

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Nebraska

January 2026

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## Nebraska Supplement

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Greetings Sir Knights of Nebraska,

The new year is a time for both reflection and resolution. This is a bit cliché, but worth repeating and considering anyway. This is a time for new considering what our past has been. What has gone well and what we want to do better. We make peace with our past, make resolution that we will engage in new ways. "New Year, no me" is readily on people's lips at this time. But true change is made by small adjustments. Improvement is not accomplished by grandiose gestures and loud statements, but by adjusting our habits, little by little, until we achieve excellence. Pick something that you can do better, that you will do better, and then choose to do it better. As we make those small adjustments, we find that the larger adjustments become not so far off and much more achievable. We build confidence in the small things, and apply that as things get larger.

This is true not only in our personal lives, but in the lives of our organizations. Too often, we plan to accomplish things, but for whatever reason, maybe our vision was wider than our reach, maybe the plan faltered, or maybe the weather didn't cooperate. Often, we grow frustrated and say "well that didn't work" and throw up our hands in frustration. We fail to seriously reflect on the things we try to do, and even the things that we successfully achieve. Every action of the body should be considered with the following questions.

What went well? Why did it go well? Can we make adjustments so that the appeal and effect is broader? What went poorly? Why did it go poorly? What other aspects can we improve upon. Success is then achieved not all at once, but over time, by small adjustments. Through this, we gain confidence, and through confidence, continued success. It is important to consider our resources in this, but by small measures we will find this to be true, both for ourselves and for our organizations.

"The more we do, the more we can do; the more busy we are, the more leisure we have."  
- William Hazlitt

It doesn't *seem* like it should work, but it does.

Happy New Year!

