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As you enter the new year, do you ever feel like your life may be haunted by memories of the past? Does it ever feel like something unresolved is wandering the hallways of your heart and mind that just won't go away? Is there something that you know is out of place in your Christian life? Maybe it's a secret, known only to you; and perhaps that's best. It needs to go away, and you know it, but it won't; and perhaps it has been there for years. Let me give you some examples of what I'm talking about.

Have you ever had the same dream over and over? Have you ever had the same images appear in your dreams? What do you think it means, and why do you think it won't go away?

Do you ever replay in your head particular events or experiences wishing you could go back and

redo or undo what happened, or what you said or did? It's as if our past has been raised, is alive, and ever present.

Do you sometimes feel like guilt, regret, or disappointment are always lurking close by, tracking and following you? No matter what you do or how long it's been you just can't get past the feeling. Is there someone from your past that keeps intruding upon your thoughts. It may be good thoughts, but most likely they are sinful thoughts that you wish would just go away. But they won't go away. Even when you're not consciously thinking about them, they just show up, uninvited and unwanted.

What fantasies or memories would you like to erase or delete? You want to forget them, you have tried to forget them, but they're always there. They won't let themselves be deleted. What memories are

still haunting you? I think we all have those kinds of thoughts, feelings, fantasies, memories, and experiences from time to time. They keep showing up, asking to be acknowledged, and wanting to be dealt with. No matter how many times we let go of *them*, they won't let go of *us*.

I wonder if that's what's going on as Herod hears about Jesus. The Scripture tells us that he said, ***"It is John, whom I beheaded: he is risen from the dead."*** That's how Mark puts it, so although that is what he actually said, what he was thinking was perhaps more like this: ***"Oh, that's just great! He's back. I thought I was done with that pesky locust eater. Why won't he just leave me alone? I can't believe he is still alive"***

Our Lord's deeds of power: calming the stormy sea, casting out demons, healing the sick, and raising Jairus'

daughter, have confronted Herod with his own abuse of power in the beheading of John the Baptist. He killed the truth teller, but the truth John told just won't die. It won't leave Herod alone. Herod is a haunted man. He's also a confused and conflicted man.

The confusion and conflict are not between Herod and John; they're within Herod himself. Something unresolved has come to visit Herod. On the one hand, Herod knew John was a just and holy man, and he even sought to protect him for a while. On the other hand, "**Herod feared John**" and the truth he preached. On the one hand, Herod "**heard [John] gladly.**" On the other hand, he was greatly troubled by what he heard.

I know what that kind of conflict and confusion is like. We all have haunting memories. We all have unresolved parts of ourselves that come back to visit us. We have all lived shameful lives on occasion. And just like Herod, we are often haunted by what we think we have put to death; by what we think we have beheaded.

I'm talking about beheading in the sense that we deny, ignore, reject, and turn away from parts of ourselves and our lives. I'm talking about the ways in which we cut off parts of ourselves and aspects of our lives instead of dealing with them. There are times we simply reject what we know to be true. These are the parts of ourselves that we keep private and hidden, not only from others but mostly from ourselves. It might be something we've done or said. It might be a relationship or past experience. It might be

a personality trait, behavior, or attitude. It might be thoughts, feelings, or fantasies. Sometimes they are things we thought were dead, until they suddenly rise up to condemn us.

We often call those cut off parts of our lives our shadow side. It's the dark side of who we are. Our shadowy side isn't necessarily bad, it's a part of who we are, but it still must be mastered. But here's the thing. We can never get away from our shadow. It haunts us. It won't let us go. "**It is John, whom I beheaded: he is risen from the dead.**" **Mark 6:16**

It's like trying to run away from your shadow on a sunny day? It simply cannot be done. Those shadowed parts of our lives continue to visit us, and when they do, we usually fight even harder to push them aside. We think the things that haunt us are our enemy, but actually they might help us. What if the things that haunt us

are not out to get us but out to empower us? What if it serves a purpose? What if our memories are telling us that something needs to be dealt with? What if each haunting is asking us to stop, pay attention, and deal with what is really going on? What if each episode presents an opportunity for healing, forgiveness, more wholeness, and being made new? What if these memories are a work of the Holy Spirit? What if Jesus is some how hidden in each and every one of them? After all, when the disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea, they thought He was a ghost and they were terrified (**Mark 6:49**). I wonder what it would be like for you and me to hold what haunts us as a beckoning hand to a brighter future.

