



Happy New Year!

Resolve To Be Ready

With the beginning of each new year, we all have a tendency to make a list of things we KNOW we need to accomplish.

I have always used New Year's Eve as a time to reflect on the past year and wonder what in the world the upcoming year will hold. This year on New Years Eve, things were very different. I was sitting in a hotel in Dallas awaiting the wedding of my only daughter.

The wedding was to be held on New Years Day at 6:30pm!

Unlike previous years, where we had folks over to play games and eat too much food, I was in a hotel room, remembering the previous 26 years of my daughter's life. It was a wonderful time to think about her and how God has taken her from a little girl, to a beautiful, talented, gifted young woman. I won't go into all of my thoughts that night, but today I can say I am very blessed to see the amazing person she has become.

Needless to say, the wedding was wonderful. It took months of work and preparation but we enjoyed every minute and now my daughter is a married woman with quite an adventure ahead of her with her new husband.

My point in this story is to remind ourselves that everything that is good needs to have some planning. The wedding may not have been as successful if the lists weren't made, the food wasn't ordered, the building wasn't made ready, and the guests weren't informed.

How About You?

Given all of the challenges in your life, what are some of the things that you would like to accomplish in 2007 to make your family and possibly your church or business safer. Do you have a list, or just a few thoughts about the new year?

I recently received a newsletter from Homeland Security. It started off by saying "Every year, nearly half of all American's will make at least one New Year's resolution."

It went on to talk about the need to encourage each other to take some simple steps in preparing ourselves and our families in the event of an emergency. Did you encounter an emergency this past year? Were you prepared for it?

There are three steps that are recommended and yet 55% of the people surveyed had only taken ONE step out of the THREE.

The three steps include:

- * Creating an emergency supply kit.
- * Making a family emergency plan
- * Knowing the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses.

If you have purchased a copy of My Life in a Box...A Life Organizer, then you have the tools to start getting organized.

In Chapter Four, there is a one-page plan that will help you go through your house and locate all of your personal and legal documents and put them initially into one box, and then organize them into 6 files. You just need to GET STARTED!!!

You should have already received an email on how to create a "Get Away Bag". If you have not, please send me an email and I'll send it to you. By helping every member of your family prepare their own bag, it will take a lot of pressure off of you if there is a family emergency. Each family member needs to be responsible for THEIR BAG.

We all have a tendency to get busy with everyday life situations, so get a calendar and decide RIGHT NOW when you will motivate your family to pack their "Get Away Bags". Then, if you haven't finished creating your "My Life in a Box" files, START! Remind yourself by putting a note on the calendar to change the clothing in your bag every three months. You don't want to find shorts and a tank top in February!

If you have a business, church or organization it is a very good idea to begin motivating people to get organized. I have a great 8-minute video that is a good motivational tool! It's available at www.mylifeinbox.com.

Is your business ready to face a natural disaster or national emergency? Are your employees, staff or church members ready in case a family member dies. These are tough questions to ask, but even tougher if YOU have to deal with them personally.

Back to those three steps I previously listed, visit www.ready.gov and learn more about how to prepare your family emergency supply kit, and check out their free templates for creating a family emergency plan. They also have sample plans for businesses.

About Our Newsletter

I plan on sending you an newsletter each month. I am fully aware that you are bombarded with tons of emails, so mine will be to the point, encouraging and helpful. Also, feel free to send me stories that you feel will be of interest to our readers. I can't guarantee that everything receive will be printed, but I look forward to hearing from you.

Questions that you have regarding emergency issues and that come up after you have started working through "My Life in a Box..A Life Organizer"are also welcome.

Each month I'll include personal experiences in the monthly newsletters.

After having lost 12 family members and close friends over a period of 5 years, there are many valuable things to share.

As you begin organizing your personal and legal documents I hope you will realize that you don't have to get every thing accomplished in one day. Take a little time each day. Turn on some music. Invite a friend or family member to help and you'll get organized in no time!

THEN you will have the peace of mind that whatever you face in the future,you will be ready!

Please tell your family and friends about our website,
www.mylifeinabox.com

Also remember that our workbooks are available at wholesale prices for large groups, and workshop information is available upon request.

HAPPY 2007!!!

Please note that this news-letter has been written with the understanding that the author is not engaged in offering legal, accounting or other professional services.

Laws vary from state to state, and readers with specific legal or financial questions should seek the services of a professional adviser.