

CROSSINGS
CROSS OVER FROM DEATH TO LIFE



STORY 

 TELLERS

2026 BIBLE STUDY



STORY TELLERS

ASK FOR A STORY

“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.”

1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4

HOW TO USE MY BOOKLET:

LARGE GROUP - Use the Large Group pages to take notes during your Bible Study time with the camp pastor. Some notes will be on the screen to fill in blanks.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION - Join your SMS Small Group Leader every morning after Large Group to discuss sharing a story.

TAWG - Use the TAWG (Time Alone with God) pages for your own personal quiet time. Take time to write down answers to the questions, read and think about the Scriptures, and pray about the day's topics.

2 Gospel Presentation	20-21 Day Four Large Group
3 TAWG Guide	22-23 Day Four Small Group/Sermon
4-5 Day One Opening Celebration	24-25 Day Four TAWG
6-7 Day One TAWG	26-27 Notes
8-9 Day Two Large Group	28 Map
10-11 Day Two Small Group/Sermon	Back Schedule
12-13 Day Two TAWG	
14-15 Day Three Large Group	
16-17 Day Three Small Group/Sermon	
18-19 Day Three TAWG	



A BETTER STORY: THE POWER OF NARRATIVES

Stories are an integral part of human experience. They serve as a powerful tool for communication and learning. They often serve as the medium through which life lessons are remembered. In today's world, the goodness of a story often takes precedence over its truth. This shift from defending miracles to defending morals has made stories a crucial part of evangelism. Fortunately, we have a story that is both good and true!

The Bible, filled with stories, prescribes storytelling as a method for teaching profound truths (Deut. 6). We can make a more significant impact by communicating truth through stories rather than through arguments! Therefore, we strive to tell a better story than the world around us because we possess the greatest story ever: the Gospel Story.

YOUR STORY WITH JESUS AS THE HERO

We present Christ, not Christians, as the ultimate example. Therefore, it's essential to highlight the impact Christ has had on our lives! A Christian testimony often centers around a "decision" or a particular "change." These elements are indeed part of the process, but they are the effects, not the cause: they are the result of the Gospel's work in our lives. When we share our story, we discuss how our life's mission and goals changed due to God's calling, how we experienced the consequences of living for personal fulfillment (often referred to as sin), and how Jesus taught a better way and redefined our mission and purpose altogether. Ask yourself, "If my life were a movie, how would I portray it with Jesus as the hero?" Then share that with others!

SHARING A STORY FROM THE BIBLE

The Bible is filled with incredible stories, each contributing to the overarching narrative of our redemption. Dig deeper into God's Word, read the Gospels, and use those biblical stories to guide people towards Jesus! The most impactful work occurs when we listen to people, understand their stories and objections, and then direct them to the actual work and life of Jesus Christ. We've compiled six stories that you can study to address most issues your friends and family might be facing. You can scan the code to learn some more details!

THE IMPORTANCE OF SHARING THE GOSPEL STORY

Your personal story is a powerful tool and Bible stories are brimming with profound truths. However, neither inherently constitutes the Gospel. The Gospel story, in its simplest form, is remembered as Manger, Cross, Crown. God came to earth in a real and physical way and lived a perfect life (Manger). He then paid the ultimate penalty He did not deserve on behalf of those who would put their faith and trust in Him for Salvation. God demonstrated His acceptance of this payment by raising Jesus from the dead (Cross). Finally, we know that God rules and reigns and will return in a real and physical way to establish His Kingdom on earth and make all things right again. In this way, He has the right to rule over our lives today (Crown). This is the Gospel story! Your personal stories and the Bible story you share should include and reflect this story—a much better story!

Scan here for more info on some great stories to use as you share Jesus with others!



ACTS PRAYER METHOD

Begin each TAWG with prayer to God using the **ACTS METHOD**.

The **ACTS METHOD** is a tool to guide you in prayer. Prayer is how we talk to God. Did you know Jesus prayed regularly? Why? Because prayer is not about what you get; it's about a relationship with the Father. Jesus prayed because He had a relationship with His Father. Why do you pray?

THE ACTS PRAYER METHOD GUIDES US THROUGH FOUR SECTIONS OF PRAYER:

ADORATION

Praise God by telling God who He is and why you worship Him.

CONFESSION

Confess your sins to God.

THANKSGIVING

Give God thanks for His work in your life.

SUPPLICATION

Ask God for your requests.

Did you notice the order in the **ACTS PRAYER METHOD**? First, we praise God for who He is. Then, we confess our sins. Next, we give thanks to God for His work in and through our lives. Finally, after we've praised God, confessed our sins, and thanked God, we ask for our requests.

Do you think requests will change as we pray through this prayer method? You can use this prayer method whenever you pray. The important part is that you spend time growing in your relationship with your Savior.

