

WELCOME

Our Mission is to . . .

- Connect you to Jesus
- Connect you to His community for discipleship
- Connect you to your mission and purpose in life

We are not here to tell you what to wear, eat, listen to, vote for, or even believe. These are things you must determine for yourself if you want to have real faith. We are here to give you truth, facts, tools and point out that every choice, every belief, and every action you make is tied to an outcome in your life. You can't do life without developing a strong foundation and becoming a person of substance. This is your journey, your discovery, and you will reap the benefit of the work you do.

FHNew - Our mission as a church is to do everything we can to help you grow your faith. If you would like to get to know us a little better or begin or continue your journey of faith, speak to an elder or staff member or **contact Foothills** at **208-853-0011** and we will send you a link to a few short videos about Foothills Church. Or for more information, stop by the **Connection booth in the Atrium**.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Fill out a **Connect card** using the QR code on the screen or the actual card on the seat back in front of you. Place your prayer request in the ORANGE offering box in the back of the Sanctuary. You can also send a prayer request using this form: [Prayer Request - Foothills Church](#). The staff and volunteers pray over these weekly.

FHBaptism - One important step in your faith journey is being baptized. To learn more about baptism, speak to an elder or staff member or **contact Foothills** at **208-853-0011** and we will send you the teaching on Believers' Baptism.

ONGOING/UPCOMING

- MomCo - [Foothills MomCo - Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](#)
- Small Groups - [Foothills Church \(churchcenter.com\)](#)
- Bible Recap: Read through the Bible in a Year ([Linda Kraft - The Bible Recap - Foothills Church](#))

INTRODUCTION: Interim Pastor Trent Renner -- New Year 2025

NEW RESOLUTIONS OR NEW ME SOLUTIONS?

How did you grow in 2024? Was the pain worth it?

- You can't grow muscle without pain
- You can't find wisdom without failure
- You can't build confidence without looking foolish and embarrassing yourself
- All growth has an inherent sacrifice to it

Changing and improving your life requires you to destroy a part of yourself and replace it with a newer, better part of yourself.

- Who has the definition of the new and better you?
- Growth, by definition, is painful
- All growth has an inherent sacrifice to it

Destroy that part of yourself that you always wanted to do away with, no matter how painful.

- If you always do what you always did, you'll always get what you always got!

I'm not ready for a new year and moving forward -- I need a do-over!

- But I don't want a 2024 do-over! PLEASE!
- Last year...I did not...
 - Lose 10 pounds
 - I forgot nearly every morning to get up and exercise
 - I did not get my Arizona garage organized and thinned
 - I don't need NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS...I NEED NEW ME solutions!

1 Peter 1:3, 6,7 *All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation. ⁶“So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while. ⁷ These trials will show that your faith is genuine.*

Lamentations 3:22-23 *The faithful love of the Lord never ends! His mercies never cease. Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning.*

Psalms 30:5 *For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime! Weeping may last through the night, but joy comes with the morning.*

So, if I do not need New Year's Resolutions, but instead New Me Solutions...WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

- It means **Dying to Self**

But what does that actually mean?

- When you are forgotten, or neglected, or purposely set aside, and you don't sting and hurt with the insult or oversight, but your heart is joyful, being counted worthy to suffer for Christ . . . That is dying to self.
- When your good is evil spoken of, when your wishes are crossed, your advice disregarded, your opinions ridiculed, and you refuse to let anger rise in your heart, or even defend yourself, but take it all in patient, loving silence . . . That is dying to self.
- When you lovingly and patiently endure any disorder, irregularity, impunctuality, or annoyance; when you confront waste, folly, extravagance, and spiritual insensitivity, and endure it as Jesus did . . . That is dying to self.
- When you are content with any food, any offering, any climate, any society, any interruption . . . That is dying to self.
- When you never care to refer to yourself in conversation, or to record your own good deeds, or seek complements, when you truly are content with being unknown . . . That is dying to self.
- When you can see another prosper and have their needs met and can honestly rejoice with them and feel no envy, nor question God, while your own needs are far greater and in desperate circumstances . . . That is dying to self.
- When you can receive correction from one of less stature than yourself and can humbly submit inwardly and outwardly, finding no rebellion or resentment rising within your heart . . . That is dying to self.

Proverbs 11:1 *The Lord detests the use of dishonest scales, but He delights in accurate weights.*

Proverbs 15:1 *A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare.*

Proverbs 21:31 *The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.*

Proverbs 22:1 *Choose a good reputation over great riches; being held in high esteem is better than silver and gold.*

Proverbs 26:20-21 *Fire goes out without wood, and quarrels disappear when gossip stops. A quarrelsome person starts fights as easily as hot embers light charcoal or fire lights wood.*

Proverbs 27:2 *Let someone else praise you, not your own mouth—a stranger, not your own lips.*

Proverbs 139:23-24 *Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.*

New Year's resolutions are GOOD. The best solution to having a great year...according to the Word of God... is dying to self.

- Marital
- Physical
- Psychological
- Financial
- Parental
- Social
- Spiritual

POEM

*I have decided to do something,
my plan may be grand, or just barely stand,
I may help the planet or just one person on it,
but with God's help,
I've decided to do something.*

*I have decided to do something,
I may run with the breeze, or crawl on my knees,
I may be a success or learn from my mess,
but with God's help,
I've decided to do something.*