

Day by Day in 2016

- A. For what are you aiming in 2016?
- B. It's an important question because:
1. To be *aimless* is to have no goal, no purpose, no direction.
 2. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to the very opposite of aimlessness:
 - a. "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness..." (Matt 6:33)
 - b. "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise..." (Eph 5:15-16)
 - c. "Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time" (Col 4:5)
 - d. "Do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward" (Heb 10:35)
 - e. "Let those of us who are mature think this way..." (Phil 3:13-16)

As a means of sharpening our aim at the dawn of this new year, consider 1 Timothy 1:5.

- We have been _____ (Matt 28:18; Acts 2:36).
- In order to fulfill the charge, we have to _____.
- We are aiming for _____ (Matt 22:34-40).
- The love for which we are aiming _____ from a three-pronged source (Prov 4:23):
 - ◇ A heart that is _____ (James 4:1-8)
 - ◇ A conscience that is _____ (1 Pet 3:18-22)
 - ◇ A faith that is _____ (1 Tim 1:18-19a)
- Failure to carefully aim leads to _____ (1 Tim 1:6-7) and shipwreck (1 Tim 1:19b).
- As a means of answering our charge, we have a practical plan for personal and congregational growth in 2016 rooted in Acts 2:42-47. Our aim in 2016 is to follow in the footsteps of those earliest Christians—ordinary men and women whose lives were powerfully changed because of their:
 - ◇ Conviction
 - ◇ Devotion
 - ◇ Awe
 - ◇ Fellowship
 - ◇ Efforts to spread the good news