

New Year, New Life
By Kathryn Higgins

A New Year's inspired scripture alive presentation focused on 2 Corinthians 5:14-21NLT to be read by two voices. Could be performed on the first Sunday of the New Year with binders in hand; no memorization required. Inhale to begin together-

BOTH Christ's love controls us.

ONE Since we believe that Christ died for all,

TWO -we also believe that we have all died to our old life.

ONE Before? That was the old me.

TWO The old life.

ONE Last year.

BOTH Gone.

TWO He died for everyone –

ONE -not just me-

BOTH He died for everyone –

TWO -so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves.

ONE Instead, they will-

BOTH -live for Christ-

ONE -who died and was raised for them.

TWO So we have stopped evaluating others from a human point of view.

ONE At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view.

BOTH How differently we know him now!

TWO Now, in this new year.

ONE Now, in this new life.

TWO This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.

BOTH Brand new.

ONE The old life is gone –

TWO -a new life has begun!

ONE And all of this is a gift from God.

TWO God, who brought us back to himself –

BOTH - through Christ.

ONE And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him.

TWO For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself,

ONE -no longer counting people's sins against them.

BOTH We get a fresh start.

TWO And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.

BOTH So we are Christ's ambassadors;

ONE God is making his appeal through us.

TWO We speak for Christ when we plead,

BOTH "Come back to God!"

ONE For God made Christ,

TWO -who never sinned,

ONE -to be the offering for our sin,

TWO -so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

ONE The old life is gone –

BOTH -a new life has begun!

End