If you continue to hide, you'll always have a sense of not being transparent and honest with yourself. As a Christian, you will remain in conflict with yourself. Your job is to gently unwrap those





memories and tell yourself the story. It's hard to break the silence, even if you are the only one listening.

You're probably suppressing your story because of hurt, shame, or fear. Speaking the truth makes it real. You may have to face and admit some things about yourself you would rather not admit. You may have to deal with some difficult and painful stuff. You might uncover some new uncomfortable truths.

But, you are not alone. We all have secrets. But, the way you perceive your deepest secrets has direct impact on every part of your life. If your deepest secrets are dark and foreboding, and cause you shame to the point that you would never want to share them with anybody, you can be sure that allowing that hidden truth to continue to reside within you can have real and profound implications. The negative self-image such memories

from the past can produce, can exert a tremendous weight on you. It erodes your self-esteem and drains your valuable resources as you work overtime to conceal your innermost shames. It affects your attitudes, choices, and your ability to make good decisions. Then, there is always a fear of the truth getting out. How haunted are you by your fear of exposure, afraid that people would not respect you if they knew what you were really thinking about? How much wasted energy do you expend in hiding your darkest secrets?

At the end of the day, your self-perception usually defines your narrative. What kind of confidence are you going to have, and what kind of life are you going to live, if you think your deepest part is ugly? You may fight it, you may regret it, and try to correct it, but your negative self-image will continuously tug at you and drag you down.

Your past is a part of who you are, but don't allow those old memories or new resurrected fantasies haunt the life you now have in Christ. The things you think about in your heart can determine much about the kind of person you are. So, what ghosts have taken refuge in your heart? What memories need to finally be laid to rest as we enter this new year?

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:” Proverbs 23:7

“For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.” I John 3:20



Dr. Worthington has been in the ministry for over forty five years and serves as President of Pathway Ministries and Christian Bible College.



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New Year, Same Commitment

Where did the time go? This year has gone by at a speed seemingly too hard to keep up with. Thanks to the help of our wonderful **Faith Partners**, our needs and goals have been met in order for us to carry on the work the Lord has called us to do. With the new Jacksonville frequencies added to our outreach in 2021, we are now reaching out even farther to carry the Gospel of Christ.

Even if for some reason you're not in reach of one of the **GoMix Christian Radio** signals, you can still tune in via our website at www.gomixradio.org or listen on your smart-phone or other smart-device through Alexa and MyTuner Radio. Over the past year, we have been committed to bringing you our absolute best when it comes to programming on **GoMix Christian Radio**, and Lord willing, that commitment will continue for 2022.

We realize for many of our listeners that this past year has been tough. We are aware many have lost jobs, had health problems, and even lost loved ones. We hear from listeners on a weekly basis that tell us of how **GoMix** has been an encouragement

through tough times for them. As always, we are glad the Lord has used us to help.

So, as we begin a new year, our goals may be renewed and some even reevaluated, but our commitment remains the same... to uplift the name of Christ as we encourage others in the faith.



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Ministry Spotlight - Brian Rogers

It's hard to believe that we have now entered into a new year! For the next few weeks, we are going to have to get use to writing those new numbers on checks and other documentation. Another thought that comes to mind is this simple question, "*Could this be the year that Jesus Christ returns for His people?*" This question comes to my mind each year as we turn the calendar. Of course, no one knows when Jesus is returning, but the Bible does tell us that we would know when His coming is near.

Last month we celebrated the birth of Jesus when He entered this world 2,000 years ago in the most humblest of ways. His coming was foretold through the prophets of the Old Testament hundreds of years before Jesus would be born.

Going back to my original thought, "*Could this be the year Jesus returns?*" My heart is so passionate to proclaim this message that Jesus is returning once again. Jesus made a promise in John 14 that He is preparing a place for us and He is coming back. With all the chaos and confusion that is presently in this world, people are searching for answers. The only answer we have is in the person of Jesus Christ! He is the only One who can fix this world's problems.

