

Your Story with Jesus

Who is your best friend? What is it that makes that person your best friend? There are lots of reasons why we end up becoming good friends with certain people, but one particular reason is the simple fact that we have shared stories and experiences. Our story and their story run together and often times the story becomes “our story.” This is true of our relationship with God as well, but for some reason we don’t think of our story with Jesus in the same way. Frequently when we talk about our story with Jesus we find it hard to talk about and we struggle to speak of our relationship with Him. We would like to spend some time this morning thinking about our story and how Jesus shows up in our story. Some of you might say that you don’t have a personal relationship with Jesus. If this is you just think about the story of your life. Take a moment here and spend a minute praying and asking that the Lord would help show you where He’s worked in your life in the past and currently working in your life now.

I. MY LIFE BEFORE CHRIST...

What was your life like before you became a Christian?

Read the following Scripture:

- *Romans 3:23: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*
- *Ephesians 2:1-3: 1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.*

How does the Bible describe your life before Christ?

II. THEN JESUS SHOWED UP...

What made you aware of your need for Jesus? If you haven’t believed in Jesus, what is holding you back? What questions do you have?

What steps did you take to invite Christ into your life? (could have been a prayer, or a worship service, or a week of processing with a parent or cell leader, or a mission trip)

III. NOW MY LIFE IS DIFFERENT...

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!”*, what does it mean to be a “new creation”?

How has Jesus changed your life? What is “new” about your life now that you have a relationship with Jesus?

What have been some of the toughest things in your life? What have been some of the best things? How have you seen Jesus work in your life?

WRITE OUT YOUR STORY

Take a moment and write out your story with Jesus. How has He impacted your life? You may use a lot of the stuff you just wrote down. Write this as if you were telling someone who wasn't a Christian. What would you want them to know about Jesus and how He has worked in your life? Then write down 3 people you want to share it with this week.

1)

2)

3)

(Remember: There are no “bad” stories or “boring” stories! Don't ever think that because you weren't “really bad” before your story isn't interesting. If Jesus has showed you grace and changed your heart, that is so amazingly exciting! If you have had a life that has been blessed, celebrate that and thank the Lord for that.)