



New Year

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New Years are great. They are fresh and new. Remember that line from Anne of Avonlea, when Anne tells Marilla, “Isn't it nice to think that tomorrow is a new day with no mistakes in it yet?” — L.M. Montgomery

That’s what I always think about the New Year. It’s fresh with no mistakes in it. That’s something to look forward to as the New Year approaches.

New Year Theme Concept

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—Some of these titles and elements I had on various New Year pages on the website over the past 20 years, but I am putting them all together as a general New Year Theme.

The event themes on the website can be used for showers, parties, women’s ministry retreats and activities, or church functions. Each theme will have one or several possible spiritual applications. *I give you lots of info and ideas—You pick just a few to enhance your event. More ideas can be used for showers and parties, but less is always more for ministry events.*

Theme Titles

- A Midnight Feast
- A Midnight Party
- A New "Ewe" (baby shower – sheep)
- A New Chapter (book club)
- A New Creature (in Christ)
- A New You
- All in Good Time
- Better Days Ahead
- Blank Slate on a New Year
- Carry On
- Choose Joy (every day)
- Climb
- Commit
- Confetti Hearts (festive hearts)
- Countdown to Success
- Dawn of a New Year
- Day by Day
- Determined
- Each Day is a Journey
- Endure
- Enlarge My Coast (Jabez)
- Focus
- Fresh Start
- Hello New Year
- Hello. Goodbye.
- New Year Ahead!
- I Have Decided (to follow Jesus)
- In With the New
- It's a Brand-New Day
- Just Start
- Live in the Moment
- Looking Forward (not back)
- Making a Difference
- Moment by Moment
- New Beginnings
- One Step at a Time
- Out With the Old
- Peace on Earth
- Persevere
- Pressing Toward the Mark
- Reach
- Ready, Set, Plan!
- Reclaim
- Refocus
- Resolve to Reclaim
- Resolved
- Revive
- Ring in the New Year
- This is Your Year!
- Time to Focus (or refocus)
- Turn the Page (book club)
- Welcome to the Future

- New Year's Game Night
See the Game Night theme.
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/blog/game-night-party-ideas/>
- New Year's Movie Night
See the Movie Night Resources
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/blog/movie-related-resources/>
- It's About Time
See the time theme.
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/blog/time-womens-ministry-theme/>
- Step by Step
See the shoe theme.
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/blog/shoe-steps-womens-ministry-theme/>

Spiritual & General Applications

- Focus on being a "new creature" as in 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Focus on being "renewed" as in Ephesians 4:23
- Focus on a "new" direction in life such as living sweeter and kinder.
- Focus on planning for the New Year.
- Focus on celebrating the New Year with family and friends.

Theme Verse Suggestions

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.
2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)

And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;
Ephesians 4:23 (KJV)

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Jeremiah 29:11 (KJV)

Devotional Starter & Workshop Ideas

- Download the "New Year 2022 Slogans"
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/downloads/writing/2022-new-year--slogan-writing-ideas.pdf>
- Download the "Motivation" Devotional/Article Writing Ideas
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/downloads/writing/motivation-devotional-article-writing-ideas.pdf>
- Download the "Out With the Old" New Year's Handout.
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/christian-helps/out-with-the-old-new-years-handout.pdf>
- Download "Winter" Devotional/Article Writing Ideas.
<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/blog/winter-writing-prompts/>
- Find all of my devotional collections on Amazon.
<http://www.amazon.com/author/juliabettencourt>

Simple Decorating

- Balloons
- Party hats
- Party horns/blowers
- Clocks
- Winter garland
- Winter wreaths
- Winter decor
- Photo booth/background
- Confetti (contain it in glass/crystal dishes or on trays)
- Simple Décor: Tray with a clock, timer, watch, confetti, party hat, party horn/blower, photos of family members/friends from the past year, etc.

Icebreakers

Discussion Starters

- *What year were you born? Do you know what was happening or the big news of that year?*
- *What is the year you hold the dearest in your memory?*
- *What year were you married (if applicable)?*
- *What was your favorite tv show this past year?*
- *What was your favorite movie that you saw this past year?*
- *What was your favorite book you read this past year?*
- *What is the biggest thing you accomplished this past year?*
- *What is the biggest thing that you plan on accomplishing for the New Year?*

Table Discussion

Download the General Discussion Questions

<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/icebreakers/1ST-QUESTION-LIST-general-get-to-know-you.pdf>

Download the Christian Women Discussion Questions

<https://www.juliabettencourt.com/womens-ministry/icebreakers/2nd-QUESTION-LIST-Christian-get-to-know-you.pdf>

Music

- *Auld Lang Syne* (Burns)
- *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* (Ken)
- *Day by Day* (Sandell)

Favor Ideas

- Book
- Bookmark
- Calendar
- Datebook/planner
- Devotional book
- Exercise bands
- Herbal Tea

- Hershey's Kisses candy (Midnight Kisses)
- Hot cocoa mix
- Journal
- Lip balm
- Mittens/gloves
- Organization items such as paper clips, pretty push pins, pretty labels, etc.
- Pedometer
- Planner stickers
- Timers
- Water bottle/tumbler
- Winter mug
- Winter scarf

Door Prize Ideas

- Bag of Hershey's Kisses (Midnight Kisses)
- Bible
- Blanket/Throw
- Book
- Calendar
- Datebook/planner
- Winter accessories (scarf, gloves/mittens)
- Wrapping paper storage holder (always good after Christmas)
- New Year Health Basket: exercise bands, pedometer, small weights, stress balls, healthy cookbook, water bottle/thermos, granola bars, etc.
- New Year Planning Basket: Datebook/planner, planner stickers, sticky note pads, index cards, labels, ink pens, stapler, etc.
- Devotional book
- Extra-large Hershey's Kiss
- Hand cream set
- Journal
- Lip balm set
- Outdoor thermometer
- Rain gage

Just for Fun

New Year's Craft

Do a group project making clock jewelry or home décor.

Food & Serving

- New Year's Meal (ham and fixings)
- Ham sandwiches, chips, etc.
- Chili
- Soup
- Hot cocoa bar
- Coffee bar
- Snacks/refreshments
- Clockface cookies
- Hershey's kisses (labeled "Midnight Kisses")

Photo Source

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<https://pixabay.com/photos/christmas-ornament-decoration-xmas-6812543/>

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