

## **This Will Be The Year**

### **2 Peter 3:18**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

- A. "I wish things had been different." "I should have stuck to my plan." "If only I hadn't given up so easily."
- B. By the end of December we look ahead to January and say something like, "THIS WILL BE THE YEAR!" Too often we are looking to next year, because the current year didn't go as planned.
- C. This morning, I want us to think about that phrase, "This will be the year" from a spiritual standpoint. This will be the year I or we \_\_\_\_\_. What should go in this blank?

#### **GROW IN THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WORD**

- A. Peter challenged his readers to grow (literally increase) in their knowledge (2 Pet. 3:18).
- B. As Christians, our knowledge of the Word should continually increase with each passing year (Heb. 5:11-6:1).
- C. This will only happen if we put the time in to growing our knowledge through the study of God's Word (Prov. 4:20-22; Jos. 1:8). We have so many great opportunities to help us in our growth of the Word.
- D. Will this be the year that you grow in your knowledge of God's Word?

#### **ENGAGE IN WORKS OF MINISTRY**

- A. Being a Christian is more than just attending weekly worship services. It's about displaying a Christ-like attitude in all we do!
- B. James told his readers that faith without works is dead (Jam. 2:14-17). We need to take the opportunities we have to be involved in works of ministry (Gal. 6:10; Heb. 13:16).
- C. We need to get off the sidelines and get involved. God takes notice of our works (Heb. 6:10).
- D. Will this be the year that you and your family actively engage in works of ministry?

#### **MAKE NECESSARY CHANGES**

- A. The rich young ruler was unwilling to make the changes necessary for eternal life (Mt. 19:16-22).
- B. Some people today need to make a change and obey the Gospel of Christ. Do not put it off (Acts 16:33).
- C. Many others may need to make some changes and repent of their sins (Acts 3:19). Stop allowing yourself to become comfortable with sin. Let's take action immediately.
- D. Will this be the year you make the necessary changes so your life is right with God?

#### **CONCLUSION:**

- A. "I wish things had been different." "I should have stuck to my plan." "If only I hadn't given up so easily." "Next year is going to be the year."
- B. Are these the words we will speak when all is said and done at the end of 2023?
- C. Let's make this the year we take action and change our spiritual lives for the better.