

"Tell Your Story"
Next Steps Series
Pastor Mark
1.26.20

"Thomas said to the other disciples, 'Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

"We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us...." 1 John 1:3

2 ways our friends can know Jesus works in our life:

- 1) They can **HERE OUR STORY**.
- 2) If they can see Jesus in **YOUR LIFE**.
 - "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23
 - Joy isn't a by-product of life, it's a <u>CHOICE</u> we make.

"......if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin." 1 John 1:7

"We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ." 1 John 1:3

(Tell us your story at c3tricities.com/MyStory)

1ST TIME STORY

- Where were you before God?
- 2. How did you come to know Jesus?
- 3. How has your life changed

RESTART STORY

- 1. What happened to make you fall away?
- 2. What brought you back?

VICTORY STORY

- 1. What struggle were you going through?
- 2. What brought you to reach out to God or others?
- 3. What is it like for you now that you've gone thru this struggle?

C3 Group Questions

<u>Last Week's Next Steps:</u> Did you gather at C3 on Sunday to express your faith? Did you build your faith this week through consistent time in prayer & God's Word? If so share what stood out to you in your time with God?

<u>Ice Breaker:</u> Before you became a follower of Jesus, did anyone ever tell you their story of why they started following Jesus? If so, who was it?

Review: What one thing stood out to you (either helpful, insightful or troubling) from the weekend's message?

Group Discussion:

What would you guess is the #1 reason why followers of Jesus sometimes don't share their story about God? Why do you think that is the #1 reason?

Who do you know & care about that doesn't know Jesus? Have you shared your story to that person? If so, what happened? If you haven't shared your faith with that person, why?

In Matthew 28:19, Jesus tells us, "Go and make disciples...." Why do you think God calls us to share our faith in Jesus to others?

In Acts 1:8, Jesus tells us, "You will be my witnesses....." A witness in a courtroom tells what they have experienced. What could you share that you have experienced since knowing Jesus?

Take a few minutes & have each person share their story of how they came to know Jesus:

Tell what you were like before Jesus; how you came to know Jesus; & what your life is like now that you have Jesus in your life. (If you have a large group, pick only some of the group to share. Or have everyone share & just skip any of the other questions.)

Why do you think a person can't argue with someone's personal story?

How can this group pray for you this week? Who in this group can you pray for this week?

This Week's Next Steps: ("Do not merely listen to the word.....Do what it says." James 1:22)

Tell C3 your story! Go to https://www.c3tricities.com/mystory/, & you can tell us 1 of 3 stories. Or if you really want, you can tell us all 3 stories!

• The 3 stories are: 1st Time Salvation Story; Restart Story; or Victory Story which is something difficult that God brought you thru.