

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

What better way to start the New Year then by reading the first verse, of the first chapter, of the first book from the bible. Genesis 1:1 We all know it and can quote it from memory:

‡ *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

But some will read this and think, “*Been there, done that, give me something new to read or learn about.*” For those who say that, I would respond with; I have been a Christian for over 40 years, and have read through the bible many, many times, and every time I do, I always get something out of it, even something new, even though it was always there, right in front of me as I was reading it over the years. Because the Lord knows when I need a certain portion of scripture, so it will pop out, even though I have read it many, many times.

Yet some have lost that passion for God’s word. If you will allow me, I am going to post a very small portion from the second book I am writing, titled, “**Left is not Right**” which is a sequel to the first book, “**Go Right or Get Left**”

Very quickly the books are about a man named Lucky, who in the first book was a non believer. In the second book, is he a believer or not? You’ll have to wait and find out. In the second book, Lucky picked up a bible and read today’s verse for the first time, and what was his response? Let read.

Wait, there is more to this sentence, it says, “*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*” The very first sentence answers so many questions that man has been searching for and wondering about. How did the earth, the moon, the sun and stars, trees plants, animals, man and everything else come to be? All I ever heard about was evolution, and a big bang and that it all came from goop that was just hanging there in space. When I heard those things in school, it all sounded cool and all, but for some reason, it just never sounded right. They talked about a missing link, speaking of an ape-man, but I think what the missing link is that they are missing the truth and that truth was that “*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*”

At this point I just had to stop, because it was like I was being flooded with the reality of God and Who He is. And I just had to stop and try to absorb it all. It felt like I was standing under Niagara Falls and trying to drink a glass of water, while all that water was pounding on me.

Could you hear the excitement in Lucky’s voice as he was reading God’s word for the first time?

Every New Years, many Christians vow to read through the bible that year. Yet, how many never have, not even once, even though they have been a Christian for how many years now?

Yet, we all have our favorite sitcom on TV, and can remember when we watched it for the first time thinking that it was OK. But we continued to watch it each week, and got more and more into it, so much so that we never want to miss an episode, and sometimes it even feels like we know the characters in the sitcom, and we cried when they did and laughed when they did, because it was almost like they were our own personal friend. But have you ever stopped to think that these are actors, and what we see is not real, and the life that they live is not real either?

Think of that with reading the bible every day. When we first started out, it may have been little struggle to read it everyday, but the more we get involved in the lives of the people in the bible (Who are real people, and the things you read about them really happened), we realize that we can actually relate to what some of them were going through. And when we do, then we will want to read it more and more, never wanting to miss a day of reading our bible.

So we need to ask ourself, has the sitcom that we watch every week changed our life, so that we think of a certain character that we can relate to, and even say things they say, and dress like they do and sometimes act like they do? Maybe not to the extreme, but if we look at our life, is it similar to theirs? Are we excited for that one day during the week to come, because we know that we get to watch the next episode and see our friend on TV?

What if we did that with the bible. How would our lives change this year if we really read it everyday, if we really got into the lives of people in the bible everyday, and really started to learn and live it every day? What if we were just as excited to read our bible each day as much as we are excited are to watch our favorite TV show each week?

You won't know the answer until you do. Are you up to the challenge this year, or should I say, are you up to a "Life Change" this year?

† **Hosea 2:20 (NLT2)** *I will be faithful to you and make you mine, and you will finally know me as the LORD.*

† **Psalms 119:159** *Consider how I love Your precepts; Revive me, O LORD, according to Your lovingkindness.*

† **Hebrews 8:11** *None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them.*