

THE
ADVENTURE OF
JOINING GOD
IN HIS WORK

TRANSFERABLE TOOLS
FOR EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM
AND DISCIPLESHIP



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THE CALL

God is always at work (John 5:17). He is redeeming lost people and restoring his fallen creation, and he invites us in Christ to join him in his work. As a follower of Jesus, you are on God's redemption and restoration team. In order to respond to this call, you must step out of your ordinary world, over the threshold of your comfort zone, and enter his life-changing adventure. Those who respond to this call are transformed and equipped to bring gifts of His healing to their world.

THE ADVENTURE

The Adventure of Studying the Scriptures: The Sword Method

The Adventure of Going to the Heart/ Finding Your True Treasure: The Gospel U

The Adventure of Framing Your Thinking: The Four-Fold Praise

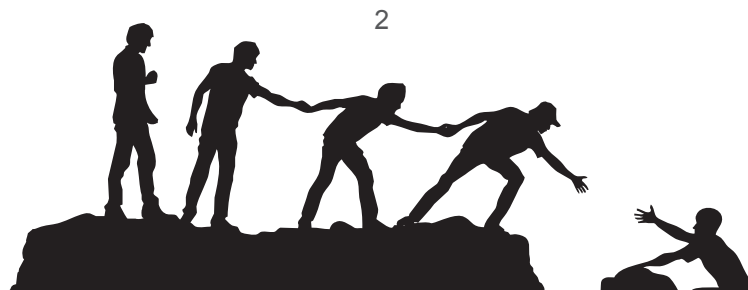
The Adventure of an "All Peoples" Mindset: Discover the Extent of God's Mission...

The Adventure of Entering God's Field: The Four Fields

The Adventure of Knowing God's Big Picture: The Story-Line of the Bible

The Adventure of Living with the Tension: The Balanced Christian Life

The Adventure of Sowing the Seeds of Salvation: How to Share the Gospel





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EXERCISE I

THE GREAT COMMAND AND THE GREAT COMMISSION

THE GREAT COMMAND

And He said to him, “YOU SHOULD LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL OF YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.’ This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it’s YOUR SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’ On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”

— Matthew 22:37-40

THE GREAT COMMISSION

And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

— Matthew 28:18-20





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EXERCISE II

THE SWORD METHOD (THE ADVENTURE OF STUDYING THE SCRIPTURES)

The sword analogy is used to remind us of Hebrews 4:12; *“For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”* (NASB)

The sword method of Bible study will enable you personally or in group study to discover the core message and applications of the text by answers the six questions surrounding the sword. Begin at the top and then the bottom. Then work your way through the questions from left to right.

WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT GOD?

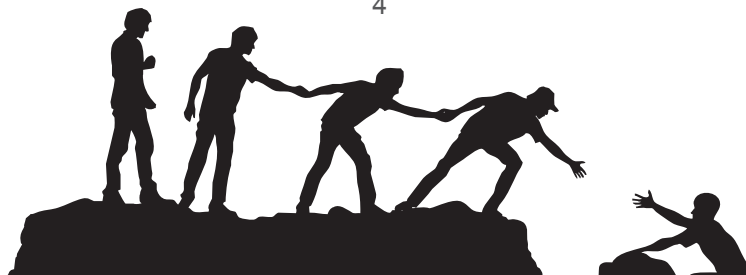
Sins to forsake

Examples to follow

Promises to claim

Commands to obey

WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE SAY ABOUT PEOPLE?



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EXERCISE III

THE GOSPEL U

(THE ADVENTURE OF GOING TO THE HEART/ FINDING YOUR TRUE TREASURE)

The gospel U is a tool which will enable you to understand and communicate how God's intention is to transform us at the heart level by believing the gospel.

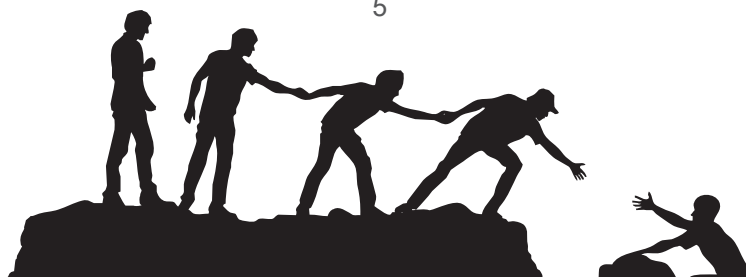
The gospel is not just our ticket into the kingdom of God it is how we live in God's kingdom.

