



First Edition

3 Ways to Make the Most of the New Year

By Jason Hayes

The New Year brings a great opportunity to examine life and consider necessary changes or resolutions. In looking ahead at the New Year and all that we desire for it, we sometimes look at what we lack and then try to compensate for that. For example, one year I lacked good health, so I bought a gym membership. Subsequently, every year has brought something new: running shoes, books for learning a foreign language, cookware for eating better and the list goes on.

Try Something Different This Year — If you're anything like me, you may be a month into the New Year looking around at the new additions to your life—the noise, the stuff and the activities—wondering if they're really helping. What if you tried something different this year? What if you broke the pattern of always adding to your life and instead chose to remove some things for its betterment? Recently, I came to the conclusion that I needed to do this. The more I looked at Scripture and examined my life in comparison to what it said, I realized that adding more stuff wasn't what I needed. In fact, I lacked something that couldn't be fulfilled by adding something else.

I lacked space. I needed space to hear the voice of God in my life. I needed space to be a more sensitive husband—space to be a more engaged father. I needed space to be the pastor God was calling me to be. I needed freedom from the unnecessary things that cluttered my heart and mind. So here are some ways to de-clutter your heart and mind. It is my hope that through this you will find renewal and a renewed focus.

1. Mute the noise. Let's face it. We live in a time and culture that is overloaded by information. Through technology and media, we have unprecedented access to data, entertainment and "connectivity." But it's important to be cautious to insure that we're allowing these resources to be helpful rather than hurtful. As a family, we removed cable TV and now spend much more time together playing games and talking. I also bought an alarm clock and moved my phone away from my bed. As a result, I'm more prone to spend my early mornings in prayer rather than on social media. I'm also trying to stay away from email in the evenings.

Tips for Muting the Noise:

- Lacking quality family time? Turn off the TV during dinner.
- Spending too much time on your smartphone? Delete those apps.
- Is your family too dependent on technology? Call for one evening of the week to be technology free.

2. Just say no. Are you directing your schedule or is it directing you? One Sunday, I remember being overwhelmed by the sheer volume of our commitments: morning worship gatherings with our church, a baseball practice for our oldest son, a birthday party for our friend's son, a wedding shower for another friend, an activity with our church student ministry and then a fellowship with our small group that evening. Crazy days like this had become too regular. It was time to kindly decline some invitations, block family time on our calendars and simply spend more time at home together. It's amazing what joy we now find in an afternoon or evening in our home to unwind.

Tips for Saying No:

- Write down some things that are important to you and your family.
- Then, schedule out a weekly or monthly time to do this.
- Stick to the plan.

3. Get rid of excess stuff. Most people aren't true hoarders, but it's amazing how stuff can accumulate over time. While there is nothing innately wrong with possessions, our hearts can be easily distracted by stuff. For most people, the more we have, the harder it is to keep up with it. If you have a larger house, it may demand more time to maintain. If you find it impossible at times to manage the laundry pile, play room or garage, that may mean you've got kids, a dog or you just need to organize. But it also may mean you have too much stuff. There's no exact formula for how much is too much, but if you spend more time focusing on your stuff than you do on God and people, you may need to make some changes.

Tips for Getting Rid of Excess Stuff: It's not easy to let go of things, but be mindful that you're trading it in for better things such as more time with family and friends, less stress and more energy.

Article courtesy of HomeLife Magazine.

Volume 45, Issue 1

January 1, 2019



The Spring Semester Life Group classes, TeamKid after-school program, and Wednesday Night Suppers all begin Wednesday, January 16, 2019. The 7th-12th grade students' Wednesday night activities will resume on January 9, 2019, after school.



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Coffey Ministry Update

Belize Bible College
 Preparing the next generation to know
 Christ and make Him known



"Coffey News"

- We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
- We finished up the 3rd semester of the Belize Bible College on December 14th.
- Caleb played in his first piano recital. Of course, we are very proud of him!



