

How to Discover and Share Your Story

Stories are important. They can be very powerful. Jesus himself used stories, also known as parables, to get His point across.



Stories can uplift us, encourage us, and give us hope.

The most powerful stories of all are stories of how we have encountered God in our lives. When we share our story of how Jesus showed up in our life it reminds of His presence (Emanuel – God *with* Us). Telling our story also gives others hope.

Each of us needs hope. Especially during our current circumstances.

Scripture reminds us that Jesus promises to reveal himself to those who love Him. Jesus takes the first step. He loves us first. We then respond to His love by loving Him and one another.

Each of us are part of a much larger story of how the Love of God touches us and transforms us and the world.

How God has, and continues to, reveal himself to us is what we call 'our' story. Each of us, if we take the time to realize it, has a story.

Sharing our story with others can encourage them, and give them hope.

There's also a forgotten benefit to sharing how Jesus has showed up in our life as Matthew 10:32 reminds us, "So every one who **acknowledges me before men**, I also will **acknowledge before my Father** who is in heaven"

Wow.

Imagine for a moment what it will be like to be acknowledged before God the Father in Heaven!...

If you need to discover the story of how Jesus has revealed himself to you, then begin by first stopping and asking yourself, "Where has Jesus showed up in my life?"

Take your time don't rush.

Let your memory take you back in time as far as necessary. Perhaps you'll recall more than one encounter with Jesus. Press into your memory and see which experience of Jesus's presence is the most compelling for you.

That, is where the story you're part of starts.

It can be helpful to 'frame' your story so others can follow your sharing.

(continue on next page...)

You may find it helpful to 'frame' your story along the lines of...

I was...

Jesus did...

Now I am...

God can bring Good out of even the worst situation.

You give Glory to God when you let your **test** become your **testimony** or your **mess** become your **message**.

Sharing the story you're part of can be a Blessing to others. Start sharing *your* story today.

Share your story every chance you get, especially with those you come in contact with in your daily activities.

If you'd like to reach even more people with your story, then please email Monica Ludwig at...

Monica.Ludwig@stpatrickadw.org

You can send Monica your story as an email message or a word document. If you'd like help in recording an audio or video version of your story, then please let Monica know and she'll arrange to get you the help you need.

Thank you for sharing your story and for Building Up the Kingdom and Community.