

# New Year's Resolution Survival Kit



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## How to Make Next Year a Spiritual Success

To develop good, consistent Christian habits, many illustrations from the Bible and in everyday life will help us *visualize* and reach our goals throughout the New Year.

**Pebble from the Brook** — It only took a pebble to take down a mighty Giant. Every *pebble of truth* may just be that one pebble we need to kill a Goliath. Every truth is essential, even the small ones. 1 Samuel 17:49; 2 Timothy 3:16-17

**Candle** — God's truth is a light unto our path. We should share this truth with others so that they might also be able to walk in the right direction. Psalm 119:105; Matthew 5:14

**Pencil & Eraser** — At the end of the each day, we should itemize our successes and failures. Then, we should go to the Heavenly throne of Grace to seek forgiveness and guidance that our shortcomings may be blotted out through our sympathetic high priest. Psalm 103:12; Hebrews 4:14-16

**Twist Tie** — "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love." We are tied together in true unity, not by creeds of men, but by the mind of Christ. Let us study to think like our Master, and then we will love one another like our Master loves us. John 15:9; Romans 12:10 & Philippians 2:5

**Candy Kiss** — All brethren need to know that they are loved and appreciated. Greet one another in sincerity and with loving warmth, and when you part, tell them they will be kept in your heart and prayers. 1 Thessalonians 5:26; 1 Peter 1:22

**White Linen** — Keep the white linen robe of Christ covering the unintentional failings of your brethren and yourself. Isaiah 61:10

**Mint Life Saver** — When the waters of life overwhelm the soul, our Lord Jesus is ever present to help us stay afloat. He sends refreshing so that we can persevere through the storm. Psalm 23:3; Matthew 14:29-31

**Button** — If we "*button our lips*," then we will keep from saying anything harmful about others. We should always examine what we say before we say it to see if it is appropriate and encouraging. Psalm 34:13; Ephesians 4:29

**Flower** — God has clothed the flowers, and He cares for you much more than these. We should practice to take one day at a time and not be worried about anything. Matthew 6:28-31

**Toothpick** — We should always pick out the good qualities in everyone, including ourselves, so that we can encourage good works that will glorify God. Philippians 4:8; Hebrews 10:24

**Bit O' Honey** — How someone responds to what we say is all in how we present ourselves to them. If we use bitter words, we will have less affect than if we use sweet words. We should always remember that we teach people how to treat us. "*You attract more bees with honey than with vinegar.*" Proverbs 15:1; 25:11

**Gold Thread** — There is one truth woven like a golden thread throughout the Bible, and that is the "*ransom for all to be testified in due time.*" We should always use this to harmonize every doctrine we believe. 1 Timothy 2:3-6; Acts 3:19-21

**Band Aid** — We are to "*bind up the broken hearts*" of all who need comfort with the words of truth. We should be sensitive to the needs of others. Job 4:4; Isaiah 61:1

**Crayon** — Think creatively of what you might do to serve the Lord. Take initiative, and then pray to the Lord that He might bless your efforts to glorify Him. 1 Samuel 12:24; 1 Corinthians 10:31

**Penny** — Some experiences in our lives don't seem to add up to much, but "*ALL things work together for good to them that love God...*" When added up in the end, they are worth millions. So, don't waste a single experience. Romans 8:28

**Candy Cane** — Sometimes the Lord uses His shepherd's crook to guide, and sometimes to chasten. But, if He didn't love us, He wouldn't use it at all. Let us be thankful that we are one of His little flock, and be joyfully obedient to His leading. Psalm 23; Hebrews 12:5-11

**Ruler** — If we measure our own progress and faults first, then we can help others better. Matthew 7:2; 1 Corinthians 9:26,27

**Two Feathers** — God's wings are the promises of the Old and New Testaments. We should study these daily that we might feel His protecting care and providence in our lives. Psalm 91:4; 2 Timothy 2:15

**Tea Bag** — At some point in our busy day, we need to stop and meditate upon the goodness of the Lord in our lives. By this we will keep the stresses of life in perspective. Psalms 1:2,3; Psalm 19:14; Romans 8:18

**Chewing Gum** — Stick with your resolves! You can accomplish anything and everything good through Christ! Philippians 4:13; 2 Peter 1:4-10