



Youth Ministry

January 5, 2014



Lesson:

This week, we continued our lesson on how to make 2014 our best year ever!

We reviewed why so many New Year's Resolutions fail and how we can help make sure ours do not. We started last week by letting Jesus be our "Reset" button so that we can start the new year with a clean slate so this week we talked about what to do next.

We said that a "**Resolution**" is basically something that you wish could happen and it is typically open ended and vague. We said that a "**Vision**" is more like a dream of how you want to be at some point in the future. It is typically more specific with a definite end point. We learned that a resolution will remain just a wish and a vision will remain just a dream unless we create "Goals".

A **Goal** is the plan that makes your vision a reality. It is something you actively create that you keep in front of you every day to guide you to and help you accomplish your vision. We learned that it is better to make a series of short term goals instead of one seemingly unattainable goal to help keep you from being discouraged and quitting.

We said we need to be careful to not put our worldly limits on what God can do. There is no limit to what we can do with God when we align our goals with God's purpose. When making our goals, we should pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help us create goals that serve God's purpose for us.

We also discussed other ways we can help make sure that our Visions become reality.

- * Take your time and listen to the Holy Spirit when creating your vision and along the way to achieving them.
- * Share your vision with others so that they can hold you accountable.
- * Share your goals with friends who may have similar goals so that you can help each other attain them.
- * Share your goals and vision with others who may have already done something similar and obtain their advice.
- * Write your vision and goals down to help you commit to them and to keep them in front of you every day.
- * Pray over your vision and have others pray over it as well.
- * Don't get discouraged if it seems you're not making progress. Pray for encouragement from the Holy Spirit and from friends.
- * Don't be afraid to make adjustments in your direction if the Holy Spirit guides you to.
- * Create a "vision board" to help you visualize where it is you are going and provide encouragement.
- * Keep your goals positive in what you will do instead of negative in what you will not do.

Next week we do a short summary/review and talk a little about priorities before we move on to our next discussion about God's purpose for our Youth Group.

Bible Verse: Matthew 19:26

26 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Bible Verse: John 14:13-14

13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Bible Verse: 1 John 5:14-15

14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.