



January 2020

A Monthly Publication of the Christian Law Association

THE **LEGAL**  
**ALERT**

What is your  
**2020**  
vision for Christ?





**I**t may be hard to believe, but the year 2020 is here. We may not have flying cars like so many predicted decades ago, but there is no denying that the face of America has changed radically. Unfortunately, rather than innovation and revival, sin has reached a level of cultural acceptance that hasn't been seen since the Roman days. Women openly celebrate the murder of their unborn children, and are applauded for doing so. Sexual immorality of all types is rampant and people are not just unashamed of their debauchery, but publicly flaunt it. But there are incredible reasons to be thankful for the upcoming year!

But do you know who hasn't changed? God. **Jehovah is still on the throne, the Bible is still the greatest book ever written, and the world is still full of lost people that so desperately need what God has to offer.** Make no mistake – whether it's 1960, 1980, or 2020, our mission as Christians has not changed since Jesus Christ

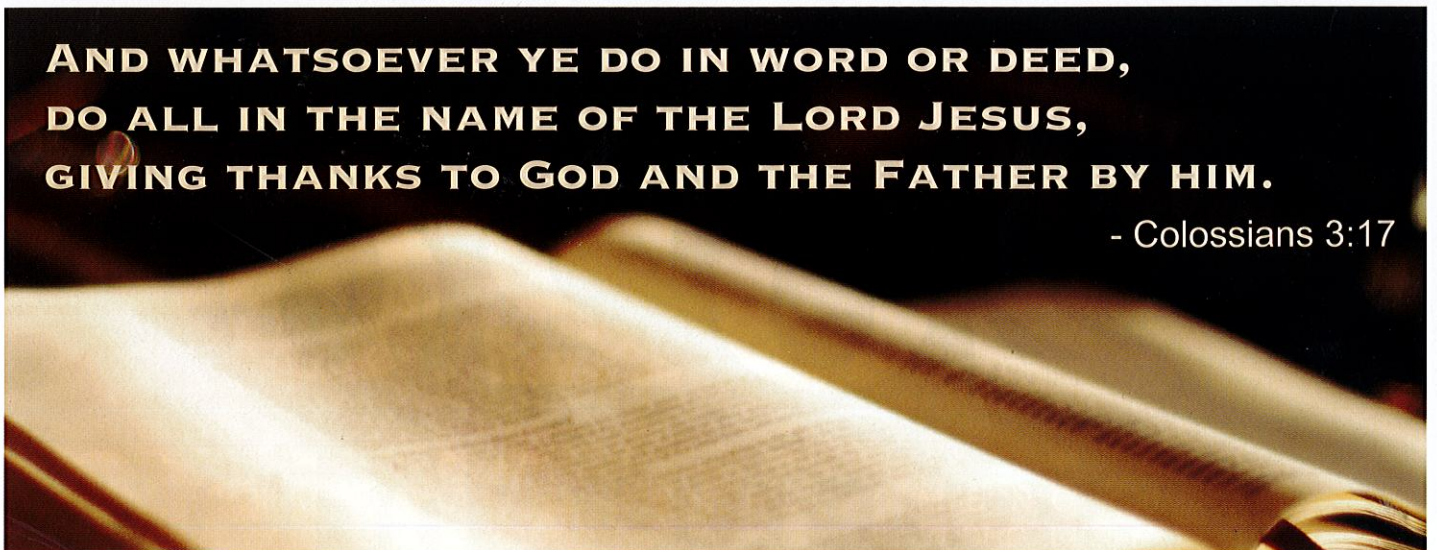
rose from the dead those many years ago: “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”

Christians, let's endeavor to make 2020 our individual best year yet. How? Here a few resolutions to get you started.

- ✓ **Resolved – to share the Gospel with more people than ever before.**
- ✓ **Resolved – to be an example of God's kindness and mercy no matter the situation or person.**
- ✓ **Resolved – to be more consistent in devotions and prayer.**
- ✓ **Resolved – to always do the right thing....the right way.**

**AND WHATSOEVER YE DO IN WORD OR DEED,  
DO ALL IN THE NAME OF THE LORD JESUS,  
GIVING THANKS TO GOD AND THE FATHER BY HIM.**

- Colossians 3:17







**W**hat a mind-blowing and dazzling realization to know that the Almighty God of the universe took the time to individually craft you as the person you are. You were created to do something different than any other person on this planet. God Himself has a vision for your life.

How many years have you spent blindly wandering through life as you saw fit? As we enter a new decade, ask yourself – can you see God’s plan for your life in 20/20 vision? Are you ready to fulfill your purpose as a child of God? Spend this new decade constantly seeking God’s perfect will for your life – let Him mold you, grow you, and use the unique talents that only you can offer your King. Take steps today to do what God has commanded by reading your Bible, praying, and seeking God’s direction.

