

story

January 21st, 2018

THE WIN

Group Members will become more confident about sharing God's story of Rescue with others in their sphere of influence.

1-2
minutes

SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In the sermon this week, we learned that God's story connects with our own story. This was done by Jesus rescuing us from our sin and shame. No solution of ours could solve our most longing problems.

- What were the different aspects of God's story so far?
- What implication does this story of rescue have for your life?
- What impact can this Story of rescue make on our sphere of influences?

3-5
minutes

WARM UP

What is a moment in your life you needed to be rescued from a problem?

30-35
minutes

THE TEXT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

Read: Romans 1:16, Genesis 3:7-21

- What does the Gospel mean?
- What is the Gospel good news about?
- What are different things in our life that we consider good news? Ex: Cowboys winning, learning you're pregnant, getting a promotion.
- How quick are we to share those things?
- How much more impactful and lasting is the good news of Jesus' rescue?

Read: Acts 1:7-8, Mark 16:15

- Why do we fear sharing about our story of rescue?
- What things in your life are a hindrance to living abandoned for Christ's Mission of Rescue?

The greatest way to connect sharing our story to everyday conversations is to connect people's changing story to God's unchanging Story.

Read: 1 Peter 3:15, Matthew 5:13-16

- Can you think of anyone in your life recently that you talked with that is going through struggle or hardship?
- Are they trying to hide their shame, or are they trying to fix the problem themselves to no avail?
 - You constantly have people in your lives looking for hope even when they do not realize it. Guess who has it?!
- How can we easily move from someone talking about a struggle in their life to the hope of the gospel in our lives?
- Ex: Family struggling in marriage, or friend stressed out at work due to co-workers and deadlines. Offer first empathy, identify with them because you are genuinely seeking a friend not just a win for the books, and then ask questions like, do you think it should be that way? Or Can I tell you what changed for us in our life?

3-5
minutes

DIGGING DEEPER

Do This: Have each group member share their story of God's rescue with another group member.

This simply involves group members sharing who God is, their life before they believed in Christ (Sin), how Christ stepped in and rescued them, and what their life looks like now with Christ.

CLOSING THOUGHT

3-5
minutes

Challenge yourself to think on "the one" in your life that needs to know this story of Rescue. This is the under-resourced, overwhelmed, and far away we have in our lives. Then, make a plan to visit and engage that person intentionally to share with them the Story of God's rescue for the world. If we never make a plan, we will never act.

STUDY

For further resources on sharing your faith here are multiple resources groups can use to practice.

Free Downloadable Apps to have on your phone:

The Story Conversation Guide, by *SpreadTruthMinistries Inc.*

Life on Mission: 3 Circles Life Conversation Guide, by *North American Mission Board*