

## Gospel Story Template

Your story is not just for you. It's for someone else.

This is your chance to tell it and share it.

Your story has the opportunity to impact another person's story.



# OUR MISSION IS TO GLORIFY GOD AND MAKE DISCIPLES BY HELPING PEOPLE FIND WHOLEHEARTED LIFE IN JESUS.

#### **Your Story**

God has drawn each of us to himself, he has pursued you in his great grace. At some point in your life he used someone else to tell you the good news of Jesus Christ. God uses his people, his word, and his Spirit to work in the lives of people so that they may come to know who he is and place their trust in him. You have an opportunity to serve Jesus and be an instrument of redemption in the lives of others through your story. When God does a great work in us, he desires to do a great work through us. Jesus entrust his followers to go and tell others the good news. Your story of life change can help others experience the same change that you have experienced, may we plead with others to be reconciled to God (2 Cor. 5:17-21).

#### Our Goal

As a church, we want to equip believers to share their gospel story with others so that we may lead others to life in Jesus. The goal is to capture your story in 5-7 minutes that clearly shows how Jesus is the hero of your story and how you are personally experiencing wholehearted life in Jesus. We want to spread the gospel in Your World where you live, work and play and to the ends of the Earth. This will be a great opportunity for you to share Your Story with the Gospel at the center. When you share your story with others it gives them an opportunity to celebrate with you and for those who do not believe, you will have the opportunity to help them find wholehearted life in Jesus. May you come to embrace what God has done in you so that you can lead others to the hope and life that you have found in Jesus. This is the core of our mission at Fellowship.

#### **Preparing Your Story**

On the following page we have provided a simple guide that will help hone the work that you have already done with your story and the gospel story. After you have filled in the story guide, we want you to practice telling your story out loud. When you feel confident in communicating your story, share it with someone in your family, at work, or with a friend.

Take time to write out your answers to the following questions and then tie the four parts together so that it reads like a story when you are done. The final story should be typed out and no more than a page to a page and a half.

#### Thank You

We may never know the impact of your story. The fact that you're willing to share your story is inspiring to us and it will be to all who hear it. Thank you for stepping out with active faith to reach your future group and your world.

We have an audio recording of Rob Sweet teaching on why telling our gospel story is so important. We want to encourage you to listen to this before you prepare your story and there are 2 examples of stories (start at 6:50min in) {CLICK HERE}.

#### Core Principles in Telling Your Story

#### 1 | Make God the focal point and Jesus the hero of your story!

It is easy to make our story egocentric and write about our own actions, sounding like this, "then I chose...then I decided...then I..." Use the template to tell your story through the lens of God's greater story (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Re-Creation). As you read through what you wrote ask the question, "Would someone know what it looks like to put their trust in Jesus through hearing my story?"

#### 2 | Focus on what you were rescued from

Read Colossians 1:13-14. Be clear on what you were rescued from in your story. What was it that you needed to be rescued from?

#### 3 | Remember that good stories are always about transformation

How is your life different now than before? How has Jesus at the center of your life changed what you live for?

### Your Story Template

Intro: My name is	and I am finding wholehearted life in Jesus
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**Creation:** What is the story of your background? Quickly give context about you. What shaped your identity or the understanding of yourself? Just a couple sentences here to set context.

**Fall:** In what ways were things in your life not how God intended them to be? What was broken? How were you pinning hopes, pursuing pleasures, or putting your trust in things other than God? What were the consequences of that way of living?

**Redemption:** What specifically were you rescued from? This is where we discovered the great Rescuer, Jesus. He rescued us from rebellion and searching for life apart from him. How did God's plan for rescue and redemption impact your life personally? How did God initiate toward you? How has your life been redeemed by Jesus' sacrifice? What is the good news of Jesus you came to believe and put your trust in?

#### Recreation:

We are not just redeemed and delivered from something. We are delivered and rescued with a purpose and call to minister to others. How is God working to "make things new" in your life right now? How is he changing you and continuing to rescue you from the effects of sin? How are you experiencing re-creation? Help them see what it tangibly looks like to walk with God in daily life.

**End:** "my story is part of God's greater story at work in the world. I want to help others come to find wholehearted life in Jesus"