



God's Story, Our Story

## EVANGELISM FOR MY LIFE PART 3: GOD'S STORY, OUR STORY

### Supplies Needed for Lesson:

- ☐ Guided Testimony Handouts
- ☐ Stories Volume 1 DVD
- ☐ Paper for students to write their story on
- ☐ Pens and/or pencils



### Review

*Last week we talked about some of the nuts and bolts of sharing your faith with your friends. What is the one thing that keeps us from sharing above all else? (Fear). And why should we not be afraid to share? (Because all authority has been given to us from the Creator of the entire universe!) We also spent some time beginning to write about our stories. How many of you thought about your stories this week? How many of you prayed for your friends from 2 weeks ago this week?*

*Well this week, we are going to continue to look at how to tell our story. But first I want to look at a couple of different students who want to share their own story with you.*

### Video Time

*Run the two video clips about sharing faith on the first volume of the Stories DVD (Bluefish TV) for students to watch. Discuss each story after watching it. Lead the discussion toward the major points that each student made in sharing their story.*

### Story Time

*Now that we have seen two teenagers sharing their faith with you, we are going to continue working on our own stories together.*



*I want you to take out the handout from last week if you have it. If you do not have it, that is okay, because we are going to build off of it, and having it on you will really only give you a little more help for our exercise.*

*I want you to take the guided outline with you and go anywhere in the building by yourself. Answer the questions and begin to write out your own story. Use your answers from last week to get you started. And if not, just write away. We're going to give you about 15 minutes to write out your story. We will be walking around to help you if you need any help, so disperse and begin writing.*

### ***Rejoin the Group***

*So how was your writing? Did you get some of your story down on paper? What was it like seeing where you have been compared to where you are now? What was it like to see that progress when you put it down on paper? Were you able to see how God has grown you? Awesome! I want you to take this stuff home this week and to keep working on writing out your story. And I want to tell you another story tonight. This one takes place in the first century, and follows a fairly famous man through Athens, Greece.*

### ***Pauline History***

*Paul was a missionary. His job was to carry the Gospel to the world. He wrote the majority of the New Testament, and he had many opportunities to overcome his fear. His fear was a little deeper than ours goes, though, You see, our fear is of being ostracized from the group because of our faith. His fear was of being beaten or killed because of his faith. In fact he was beaten and thrown into jail on different occasions for sharing his faith!*

*We're going to pick up his story while he was spending time in Athens. Here he was sharing the Gospel with a group of people that had never heard it before. Let's listen in as he speaks to the people.*



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MENU



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<sup>16</sup>While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup>So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup>A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to dispute with him. Some of them asked, "What is this babbler trying to say?" Others remarked, "He seems to be advocating foreign gods." They said this because Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup>Then they took him and brought him to a meeting of the Areopagus, where they said to him, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup>You are bringing some strange ideas to our ears, and we want to know what they mean." <sup>21</sup>(All the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there spent their time doing nothing but talking about and listening to the latest ideas.)

<sup>22</sup>Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. Now what you worship as something unknown I am going to proclaim to you.

<sup>24</sup>"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. <sup>25</sup>And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. <sup>26</sup>From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. <sup>27</sup>God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'

<sup>29</sup>"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by man's design and skill. <sup>30</sup>In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. <sup>31</sup>For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."

<sup>32</sup>When they heard about the resurrection of the dead, some of them sneered, but others said, "We want to hear you again on this subject."

<sup>33</sup>At that, Paul left the Council. <sup>34</sup>A few men became followers of Paul and believed. Among them was Dionysius, a member of the Areopagus, also a woman named Damaris, and a number of others.

~Acts 17.16-34



Here I want to focus in on Paul's technique of sharing the Gospel. He shared a story. But he did not share HIS story. He shared God's story He had already talked to some people In Athens and shared some of his story. But he shares something different here. He shares his faith in what type of Evangelistic Style? *(The Roman forms of Evangelism)*.



Here Paul takes something that the people know, the Unknown God, and apprehends it for Christ. He uses their own culture to point them toward God! We can do this today still. And next week we will get into it, as well as do some more work with our own stories.

### *The Big Thought*

There will be a lot of times where we are asked to share our story with people. Where did we come from? What is our family like? Is God a part of your story? Are you telling people about being a part of His story? Or are you leaving that detail out?