- We were able to go home to Louisiana for Christmas and spend some time with family and friends. Caleb was really glad to see his grandparents. And I think they were glad to see him too!

Send support to

First Baptist Church
 1115 B. Street
 Floresville, TX 78114

Or online at:
www.fbcf.org

Phone:
 830-391-0036

Email:
thecoffeys5@yahoo.com

What's happening in Belize...

- The School of Music had their annual Christmas Recital in December. It was a huge success and all the students did great.
- The Belize Bible College finished up the third semester and will begin our fourth semester on January 21, 2019. Three of our students will finish up their Associates Degrees in Theology after this next semester.

Indira's Story:

Indira and her family have been coming to church for about a year. I was headed to town one day and saw Indira waiting to catch the bus. God prompted me to give her a ride to town. Typically when I pick Belizeans up for rides, they don't talk much, but this day was different. She started talking and didn't stop all the way to town. During our conversation, I was able to encourage her. A week later, she came forward during the invitation time and I asked her if she had ever prayed to receive Christ. She responded "no" and I asked if she wanted to do that now. Her response was "I'm not ready." The following Sunday, I preached a message about those that missed Christ the first Christmas. At the end, I gave an invitation and Indira jumped up. It was like she couldn't get to me fast enough. I asked her if she was ready to invite Jesus into her heart and life.

Her response was, "I already did! While you were preaching, I asked Jesus to come into my life and change me. I didn't want to miss Christ any longer." I was floored. God is so good! Would you join us in praying for Ms. Indira as God continues to work in her life.



We need your help!

- Pray about becoming a monthly supporter and being a part of our team. God continues to be faithful to us but we have lost some support over the last few months. We are down to about sixty percent funded. Please consider giving monthly so we can continue to do what the Lord has called us to do here in Belize.
- Pray for more students to enroll at the college. We currently have 8 students enrolled, but a dormitory is under construction that will house future students. Pray for more!
- Pray about becoming a sponsor for the college. For \$100 a month you can sponsor a student and help that student achieve their goal of receiving a Theology degree. These students are the future of Belize!
- Pray for direction for our family and the Belize Bible College!

For all Bible College Financial support please send money to the following address:

Flint Baptist Church
 11131 FM 2868
 Flint, TX 75762

"Designate to Belize Bible College"

 **Commission**
 TO EVERY NATION

A Message from Missionary Bob Farley



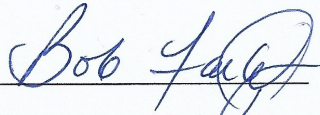
Hello friends and family of Aaron and Ashley Coffey (and Caleb too...)

This is Missionary Bob Farley in Belize. I work with The Coffey's at the Belize Bible College. I would like to ask you to give a financial gift to the Coffey's as they ministry here with us; either a one time gift or even better by committing a generous contribution each month.

Aaron is our Professor and Dean of Students here at the college and Miss Ashley is our music teacher. The only music teacher in the lower half of Belize. Both are doing a great job of teaching, helping develop Church leadership, leading music at our church and helping preach. They both work on Wednesday nights leading our children in Bible drills and scripture memory.

The college is new in Belize and will be the only accredited four year bible college in a several hundred mile radius. There is no bible college or seminary in Belize. The Coffey's are the only full time professor/teachers we have. Without them the college would close and students would not learn the Bible.

Their financial support has been in decline over the past few months and is now at only about 60% of what they have need of. As missionaries we can only cut so many corners before we are forced to move back to the states. Please support this family with your finances, prayers and encouragement like our college depends on it. It does!


 Missionary Pastor, Bob Farley



Derek Ross Family Scholarship Opportunity

The Derek Ross family lives in Manilla, Philippines, where they are missionaries. Three of their children attend Faith Academy, a private school. Please read the following note from Amanda, and consider whether God is leading you to assist with the Ross children's educational expenses.

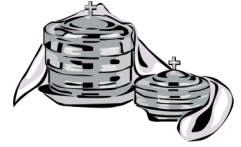
Dear FBC Floresville,

Thank you for praying for our kids on mission in the Philippines. To help support their education, go to the tuition web link at the bottom of this card. Type our family name, account number, and the amount you want to give. Any amount will help.

