by articulating which person you most want to encourage this year is more likely to help you remember to encourage that person than if you hadn't considered the question.

So let's evaluate our lives, make plans and goals, and live this new year remembering that, in all things our dependence is on Jesus who said, "Because without Me you can do nothing" (John 15:5).

*Happy New Year from my family to yours,
Deacon Mike*

