

SHARING THE STORY

Story

What is your favorite book or novel? Can you recite most of it from memory; or at least the most important parts of the story? And can you share it in a way that captures the significance of the story for you?

Throughout the Bible, we see this very thing done over and over again by people who learn about God's grand story and experience God's redeeming and transformative love. The fancy word for this is evangelism and it is the act of sharing with others about God's story and the nature of God's kingdom. This is something we do with our words and with the actions of our lives. Let's look at two examples in the Bible.

Read: Exodus 15:1-21

Reflect: This beautiful passage of scripture is a song to God, proclaiming how God acted in faithful love to rescue and redeem God's people from captivity. Sharing God's Story, or evangelism, is the art of telling God's story well. For followers of Jesus, our evangelism includes the bold proclamation that Jesus is Lord. Through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God has reconciled the broken world to himself and brought us into a covenant relationship; where we find eternal life.

Take Action

Choose one of the following: 1) Sketch out the grand story of God as you understand it from the Bible 2) Review "The Gospel, Jesus and the Gospel Shaped Life" in the introduction to The River's Culture of Discipleship material 3) Watch the Bible project's video on "The Story of the Bible" and "The Gospel".

Consider

Write down 5 people who you could share God's story with this week.

Read: Matthew 5:14-16

Reflect: Sharing God's story is also done with our lives; sometimes, our actions speak more powerfully than our words. Our lives communicate the on-going nature to God's story and point towards the future of the coming King Jesus. Together, as followers of Jesus, we are the light of Jesus that shines into the world. Jesus has given us this light by his love and our purpose is to let his light shine through us, helping his kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.

Take Action

Reflect on the last week and consider how you have seen the light of Jesus. Write down five "good deeds" that you encountered that demonstrated the love of God.

Consider

Write down 5 ways you could let your light shine this week at home, in your job, in your neighborhood, in the coffee shop, etc.
