

## RESOLUTIONS FOR 2023

1. Christ has called us to be a part of a local church – a body of believers with whom we can journey together, grow spiritually, encourage one another, and bear witness to God’s Kingdom at work in our world. This is not an obligation; it is a gift! Regular participation in the life of the local church provides strength, encouragement, instruction, and accountability that we need to become more like Jesus. The church also gives us opportunities to serve in God’s Kingdom, and to gather with God’s family for worship. All of these things are critical to our spiritual growth and maturity! Commit to being regularly involved in the life of TCNAZ this year!

2. The Bible makes it clear that prayer is important – not just our individual prayer time with God, but also coming together as the people to seek God’s face in prayer. God is with us when we pray! This year let’s all commit to gathering together for prayer. Also, please consider whether God might want you to lead or facilitate a regular prayer gathering – either at your home, at the church, or somewhere else. Prayer changes things!

3. Jesus calls all of his followers to be witnesses – to talk about what he has done and is doing in your life. The Holy Spirit helps us when we talk about Jesus! This year, resolve to be intentional about sharing our faith with others. Pray for God’s direction about when and how you should talk to someone about your faith. Ask God to identify particular people that you can pray for and begin talking to about your relationship with Jesus. Actively seek to be a friend to those whom God puts in your path!

4. The church is the place where God has called his people to “bring the tithes into the storehouse” (Malachi 3:10). God has promised to bless us when we are obedient in our giving! This year, let’s resolve to regularly bring God’s tithe into the storehouse. In the Church of the Nazarene, we believe that the “storehouse” is the local church of which you are a part.

Tithing is not a matter of “if there’s any left over.” Neither is it a matter of “if I can afford it.” Satan will always try to convince us that there’s none left over. He will always tell us that we can’t afford it. Tithing is an act of faith that says to God: “Because I know that you have provided all that I have, and you have promised to supply all that I need, I am trusting you by bringing the tithe into your storehouse as you have commanded.”

Also, giving goes beyond just bringing God’s tithe into the storehouse. We regularly have projects and emphases that provide additional opportunities to express our gratitude to God for His blessings. Whether these are mission projects, local ministries, or special needs at the church, let’s resolve to give God the freedom to prompt us to be generous in His work!

5. God has given us his Word to lead us. “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105). – God primarily speaks to us through his Word. God is faithful to show us his ways when we read his Word! This year, let’s resolve to spend time in the Word every day, reading and reflecting on what God is saying to us. Let’s join together in reading and reflecting on Scripture each day, following our weekly schedule. God will be faithful and will guide us each day as we spend time in the Word. And as we read the Word together, God will bring us together and make us more unified as a church!