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Please send me more details on finding a personal relationship with God

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Happy New Year!

...a familiar greeting, said with sincerity. We do hope that the new year that lies ahead will be happy for one another, and for ourselves.

Of course, harsh reality is all too often so different...

and yet it needn't be.

New Year offers a new beginning in more ways than one...

New Resolution

We begin a new year full of good intentions. Yet the resolutions so earnestly made can prove so difficult to keep. We need strength beyond mere willpower if we're ever to know real peace of mind. Yet, in the midst of life's struggles, the Lord Jesus Christ reaches out to us in love...

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

Of course, we may think that to enter into a personal relationship with Christ Jesus would spoil our quality of life... yet, in reality, the opposite is true.

He says...

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10

Many of us think we know best how to order our lives, whilst again we can be so misguided...

There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.

Proverbs 14:12

So what's the answer?



New Hope

If we're really honest with ourselves, much of the trouble in our lives is self-inflicted...

...sexual immorality, impurity... hatred... jealousy, fits of rage... envy; drunkenness...

Galatians 5:19

...leading to unthinkable consequences...

...people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment.

Hebrews 9:27

Yet the Christmas we've just celebrated reminds us that God has a rescue plan...

...Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners...

1 Timothy 1:15

New Freedom

He offers us freedom from the worst of our human nature...

...if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

John 8:36

But to know the peace OF God we must first find peace WITH God...



New Start

As we think of another year stretching out before us Christ Jesus is not merely the 'signpost' but also the only route to the most wonderful destination...

I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6

Having lived a perfect life, He died on the wooden Cross of Calvary, God in the form of man, taking the punishment we deserve.

Only He was 'good enough to pay the price of sin', and if we're to enter into a right relationship with Him we're called to turn away from all we know to be wrong...

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and

live for righteousness...

1 Peter 2:24

And in seeking forgiveness, asking the risen Christ Jesus into our lives and trusting Him with our future, we're given a completely new beginning...

...if anyone is in Christ, that person is a new creation, the old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17

...with the motivation and power to live a lifestyle pleasing to Him.

New Identity

In taking this step we're also given a form of new identity...

...to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God...

1 John 1:12

New Power

Of course, as with our New Year resolutions we may feel we could never keep it up... and that's right, we couldn't! But God's Spirit, living in our lives, provides strength beyond ourselves... true victory in this life... and in the next...

Who is it that overcomes the world?

Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 John 5:5

...there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:1

Yet, although there isn't a 'catch' in all this, there is a cost which the Lord Jesus asks of all who would be His true followers...

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

Luke 9:23

New Destiny

New Year is often a time for reflection and planning... and there can surely be no greater issue needing consideration than our everlasting security...

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

To ignore or reject Him would leave us facing a personal tragedy beyond compare...

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

John 3:18

New Life

So what better time than New Year to 'get right' with God... the way to a really Happy New Year!

...now is the time of God's favour, now is the day of salvation.

2 Corinthians 6:2

...it is time to seek the LORD...

