

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance of this week's lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary® or Standard Lesson Quarterly®.

IN LIFE AS IN THOUGHTS

Statistics tell us that, by the second week of February, more than 80% of people have abandoned their New Year's resolutions. One article says that this happens in part because people do not come up with a plan for how they are going to bring about their resolution. A failure to envision how the plan could go from mere words or an idea in the mind to a reality in life will contribute to failure.

ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN

Jesus taught his disciples to pray that realities in heaven could become realities in their actual lives on earth. To translate God's will in heaven so that it's done more and more on earth is ever the Christian's prayer. We have the great opportunity to live as citizens of God's kingdom even as we walk in this life, declaring God's resolution to come to earth to provide salvation to humankind.

- 1. How are you doing on any resolutions you made this year?
- 2. If you've ever followed through with a New Year's resolution, what was it, and what helped you bring it about?
- 3. What's an aspect of God's will that you'd love to see carried out on earth as it is in heaven?

Additional Resources

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Music Video, Traditional: "The Lord's Prayer" by Charlotte Church Music Video, Multicultural: "Still Moving" by William McDowell Music Video, Contemporary: "Everyday" by Tom Smith Barclay's Commentary on Matthew 6 JFB Commentary on Matthew 6 Lightfoot's Commentary on Matthew 6