

# God's Story and Yours

God's story goes like this...

In the beginning, God created everything in existence, including earth and people to have authority over it by following his ways.

Eventually, humankind rebelled against God, trading the truth of God for the lie that we could live and have authority over the earth without him.

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of his great love for us, sent his son, Jesus to restore our relationship with God. A restored relationship with God has given us the opportunity for our relationships with ourselves, each other and all of creation to be restored as well.

We wait for the day when all things will be made new, every relationship will fully be restored, and we will worship Jesus all together.

This is God's big story, and each of our stories are woven in with his through Jesus. Telling your story is a powerful way to share the good news of Jesus with others. And what better time to do that than now?

## The Hero of the Story

You can tell a lot about people by how they tell their stories. Who is the hero? What obstacle do they overcome? What power does the hero use to win? Many of us tell stories with ourselves as the hero, or share testimonies of how this book or that teacher changed our lives...and can change yours too!

However, as followers of Jesus, our stories put Jesus front and center. We say yes and amen to Ephesians 2—we were enemies of God, but God loved us and saved us by his grace in Jesus Christ. So, we learn to re-tell our stories—bragging about the hero who died to save us so that we could become his friends.

## Preparing Your Story

As we learn to tell our story, we can look to God for guidance. But storytelling can be difficult if you've never done it before...Here's a basic story outline if you need some help.

### Character Development

Our stories begin with where we came from and where God was in our upbringing. Growing up, what did you think about Jesus?

## **The Problem**

Eventually we began living, or at least become aware of, a life without God. What tragic event or series of bad habits or decisions led you away from God?

## **The Hero**

Eventually, we become aware of our need for a savior and our stories take a turn when Jesus enters in. How did you hear about Jesus and what was it about Jesus that drew you to trust in him? Make it clear that Jesus is the hero.

## **New Creation**

The Bible ends with Jesus on the throne, reigning over a new creation. However, our stories are not finished yet. We live in a real world, but with real hope. How has new life in Jesus changed you?



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