WRITE OUT YOUR PRAYERS UNDER EACH SECTION OF THE ACTS PRAYER METHOD:

ADORATION | Tell God how great He is.

CONFESSION | Confess your sins.

THANKSGIVING | Give your thanks to God.

SUPPLICATION | Ask for your requests.

STORY TELLERS

OPENING CELEBRATION

SCRIPTURE
1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 18 horizontal dotted lines.



DAY ONE



QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

How would you describe your relationship with God?

What are you hoping God does in your life while you are here?

ASK FOR A STORY



TAWG



TIME ALONE WITH GOD

Begin each TAWG with prayer to God using the ACTS method. Write out your prayers under each section of the ACTS prayer method:

ADORATION

Tell God how great He is.

CONFESSION

Confess your sins.

THANKSGIVING

Give your thanks to God.

SUPPLICATION

Ask for requests.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Philippians 2:1-11

The greatest story ever told is that of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The New Testament gives us countless tellings of the birth, life, and death of Jesus and constantly encourages us to share this story with any and all people we meet. While we should strive to ensure our lives and actions are a living testament to this story, it is equally important that we use our voices to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel.

Philippians 2 instructs us to love others without selfish ambition and with humility consider them more significant than ourselves. This means we are to truly care for their souls and point them to Jesus in every way we can. We should long for all people to know and accept Jesus as their Savior so that we all may spend eternity with Him in Heaven.

It is our calling as Christians to be the storytellers of our generation and use our voices just like the apostles of the past, to make known the love our Lord has for us and what a great sacrifice He made on our behalf! Tell the Good News!

CHALLENGE:

1. Who in your life needs to hear the Gospel?
2. Tell the story of Jesus' love in a way that shows your personal connection to Him.
3. Let go of your sinful ambition and pride; be open, let God lead you to those in your life that need to hear the details of the Gospel from you!

PRAY:

1. Praise Jesus for His story, for His sacrifice, love, and continued forgiveness!
 2. Ask for strength to let go of your pride and accept God's calling on your life as a storyteller.
 3. Pray for God to use you and that His words flow through you as a way to reach others with the greatest story ever told!
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MISSIONS MOMENT

My name is Jacob Scott and I'm from Pilot Mountain, North Carolina. I grew up going to church and hearing about Jesus, but my life completely changed after I went on a short-term mission trip while I was in college, where I made the decision to take my faith seriously and follow Christ wherever He wanted to lead me. Since then, I always had a feeling that God might be calling me to full-time missions, but I still never thought that I would be capable of doing something like that. However, I can see now that God was working out His plan all along.

Two years ago, I came to Panama with a team from my church. That trip led me to begin my application to serve full-time with the International Mission Board and allowed me to meet the team I am now serving with in a small jungle village called Jaqué here in Panama. Along with my team, I spend my days traveling up rivers to tell Bible stories and discipling new believers.

Maybe like me, you're thinking that God would never use you for something great; but I want you to know that He can and He will when you trust your life to Him. And who knows? That could be right there in your own community or in a place you've never even heard of yet!



PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Praise God for how He is growing His church here in the jungles of Panama and how He has and continues to use Crossings Camps to make that possible.
- Pray that every day I would abide in Christ, trusting in His power and in His wisdom, knowing that apart from Him I can do nothing.
- Pray for wisdom for our team as we make decisions about the future of our ministry here and the vision we have for seeing the Gospel overflow from Jaqué to reach those who have never heard in the Chocó region of Colombia.

STORY TELLERS

LARGE GROUP

SCRIPTURE

JOHN 1:1-4, ROMANS 3:10-12,
ROMANS 5:6:8-9, ACTS 16:27-33

MAIN POINT: SHARING THE GOSPEL STORY

HOW TO SHARE THE GOSPEL:

- 1.
- 2.

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
-
-





QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Why do you think sharing the Gospel is so difficult for many Christians?

Think about the people in your circle.
Who can you start to have spiritual conversations with?

What's something you could say to "leave a rock in their shoe?"

DAY TWO

SMALL GROUP



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DAY TWO
SERMON



NOTES

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TAWG



TIME ALONE WITH GOD

Begin each TAWG with prayer to God using the ACTS method. Write out your prayers under each section of the ACTS prayer method:

ADORATION

Tell God how great He is.

CONFESSION

Confess your sins.

THANKSGIVING

Give your thanks to God.

SUPPLICATION

Ask for requests.

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 94:17-19, 22

God, our Creator, made each of us in His image and gave us life because He wants a relationship with us. He loves us! We are only able to love because it is God who gave that love to us first. God showed us His love in the greatest form by sending His perfect Son Jesus to die for our sins. And He continues to show us His love by never forsaking us.

God never leaves our side; He is with us through every moment and every emotion we experience. In Psalm 94, we are encouraged that, not only does God never leave us, but He is our foundation and the source of all our strength! Without Him, we fail; with Him, all things are possible! God calls us to lean on Him and He will guide us.