The Bible tells us that the coming of Jesus is near by the frequency and the intensity of end time events that

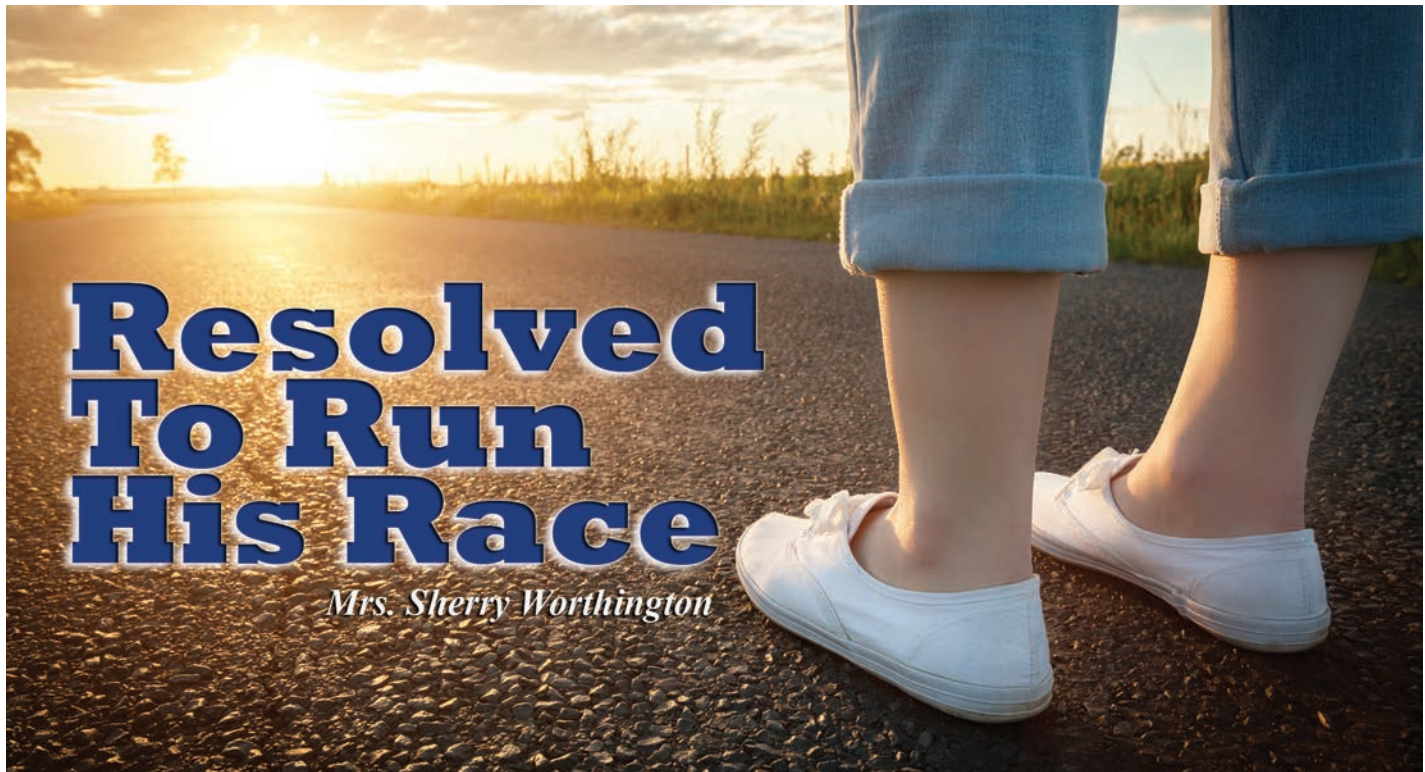
are described in the Bible. We have seen in the past years Bible prophecy coming to pass right before our very eyes. Each day the news headlines shout to the world that Jesus is coming soon!

It was back in 2020 that the Lord laid upon my heart to begin a new YouTube Channel that would examine the scriptures from the Old and New Testaments about the soon return of Jesus Christ. I have called this YouTube Channel, "Prophecy Update With Brian Rogers." I simply read the scriptures and correlate them to what is happening on the world stage. There is definitely no shortage of content.