The gospel is not just the A, B and C of our salvation but the Alpha and Omega of God's salvation to us in Christ.

Understanding and applying the gospel U will enable you see that Christianity is not just about a change in behavior through will power. Rather it is a radical transformation of your core identity and heart motivation which leads to a change in behavior by applying the gospel to every aspect of your life.

ISSUES

BEHAVIOR





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EXERCISE IV

BEGIN EACH DAY WITH A FOUR-FOLD PRAISE! (THE ADVENTURE OF FRAMING YOUR THINKING)

“Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.”

— Hebrews 13:15

“If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make Our abode with him.”

— John 14:23

I. PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS

“Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart.”

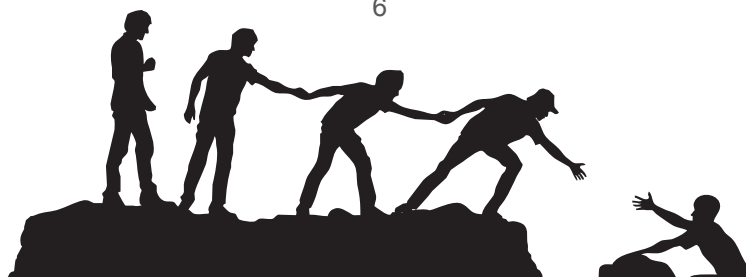
— Psalm 37:4

God’s moral attributes

Some have called these God’s communicable attributes because we, being made in His image, can imitate them. *“Therefore, be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.”*

— Ephesians 5:1-2

- | | | |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Love | Joy | Peace |
| Patient | Kindness | Goodness |
| Faithfulness | Gentleness | Self-control |
| Benevolent | Gracious | Holy |
| Jealous | Just | Wrathful |
| Merciful | Truthful | Righteous |
| Wise | Discerning | Beautiful |



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EXERCISE IV

1. PRAISE GOD FOR WHO HE IS (CONTINUED)

God's natural attributes

God's incommunicable attributes are those that belong to God alone.

"I am the LORD, and there is no other; Besides Me there is no God."

— Isaiah 45:5 "To whom would you liken Me and make Me equal and compare Me, that we would be alike?" Isaiah 46:5 "I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another." — Isaiah 42:8

Eternal	Incomprehensible	Infinite
All-knowing	All-wise	All-powerful
Omnipresent	Self-existent	Creator
Trinity	Self-sufficient	Sovereign
Immutable	Independent	Transcendent
Immanence	Judge	Perfect
		Majestic

2. PRAISE GOD FOR WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

"But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, so that just as it is written, "Let Him who boast, boast in the Lord"

— 1 Corinthians 1:30-31.

All the moral and ethical commands, given to the believer in Christ, are rooted in, based on and shaped by our union with Jesus Christ. The phrases *in Christ*, *in Him*, and *in the Lord*, are used over 160 times in the New Testament. Being in Christ is not like tools in a box or clothes in a closet but like a branch in a vine or a limb in a body. A survey of the "in Christ" passages reveal over forty truths about our identity in the Lord. Only 20 are provided here. Begin each day by praising God for who He has made you in Christ and act like it in the power of the Holy Spirit.



