

Living the Story

A Study through Scripture

Introduction:

So we have reached the end. Well, the end of the narrative found in *The Story* and the story of God's redemptive actions found in Scripture. The reality is, however, that the story is not over. The story simply now turns from what we read to what we live and act out in the world around us.

There is much of scripture that is written for a direct time and place. It addresses specific situations in the lives of God's people. And, it gives instruction on how to respond to those situations.

For us, we must be familiar with both the situations that are addressed through the authors of scripture, as well as their solutions. We must then be always diligent in discovering ways to continue to address those situations as they manifest themselves today. We must also commit to living out the author's of scripture's solutions, perhaps even in different, but consistent ways.

I want to do that this week. Instead of spending time in a specific passage, I want you and your group to reflect on the entire journey you have made through scripture. Then, I want you to discover what has stood out to you or affected the way you live. Ask yourself and your group these questions:

What has stood out to you from scripture as we have read through the entire Bible?

In what ways do you sense your life being transformed more into the image of Christ through this time spent in the Word?

In what ways do you feel compelled to live differently because of what you have read in the text?

How can this group of people you have journeyed with help you to continue to live out these convictions, even when time has passed and the urgency has waned?

If you will answer these questions, you will have done well.

I close with this prayer:

God, I pray your blessing on the people who meet in this One Group. My prayer is that they know you better through the reading of your Word. I pray that a fire has been lit that continues to burn long after this series is over and that the only way that fire can be quenched is to spend long periods of time in your Word. I pray that this group not only knows you better, but that they also understand you more. Rather than an academic discipline, I pray that you have become a power that motivates and rescues them from the kingdom of darkness. I also pray that their understanding propels them to live lives that look different than the one this world wants them to live. I pray they are different and people notice. I pray that those moments open doors in which you are proclaimed and your story is told just as much as it has been read. I pray a prayer of thanksgiving for everyone who has had a vital role in helping this group function and grow. You have used many, but especially those who have committed to leading, to bless this group and through this group, the church that meets at South Plains. For each one of these people, I am grateful. May your peace reign in our hearts! Amen.

LESSON #36

Date: 5/26/2013

Text: The Bible

The Story: Epilogue

The Big Picture: The story. That's right, the entire narrative of scripture, lived out in our lives as we go from this place. Dream big, right?!

Materials Needed: none