In addition, on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm, I have recently began streaming live on YouTube and Facebook with a midweek Bible study on End Time Events and what the Bible says would happen in the future. I am blown away with the response we have been receiving from this Bible study. We have people tuning in from all over the United States and even around the world. It is an interactive Bible study where the viewers are able to answer questions and their answers and comments are displayed on the live stream.

I believe in these last days we need to proclaim the Gospel message that Jesus saves, heals, delivers, and He is coming back again! This is not a time to cower

(Continued on page 12...)



Resolved To Run His Race

Mrs. Sherry Worthington

Are you like me? Do you start out the year with great intentions? You are determined to get control of those things that control you. I always start the new year with some very basic resolutions. I am definitely going to eat healthier and take better care of myself. I am going to spend more time with my husband, family, and friends. I am going to be careful with what comes out of my mouth, keep a cleaner house...and the list continues.

I have gotten better in some areas of my life as I have yielded them to the Holy Spirit. I have improved on the way I say things and how often I say them. Of course, there is always room for improvement. I do tend to be quieter in a conversation, but I still tend to give my opinion when no one asked for it. I know there are times we need to speak up, but there are so many more times it is not important what we think. We just need to be quiet and listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth for a reason.

As far as the rest of the things I have mentioned, the answers seem to escape me. Our Lord has given us a ministry to help children. It is a fruitful ministry, and we have had many students come back and say we have made a difference in their lives. I have also had the heartbreak of seeing some of our students head down the path of destruction. We gave them the Scripture and the way to Jesus, but they have to make their own choices. The ministry consumes most of my time.

We have a great team at the ministry, but as in every other ministry or business there are not enough laborers, but the job has to be done. This includes the educational areas, like studying and preparing lesson plans, as well as the paperwork that has to be done in a school. It is an endless list. You all know what I am talking about.

My husband and I work in the ministry together. Even though we work together, we seldom have the

time we would like to have with each other. As we are advancing in years, that has become more important than ever to me. We discuss problems, we fix toilets, we rejoice together over victories, and we eat dinner together most days. Sometimes I feel like I give him my leftovers. There is no time for a good movie or a walk in the park. We are just too exhausted by the end of the day. We do keep our Saturday morning lunch date just for us with few exceptions. We both would like to have more quality time together. I don't know how to fix this.

As a mother and grandmother, spending time with my children and grandchildren is important to me. It is something I cherish. I do have the privilege of seeing most of my grandchildren at school every day, but I am also their teacher and principal. Sometimes that role is not always pleasant for them or me. But many times, it is a joy for us both. There is no time for baking

cookies or going for a walk. I hope they know they can come to us if they need us. I guess time will tell.

When you have as many children and grandchildren as we do, you must accept that you won't have the time with each of them that you would like. So you accept in your heart, that maybe you can be there when you are needed. We have always worked hard to treat the children and grandchildren equally, but there are times when one may need us more than the others. Our prayer is that we will know when those times are and reach out to them. This is not favoritism or greater love, it is how the Lord deals with us, except He is perfect, of course. He knows our needs before we do.

As I have shared my heart with you today, I am telling you I don't know what the answer is to my resolutions. I can watch what I say as well as how much I put in my mouth. I do not take the time to exercise because other things take precedent. I do park further away at the store, and I walk up the stairs, but I do not have and probably won't have a regular exercise routine. I will never keep my house as Mom did. I will have to be satisfied with livable. The dishes are done, the laundry is clean, and the house is not cluttered, except on part of the kitchen table.

As far as more time for my family and friends, perhaps that day will come. I hope so. I must focus on the fact that I know I am doing what God has called me to do. I also believe that God has called

others to come and assist with our ministry as well as other ministries, but they have made excuses and refuse to yield to His will. I do not believe God desires for us to be as busy as we are, but I believe He is pleased that we are running the race and doing what is necessary to carry on His work.

“Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin



which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith: who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

Hebrews 12:1-2

Any resolutions that we have made that are about overcoming sin, like gluttony or not controlling what comes out of our mouths, need to be dealt with. Those things need not be in our lives. The other

resolutions that we desire and that seem to be out of our grasp are hard to make come true.

