For the Sake of His Name

A. Each year we have a theme at Laurel Canyon—a point of focus which we can easily and frequently reference throughout the year to remind ourselves of what truly matters.

B. In a congregation of this size, there are a great many "moving parts." And yet, there is one great thread that binds everything we hope to be and accomplish in 2017 together:

For the sake of his name.

Consider just a sampling of how often our attention is drawn to this most glorious of ideals in God's written revelation to mankind:

⇒ *"The LORD will not forsake his people,* **for his great name's sake**, *because it has pleased the LORD to make you a people for himself."* (*1 Sam 12:22*)

⇒ *The LORD is my shepherd … He leads me in paths of righteousness* **for his name's sake**. (*Psa 23:1-3*)

⇒ *For you are my rock and my fortress; and* **for your name's sake** *you lead me and guide me.* (*Psa 31:3*)

⇒ *Help us, O God of our salvation,* **for the glory of your name**; *deliver us, and atone for our sins,* **for your name's sake!** (*Psa 79:9*)

⇒ *Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but* **to your name give glory**, *for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!* (*Psa 115:1*)

⇒ *Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus … through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith* **for the sake of his name** *among all the nations.* (*Rom 1:1-5*)

⇒ *I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven* **for his name's sake**. (*1 John 2:12*)

⇒ *"I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up* **for my name's sake**, *and you have not grown weary."* (*Rev 2:3*)

Everything we hope to be and accomplish this year is built on this glorious foundation. We exist in 2017 **for the sake of his name**. What do we need to realize from the beginning, practically speaking?

◊ _____ is not about you.

◊ The _____ of the Lord Jesus Christ does not revolve about you.

◊ This local _____ at Laurel Canyon is not first and foremost about you.

◊ And yet, God so loved _____, that he gave his only Son … for _____, and for _____.