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EXERCISE IV

2. PRAISE GOD FOR WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST (CONTINUED)

KNOW WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

ACT WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST

Alive to God Eph 2:4-5; Col 3:1-4

Live the life Eph 4:1-2; Col 3:5-11

Loved 1 John 4:10; Rom 5:8

Love Rom 5:5; Eph 5:1-2

Dead to sin Rom 6:2-10

Give no place to sin Rom 6:11-15

Forgiven Eph 1:7; Col 1:13-14

Forgive Eph 4:32; Rom 8:1, 33-34

Righteous Phil 3:9; Gal 2:16

Live righteously Phil 3:13-14; Gal 2:20

Child of God John 1:12-13

Act like His child Eph 5:1; 1 Pet 1:14-15

God's possession 2 Tim 2:19; 1 Pet 1:18

Yield to God Rom 12:1-2; 2 Tim 2:19-21

Heir of God Rom 8:17; Col 1:12; Eph 1:11

Add to your inheritance Matt 6:19-21; 2 Cor 5:9-10

Possessor of every spiritual blessing Eph 1:3; 2:5; 2 Pet 1:3-4

Seek things above Col 3:1-2

Blessed by God 1 Pet 3:9-12

Give a blessing 1 Pet 3:8-9

Servant of God 1 Cor 7:22-23; Rom 6:22

Serve Rom 6:17-19; 12:11; Heb 12:28

New Creation in Christ 2 Cor 5:17

Live as a new creation Rom 6:11

Free from the law Rom 6:14; 7:1-6

Live in Christ Gal 5:1; Rom 8:4

Light of the world 1 Thess 5:5; Matt 5:14

Let your light shine Eph 5:8; Matt 5:15-16

Victorious over Satan Rev 12:9-11; Col 1:13-14

Claim your victory Eph 6:11-17; Jas 4:7

Cleansed John 15:3; 1 John 1:7, 9

Live a clean life 2 Cor 7:1; Phil 4:8

Possessor of peace Rom 5:1; John 14:27

Be a peacemaker Rom 12:18; 14:19; Col 3:15

Receiver of God's grace Eph 2:8-9

Grow in grace 2 Pet 3:18

Indwelt by the Holy Spirit 1 Cor 6:19-20; Rom 8:9, 14

Yield to the Holy Spirit Eph 5:18; 4:30; 1 Thess 5:19

Possessor of spiritual gifts 1 Cor 12:4-13; Rom 12:3-6

Use your gift Rom 12:6-8; 1 Pet 4:10-11



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EXERCISE IV

3. PRAISE GOD FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT AND INVITE HIM TO FULFILL HIS “JOB DESCRIPTION” IN YOU

The Holy Spirit is God, third person of the Trinity, and your source of power in the Christian life. Daily review his divine “job description”, which covers every aspect of your life. Learn to cooperate with the Holy Spirit who is on duty constantly and eager to empower you.

1. Convicts of sin, righteousness and judgment (John 16:7-11)
2. Glorifies Jesus Christ (John 16:14)
3. Regenerates us (Titus 3:5; John 3:5, 8)
4. Baptized with (1 Cor 12:13)
5. Sealed with (Eph 1:13; 4:30)
6. Indwelt with (1 Cor 6:19-20)
7. Anointed with (1 John 2:20, 27)
8. Gives assurance of salvation (Rom 8:14-16)
9. Fills, controls and empowers us (Eph 5:17-21)
10. Leads us (Rom 8:14)
11. Imparts spiritual gifts to us (1 Cor 12:7,11)
12. Illuminates Scriptures to the believer (John 14:26; 16:12-15; 1 Cor 2:12-16; 1 Jn 2:20, 27)
13. Intercedes for us (Rom 8:26)
14. Produces Christ-like character in us (John 7:38-39; Gal 5:22-23)
15. Gives us the power to love (Rom. 5:5)
16. Sanctifies us (1 Pet 1:2)
17. Transforms us into the image of Jesus (2 Cor 3:18; 1 Cor 6:11)
18. Empowers us to witness for Christ (Acts 1:8)
19. Comforts and counsels us (John 14:16; 2 Cor 1:3-5)
20. Will raise and transform our bodies (Rom8:11)



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EXERCISE IV

4. PRAISE GOD FOR THE ARMOR HE PROVIDES AND PUT IT ON BY FAITH

“But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh in regard to its lusts.”

— Romans 13:14

Ephesians 6:10-20:

- Gird your loins with truth
- Put on the Breastplate of Righteousness
- Shod your feet with the preparation of the Gospel
- Take up the Shield of Faith
- Put on the Helmet of Salvation
- Take up the Sword of the Spirit

Now bring your request to God!

“Therefore, let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

— Hebrews 4:16



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EXERCISE V

DISCOVER THE EXTENT OF GOD’S MISSION (THE ADVENTURE OF AN “ALL PEOPLES” MINDSET)

GOD’S MISSION	EXTENT	PEOPLE GOD WORKS THROUGH
1. Genesis 12:1-3		
2. Exodus 19:5-6		
3. Psalm 67		
4. Isaiah 49:5-6		
5. Matthew 28:18-20		
6. Acts 1:8		
7. 2 Corinthians 5:18-20		
8. 1 Peter 2:9		
9. Revelation 7:9-10		



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EXERCISE VI

THE FOUR FIELDS (THE ADVENTURE OF ENTERING GOD'S FIELD)

<p>1. Enter</p> <p>John 6:44 Acts 17:26-27 Luke 10:1-2</p>	<p>2. Sow</p> <p>Mark 4:1-30 Oikos / FRAN / 90% Move up the receptivity scale Share the gospel</p>
<p>4. Harvest</p> <p>2 Timothy 2:2 Local church Worldview Sound doctrine</p>	<p>3. Cultivate</p> <p>Matthew 22:37-40 Matthew 28:18-20 The Sword Method Gospel U Four-Fold Praise Story Line of the Bible Balanced Christian Life How to Share the Gospel</p>

Success in Field 1 and 2 = Sharing Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God.

