**Writing That Changes Lives**

By Bill Watkins (2018)

1. **Laying the Groundwork**
2. The topic in general
3. What I mean by “life change”
4. **You and Life Change**

1. What have you read that changed you?
2. What does this tell you about how lives are changed?
3. **What Hinders Life Change?**
4. **The Way Forward in Your Writing**
5. Know yourself
6. Know your Christian worldview
7. Develop your reasoning skills—to change lives, you must learn how to change minds
8. Become a student of great writing and influential thinking
9. Understand your culture and what you face as a Christian
10. Choose a topic that matters to you and to your intended audience
11. The value of a topic that is either controversial or seems settled but should not be
12. Do your homework
13. Find your focus
14. Develop a perspective, tone, or approach that differs from the usual fare
15. Perspective
16. Tone
17. Approach
18. Address real needs through felt needs first
19. Seek to persuade, not pounce or preach
20. Face difficult issues honestly, insightfully, and fairly
21. In your writing, strive for …
22. Connection over credentials (though these matter)
23. Clarity over cleverness
24. Accuracy over acceptance
25. Beauty of expression over dry narrative
26. Punch and passionate conviction over self-protection
27. Active voice over passive voice
28. Showing, not just telling