

JANUARY 1

RESOLVED

Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; and in Your book were all written the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them.

—PSALM 139:16

God has a plan for your life that does not change even though your life may take turns that you've never expected. Take that to heart today. The new year is a time when people review the past and embrace a fresh start. For you, that may carry with it some pain over losses, but also hopefulness for what's to come. But be confident in the fact that no matter what the days ahead may bring—God's loving, perfect purposes for your life remain. They do not change. Nothing is a surprise to Him.

The same God who breathed life into you and formed you in your mother's womb loves you enough to plan for your future and be actively involved in all that concerns you. He has promised that if you'll seek Him, you'll find Him, and you will discover His awesome will for your life. And the course Jesus has orchestrated for you is never for your harm, but for your edification, establishment, and encouragement. So begin this new year by resolving to be focused on Him and trust Him for the path ahead.



Jesus, thank You that this year is in
Your plan and is guided by Your hand.
I resolve to trust in You. Amen.

JANUARY 2

ALL THE DETAILS

O Lord, You are my God; I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name; for You have worked wonders, plans formed long ago, with perfect faithfulness.

—ISAIAH 25:1

When thinking about God's will, it is easy to accept that He has grand plans for the church, nations, and even the world as a whole. But perhaps it is not so easy for you to believe He has plans for you *individually*. That would mean that the sovereign Lord of the universe cares about you specifically—about the intimate details of your life, despite your flaws, failures, and mistakes.

Even if we believe that in our minds, sometimes embracing it when things go wrong is not so easy. We wonder at the fact that if God really cares for us, then how could He let the difficult things happen?

But Jesus says, "The very hairs of your head are all numbered" (Matthew 10:30). If He would pay attention to how many strands of hair you have, do you think He would be less vigilant about the path of your life? He truly cares about all your details, so entrust them to His hands and count on His faithfulness.



Jesus, I believe You care about my future.
Teach me to love You more and entrust each
moment to Your loving hands. Amen.

JANUARY 3

A PURPOSE TO ARISE

Indeed, He loves His people; all Your holy ones are in Your hand. They followed in Your steps; they accept and receive direction from You.

—DEUTERONOMY 33:3 AMP

What is the reason you get out of bed each morning? Is it because you have a great goal to pursue, a responsibility to fulfill, or some pressure that drives you forth?

Many people face despair as they awake each day because they don't have a vital sense of purpose, direction, and meaning in their lives. Work, relationships, and other earthly objectives cannot always keep us motivated. Without a basic, unflinching anchor of hope, it is easy to lose heart when life doesn't go as planned.

But you were created with a purpose—one that can help you arise each day with hopefulness and can motivate you to endure. What is that reason for your existence? God formed you to love you and to be loved by you. His mercies are new every morning. Because of His presence with you, you have everything you need to be victorious.

So go forth today with that knowledge. Get out of bed with the assurance you are loved, valued, and have all you need to rise up to all you were created to do and enjoy.



Jesus, You are my reason to rise up each morning and have hope. Thank You for loving me and leading me to abundant life. Amen.

JANUARY 4

REACHABLE

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.

—PROVERBS 3:5-6

God's will can seem grand and unreachable, can't it? After decades of hearing believers talk about their struggles, I've realized two reasons people get so frustrated with the Christian life: They either don't understand the nature of the will of God, or they don't know how to find it. And if you don't comprehend those two things, you may feel insecure and directionless in your walk with Jesus.

However, take heart today that God is committed to your success—the Lord is dedicated to helping you experience Him, the purposes you were created for, and the full expression of your potential. That means His will for you is not unreachable. In fact, He is constantly communicating it to you. If you set your heart to love and seek Him, He will take you there.

So today, don't take the frustrating path of trying to guess God's mind. Rather, seek Him, trust Him to disclose His plans, obey Him, and He will direct your course.



Lord, I want Your will and set my heart to obey You. Reveal Your will and Your ways to me so I may walk in Your perfect path. Amen.