

January 4, 2026

Dear Bible Fellowship Center,

Let me give you three things **not to do** and three things **to do** this coming year. **Number one:** don't study astronomy without a telescope. Are you listening now? The Wise Men, remember, were enabled by God to follow the star. If you just look at the stars on a clear night, or the sky on a bright sunny day, you will have a false idea of the heavens. You will think the stars revolve around the earth, and the earth is the center of the universe because our eyes need a telescope.

Number #1 to do: Resolve to read the Bible. People talk of God, yet they know nothing about Him. They look at God through human eyes. They say, God bless you, and God bless America, but they know so little about the God they say, let alone live for Him. Why do we love to hear a politician say God bless America? Because we know much about God from His Word, and we love Him with our heart, soul, mind and strength. This Bible, God's Word, is the Christians telescope. Beginning in Genesis 3:8, they heard the voice of the Lord God. Genesis 3:10 I heard God's voice in the garden. Read what God and Jesus Christ have said through His Word. If you just read four chapters a day, you could read through the entire Bible in a year. Or three chapters on weekdays and five chapters on Sunday will also complete the Bible.

Number two: never trust in a wishing star. Many people today think they are free from sin just because they have decided they are going to lead a new life. There is an old Italian proverb that is not a funny one. It says, the road to hell is paved with good wishes. Some will say I know I'm going to heaven. I'm smart, I have Goodwill, and when I make up my mind, I'll do it. It sounds noble, but how empty. That is as empty as tumbleweed in a ghost town. **Number 2 to do:** Receive the help of the Lord Jesus Christ; the power of the living personal Redeemer. If you have never trusted in Christ Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins? Today is the day of salvation; don't put it off and trust in a wishing star. There is a reason God took on flesh, leaving His glory and becoming a Man, walking this earth, sinless, going to the cross and the grave, rising again bodily on the third day, defeating death. It is because Jesus Christ knew that the only way to the Father in Heaven was through the Son Jesus Christ, not our heritage or will or intellect, or empty works.

Number three: If you're going to climb a mountain, don't be your own guide. There are many young people today, men, women, and children who do not want advice from their father or mother, or grandparents, let alone their pastor. As the saying goes, they can paddle their own canoe. Within themselves all wisdom dwells. **Yet, has anyone really ever seen tomorrow?** **Number 3 to do:** Let me encourage all of you to take Jesus Christ with you as your guide who knows the path. God's Word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path. **Truly, we have not gone this way before. Joshua 3:4.** It is Christ who knows the destiny of the universe. He is the Alpha and the Omega, He knows the end from the beginning.

Happy New Year!

Pastor Calvin VanderMey