The Christian Law Association has existed for over fifty years solely because individuals were willing to surrender to God’s long-term vision for their life as legal missionaries. We pray God will direct your steps as you serve him faithfully!



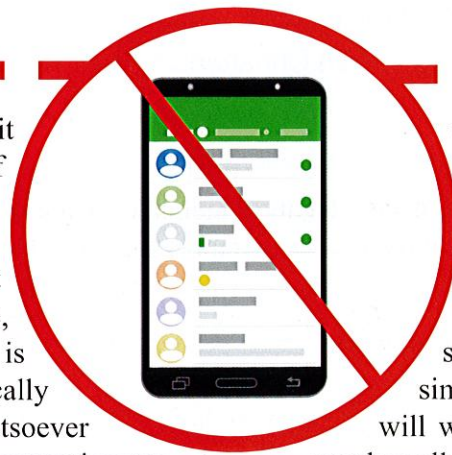
Dr. David Gibbs, Jr.

## No Texting

## Allowed?

Does your ministry have an explicit written communications policy? If not, you should.

In addition to addressing basic but important matters such as personal use, use of phones while driving, etc., it is vital for your ministry to also specifically forbid all use of private messaging whatsoever between staff and minors. These precautionary



measures are imperative to your ministry and should be clearly stated.

Contact our offices to speak with our attorneys regarding your policies, or consider reaching out to your local schools. Patterning your policy after similar ones in place from local government will work in your favor should your ministry ever be called into court.





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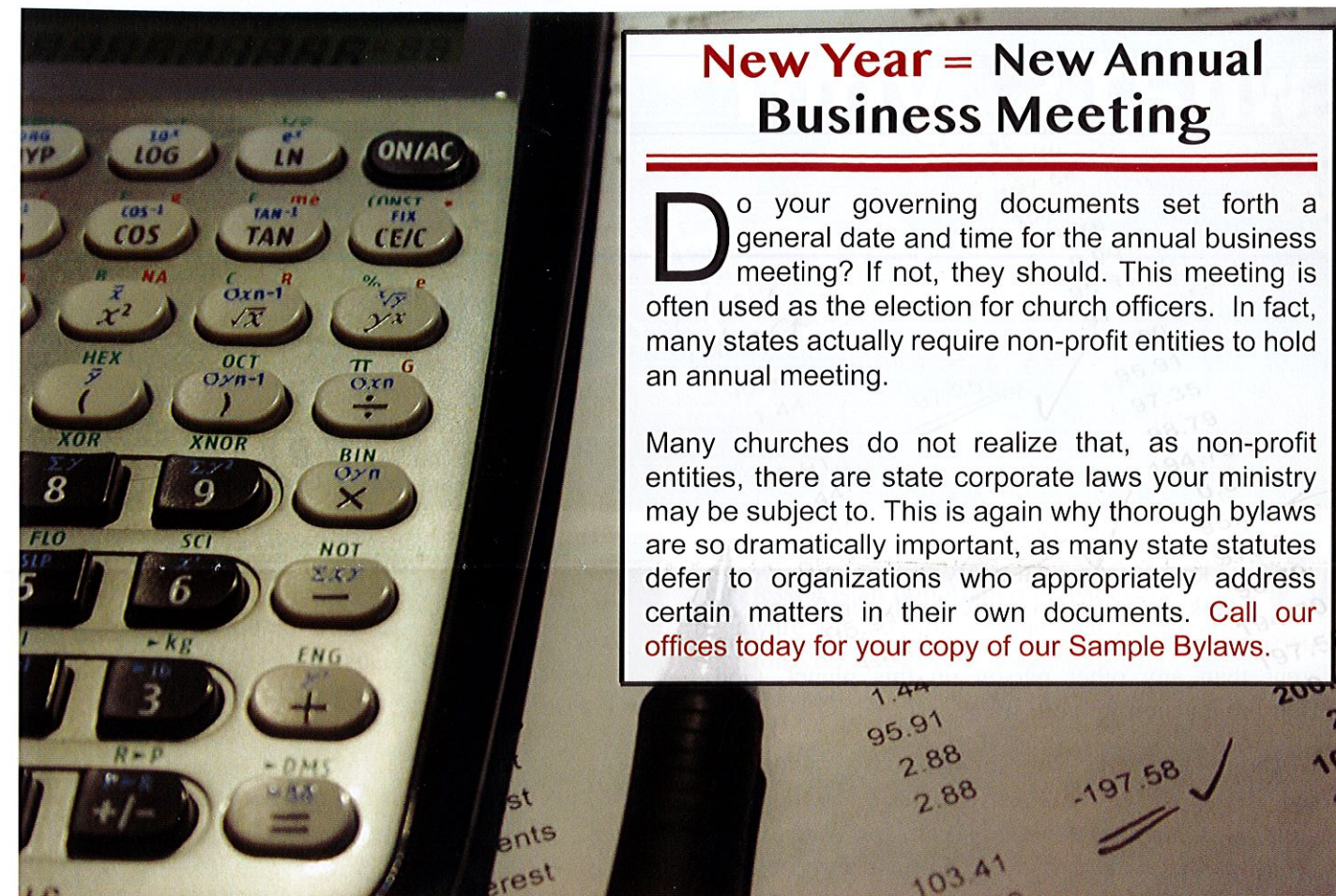
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## New Year = New Annual Business Meeting

