Date: 1/6/2018

Title: Keeping Your Resolution

Theme: We can keep our resolutions when we commit our plans to God.

Object: New Year’s Eve celebration stuff.

Text: Prov 16:3 (NIRV) Commit to the Lord everything you do. Then he will make your plans succeed.

Let me ask you a question about New Year’s Eve: Did anyone have a New Year’s Eve party?

What kind of things did you do at your New Year’s Eve party?

Would you like to see some things we used at our New Year’s Eve party? [Demonstrate noise makers, hats, etc. Tell about poppers.]

Have you ever heard of a New Year’s resolution? Who can tell me what a New Year’s resolution is?

Lots of people start the new year by making a resolution.

A resolution is a promise you make to yourself.

And you promise to do something better in the new year than you did in the old year.

For example, many people want to lose weight.

They say, “My resolution for 2018 is to lose 20 pounds before the first day of summer.”

Some make a resolution to get more exercise. They say, “My resolution is to go to the gym 3 days a week in 2018.”

Some may make a resolution to quit smoking in 2018.

Some may make a resolution to quit drinking soda or coffee or beer.

Maybe somebody will make a resolution to come to church every Sabbath in 2018. Wouldn’t that be a great resolution?

Or how about getting to know Jesus better?

Wouldn’t that be a wonderful resolution for 2018?

What if we all said that in 2018 our resolution was to become a better Christian than we were last year by spending more time with Jesus, getting to know Him better, and loving Him more?

Do you think that would be a really good resolution?

The sad thing is that people often don’t keep their New Year’s resolutions for very long.

They soon fall back into their old ways of doing things.

They give up on their diet and never lose any weight. They quit going to the gym and get flabby again. They go back to smoking and drinking and missing church on Sabbath.

The problem is that they don’t know the secret of keeping a New Year’s resolution.

There is a secret to keeping our resolutions, and it’s found right here in the Bible.

Would you like to know what it is? It’s found in the verse we read this morning.

“Commit to the Lord everything you do. Then He will make your plans succeed.” (Prov 16:3)

What this verse says is that everything we do should be done to please God.

And if our resolutions are made to please God, then the promise of this verse is that He will make your plans succeed.

We can count on God to help us when our resolutions are pleasing to Him.

Now that we know the secret, let’s make our resolution.

How many want to make the resolution to love Jesus more in 2018?

Let’s ask the Lord to help us keep that resolution!