

Dr. Baucom shared his 5th Annual State of our Union Address, *Igniting Passion for Jesus Christ*, this weekend. We are challenged to begin this New Year open to all that God might have in store for us.

1. As 2007 begins, allow yourself to picture a fresh clean calendar, with no appointments or commitments yet written on its pages. Now, spend some time in contemplation of the year before you.
 - What would you like to see included on your calendar this year?
 - Of all the things written on your calendar (or PDA) last year, what would you like to see **not** get written on your calendar this year?
2. Have you made any 'resolutions' for 2007?
 - If so, what are they? Are they realistic? Helpful? Fun?
 - Do you think you will follow through on them? Why or why not?
 - If not, what goals might you set for the coming year?
 - Anything special you are hoping for?
3. **Read and Reflect** on the following passage from 2 Corinthians, paraphrased in The Message:

Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don't drift along taking everything for granted. **Give yourselves regular check ups.** You need firsthand evidence, not hearsay, that Jesus Christ is in you. **Test it out.** If you fail the test, do something about it. ... We're rooting for the truth to win out in you. We couldn't possibly do otherwise.

II Corinthians 13:5-6

- When was the last time you gave yourself a spiritual check up?

- Paul asked the believers in Corinth to test themselves to make sure they were solid in their faith. How would you describe your spiritual maturity at this point (you need to be honest here) in your journey with Christ?
 - What disciplines/practices have you developed in your life that assist you in your journey with Christ?
 - Are there any disciplines/practices that you might like to introduce into your journey this year?
4. Paul encourages Timothy to "*take pains with these things; be absorbed in them, so that your progress may be evident to all.*" **1 Tim 4:15.**
 - Are you seeing progress or evidence in your own life that you are walking with Jesus?
 - If so, describe the progress you have seen during the last year.
 5. How do you see yourself in Columbia's kingdom dream to Ignite Passion for Jesus Christ?
 - How has God used you to ignite passion in the lives of others in the community around you?
 6. What was the most challenging/exciting thing you heard in Dr. Baucom *State of our Union* address? Why?
 7. Choose something from this week's sermon that spoke to you and commit to spend time in prayer over the next 3 months. Share your prayer with your group.
 8. How can you get from where you are today to where you would like to be? Spend some time in prayer and solitude asking God to guide you as you begin to set goals. Share one of your goals with your group, so it might be a part of your growth this year.