

JANUARY PARENT GUIDE

What is special about the month we are now in? **January** is the first month of a new year! Sometimes at the beginning of a new year people will make a **New Year's Resolution**. A resolution is a goal. Something you want to do or be by the end of the year. So what are some ideas for a resolution you could make? Did you know a resolution can be something you choose to give up, too? For example, you can resolve or make a goal to give up eating candy because it is not good for your teeth. Or you could give up playing video games after dinner because sometimes you end up staying up too late. Open your Bibles to Luke 18:18-27 and read.

"A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good—except God alone. You know the commandments: 'You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.'" (Remember the 10 commandments?) "All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said. When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." Those who heard this asked, "Who then can be saved?" Jesus replied, "What is impossible with man is possible with God." You see, Jesus does not give us a list of things to do in order to get into heaven. There is not a to-do list to check off. But you might wonder then why did Jesus ask this man to do something to receive eternal life? Jesus knew that this wealthy man was being held back by his many possessions. His great wealth was the one thing that was keeping his heart hard. Jesus knew this man's heart would not want to follow Jesus until his possessions had been given away. To be a **true follower of Christ** and receive eternal life we must give our **whole heart** to Him. This rich young ruler was willing to give most of his heart and life to Jesus, but not all of it. His wealth was the 'one thing' keeping him from following Jesus with his whole heart. **So, as we begin 2021** how can you make time every day to put God first?

Memory Verse:

Jesus replied,
"Things that are
impossible with
people are possible
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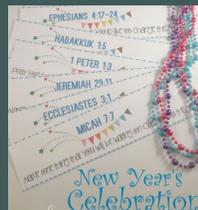
Luke 18:27

New Year's Craft & Games:

Paper Plate Noisemaker:

Supplies: paper plate, paint or markers, ribbon, stapler, hole punch and dried beans.

Directions: paint or color paper plate. Punch holes around edge and add curling ribbon. Fold in half. Staple closed leaving a small opening for dried legumes. Make some noise and welcome the New Year!



Ring in the New Year with this fun

balloon game! Challenge kids to open their Bibles, read scripture and answer the question.

Download printable and directions here:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1mBUwZKqp_xl1xSEufdHAp1hApRY3Cwc/view?usp=sharing