Do your governing documents set forth a general date and time for the annual business meeting? If not, they should. This meeting is often used as the election for church officers. In fact, many states actually require non-profit entities to hold an annual meeting.

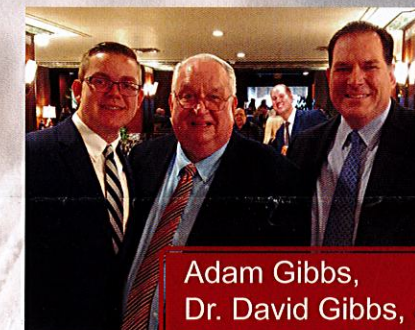
Many churches do not realize that, as non-profit entities, there are state corporate laws your ministry may be subject to. This is again why thorough bylaws are so dramatically important, as many state statutes defer to organizations who appropriately address certain matters in their own documents. **Call our offices today for your copy of our Sample Bylaws.**

## ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN LAW ASSOCIATION

*The Christian Law Association is a ministry of legal helps.*

CLA serves you the following ways:

- Free legal defense of those facing difficulties for the Biblical faith
- Free legal counsel to churches and Christians for their ministries
- Legal seminars for ministries to help prevent lawsuits
- Preaching in churches across the country
- Legal books and other resources to inform Christians of their rights
- Weekday radio program broadcast, *The Legal Alert*, on over 1,400 outlets around the world
- Publication of *The Legal Alert*, a monthly newsletter
- Free legal consulting to local, state, and federal officials and legislators to provide maximum religious liberty
- Intercessory prayer ministry for requests sent to the ministry offices
- Free legal help to homeschooling families
- Prayer initiative for our national leadership and government



Adam Gibbs,  
Dr. David Gibbs, &  
Pastor Matt Gibbs



# PRAYER CHECKLIST

## Please Note

Prayer requests listed are a limited glimpse of the many ongoing cases handled by CLA.

- ✓ Please pray for a church in **NORTH CAROLINA** where an unruly church member is intentionally creating trouble rather than expressing a Christlike spirit.
- ✓ Please pray for a Christian school in **WYOMING** working to update their bylaws for better ministry and student protections.
- ✓ Pray for a pastor in **MICHIGAN** correcting issues with ministerial housing allowances for church pastors.
- ✓ Praise the Lord a church in **FLORIDA** was able to get information on important updates needed for their church's constitution & bylaws after speaking with CLA offices.
- ✓ Please pray for a church in **TEXAS** with issues pertaining to designated funds from many years ago.
- ✓ Please pray for a church in **VIRGINIA** currently in talks with its membership about incorporating with the state.
- ✓ Please pray for a church in **TEXAS** prayerfully considering to whom they should allow use of the church's facilities.
- ✓ Pray for a pastor, church, and all involved in **TENNESSEE** working with local law enforcement after allegations of abuse were made against someone in the church.
- ✓ Please pray for a new church plant in **NORTH CAROLINA** as it continues to plan for growth and the Lord's guidance.
- ✓ Pray for a new ministry in **SOUTH CAROLINA** working to incorporate, which will allow them to better serve their local people.
- ✓ Pray for a Christian in **VIRGINIA** whose workplace is attempting to force her to partake in things that violate her Christian beliefs.
- ✓ Pray for a Christian parent in **NEW JERSEY** challenging the local school district on its indoctrination of elementary aged children when it comes to LGBTQ matters.
- ✓ Pray for a church in **FLORIDA** making changes to its policies about who is and is not allowed to work in the church's many programs for children.
- ✓ Pray for wisdom for a pastor in **SOUTH CAROLINA** counseling and getting more help for a person who is threatening harm to himself and possibly others.
- ✓ Please pray for a Christian in **FLORIDA** being sued by a former employee for alleged discrimination.
- ✓ Pray for a Christian in **FLORIDA** working with a local business to include Christianity in their religious room for public use.
- ✓ Pray for a Christian in **MONTANA** facing discrimination and being told she must work Sundays or be transferred far away from her home.
- ✓ Pray for a Christian in **FLORIDA** with the desire to start a Bible study at her workplace.
- ✓ Please pray for a Christian in **CALIFORNIA** being targeted by her workplace for simply being a Christian.