Trust in the Lord your God to lead you and give you strength as you share the Gospel with others. Trust that God will be there with you in your discomfort as you find the right words to say. Trust that God is your help, your rock, your refuge, and your strength. Know that God's steadfast love will always endure.

CHALLENGE

1. Call on God's strength, not your own, to know you are capable of all He calls you to do and be.
2. Who do you know that seems comfortable sharing the Gospel? How can you follow their example?
3. Ask your church leaders to pray for you as you grow in your ability and eagerness to share the Gospel with others.

PRAY

1. Praise God for His creation, steadfast love, and continued strength!
 2. Share your weaknesses with the Lord and ask for His strength to guide you.
 3. Ask God to give you courage and endurance as you share the Gospel and build relationships that honor and worship Him.
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MISSIONS MOMENT

In 2019, Jaky began to hang around our indigenous missionaries in Jaqué. They spent time together, built a relationship with him, and shared the Gospel often. After a couple of years, Jaky made the decision to follow Jesus and be baptized. Even though his family has always been welcoming to us, they have never shown any interest in making the decision to follow Jesus, and for a time, they even made things hard for Jaky, as if they didn't want him to be a Christian. He often feels out of place or alone in the midst of his family because of this. Please pray for Jaky as he continues to follow Jesus and grow in his faith. He often leads in sharing Bible stories during weekly services with the church in Jaqué, and goes with us on mission trips into Colombia. He has learned to play the guitar and leads in worship songs. He is an important part of our team in Jaqué and we are grateful that he serves alongside us.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray that he would remain strong in his faith and continue to grow as a leader among the young people in the community.
- Please pray for Jaky's family: his mom and dad, brothers and sisters, as well as nieces and nephews. Pray that they would come to faith in Christ. He said that "without Christ, this life has no value." He wants them to experience the same joy that he has in Christ.
- Pray that he would continue to answer God's call to take the Gospel into Colombia.



STORY TELLERS

LARGE GROUP

SCRIPTURE

LUKE 19:1-10, JOHN 20:24-29

MAIN POINT: SHARING A BIBLE STORY

HOW TO SHARE A BIBLE STORY:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



DAY THREE



QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

What does Jesus' interaction with Zaccheus tell us about Jesus' heart for people?

How did Zaccheus show that his heart was changed?
What did his new faith cause him to do?

How can we act like Jesus in this story?
How can we look out for those left out?

What did Thomas state he needed to see to believe that Jesus had risen?

What do you think are the most common questions people have about faith? How can we answer those objections?

DAY THREE

SMALL GROUP



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DAY THREE
SERMON



NOTES

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TAWG



TIME ALONE WITH GOD

Begin each TAWG with prayer to God using the ACTS method. Write out your prayers under each section of the ACTS prayer method:

ADORATION

Tell God how great He is.

CONFESSION

Confess your sins.

THANKSGIVING

Give your thanks to God.

SUPPLICATION

Ask for requests.

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 2:1-12, John 14:6-13

The story of Jesus healing a man with paralysis in Mark 2, is a beautiful witness of a miracle, and the power of our Savior. It is also a story that looks deeper into what He asks of us as believers. When we read the stories of Jesus' miracles throughout the Bible, we are called to know them as truth and believe in the power of our Lord.

In this story of Mark 2, the people did not believe in Jesus when He said to the man, "son, your sins are forgiven." The people questioned Jesus and His power to forgive sins at all! The Bible says that Jesus knew these people were "questioning in their hearts," meaning that although they were doubting Him, they were doing so in seeking the Truth of God.

In this story, Jesus responds to this questioning by healing the man of his paralysis and calling him to "rise, pick up your bed, and go home." If we ever have doubts or begin to question Jesus, we must do so in a way that earnestly seeks the Truth. Today, Jesus calls us to believe in Him as the Son of God, just as He called Philip to do in John 14. Jesus performs miracles as a notion of His power and His love for us, but also as a way to answer our questioning absolutely and with kindness.

CHALLENGE

1. Search your Bible daily for proof of Jesus' power and love. Read and believe the stories that tell of His miraculous doings.
2. Pray for peace in knowing Jesus as your Lord and Savior, that all your doubts may be answered.
3. Strive to share your belief with those around you in hopes that their doubts may be answered as well.

