Going through recently received journals, I found a list of thoughts about being a physician that I would like to share with you:

1) Maintain enthusiasm for the wonderful career you have chosen.
2) Remember to always be professional.
3) Medicine is a noble profession. You are a representative of the best that medicine has to offer.
4) Be compassionate, patient and understanding.
5) Be a good listener. Patients appreciate communication. Take time to explain.
6) Use your abilities to the best. Respect others around you and their work.
7) Be kind to your patients, colleagues, nurses and other health care workers.
8) You are the stuff and substance of this extraordinary practice, department, hospital or medical school. What you are, it will be.

We as physicians should be proud of our work. We help patients feel better and thus help our society become more productive. Sometimes we are so disenchanted and frustrated with the daily problems of our work that we do not reflect on how much we contribute to our society.

As a new year begins, stop and reflect on your practices and your patients. Renew your passion for the practice of medicine.