

January 2026 Newsletter

Westside Community Church

The Grace Resolution: It's not about trying harder, it's about leaning deeper

On January 1, many of us make New Year's resolutions. It's become a trope, however, that these resolutions are more often abandoned than fulfilled. By the end of January, roughly 36% to 43% of people have already given up. Why? Because we rely on our own willpower.

The apostle Paul talked about having "a thorn in [his] flesh" which tormented him constantly. It could have been physical, like an ailment or an illness; internal, like an addiction or compulsive struggle; mental, like anxiety or depression; or situational and relational, like a difficult person or situation. Whatever it was, he admitted that he was powerless to overcome it on his own. He didn't pretend he was fine, he didn't blame himself for struggling, and he didn't resolve to fight it alone. Instead, he gave it over to God.

God said, "My grace is sufficient for you [My lovingkindness and My mercy are more than enough—always available—regardless of the situation]; for My power is being perfected [and is completed and shows itself most effectively] in your weakness."

(2 Corinthians 12:9 AMP)

Paul didn't find victory by overcoming his thorn through effort and self-improvement. He found it when he realized that the end of his strength was where God's power began. Imagine if, rather than self-improvement, we made resolutions of self-surrender—drawing not on our own strength, but on God's grace.

Alpha

Alpha is a safe place to explore the Christian faith with others. It is a series of 12 sessions focused on questions of life, faith and meaning. Each session includes time to connect while sharing a meal together, watch a talk on video, and share any thoughts or questions you have.

Register at mywestside.ca, and join us Mondays, from 6:30-4:45pm

WOW Clothing Swap

Time to clear out the old and bring in the new! Bring in your gently used women's clothing and accessories to swap for something to freshen your style! All leftover clothes will be donated to charities that help women in need. To give the organizers time to set up the clothing exchange, please bring your swaps to the church on or before Sunday, Jan 18th 2026.

"Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."

Eph 9:12(b) NIV

JANUARY EVENTS

Young at Heart

Jan 8

10:30am-12pm

WOW Clothing Swap

Jan 21, 7-8:30pm

WEEKLY

Alpha

Mondays 6:30-8:45pm

Weekly Prayer Meeting

Mondays 7-8pm

Fridays 7:30 - 9am

Grief Share

Tuesdays 2-4pm

Mothers and Munchkins

Thursdays 10-11:30am

WCC Youth

Fridays 7-9pm