God bless you, Amanda

Faith Academy, Philippines
 Scholarship Opportunity to Support Missionary Kids Education
 Family Name: ROSS, James Derek and Amanda
 Student Name and Grades: Cannon (12th), Ada (10th), Eli (6th)
 Account Number: 457540

For support, visit: <https://faith.edu.ph/store/product/tuition-and-fees>



LORD'S SUPPER SERVICE
 Sunday,
 January 13, 2019
 10:30 am

There is NO 8am worship service on this day.



YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING
 Sunday,
 January 13, 2019
 Noon



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
 Saturday,
 January 26, 2019
 8-10 am

“This holiday creates the perfect time and space for us to give people the only thing that will wake them up from their spiritual slumber, to give them the only gift that will bring them true joy and satisfaction.”

For God
so
loved the world,
He gave his only
begotten Son,
that whosoever
believeth in Him
should not perish,
but have
everlasting life.
John 3:16

Evangelism and the Christmas Blues

By Pastor Matt Chandler

I love Christmas, even more now than when I was a kid. Christmas is, without question, my favorite time of the year. But as much as I love the holiday and what it ultimately means, there is a vast gap between the Christmas the commercials promise and the Christmas we experience.

Despite all the music, decorations and parties, this is actually a difficult season for many. People often get the “Christmas blues,” finding the holidays to be a time when they’re particularly vulnerable to depression. And then there’s the “Christmas hangover.” It’s not the one caused by too much eggnog; it’s the one that hits after the presents are opened, the stockings are empty, the meal is over and we find ourselves thinking, “Is that it?”

The Christmas blues and the Christmas hangover come together when unbridled expectations meet reality—when we build up an expectation for something that it can’t possibly meet. We have plenty of help building these expectations from social media, TV commercials and department stores. They paint the picture that our loneliness will be turned into joy and that the gift we want so badly will ultimately satisfy.

A joy that fades — But these expectations can’t possibly be met. Sometimes the holidays don’t bring families together. Or, they bring families together just to let a grenade go off among them. Sometimes you get everything you want and still that nagging, empty feeling is there. Sometimes the season is terribly lonely because you have lost a loved one.

If we feel this as Christians then you can only imagine what it’s like for someone who has yet to find the real substance of Christmas altogether. Beneath the fixed smiles and the compulsory “cheer,” these can be dark, difficult times for those who have yet to meet the Savior, the One to which all the silver, gold and gift-giving points.

A unique opportunity for the Church — This sad cycle of Christmas actually creates a unique situation for Christians if we’re willing to recognize it and do something about it. Given the reality of the Christmas blues and the fact that people seem more open during this season to spiritual, meaningful things, Christmas affords the opportunity for evangelism. This holiday creates the perfect time and space for us to give people the only thing that will wake them up from their spiritual slumber, to give them the only gift that will bring them true joy and satisfaction.

Knowing the opportunity we have as the people of God, here are a few things to consider as you seek to make the most of Christmas this year and faithfully share the love of God:

Begin praying now for those in your life who are far from God and don’t know the Lord. Plead with the Lord to save them this Christmas season, for the Holy Spirit to open their eyes to the glory and beauty of Jesus Christ. Ask our good Father to give you the chance to share the gospel and give you wisdom and boldness as you do so.

Make specific plans to see a few of these individuals in the weeks and days leading up to Christmas. Maybe you could invite a friend over for dinner. Maybe you could attend a particular Christmas party. Maybe you could reach out to a cousin and make sure they’ll be at the family get-together. Begin thinking about when and where you’ll be able to share the gospel with them.

Practice sharing the gospel aloud and writing it out. Meditate on passages like John 3:16-17, Romans 3:23-25 and 1 Corinthians 15:3-4. Think about how you would approach things differently depending on the person. Consider ways to bring it up in conversation. Be prepared to give testimony to the goodness and faithfulness of our God in the life, death and resurrection of Christ!

