

## Getting the most out of 2014

By Sharryn Westbrook - Mackay Christian Family.

Many people like to make New Year resolutions.

- Get fit
- Lose weight
- Quit smoking
- Get out of debt

There's nothing wrong with making resolutions, however many are broken before February rolls around! It isn't that we don't want to achieve these goals; it's that we often allow other things to crowd out our resolve and get in the way. Sometimes it isn't until we receive a huge wake-up call that we stop and actually take stock of where we are at.

In Philippians 3:13 & 14 it tells us some specific things to do so we can advance in life.

Firstly, we must decide what things are behind us. Every one of us has things in our past we would sooner forget. We must decide what we will choose to leave behind us. Some things from your past don't belong in your future.

Secondly, we must decide what it is we are reaching for, what we will aim for in 2014 and beyond, and make those things our focus.

Thirdly we must consider **how** we are to get there. You may need to leave behind friends who will hinder your journey or cut up a credit card to restrict spending or embark on an exercise plan with a friend who will hold you accountable. Get a plan! Those who fail to plan, plan to fail.

God has a plan and a purpose for your life and the good news is He is all about new beginnings. Jeremiah 29:11 says *"For I know the thoughts I think towards you says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a great hope"*.

Why not make space in your world to get to know God a little more this year. Now, that would be a great New Year's resolution and so worth it!

[www.mackaychurchestogether.org.au](http://www.mackaychurchestogether.org.au)