ANOTHER YEAR IS DAWNING

Hymn Devotion - January 1

Scriptures – Numbers 6:24-26

Genesis 1:14

Another year is dawning,

Dear Father, let it be  
In working or in waiting,

Another year with Thee.  
Another year of progress,

Another year of praise,  
Another year of proving

Thy presence all the days.

Another year of mercies,

Of faithfulness and grace,  
Another year of gladness

In the shining of Thy face;  
Another year of leaning

Upon Thy loving breast;  
Another year of trusting,

Of quiet, happy rest.

Another year of service,

Of witness for Thy love,  
Another year of training

For holier work above.  
Another year is dawning,

Dear Father, let it be  
On earth, or else in Heaven,

Another year for Thee.

Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)

Each year as each day is a new start, a new beginning of service to God. Living, working, training and witness to and for God. Make the most of everyday - living, loving, working for the Lord.

1. A definition of “dawning” is the beginning of something.

A new year is beginning - Who is to “let it be”?

2. What are two “W’s” of life?

3. What are the three “P’s” of another year?

4. What do we feel all the days?

5. Verse 2: List the “Another year of” in the first three lines:

6. Where do we see these qualities?

7. Where is the leaning done?

8. What does another year of trusting bring?

9. Verse 3: “Another year” of service and of witness - Why?

10. Why the training?

11. The start of another year whether here or in heaven - Who should this year be in service and training for?

MAY THE MIND OF CHRIST, MY SAVIOR

Hymn Devotion - January 2

Scripture – Philippians 2:5-7

May the mind of Christ, my Savior,  
Live in me from day to day,  
By His love and power controlling  
All I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly  
In my heart from hour to hour,  
So that all may see I triumph  
Only through His power.

May the peace of God my Father  
Rule my life in everything,  
That I may be calm to comfort  
Sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me  
As the waters fill the sea;  
Him exalting, self abasing,  
This is victory.

May I run the race before me,  
Strong and brave to face the foe,  
Looking only unto Jesus  
As I onward go.

May His beauty rest upon me,  
As I seek the lost to win,  
And may they forget the channel,  
Seeing only Him.

Kate B. Wilkinson (1859-1928)

May – let it be possible to have the mind of Christ, the Word of God, His love and peace rule our hearts and minds as we run the race before us. Channeling all of this through us but not losing sight of the source – Jesus our Savior!

1. May the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

2. Of whom?

3. Live in me when?

4. What is controlling all I do and say?

5. Verse 2: May the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_.

6. Dwell where and from when to when?

7. What is the triumph through?

8. Verse 3: May the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

9. Do what in my life?

10. That I may be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Whom?

11.Verse 4: May the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus \_\_\_\_ me.

12. How is this to fill us?

13. A synonym of exult is elevate and to abase is to humiliate but in this setting humble is better synonym.

Rewrite using the above synonyms:

14. Verse 5: How are we to run the race before us?

15. Looking only to whom?

16. Verse 6: May His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ rest \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_.

17. As what is done?

18. Who is the channel to be forgotten?

Who are they only to see?

GREAT GOD, WE SING THAT MIGHTY HAND

Hymn Devotion -January 3

Scripture: Psalm 9:7-10, Psalm 139:10

Great God, we sing Your mighty hand  
By which supported still we stand;  
The opening year Your mercy shows,  
That mercy crowns it ’til its close.

By day, by night, at home, abroad,  
Still are we guarded by our God,  
By His incessant bounty fed,  
By His unerring counsel led.

With grateful hearts the past we own;  
The future, all to us unknown,  
We to Thy guardian care commit,  
And peaceful leave before Thy feet.

In scenes exalted or depressed,  
You are our joy, and You our rest;  
Your goodness all our hopes shall raise,  
Adored through all our changing days.

Philip Doddridge (1702-1751)

We see here that no matter where we are we supported by the mighty hand of God with compassion whose unending bounty and never incorrect counsel leads us through the ever changing days that lay before us.