### *The Big Finish*

Think back to last week when we ended with the Supertones song "Spend It With You." Are you going to pick up the phone and tell your friends? Or are you going to keep quiet? Look for opportunities this week to share about your story with your friends. Be creative. And keep praying for them.

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# Part 3 - God's Story, Our Story

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*Below are questions that are designed to help guide you in writing your own story. Think about these questions, and then write out your story of your journey so far. These are not exhaustive questions, merely ones designed to help guide your storytelling.*

*What was your life like before you discovered Jesus?*

*How did you meet Jesus?*

*Who introduced you to Jesus?*

*What are some things that are different in your life now that you are following in Jesus' footsteps?*

*What are some tough spots that you have encountered since you started following Jesus?*

*What are some good things that you have encountered since you started following Jesus?*

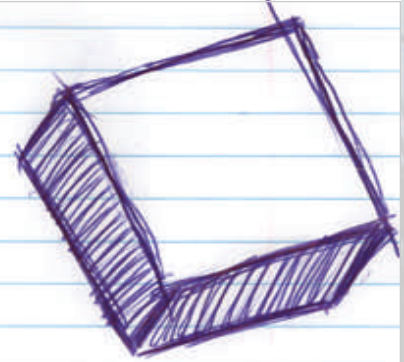
*Why is it important that you (whoever is writing this) follow Jesus? Why did you decide to follow Him?*

*What is your life like now that you are following Jesus?*

*What do you expect your life to look like from now on, now that you are following Jesus?*

*What are some ways that Jesus has helped and supported you in your life?*

*Why do you choose to do the things you do while following Jesus?*







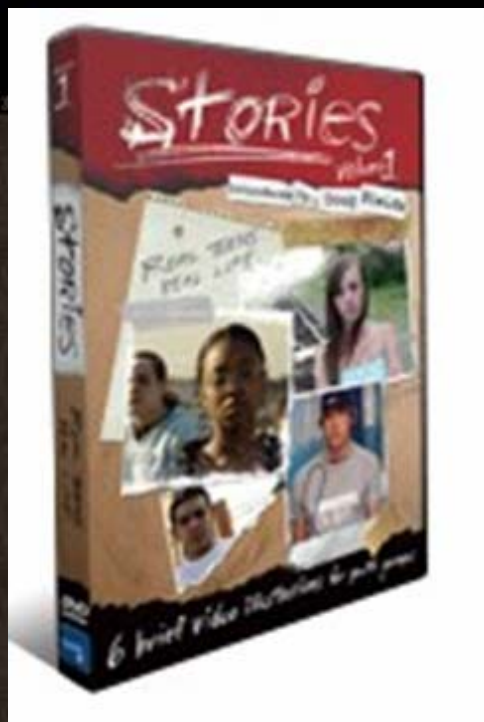
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STORY TIME

## Acts 17.16-34

64 OFFICIA PROPRIA SANCTORUM.  
 6. Hic est Michael. *Item* 1.  
**A**liud nāque est ministrare, aliud docere. Quia hi ad ministrandum benedicti sunt, ut non essent excommunicati, nec essent verē, qui sic per necessitatem salutis persequuntur, ut ad excommunicationem non operantur, ministrant. Sed hoc quoque de istis agnibus, quae ministrant, certum tenemus, i quia & cum ad nos veniunt, sic excommunicatos, nec male dicunt, nec tamen in aliquam deficiunt, sed per contemptum, etiam si ministrant, & docent, ipsi tamen excommunicati sunt. Angelus spiritus. Summus tamen spiritus ipse, qui Deus est, circumscriptus non est. Angeli itaque, & missi, & ante ip-

sum sunt, quia quolibet missi veniunt, ante ipsum currunt.  
*Item* 2.  
**S**cientia quoniam est, quia plerumque est, scientia spirituum, ut quibus vicibus sibi ordinantur, & dā sortemur. Sed scientia vero est, & vocatū commūter non est. Cui ut ille ostendit, quanto magis, quanto rei ratione habet, non solum, sed plane scientia est. Scientia in se, & scientia dī, quae tamen amore & dilectione simul cōnexa sunt. Circubiti vero plenitudinem scientiae discimus, & tamen quibus aliquid nesciat, ubi ipsum omnes simul habent scientia. Deum habent. Quae erit, & per

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