

Ways to Simplify your life in 2018

This year, make it your goal to scale back. Replace your hectic agenda and worries with simplicity. But how do you even begin?

- 1. Simplicity Is Stepping Back.** When things start to pile up and you're feeling stressed, what do you do? Getting things off your list can feel good in the end—but if you're working so hard to get it done, is that little check mark worth it?
- 2. Focus on the things that matter.** If your mind is on a dozen other things, how can you truly devote time to living His Word? We must focus on the things that matter, rather than allowing distraction to lead us astray. Are you missing out on time with family and friends, or letting work seep into your free time? Even worse, is your busy schedule distracting you from God?
- 3. Don't get caught up in the 'to-do's' on your list.** Stop. Take a moment. It's time to step back and look at what is really important. Compare your priorities with His to-do list for you. How do they match up?

But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ. (2 Corinthians 11:3)

- 4. Know when to say yes – by listening to God's voice.** We have much to learn from Mary, mother of Jesus, who fully submitted herself to God's will. Life in Mary's time wasn't easy, but she put His call before any of her own desires. When she was approached with the message that God's will was for her to become pregnant, Mary didn't question His plan. She trusted Him and simply said 'yes.' Her faith didn't mean she wouldn't suffer hardships or have to navigate complications in her life—but she knew her path was guided by God Himself. Mary's faith was returned with the privilege of birthing Jesus into this world.

He has a plan for you, too. Are you listening?

It's not all about saying 'no'—you also need to know when to say 'yes.' Approach God in prayer and ask Him to lead you. God will show you what He needs from you. Before you fill your calendar, ask where He may need you to leave a little space open for Him.

To be continued next week



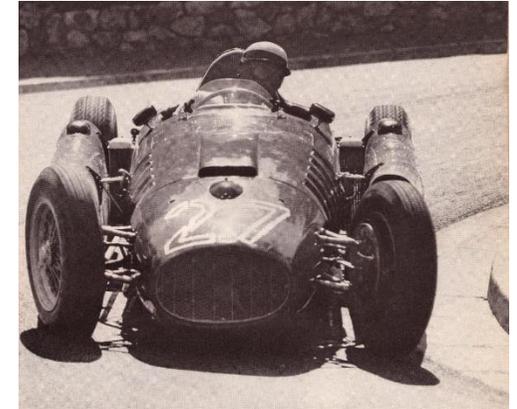
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AUCKLAND CHINESE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

105 Vincent Street, Auckland City
7th January 2018

praying for others

- **Rev Tang & Rev Vogel as they minister at ACPC** – for wisdom & God's guidance in leading our ministries. In particular we pray for travelling mercies as the family are in Malaysia.
- **ACPC congregations** – that we be intentional in 2018 about nurturing and maturing our personal relationship with Jesus.
- **For our neighbours in the city** – that we take the opportunities to show Your kindness, love, mercy, grace and hope to our neighbourhood, especially those without homes.
- **For those who are unwell** – We pray for their comfort and healing, may their health and energy be restored. In particular, we place Jenna and Uncle Harry in Your precious care for healing and increasing strength.
- **That in the coming year** – we pray that we can make You our number one priority in all we do.



Put in Pole Position to win God's Race

**Jeremiah 29: 4-15 and
Hebrews 14:20-21**
Rev Stuart Vogel

*A very warm welcome to everyone,
especially visitors,
to the service today!
Please join us for morning tea
afterwards.*

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