

# Starting Over: The Year of Jubilee

## How many times are you willing to "start over from scratch" in your lifetime?

**Starting Over** is sometimes the hardest things for many Christians and people in general to do. Often we equate a New Start with **failure, defeat or something with a negative connotation.** Starting Over is not failure, it is a new opportunity to experience God in a fresh new way. It's not really starting over say's young Layana. "*It's just a new door. You are the sum total of your entire life experiences*". When you start over, this is an opportunity to grow and change and manifest your heart's desires.

Do any of you remember the Etch-a-sketch? The Etch-a-sketch was a red and gray drawing board full of sand (or at least something like sand). It had no digital readouts. It didn't beep at you or flash. It didn't even take batteries. You twisted two knobs on the bottom of the screen to draw a picture. If you messed up, all you had to do was shake the thing a couple of times and you got a clean screen - a chance to start all over.

Life/Church/Family/Job/Relationships are all on your pad of Life's Etch a Sketch, and sometimes we make plans to draw a beautiful picture or display, but along the way, we have made some mistakes( some major and minor). And some of us have truly made some messes. Well, we all do in this life, and you have been given a gift. The gift of a New Start, all you have to do is shake yourself (admitting things are not what they intended to be) and Start Over.

In the word of God, God gave his people in the Old Testament a chance to start over it was called The Year of Jubilee. This was a prime illustration of God's mercy and kindness. The Year of Jubilee allotted for the old slate to wipe clean, no indebtedness, no baggage, nothing in past hold you back. Our Savior Jesus began His ministry preaching this same "Jubilee" message. In Luke 4:18 "*The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the **LORD's favor has come***" this is also a quote from Isaiah 61, a passage that refers to the Jubilee.

If 2010 was not a **favorable year of the Lord for you**, 2011 can be that. The coming of Jesus Christ, then, brought the same opportunity to us today as the ancient year of Jubilee brought to the Israelites - a chance to start all over!

So I'm asking you this question, what's wrong with starting all over? Quite fitting that Christmas comes at the end of the year. Because everybody gets a chance to start over. If you need to start over I invite you to, I am.

