

Faithful Disciples

The background of the slide is a photograph of a person's legs and feet walking on a sandy, textured ground. The person is wearing dark shorts and white socks. The feet are positioned in the upper center of the frame, with one foot slightly ahead of the other. The ground is a mix of light and dark brown sand, with some darker patches visible. The overall lighting is warm and slightly dim, creating a contemplative atmosphere.

By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. - 1 John 2

New Years Eve

Faithful Disciples

Encouraged to

Phil. 4:4-7 “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

1. Celebrate

a) Rejoice in the Lord

- not in circumstances
- in the Lord – has done, hope for tomorrow

b) Trust

- don't grip too tightly – reasonableness
- perspective – the Lord is at hand
 - justice
 - forgiveness
 - behavior

c) with Thanksgiving

- identify & recount the work of God
- take care to express thanksgiving
- important to begin here

2. Communicate

a) In Everything

- even stuff you think you can handle
- develop a pattern, sharing your thoughts
- allow God to speak into

b) Prayer

- take it to God
- alone, corporate, important

Faithful Disciples

Encouraged to

c) supplication

- narrow term, help outside self
- believing God will respond, and you need him

3. Results Will be Noticed

a) Loss of Anxiousness

- cultural epidemic – loss of peace and hope
- evident if you live with an absence

b) Embrace of Peace

- shalom – inner at rest, wholeness, complete
- John 14 – not temporal or circumstantial
- something God offers , work of Holy Spirit

c) Guard Hearts and Minds

- against lies that destroy (John 8:44)
- against straying
- against disappointment

So What

1. Celebrate

- God has been faithful in this year
 - drawing people to himself
 - equipping and empowering to serve
 - supplying our needs
- God will build His church (Matt. 16:18)
 - redeems our mess, his to build
- Praise Him and Offer Thanksgiving

2. Communicate

- In everything – kids area, building needs, etc
- People of Prayer
 - Gospel to a Hurting Community – 2 Thess. 2
 - Send Workers in the Harvest – Matt. 9:38
 - Wisdom – James 1:5
 - Provision – Phil. 4:19
 - Healing – James 5:16
- Supplication
 - Your Kingdom come, Your will be done

3. Embrace Trust

- Presence of God bringing Peace
 - away from anxiety toward trust
 - away from unreasonable towards God's able
 - away from temporal towards eternal
- Renew Perspective
 - guarded from the enemies attacks
- Growth to Maturity
 - Eph. 4:13-14 – not blown about