As a Christian, we must wake each morning and tell the Lord this day is His. Ask Him for guidance and to show us the priorities for the day. If we follow His leading and spend each moment of each day how He leads, we can go to sleep at night at peace knowing we ran the race that day as He would have us to run it.

The Lord gave us many things on this earth to enjoy and our families are a special gift that He gave us. I believe He wants us to spend time with our families and put them in the proper place in our lives. Our spouses and children are important. We should raise our children in the admonition of the Lord. We must also be careful to put everything in the proper place under God's umbrella.

Jesus endured the cross and counted it joy so we could be with Him one day. Should

we not be able to live a life that is devoted to Him and count it all joy? Let us run the race that is set before us so we can smile at the end of the day and say "Good night, Lord. I love you." Then He smiles back at us and says, "I know."

How is that for a New Year's resolution?



Mrs. Worthington has five children and twelve grandchildren. She serves as Principal of Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro.



The More You Do It, The More You Do It

As 2022 is now underway, I thought I would try to get and maybe give some motivation for the new year. I wanted to give you something really profound and life changing, but here is what the Lord gave me, “*The more you do it, the more you do it.*” Sound profound? Nope. Sound life changing? Not really, but could be...

My prayer is for me to get closer, go deeper, climb higher, and be more like Jesus at the end of the year than I was at the beginning. I always want to glorify God in everything I do, but I further desire I will truly grow and learn more from Him as I walk through my daily life. I want to be a new person at the beginning of every New Year. And, reflecting on the past year, I think I can say that I am different today than I was at the start of 2021.

Okay, back to the highly motivating statement the Lord gave me for this year, “*The more you do it, the more you do it*” is already making a difference in my life. I recently heard a woman talking about her treatment of her husband. She was saying the more she treated him with kindness, the easier it was for her to treat him kindly. That seems so simple, right? She was not saying this in a “Christian” way, but merely something she had observed in herself.

Hearing what she said, it really resonated with me and how to apply it to my daily life. I began to think about myself and how I react to people, situations, and even

my time with the Lord. I have found that the more I do *anything*, the more I do it; and I have found that it applies to negative things as well as positive things I do in my life.

Just the other day, Christmas Day in fact, the day that should be one of the happiest, fun-filled, family times of the year, negativity struck. I was trying to get out a 9x13 pan from a cabinet that was built to only hold about 3-4 pans. As I was tugging, pulling out, and pushing in, all the pans came flying out of the cabinet and made a huge crashing sound!

I did not say any curse words, but I was so mad at the poor little sales girl that designed our cabinets that way, to the person who built them, all the way to present day! I knew way back then that that cabinet should have been bigger, not in that place, etc. And here it was still affecting my day almost 20 years later!

I am happy to report that I did recover from that battle rather quickly considering the degree to which I was aggravated. But I am sorry to say, I did not pass the test at that moment. After I got all my pans back in the cabinet and got on my way to baking, I said to Glenn, “*The devil is always there to steal our joy, huh?*”

This is where the statement, “*The more you do it, the more you do it,*” comes in to play. Even though I might have temporarily not shot down that fiery dart,

I did shoot it down! I recognized my enemy and sent him packing with praise on my lips to my Heavenly Father that I even have cabinets to put pans in! You know the old saying, “*practice makes perfect?*” Well, I believe that is the case here. The more I practice resisting the devil, the more I resist the devil. I can’t resist him occasionally and then give in to his lies at other times. The more I don’t resist him, the more I won’t resist him. It works both ways.

What is it? For me, it’s identifying the devil and resisting him right when he attacks. For others it might be reading their Bible or having a specific prayer time each day. As you can see it can be different, depending on what you may be going through at the time. But I know the more I do it, the more I not only do it, but the more I *want* to do it.

First, you have to get motivated to do it. That is the easy part I believe. It doesn’t take much to get me to start or try something new. I really get excited to do something new. Just a few words can do it. Or if I watch a good commercial on it or hear a good sermon on it, then I’m motivated right then.

After you get the motivation to do it, you have to make it a habit, and this is the hard part. One trait of a victorious believer is getting in the habit of resisting the devil, submitting to God, and believing the truth of what He says rather than believing the lies of the enemy. And, I have to do it every time. Not just sometimes.