Everyone is looking for what you already have — This Christmas, we have the chance to not only overcome the chaos and confusion of the holidays and find the substance underneath the shadows. We also have the chance to show the world around us what that true substance is. Everyone will be looking for it. They do every year. And they will be depressed and disappointed yet again if they’re only left with a shadow or facade. They’ll find themselves wrought with the Christmas blues and a Christmas hangover another year.

As we move into the weeks ahead, let us be bold and courageous as we share the good news of the gospel, the greatest gift in the world, with our coworkers, friends, family and anyone who will listen. Let us be excited and expectant about introducing others to their God and King, who sees them, hears them, cares for them and will give them a joy and peace that is actually real and will actually last.

Matt Chandler is the pastor of The Village Church in the Dallas area. [An Even Better Christmas](https://relevantmagazine.com/god/matt-chandler-on-rediscovering-evangelism-during-christmas/) is a new book from Matt Chandler that’s designed to be given away to non-believing friends and family or at Christmas services and other evangelistic events.

<https://relevantmagazine.com/god/matt-chandler-on-rediscovering-evangelism-during-christmas/>

JANUARY 2019

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|-----|--|
| | | 1  Office Closed | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 *Greg Parker | 7 FV Nursing Home 3:30 Line Exercise begins | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13  No 8am Worship Youth Committee Noon *Damon Shine | 14 | 15 FBC Vols @ Food Pantry 10am | 16 WNS Sloppy Joes  Life Groups begin | 17 FBC Vols @ Food Pantry 10am | 18 | 19 Preschool/Kids Volunteer Training 9-3:30 |
| 20 *Carter Thomas | 21  MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. Day | 22 | 23 WNS Chalupas | 24 | 25 | 26 8am  |
| 27 *Ron P. Tipton | 28 | 29 | 30 WNS Chicken Spaghetti Kids' Movie Night | 31 | | |

Schedule of Events

Sunday

- 8:00—Worship Service (except Lord's Supper & 5th Sundays)
- 9:15—Bible Study
- 10:30—Worship Service
- 3:00—Veterans Home (except 2nd Sunday)
- 4:00—Student Choir

Wednesday

- 3:30—TeamKids
- 4:30—FLC open
- 4:45—TeamKids Praise
- 5:30—Wed. Night Meal
- 5:30—Kids Movie Night LAST Wed of month
- 6:30—Life Groups / Prayer Meeting / Youth Bible Study / Bible Drill / Bible Buddies
- 7:30—Choir Rehearsal

Weekly Activities

- Creative Hands—Quilting Mondays at 10:00 am
- Bible Study Fellowship Tuesdays at 6:30 pm
- Ladies Bible Study Wednesdays at 10 am
- Sr. Adult Game Day Thursdays from 1-4 pm
- Line Exercise Classes Mon, Tue, & Thu from 9:30-10:30 am

* Deacon of the Week

January Birthdays

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Marie Schroller | 8 Jim Holt | 20 Lenora Dickens | 28 Glynda Merritt |
| 1 Don Voyles | 8 Harry Pehl | 20 Kelly Parker | 28 Kathy Mills |
| 1 Donald Wehmann | 8 Stan Swahn | 20 Linda Pipes | 28 Maryclair VanDeaver |
| 1 Dayna Deaton | 9 Tara Loeffler | 21 Jim Browning | 29 Sarah Collins |
| 2 Thomas Detamore | 11 Paul Moss | 21 Cindy Mahula | 29 Daniel McKeen |
| 2 Debra Yeager | 12 Russell Coston | 22 Gunter Clements | 29 Kathy Sawers |
| 3 Luke Keith | 13 Bryan Downs | 22 Elisabeth Kotzur | 30 Pat Gill |
| 4 Kami Kunath | 13 Travis Miller | 22 Madeline Street | |
| 5 Tami Kensing | 14 Neysa Choate | 23 Paula Gorzell | |
| 5 Don McGee | 14 Audrey Keylich | 23 Jeanette Kunath | |
| 5 Janice Ring | 15 Grace Pierce | 23 Cadance Perez | |
| 5 Charles Sawers | 16 Andy Eubanks | 24 Rebecca Braune | |
| 5 Harold Snowball | 17 Otto Hierholzer | 25 Melissa Bland | |
| 6 Joni Huber | 17 Jonathan Pehl | 25 Earlene Mullany | |
| 6 Patsy Roberts | 18 Shelly Boyd | 26 Tiffany Gonzalez | |
| 7 Wanda Bodiford | 18 Jo Carolyn Hierholzer | 26 Asa Welfel | |
| 7 Hilda Esensee | 18 Stephanie Pierce | 27 Mason Taggs | |
| 8 Dorothy Holley | 19 Mary Jordan | 28 Marshall Livingston | |



