

By
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THE PAGE

Getting GBC ladies on the same page.

January
and
February
2026

Will you have a happy New Year?

We wish happiness on others with “Happy Holidays” and “Happy New Year’s,” but how do we have that happiness in the new year? Some think happiness comes from perfect plans or a fresh start. I am all for making plans as I go into a new year. In fact, that funny little week between Christmas and New Year’s is my favorite. Spending it setting goals and surrounded by calendars and planners is heaven on Earth. I also love a fresh start. One of my favorite things in nature is a beautiful sunset. I heard recently that every sunset is a chance to reset, and I love that thought. But do these things guarantee a happy new year or happiness in life in general? According to the Bible, happiness is brought on by more than perfect plans or a fresh start. Here are some Scriptures and thoughts to consider:

1. Choose wisdom and hold onto it.

Prov. 3:13, 18

“Happy is the man that findeth wisdom...”

“...happy is every one that retaineth her.”

A happy year isn’t about going into it as a know-it-all, but deciding to seek out and follow wisdom. I usually have a stack of “to read” books. Most of these are spiritual growth or self-help books and I don’t always feel like reading a book for study instead of just reading for enjoyment. In 2025, I chose one of my “to read” books each month to read through. I was able to stick with this each month and make a major dent in my stack. More than this lovely sense of accomplishment, I was able to grab a hold of some wisdom from people further down the road than me. I have issues to work on and need wisdom. You may or may not be a reader but should still be seeking wisdom. Maybe you could listen to audio books, read one book every three months, or listen to a helpful podcast.

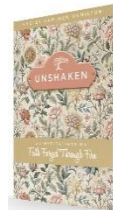
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MUSIC RECOMMENDATION:



“Overwhelmed” by Bailey’s Grove Baptist Church. Stream or purchase at FaithMusicMissions.com

BOOK RECOMENDATION:



“Unshaken” by Shelly Hamilton
Available at majestymusic.com

FURTHER BIBLE STUDY:

Read and find out what else brings happiness. Ps. 146:5, Matt. 5:3-12 (Blessed means happy), Rom. 4:7-8, James 1:25

FOR GIGGLES:



“Hurry! Our New Year’s resolutions start in ten minutes.”

Whatever your interests are, they should include learning and growing. They should include choosing wisdom and holding on to it. This is being teachable. Happiness comes with finding and holding on to wisdom because that wisdom will help us in making right choices.

2. Live with mercy and a soft heart.

Prov. 14:21; 28:14

"...he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he."

"Happy is the man that feareth always.."

Proverbs connects happiness to compassion and humility – a soft heart and a focus on how we can love others better. Having a hard heart may make you feel like you are protected, especially if you've been hurt before, but this is not the recipe for happiness. I grew up in a family where we all bought Christmas gifts for each other. They were not expensive gifts by any means, but each Christmas morning I would have a gift to give to my dad, mom, sister, and three brothers. My children are being raised to do the same. This Christmas Eve, a couple of my kids told me how excited they were about Christmas because they just knew their sibling was going to love their gift. The happiness of giving is longer lasting than the happiness of getting. This is why there is joy in serving on GBC teams. We

are getting our mind off ourselves and onto serving Jesus and the people in our church and community. Mercy on the poor or those that have less than you, plus fearing God and doing things His way is a recipe for happiness.

3. Trust the Lord and walk with vision.

Prov. 16:20; 29:18

"...whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he."

"...he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

No matter how many goals we make this year, we know the year is in God's hands. No, it won't turn out better if we worry extra. Trusting in our all-powerful God brings peace. He knows you better than anyone could, He knows what is best for you, AND He has the power to manage any situation. Our son is taking driver's training. Although he is learning to be a good driver, it will be quite a while until I feel safe enough to take a nap while he drives! Hey lady, God is at the wheel, so you can rest easy. He's got this. I do not know what your "this" is, but I know God's got it. He has been driving a long time and has never wrecked yet. Rest easy and trust the Driver. Trust Him enough to live life according to His Word, trust Him with your finances, and trust Him with your health. Trust Him with your marriage and with your young children. Trust him with your aged

parents and with your adult children. Trust Him with your job and with your schooling. "Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His Word. Just to rest upon His promise, just to know, 'Thus saith the Lord.'"

How would your life change if fear no longer guided your decisions, but you trusted Jesus instead? How happier would you be if you decided to obey God's Word this year?

True happiness does not lie in how the year goes or what life throws at us, but in how we choose to walk through it. Will you have a happy new year?

UPCOMING LADIES EVENTS:

(Contact Faith Reynolds with any questions)

Soul Sisters: Once a month Bible study 11am-12pm.

Jan 17

Feb 7

March 7

April 11

May 9

June 20

July 11

Aug 1

Sep 5

Oct 10

Nov 7

Dec 5