Date: 12/31/2016

Title: Time to Say Yes to Jesus

Theme: Say “Yes” to Jesus in 2017, and you’ll become more like Him this year.

Object: Old Calendar, new calendar, clock with second hand, calculator.

Text: 2 Cor 3:18 (NKJV) But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

What this verse is saying is that when we look to Jesus and say yes to Him, we will become more like Him each day.

Who knows what special night it is tonight? (New Year’s Eve!!)

That’s right. And tomorrow is the first day of the year 2017.

Today is the last day of 2016. Time marches on.

Here’s a 2016 calendar I brought from home. All of these days came and went last year.

You can see all the tings marked on this calendar to remind us of important things we had to do.

In June we went to Camp Meeting, and in July we went to Camp Winnekeag.

Those were two very important weeks we didn’t want to forget.

And we went to Canobie Lake and Water Country too.

The last day of every week was the Sabbath, and we always want to go to church and SS on Sabbath.

But all of this is behind us now, and we need a new calendar for 2017.

Here’s the new calendar for 2017. Now we can write in the important dates we want to remember in the new year.

Think about all the time we have to do things in 2017.

Each page in the calendar represents one month. And each month has about 30 days. And each day has 24 hours. And each hour has 60 minutes. And each minute has 60 second.

Do you know how long a second is? It is about as long as it takes to say “one one-thousand.”

I brought with me a clock that has a second hand. Look at the big hand called the second hand. Each tick of the hand takes one second. It takes 60 seconds for the second hand to go around once and make a minute.

Let’s calculate how many seconds there are in a year. 365 x 24 x 60 x 60 = 31,536,000 second in a year.

That’s a lot of second!!

You know it takes only about a second to say yes or no.

Let’s try it with the clock: (say “yes” or “no” with each tick of the second hand).

Now the important thing for us to do in 2017 is to say “yes” to what is good and “no” to what is bad.

We want to say Yes to Jesus and no to Satan, the devil.

We want to say yes to keeping God’s commandments, and no to sin.

We want to say yes to telling the truth, and not to telling lies.

We want to say yes to coming to church and SS, and no to staying home.

We want to say yes to being kind to others, and no to being mean.

We want to say yes to obeying our parents and teachers, and no to disobeying.

We want to say yes to sharing, and no to being selfish.

And you know what the Bible says? The more we say yes to Jesus, the more we’ll become like Him.

That’s what I want to do in 2017, how about you? Do you want to become more like Jesus this year?

Now we may not be able to say yes to Jesus 31.5 million times.

But let’s do our best every day in 2017 to say yes to Jesus as often as we can. What do you say?

Let’s ask Him to help us right now so that we can be more like Him.