Pastor Mike Foreman

Dare to Be Different

December 27, 2015

Stand Alone Message

# Comparing Ourselves in 2015

(2 Corinthians 10:12, 17-18, NLT) But they are only comparing themselves with each other, using themselves as the standard of measurement. How ignorant! ...As the Scriptures say, "If you want to boast, boast only about the Lord." When people commend themselves, it doesn't count for much. The important thing is for the Lord to commend them.

## ✓ Builds up my \_\_\_\_\_.

(Proverbs 16:18, HCSB) Pride comes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit before a fall.

✓ Tears down my \_\_\_\_\_.

(Jeremiah 1:6) "Alas, Sovereign Lord," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am too young."

(Proverbs 17:22) A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.

## Dare to Be Different in 2016

(Isaiah 43:19) - See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

1. I will find my identity in \_\_\_\_\_.

(Psalm 139: 14-16, NLT) Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

2. I will let God work on my \_\_\_\_\_.

(1 Samuel 16:7a) The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

(James 4:1-3) What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

3. I will seek God for \_\_\_\_\_.

(Jeremiah 29:11) For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

(Proverbs 16:3) Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

## 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting

(Psalm 37:4) Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

## My Next Steps

- 1. Know God \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Find Freedom \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Discover Purpose \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Make a Difference.

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## ✓ Builds up my pride.

(Proverbs 16:18, HCSB) Pride comes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit before a fall.

#### ✓ Tears down my <u>self-esteem</u>.

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