

2026 NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

“A man’s heart plans his way but God directs his steps”.

Many of us already know what we want to achieve this year, and some may already have a plan or at least thought deeply about it. But as we all know, the preparations of the heart belong to a man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord.

Therefore, we need to put all of our needs before God, trusting that he knows what we need and most importantly when we need it. This is not to say that we should just sit back and do nothing. But while we are waiting on God, how we wait is equally important. Go about your life, do the things that make you happy. Many times, our dreams are not realized because they are hinged on what seems to make other people happy or what seemed to have worked for others. Look deep within yourself to find your purpose, to determine what truly makes you happy.

For years, you may have been just rushing through each day without stopping to smell the roses. When we live this way, we are destined to miss out on the little blessings in our lives, we are destined to miss out on the most cherished moments that make each day unique, you may have been so focused on yourself that you forget about how you can make a difference in the lives of others. We all have purpose, we all have a plan predestined by God, but we must allow God to work his purpose out.

This year, you may have made a commitment to lose weight, to change your career path, to start a new business, or to purchase a home, but I am convinced that the most important commitment we can make as we go forward, is, “change within”.

For too long, we fail at commitments because we embark on something new without having the right attitude, we failed because we were more focused on pleasing others, we failed because we were not disciplined enough, we failed because we suffered from self-doubt and incriminations.

So, for 2026, I want to encourage you reach out, to reach up, to be kind to yourself and others, forge a forgiving mindset, set realistic goals, be mindful of the joys in the seconds, minutes, and hours of each day, learn to accept the things in your life that you cannot change, and learn to change

the things you can. No one knows what tomorrow brings, so enjoy today, don't put off doing the things that will bring you the most peace.

And talking about peace, in order for you to enjoy your life, you must be at peace with yourself and others, and this may sound harsh, but for 2026, don't be afraid to set boundaries; anything that robs you of your peace has got to go, anyone who is a constant aggravation, distance yourself, anything that distract you from the love of God, remove from your life, any thing that you have been holding on to that has become burdensome, let it go; don't live your life in other people's mirrors, be more appreciate of those who make your life easier, and above all, pursue only the things that make for peace and build up your common life.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, to everything and everyone, there is a time and a season, no one knows when the plan and purpose of God will ripen in our lives, be alert, stay in tune with God, practice humility, learn to lift others up, be a source of encouragement and support to others, share the little that you have, being confident that a blessing shared is a blessing multiplied, and above all always remain true to yourself, love yourself, be your own critic, and be confident in your own abilities instead of seeking validation from others.

Life is too short to stumble through it, walk purposely, live in the moment, love intently, change what you can, smile a lot, worry less and pray more, always being mindful, that our stories all unfold at different times, God is in control, his purpose will ripen fast, and when we least expect it, trust in God and do what is good, so that he will order your steps. God is good, and his faithfulness is everlasting, and he never changes, so expect his abundant blessings in your life for 2026 and beyond.

On behalf of myself and my family, Davika, Wanda, Ginger, Abby, Frisky, and Kryer, Happy New Year!