1. What does our Great God’s mighty hand do for us?

2. A synonym for mercy is compassion and crown is to fulfill.

Rewrite the next line substituting the synonyms:

3. Verse 2: When and where are we guarded by our God?

4. By what are we fed?

5. By what are we led?

6. Verse 3: How should we regard the past?

7. What is unknown to us?

8. Guardian means defender, protector or keeper.

What are we committing to God?

9. How and where are we leaving our guardian care?

10. Verse 4: Whether we are what?

11. He is our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

12. What raises our hopes?

13. Although our days are changing how should we treat God?

LEAD, KINDLY LIGHT!

Hymn Devotion - January 4

Scripture: Revelation 7:15-17,

Psalm 119:105

Lead, kindly Light, amid th’encircling gloom, lead Thou me on!  
The night is dark, and I am far from home; lead Thou me on!  
Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see  
The distant scene; one step enough for me.

I was not ever thus, nor prayed that Thou shouldst lead me on;  
I loved to choose and see my path; but now lead Thou me on!  
I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears,  
Pride ruled my will. Remember not past years!

So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still will lead me on.  
O’er moor and fen, o’er crag and torrent, till the night is gone,  
And with the morn those angel faces smile, which I  
Have loved long since, and lost awhile!

John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

Although John Henry Newman was far from home in the physical sense we are far from our home as well - our heavenly home and although God has lead us kindly in the past often we lose sight or our leader and our eternal home and need to get back to letting the Friendly light of God’s love lead us through the night of our earthly life.

1. Another way to say Lead, Kindly Light - is Guide, Friendly Light - Who is the Kindly or Friendly Light?

2. The author was far from his native land - We can think of the world around us as?

3. As God “keeps our feet” – What is and is not our concern?

4. Verse 2: What was not prayed for in the past?

5. What was done in the past? What has changed?

6. What is being asked not to be remembered in the past years?

7. Verse 3: What has God’s Power done and will still do?

8. Where has it lead?

9. Rephrase the “O’er moor…. Statement to fit your life.

10. What “night” is gone?

11. Where will the “angels faces smile”?

12. What is the author saying in the last line?

THE LORD’S MY SHEPHERD, I’LL NOT WANT

Hymn Devotion - January 5

Scripture – Psalm 23:1-4

The Lord’s my Shepherd, I’ll not want.  
He makes me down to lie  
In pastures green; He leadeth me  
The quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again;   
And me to walk doth make  
Within the paths of righteousness,   
Even for His own Name’s sake.

Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale,   
Yet will I fear no ill;   
For Thou art with me; and Thy rod  
And staff my comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished  
In presence of my foes;   
My head Thou dost with oil anoint,   
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life  
Shall surely follow me;   
And in God’s house forevermore  
My dwelling place shall be.

Scottish Psalter, 1650

There is a rendition of this Psalm from a sheep’s point of view, green pastures and quiet waters are what the sheep desire. The rod and staff although used for correction and bringing back to the fold are a comfort. The Holy Spirit is our green pasture and our quiet waters. The Word of God is our rod and staff, we desire to be brought back it is a comfort to know He is always there and we have an eternal home with Him.

1. When the Lord is our Shepherd we will not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_?

2. What does He make us do?

3. Being lead by quiet waters, What does that do for the soul?

4. Verse 2: What does God do for our soul?

5. What word refers to the restoration being done more than once?

6. Why are we lead on paths of righteousness?

7. Verse 3: What in life do we encounter?

8. With the Lord as our shepherd there is no \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

9. Who is with us?

10. Rods were used for several things in the Bible, sometimes for punishment - A Staff was used to hook the sheep to bring them back in to the fold or pasture - How can these be a comfort to us?

11. Verse 4: What table is prepared in the presence of our foes? (The foes are outside)

12. Anointing was the custom when David wrote this Psalm; we are anointed with the Holy Spirit in a sense so what happens to us when we are anointed?

13. Verse 5: What will follow us when God is our Shepherd?

Does that mean everything will always be perfect?

14. Where will we dwell forever?