

**Daily Reflection on Scripture  
Week of December 31  
Scriptures, Stories and Carols**



**Sunday December 31**

*Ecclesiastes 3:1 There's a season for everything and a time for every matter under the heavens:*

**Sacred Pause:** A new year is on the horizon. A new season awaits you. No one knows what the new season holds, but you can know that God is holding you in the New Year.

**Monday January 1**

*Isaiah 43:18 Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new.*

**Sacred Pause:** On this first day of a new year you can move beyond the past year. This year, be alert and be present each day and you will see God doing something brand-new.

**Tuesday January 2**

*Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust God from the bottom of your heart; don't try to figure out everything on your own. Listen for God's voice in everything you do, everywhere you go; he's the one who will keep you on track.*

**Sacred Pause** Resolutions can be helpful, but not if you try to do them on your own. You will need help. Listen for God's voice in others who can encourage and guide you.

**Wednesday January 3**

*II Corinthians 5:17 If anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived!*

**Sacred Pause:** Remember the old things, whatever they are, have gone away. 2017 is over. Look around you and you will see the new things God is wanting to do in you this year.

**Thursday January 4**

*Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.*

**Sacred Pause:** You may be feeling like there is not enough in 2018. Focus on what you do have instead of what you don't. Remember God creates new things out of very little.

**Friday January 5**

*Psalms 37:37 Observe those who have integrity and watch those whose heart is right because the future belongs to persons of peace.*

**Sacred Pause:** Instead of focusing on negative news this year, focus your attention on being a person of integrity and peace. God says, the future belongs to people of peace.

**Saturday January 6**

*Lamentations 3:40 Let's take a good look at the way we're living and reorder our lives under God.*

**Sacred pause:** More important than resolutions is reflecting on how you are actually doing. Take a good look at the way you're living. Daily ask God to guide your life.