The hardest thing for me when I am under attack is to stay focused on God. I believe it was Joyce Meyer that said, “*Focus on the good habit you want to do, not the bad habit you don’t want to do.*”

“Do not be overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good.”

Romans 12:21

Making my knee-jerk response be to resist the devil will become a habit the more I do it. When I have thoughts that come in like an unwelcome visitor, I have to raise up His standard of forgiveness, kindness, and love. When light comes into a situation, darkness has to leave. Motivation is what gets you started, but habit is what keeps you going.

I asked the Lord, “*What is the secret to permanently breaking my bad habits of thinking negatively, getting angry, and not treating my body as the temple of God?*” His response to me was, “*Love something greater than your habit.*” Choosing Love (Him) is a great habit to get into. Love covers all and is the fastest way to fight an attack.

I have to let love become my habit. I need to choose love every time the devil comes at me with accusations against my brother or sister in the Lord, or even myself. It is easy to jump on the devil’s bandwagon of doubt, negativity, and lies about what is going on around us, but getting in the habit of choosing love will help us to see the Truth and to be able to let go of our feelings, our hurts, and our disappointments.



Mrs. Kim Mills has four children and five grandchildren and serves with Glenn Mills Ministries in Temple, Georgia.

A promotional graphic for the Daily Testify app. It features a smartphone displaying the app's interface, which includes a white dove logo, the text "Download Free App", and "Daily Testify". The background is blue with white text that says "Download Free App" and "Support Encourage Prayer Inspiration". There is also a smaller dove logo at the bottom right of the graphic.

(...Continued from page 7.)

in fear, but rather a time to let the whole world know that everything is going to change in a moment when Jesus splits the eastern sky to return for His own. That is what the YouTube Channel and the Bible study are all about.

I would like to encourage you to search for my channel on YouTube, "Prophecy Update With Brian Rogers," and please subscribe to my channel. I also encourage you to follow Brian Rogers Ministries on Facebook where the midweek Bible Study is live-streamed. You can also learn more by visiting my website at www.brministries.org.

Another way to learn more is to tune in each weekday morning on **GoMix Christian Radio** and join me at 7:15am for my 5 minute radio broadcast "Time Out." Brian Rogers Ministries has been on the airwaves since November 1998. I love our weekday morning radio listening audience. They have been a tremendous blessing to the ministry over the past 23 years.

It would also be a great pleasure of mine to have the opportunity to meet you and your family. I would like

to invite you to be our guest at the Kinston First Pentecostal Holiness Church where I have been serving as the Lead Pastor for the past 10 years. At Kinston First, you will experience heartfelt worship that offers a traditional and contemporary blend, teaching from the Bible that's informative and relevant, and a welcoming atmosphere where each person is valued and appreciated. Please know that you are welcome, and I would love to meet you. To learn more about the Kinston First Pentecostal Holiness Church you can visit the church's website www.kinstonfirstph.com.

In closing, I get more and more excited as we draw nearer to the coming of the Lord! I have heard people say that they wished they lived during Bible times. My response very simply is, "*We are living in Bible times!*" By no means do I know when Jesus is coming, but I do believe His coming is very near. I am not only looking for His coming, but I am also listening for the sound of the trumpet. May we all be encouraged and stay faithful because time is drawing short. Any day now Jesus is going to split the eastern sky! Surely Lord, come quickly!

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And Finally...



New Year Hopefulness...

I am looking forward this New Year to living, achieving, and experiencing every day as if it is a blank page and to fill each day of next year with a perfect moment or memory.

A. C.

Like many, I look forward to 2021 coming to an end, putting a year of difficulty and challenge behind us, and starting the next year looking forward. As a lifelong farmer, I am always optimistic and always hopeful. In order to place a seed in the ground, to depend on factors completely out of your control for the crop to succeed, farmers have no choice but to be optimistic. This year was challenging, yet we handled each challenge. I have no doubt 2022 will be the same.

D. D.

My plan for the New Year is to set mini-goals every month and take them one by one. I am not going to set lofty goals for myself, which might be difficult for me to achieve. Sometimes it's good to take the easy approach and set goals that you can accomplish if you follow a structured routine.