Success in Fields 3 and 4 = Making disciples who make disciples.



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EXERCISE VII

THE STORY LINE OF THE BIBLE (THE ADVENTURE OF KNOWING GOD’S BIG PICTURE)

Many people know the individual stories of the Bible but do as a whole, not understand the overarching story of the Bible. The 66 books of the Bible (39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament) come together to tell the most life-giving story in existence. Yet, not knowing the “Big Picture” story of the Scriptures blocks that perception and leads to confusion. It is much like trying to figure out where the pieces of a puzzle fit without being aware of the picture of the puzzle on the top of the box. In addition, we live in a “sound bite” culture, so learning how to share the overarching core story of the Bible in a short but clear and applicable way is a useful skill to develop.

You can share the story line of the Bible with others in less than one minute.

The Bible’s story line can be summarized in four words:

C _____ (Genesis 1-2),
 F _____ (Genesis 3),
 R _____ (Genesis 4 – Revelation 18),
 R _____ (Revelation 19-22).

You can share the story line of the Bible with others in less than 10 minutes.

Memorizing the following outline will enable you to understand and communicate the overarching plot line of the Bible and demonstrate how Jesus Christ is its major theme. Jesus insisted that the Scriptures are about Him and we should be able to communicate and understand how this is true.

- *“You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me.”*
(John 5:39 NASB)
- *Now He said to them, “These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then He opened their^a minds to understand the Scriptures.*
(Luke 24:44-45NASB)

As you memorize the outline keep in mind this is an unfolding story and the “pattern of two” will serve as a memory aid. Once this basic outline is mastered you can expand it as you grow in your understanding of the Scriptures.



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EXERCISE VII

THE STORY LINE OF THE BIBLE (THE ADVENTURE OF KNOWING GOD'S BIG PICTURE) (CONTINUED)

God spoke all into existence for his glory, called it good and assigned it order and purpose (Genesis 1-2).

Two Problems

Satan rebelled along with one third of the angels and established a counterfeit kingdom (Isaiah 14:12-15; Rev 12:3-9). Adam and Eve rebelled against God, and as a result experienced spiritual death (Genesis 3).

Two Purposes

God purposed to redeem mankind and reclaim his kingdom. These two purposes are outlined in seed form in Genesis 3:15,21, 24. God's promised redemption and restoration will be fulfilled through His promised Messiah/Redeemer/King (John 5:39; Luke 24:27, 44-47).

Two Promises

God made a covenant with Abraham (Genesis 12-1:3/2000 BC) and promised that though his seed/descendent all peoples would be blessed (Galatians 3:6-16). God made a covenant with King David of Israel (2 Samuel 7:12-16/1000 BC) and promised that his descendent would establish his kingdom forever (Amos 9:12; Zechariah 14:9).

Two Measurements

The law, through Moses, demanded righteousness for those who would be redeemed (Exodus 20; Matthew 5:48). The prophets proclaimed that the Messiah/King would come and establish God's kingdom (Isaiah 9,11, Daniel 2,7).

Two Sons

Abraham's son, Isaac, foreshadowed the coming Redeemer (Genesis 22; John 1:29). David's son, Solomon, foreshadowed the coming King (1 Kings 10).

Two Animals

The redemptive and kingdom functions of the coming Messiah are portrayed by two animals - the lamb and the lion. The sacrificial lamb typified Christ in his redemptive work at his first coming (Isa 53:7; John 1:29). The lion, the king of beasts, typified Christ in his kingdom purposes which will be fulfilled at his second coming (Rev 5:5, Gen 49:9-10).

One Redeemer and King

The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham (Matthew 1:1).

Worthy is the lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing (Revelation 5:12).

