

# God's Story

Bill Krause

**The New Year is a time to reflect on the last year and plan for the next.**

**Let's refocus a little, look at a new life a new way of living**

**Romans 6:3-4 (NIV)**

Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

**Galatians 2:20 (NIV)**

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**A new and different view of the world**

**Colossians 3:1-2 (NIV)**

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

**Matthew 6:19-21 (NLT)**

"Don't store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

**God wants to use you in His story, His plan**

-We are responsible for our own slice of history.

-People are seeking the easy life now .

**Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)**

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

**2 Timothy 2:20-21 (NLT)**

In a wealthy home some utensils are made of gold and silver, and some are made of wood and clay. The expensive utensils are used for special occasions, and the cheap ones are for everyday use. If you keep yourself pure, **(holy-pure and set apart)** you will be a special utensil for honorable use. Your life will be clean, and you will be ready for the Master to use you for every good work.

**God's promise**

**Matthew 6:31-34 (NLT)**

"So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. "So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.

**Questions:**

**-What has the Word told me to do that I have not done already? What will I do about it?**

**(Examples: money, time, family)**

**-What can I do to simplify my life so the Lord can use me this year?**

**-What abilities and past experiences do I have that the Lord can use?**

Scripture quotations marked NLT are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright 1996, 2004. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, IL 60189. All rights reserved.

Quotations marked NIV are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version. Copyright 1978 by New York International Bible Society.