Faith Comes By Hearing®

The Start of a New Year is a Great Time to Begin Listening to the Bible!

Visit the Faith Comes By Hearing web page at faithcomesbyhearing.com or download the BIBLE.IS app to your smart phone at the Apple App Store or Google Play to get started.



1115 B Street
Floresville, TX 78114

Phone: 830-216-4946
Fax: 830-393-3613
E-mail: office@fbcf.org

Mike Clements, D.Min, Pastor
830-391-2016

Terry Smith, Worship Pastor
830-391-3362

Matt Keller, Student Pastor
409-656-3089

Darlene McKeen, Children's Director
Penny Smith, Office Manager
Christie Davis, Office Assistant
Rosa Beltran, Church Custodian



Because He First Loved Us.

WWW.FBCF.ORG

New Members

By Baptism

Nick Nissen
132 Grand View
Floresville, TX 78114
361-876-1815

Jan Nissen
132 Grand View
Floresville, TX 78114
830-251-1765



MOTHER'S DAY OUT

Mom's Day Out (MDO) program begins Wednesday, January 9, 2019. MDO will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9am—2pm, and will follow the Fisd school calendar.

Age: 2-5 years old
Cost: \$150/month plus
\$50 Registration/Supply Fee

To begin the registration process, go to www.fbcf.org/children and complete the questionnaire. See Darlene McKeen for more information.

NURSERY WORKER NEEDED
There is currently a need for a part-time nursery worker. Potential applicants should contact the office or Darlene McKeen at 210-639-5781.



KIDMIN VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Have you considered volunteering in the children's ministry? If so, join us for a FBC KidMin Volunteer Workshop on Saturday, January 19, 2019. Jimmy & Diane Hall from FBC Garland are coming to share with us the 5 P's of Teaching Children and share lots of fun ideas for enhancing Bible study lessons.

Preschool/Nursery Staff & Volunteers
9am—Noon

K-6th Grade Volunteers—1pm—3:30pm

Lunch at NOON for all attendees. RSVP at www.fbcf.org/children.



Floresville Food Pantry
Suggested Donations for
the month of January
Cereal

Choosing Joy

Women's Conference



February 22-23, 2019

Highland Lakes Camp
& Conference Center

For more information,
visit www.hlccc.org or
call 888-222-3482

BUILDING HISTORY

Original Loan Amount:
\$ 525,000.00
December Loan Payment:
\$ 5,000.00
Current Loan Balance:
\$ 221,449.19

*"Take from among you
an offering to the Lord.
Whoever is of a willing heart,
let him bring it as an
offering to the Lord."
~Exodus 35:5a (NKJV)*

online GIVING
easy. fast. effective.



Online giving is an easy, convenient, and secure alternative to writing a check. Go to the church's web page, www.fbcf.org, or scan the QR code with your smart phone.

| BUDGET-AT-A-GLANCE | Actual Giving Receipts | Required to Meet Budget |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| November 2018 | \$ 48,123.05 | \$ 54,829.00 |
| YTD thru November | \$ 579,798.69 | \$ 603,119.00 |