

Tidbits for the New Year 2020

Make more mistakes...

I hope that in this year you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're Doing Something.

So that's my wish for you, and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make New Mistakes. Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody's ever made before. Don't freeze, don't stop, don't worry that it isn't good enough, or it isn't perfect, whatever it is: or love, or work or life.

Whatever it is you're scared of doing. Do it. Make your mistakes, this year 2020, and forever.

Neil Gaiman

May your New Year be a time of peace, joy and serenity!

May each day bring you closer to Christ!

May each week see you advancing in the practice of faith, hope and charity!

May each month give to you the aid, comfort and strength you need from God!

May the end of the New Year find you happier healthier and holier!

A Year of Time...

...Though even thinking on the subject of time may prove discomforting, it is not a bad idea—especially at the beginning of a new year. As we look into 2020 we look at a block of time. We see 12 months, 52 weeks, 365 days, 8,760 hours, 525,600 minutes, 31,536,000 seconds. And all is a gift from God. We have done nothing to deserve it, earn it, or purchase it. Like the air we breathe, time comes to us as a part of life.

The gift of time is not ours alone. It is given equally to each person. Rich and poor, educated and ignorant, strong and weak—every man, woman and child has the same twenty-four hours every day.

Another important thing about time is that you cannot stop it. There is no way to slow it down, turn it off, or adjust it. Time marches on. And you cannot bring back time. Once it is gone, it is gone. Yesterday is lost forever. If yesterday is lost, tomorrow is uncertain. We may look ahead at a full year's block of time, but we really have no guarantee that we will experience any of it.

Obviously, time is one of our most precious possessions. We can waste it. We can worry over it. We can spend it on ourselves. Or, as good stewards, we can invest it in the kingdom of God.

The new year is full of time. As the seconds tick away, will you be tossing time out the window, or will make every minute count?

Editor Jane Zoltek, ssj-tosf

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THINK ABOUTS...

How about trying this: Resolve to make no resolutions for the year. Simply live the best version of the life you've already created. My friend Kathy said she'd like to see people reflect on what not to change, to keep and build on what is good, on the differences they already make.

Why not do more of what enhances your life and the lives of others? Not in the span of a whole year but in the slice of a moment. We don't live a year at a time, we live moment by precious moment. Added up, they count as the measure of our entire lives. The dash between the starting and finishing dates on our tombstone is formed by moments, not by year stacked upon year stacked upon year.

As this year fades into a grand finale at midnight, I don't have it in me to urge anyone to seize the day. A day is too long to hold onto. But a moment? That we can grab. I love this quote by Marie Beynon Ray: *"Begin doing what you want to do now. We are not living in eternity. We have only this moment, sparkling like a star in our hand, and melting like a snowflake. Let us use it before it is too late."* Another way of putting it is: *"Enjoy life now! It has an expiration date."*

Here's to living moments. May they sparkle like stars and brighten all the lives around you in 2020.

Recipe for a Happy New Year

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from:

*old memories of bitterness *rancor and hate *cleanse them completely from every clinging spite *pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness *in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time.

Cut them into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Don't attempt to make up the whole batch at one time, each day put equal parts of: *faith *patience *courage *work *hope *fidelity *liberality *kindness *rest *prayer *meditation, and *one well-selected resolution.

Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor. **And have a HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

New Year's Goals

*Make New Year's goals. Dig within and discover what you would like to have happen in your life this year. This helps you do your part. It is an affirmation that you're interested in fully living life in 2020.

*Goals give us direction. They put a powerful force into play on a universal, conscious and subconscious level. Goals give our life direction.

*What would you like to have happen in your life this year? What would you like to do, to accomplish? What good would you like to attract into your life? What particular areas of growth would you like to have happen to you? What blocks, or character defect, would you like to have removed.

*What would you like to attain? Little things and big things? Where would you like to go? What would you like to have happen in friendship?

*What problems would you like to see solved? What decisions would you like to make?

*The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written. You can write that story by setting goals!

*Thanks to all who read
SAGE-ING AGE-ING
each month!*

*This issue begins our 11th
year of publication.*