

Happy New Year



THE VICAR WRITES
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What aspirations do you have for 2025? I'm sure that some of us have thought about things we'd like to embark on and things we'd like to achieve. Have you given thought to how you'd like to see progress in your spiritual life? I do hope so!

I shared during our New Year's Eve Covenant Service that in 2025 we'll focus on "Cultivating Our Relationship with God", and that will be the theme for our sermon series this year. We looked outwards in the past year, emphasising mission and evangelism. To maintain a critical balance, in the coming year we'll look inwards. Even as we continue to serve God's mission, we'll give more attention to our inner life.

One of the key ways in which we can grow consistently is to spend time in God's Word every day. During my Covenant Service sermon, I encouraged everyone to embark on a plan to finish reading the whole Bible within the next 1-3 years. Ideally, we'll finish reading the whole Bible in 2025 by reading slightly more than 3 chapters a day. If we prefer to take things more slowly, by reading 1 chapter a day we'll finish reading through the Bible in about 3 years.

I've been reading through the Bible annually for the past 20 years, and this has contributed immensely to my spiritual growth. If you aren't already doing it, I believe that it will be a life-changing experience for you! We're a few days into the new year, but it won't take much effort to make up for that. I strongly encourage you to go for it! Gather a few friends and commit to reading through the Bible together. Share reflections from your readings and pray for one another. It will be a deeply enriching journey!

Let me return to the question with which I began. What aspirations do you have for 2025? I pray that in the coming year we'll intentionally cultivate our relationship with God and pursue spiritual growth. May the Lord bless our efforts and grant us much fruitfulness. Amen!