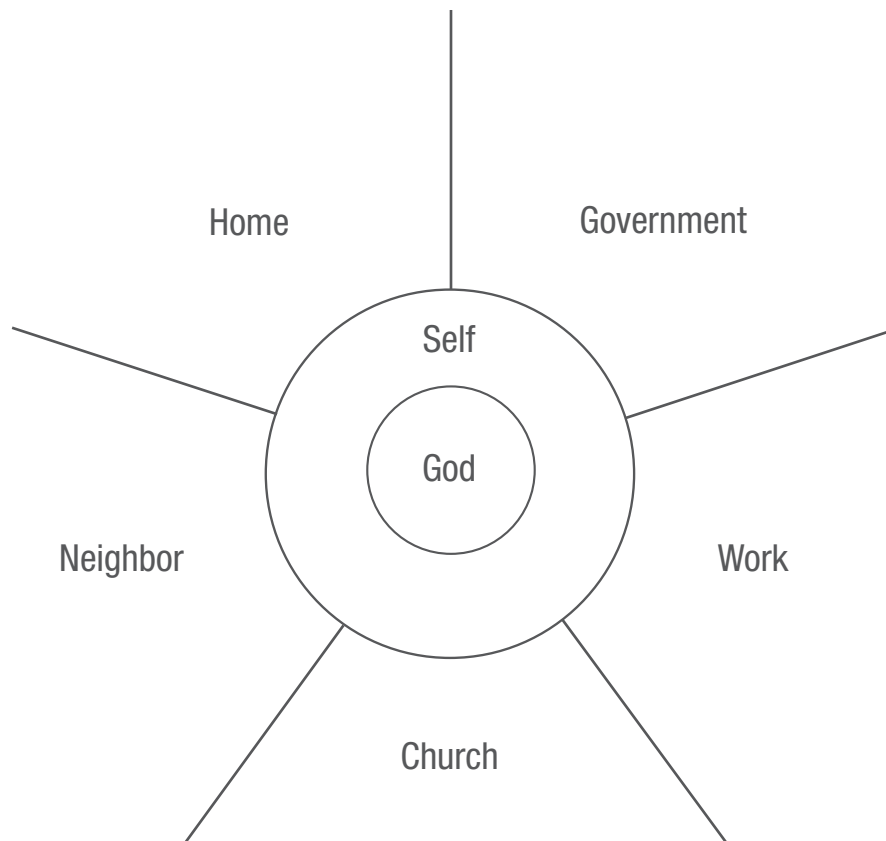


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EXERCISE VIII

THE BALANCED CHRISTIAN LIFE (THE ADVENTURE OF LIVING WITH THE TENSION)



Balancing Life's Demands by Grand Howard
The Emotionally Healthy Leader by Peter Scazzero



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EXERCISE IX

HOW TO SHARE THE GOSPEL (THE ADVENTURE OF SOWING THE SEEDS OF SALVATION)

The best tool is the one you use.

1 Corinthians 15:1-8 – ancient creed, death, and resurrection of Jesus (40, 12, 8, 516+)

The Fact of Christ's Resurrection

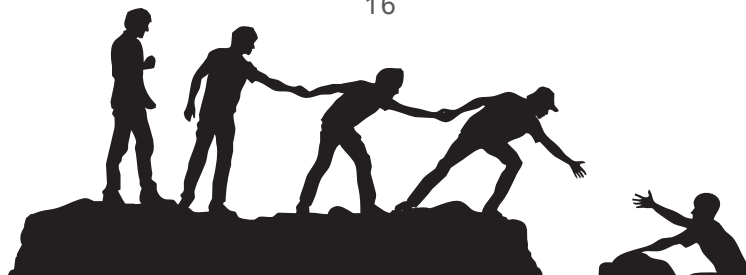
Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

- *The Case for Christ* by Lee Strobel, chapter one – The Eyewitness Evidence pages 34-35
- *Resurrection* by Hank Hanegraaff, chapter four – The Appearances of Christ pages 38-40
- *The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus* by Gary Habermas and Michael Licona chapter three – A Quintet of Facts (4+1) pages 52-56
- *The Resurrection of the Son of God* by N.T. Wright, chapter seven – Resurrection in Corinth (2): The Key Passages pages 312-217.

Your story – introduction > two “before” words > I believed the gospel > two “after” words > you?

There was a time in my life when I was searching and selfish. Then I received forgiveness through Jesus Christ and made Him King of my life. He has given me purpose and love for others. Do you have a story like that?





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EXERCISE IX

HOW TO SHARE THE GOSPEL (THE ADVENTURE OF SOWING THE SEEDS OF SALVATION) (CONTINUED)

Luke 18:9-14

What do the two men have in common?
How do they differ?
What is the basis of their hope?
What did Jesus say about each man? Why?
What is mercy?
What does it mean to be justified?
How can you be justified before God?

Luke 23:39-43

What do the two men have in common?
How do they differ?
What was the prayer of the repentant thief?
What promise did Jesus give him?
How can you go to be with Jesus?

The Indian Chief Story

2 Corinthians 5:21
Romans 6:23
Romans Road – 3:23; 6:23; 5:1; 8:1; 10:9-10
Jeremiah 17:5-10

