

# HOW TO KEEP A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION



**Message:** Pleasing God in all we do

**Scripture:** Proverbs 16:3

**Prop:** A New Year's noisemaker or hat

I have a secret to tell you today. But first, I have something to say: *(Blow noisemaker or put on hat.)* HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Did you stay up late on New Year's Eve? Did you make it until midnight without falling asleep?

Well, here we are in 2010. We're in a whole new year, and the old year is "gone, baby, gone!" And when there's a whole new year, a lot of people have what they call "New Year's resolutions". They're things they promise to do in the coming year. They'll say things like, "This year I'm going to go on a diet." Or, "This year I'm going to quit smoking." Or they'll say, "This year I'm going to go to church every week."

But most people don't keep their New Year's resolutions very long. Pretty soon they're off their diet. Pretty soon they start smoking again. And pretty soon they find other things more important than coming to church to worship the Lord.

You see, most people don't know the secret to keeping a New Year's resolution. Would you like to know the secret? It's right here in the Bible. Proverbs 16:3 says, "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed." (NIV)

In other words, whatever we start to do, if we're doing it to please God, we have a much better chance of finishing it. That's a really good secret to know, isn't it?

Let's pray: Heavenly Father, thank you for giving us a whole new year in which to worship you. Please help us to try and please you in everything we do. We pray this in Jesus' precious name. Amen