PRAY

1. Praise Jesus for His power, His miracles, His kindness, and His graciousness!
 2. Pray that others may come to know the Truth of Jesus through you.
 3. Ask God to help you serve others the way Jesus did, that your service may lead others to Him.
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MISSIONS MOMENT

Carlos* and Maria* live in a small community several hours away from the Pacific Coast of Colombia. Maria's sister lives in Jaqué, Panama and became a believer 9 years ago during the first trip that IMB missionary, Kenny Morris, made into Jaqué. Since then, her sister and her family have made several trips back into that village as well, continuing to share the Gospel message through Bible stories. In October 2025, we received word that Maria and Carlos had decided that they wanted to follow Jesus, and when the team returned in November, they were baptized. They are now the only believers in their village and the village leaders have decided that they don't want our missionaries coming back into their village. We are looking at ways that we can continue to disciple them and help them grow in their walk with the Lord.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray that God would soften the hearts of the village leaders to allow our people to come back to share the Gospel.
- Pray for our team as we try to find ways to minister to this young couple and encourage them in their faith.
- Pray for Maria and Carlos, that they would be strong in their faith and be an example in their village, that others will want to have the same relationship with God that they now have.



STORY TELLERS

LARGE GROUP

SCRIPTURE

ROMANS 10:14-15; 1 PETER 3:15-16

MAIN POINT: SHARING YOUR STORY

HOW TO SHARE YOUR STORY:

- 1.
- 2.

Abide:

HOW DO WE ABIDE:

- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
-
-



DAY FOUR



QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

When do you remember hearing the Gospel for the first time?
What was your initial reaction?

Can you recall the specific moment or turning point when your attitude towards Jesus shifted?

How important is it to be involved in a local church? What does your church involvement look like?

What's your next spiritual step?

DAY FOUR

SMALL GROUP



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DAY FOUR
SERMON



NOTES

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TAWG



TIME ALONE WITH GOD

Begin each TAWG with prayer to God using the ACTS method. Write out your prayers under each section of the ACTS prayer method:

ADORATION

Tell God how great He is.

CONFESSION

Confess your sins.

THANKSGIVING

Give your thanks to God.

SUPPLICATION

Ask for requests.

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7 and Matthew 5:14-16

Sometimes the story that connects most with those closest to us is that of our own. When we share our testimony, we are opening up the most vulnerable part of ourselves in service to Jesus Christ. It can be a necessary discomfort so that others come to know the Lord as their Savior. We must let go of our worldly desires to “fit in” and choose to stand out for Christ! Be the light that shines so brightly that it is undeniably the works of the Lord. Answer the call to share how Christ has and continues to change your life for the better!

No matter the specific path God has for your life, it is crucial that you spend your days living for Christ. Let others see Jesus in you! As stated in 1 Timothy, pray for all people to know Christ and share your story so that they might. Your story does not have to be one of “extreme circumstances” (although it definitely can); it only has to be the truth of how Christ saved you and how you chose to give your life to Him. The stories in the Bible teach us about Jesus and give us instructions for our lives; our stories, or testimonies, tell of a personal relationship with our Savior that deserves to be shouted from the hilltops!

Share the word of God with all people that they may come to know Christ as their Savior, and spend their days telling others, who will then also share the Good News, and on and on and on! If we light a fire for Christ by sharing His story and ours, we will ignite a spirit of passion for the Lord that will grow His Kingdom! Amen!

CHALLENGE

1. Tell your story every opportunity you get! Be excited to share with others and embrace them with kindness.
2. Make it known that you serve the Lord through your daily actions. Strive that every part of you lives for Jesus - stand out for Him!
3. Pray every day that all people may know Jesus and accept Him as their Lord and Savior.
4. Trust in the Lord to give you the strength to be a storyteller for the Kingdom of God.
5. Read and study your Bible daily to grow in your faith.

PRAY

1. Praise God for sending His son, Jesus, to save us from our sins and give us eternal life! Praise God for our ability to share His story and ours! Praise God for the calling on your life!
2. Pray for discernment of what to say when telling others of Christ's love, that the Lord may speak through you.
3. Pray that your passion and fire for the Kingdom of God will be renewed daily.
4. Pray that you feel the Spirit leading you as you share the Good News.
5. Thank God for His Word and His never-ending love.

MISSIONS MOMENT

In January and February of this year, two trips were made into an area of Colombia along the Pacific Coast. The name is withheld because of security issues. Some of these villages are in areas that are difficult to access, both because of how far you must travel up the rivers to get there and the dangers from drug cartels and guerilla fighters in the area. In one of these communities there are five brand new believers. Some of them are family of believers in the church in Jaqué, and they are asking the missionaries to return as soon as possible to continue to teach them about the Bible and to grow in their new faith. One day, Fortunato, a believer in Jaqué, was able to make a phone call to his family in this area, and was sharing a Bible story with about 20 people over the phone!

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for this brand-new church of 5 believers and that the missionaries, both IMB and indigenous, will be able to return on a regular basis to teach them the Bible and disciple them in their faith.
- Pray for safety for the missionaries that do go into this area.
- Pray that more will come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior in the coming months.

NOTES

A light beige background with faint, stylized illustrations of books and a stack of papers. The page is filled with horizontal dotted lines for writing.



STORY 

 **TELLERS**