J. C.

I have a full-time job where I'm on a computer most of the day, and then I go home and run an online business. So it's safe to say I'm spending a LOT of my time online. One of my goals for 2022 is definitely to spend less time online. Quite often I don't have a choice. But in the moments where I'm not working and have the opportunity to spend time with loved ones, I want to

make a genuine effort to focus on those around me and get outside more rather than have my phone in front of my face all the time.

E. G.

Over the past year, I've really tried to focus more on the little things I'm grateful for. I can confidently say it has made me happier than almost anything else. That said, the one thing I wasn't able to really nail down last year was writing those things down on paper! This year, my goal is to keep a daily gratitude journal and write down at least three things every day that I am thankful for. That way, I can go back and remember the little things (and big things) I was grateful for, even on the bad days.

T. E.

“Embarrassing Moments”

We'd like your help for an upcoming edition of “And Finally...”

Write to us in 150 words or less and tell us a funny story or embarrassing moment!

The deadline for submission is
January 31, 2022.

You can send an email to:
share@gomixradio.org

Attn: PathPointe Magazine
Or write to: Pathway Ministries
PO Box 1895

Goldsboro, NC 27533

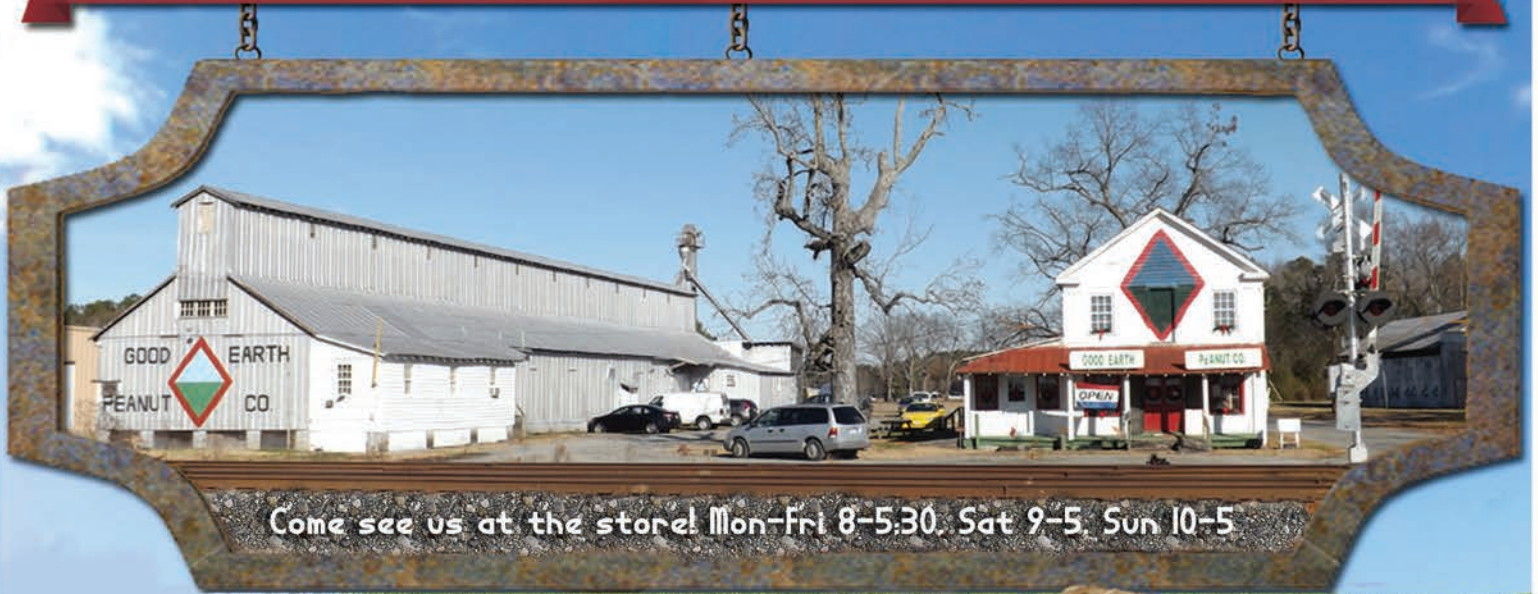


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