

FOREWORD

By Dr. Randy Ross

Life is story. My life is a story. Your life is a story. The wonderful part of it all is how our stories overlap and create chapter upon chapter of life-altering experiences. Some such experiences cause us to stand in awe and reflect. Others seem all too common or are considered coincidental. But there is no such thing as coincidence. Coincidence, as a friend of mine often says, is “simply God’s way of remaining anonymous.” Ultimately, life is God’s story, as he slowly turns the pages of eternity and reveals himself through various circumstances and, more importantly, in the hearts of people.

A parable is one of the most powerful forms of story. Parables start with ordinary issues drawn from daily routine and extract from them extraordinary life lessons. Parables instruct and inspire. They sharpen the senses and stir the soul. They lift the spirit and encourage us to see God’s fingerprints on virtually every aspect of life.

The Power of Present Day Parables is a delightful accumulation of stories gathered by one of the brightest spirits I know. As you read them, you will be entertained and enlightened. You will see yourself in many of them and you will discover once again that the more personal an experience, the more universal it truly is. And hopefully, you will see that God is up to something. That he never wastes a life experience. If we are paying attention, there is a lesson to be learned from every story that we encounter.

I was once told to treat everyone with a respect that comes from realizing that there is something about that person’s story from which to learn. In doing so, life becomes an adventure in learning. This book is an adventure. As you read, you will laugh...you will learn...you will see a part of God’s story unfold. In doing so, your soul will be nourished and hope restored. That is the power of story.