

STORYBOARD

Discovering Your Story

Week 1



How has God worked
in your life?



The Bible Person who was the subject of the Sermon:
Samuel (1 Samuel 3:1-10)

The Bible Persons to Consider in this study (*pick one or more as time permits*):
Moses, Joshua, Deborah, Job, Saul/Paul, Abram/Abraham, Sarah,
Elizabeth mother of John the Baptist, Samson, David, Rebecca,
Mary Magdalene, Martha and Mary the sisters

Samuel (1 Samuel)

We meet Samuel's parents before we meet Samuel. His mother could not have children, but God heard her prayers and she conceived Samuel. Samuel's name means "God has heard." He is from the tribe of Levi qualifying him to serve (work) in the temple. Samuel is the last of twelve judges. After Samuel, Israel is led by kings and Samuel anoints the first two, Saul and David.

Samuel is considered a prophet by Peter (Acts 3:24).

Samuel serves as a priest (1 Samuel 3:1; 7:9).

Samuel was a Nazarite, like Samson. When he was a child, he was dedicated to the Lord.

He never cut his hair (1 Samuel 1:11; Numbers 6:1-21).

Samuel is the only ghost we meet in the Bible. Saul meets with a medium and contacts the spirit of Samuel. Samuel is NOT happy about Saul's actions (1 Samuel 28).

Samuel is remembered in Psalm 99:6 for his prayers.

Week 1 Questions

1. How did God work in the Bible Person's life?
2. Did the Bible Person realize God was working in his/her life?
 - a. When did the Bible Person first realize God was working in his/her life?
 - b. What made the Bible Person realize it?
3. Did other people in The Bible realize that God was working in the Bible Person's life?
 - a. If so, what made them realize it?
4. What evidence was there that God was working in the Bible Person's life?
5. How has God worked in your life?

6. Let's get a little more granular ...

a. How did God work in your life yesterday (or last week or last month)?

b. How did God work in your life last year (or 3 years ago or 5 years ago or 10 years ago or X years ago)?

7. Ask another person (such as a family member, friend from church, Life Group friend, or other friend) how s/he has seen God work in your life.

8. How about another person's life (such as a family member, friend from church, Life Group friend, or other friend)—how do you see God having worked in the other person's life?

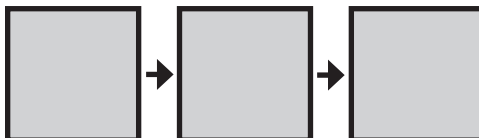
a. If you don't see God working in your life, but do in another person's life, why do you think that's the case?

b. Is it easier to see God working in someone else's life? Why?

c. What can you do to start seeing God working in your life?

9. Stay on “the lookout” for a display of God’s character and characteristics this week.

Sunday, Oct 10	
Monday, Oct 11	
Tuesday, Oct 12	
Wednesday, Oct 13	
Thursday, Oct 14	
Friday, Oct 15	
Saturday, Oct 16	



STORYBOARD

Discovering Your Story

Week 2



What do you think of God?



The Bible Person who was the subject of the Sermon:

Widow at Zarephath (1 Kings 17:7-16)

The Bible Persons to Consider in this study (pick one or more as time permits):

Moses, Joshua, Job, kings of other kingdoms (such as the kings of the lands that were conquered in the Old Testament), King Darius of the Book of Daniel), Mary and Martha the sisters, David, Sarah

Widow of Zarephath

A poor, needy, gentile, widow, and single mom. She lived outside Israel's protection of Jewish law. In other words, there were no laws to help provide for her.

Background and story of Zarephath:

The Lord was withholding rain from Israel, because of their worship of idols. The royal couple Ahab and Jezebel had led the growth of idol worship in the land. The Lord told Elijah to go to Zarephath, a town outside of Israel and there he would find a widow that would provide food for him. Elijah obeyed and found a widow gathering sticks to cook what she thought was the last meal for her family. She was desperate and expected to use the last of her flour and oil to cook a meal, eat it with her son, and then they would die. Elijah boldly asked Zarephath to use her supplies to cook a meal for him. He told her the jar of flour and jug of oil would not run out until the Lord sent rain (v14). The widow obeyed and God was faithful to his promise. Soon after, her son dies, and she blames Elijah. Elijah cries out to God, and He revives the child.

The story of Zarephath teaches us:

There is always hope in God.

Our circumstances never tell the whole story.

When we see no hope, we are in the middle of God's story.

God's resources are unlimited, and His timing is always perfect.

God knows how He will meet our needs long before we know we have a need(s).

Our faith will be tested through the circumstances in our life to teach us to trust and obey God.

God is more interested in meeting the needs of our soul than our stomachs.

When we trust God, He meets our needs.

Week 2 Questions

1. What do you think the Bible Person thought of God?
 - a. Why do you think so?

2. What do you think caused or was a reason behind why the Bible Person thought so?

3. Did the Bible Person make evident (or admit) to God what s/he thought of God?

4. What do you think of God?

5. Who is God to you? Why?
Below are some positions/roles to consider.
 - Lord of my life
 - Frequent friend and counselor
 - Occasional friend and counselor
 - Neglected friend
 - Dad
 - Coach
 - Doctor/healer
 - Fixer
 - Encourager
 - My desperation cry person

6. What do you think of God and His character? Why?

This is not a trick question...be honest. Below are some qualities of His character to consider (please supplement, add others).

- Loving
- Merciful
- Faithful
- Grace-giving
- Compassionate
- Gentle
- Creator/Maker
- Healer
- Miracle-Maker
- Friend
- Counselor
- Steadfast/Constant
- Immeasurable

7. What characteristics of God resonate with you?

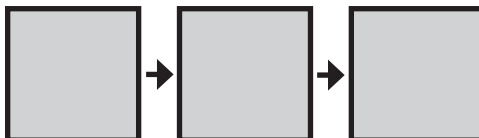
Note that characteristics and character many times overlap.

Below are some characteristics to consider (please supplement, add others).

- Loving
- Caring
- Gentle
- Faithful
- Good
- Omnipotent
- Omnipresent
- Righteous
- Holy
- Slow to Anger
- A disciplinarian
- Harsh
- Sovereign
- Incomprehensible/we cannot fully fathom
- Jealous

8. Stay on “the lookout” for a display of God’s character and characteristics this week.

Sunday, Oct 17	
Monday, Oct 18	
Tuesday, Oct 19	
Wednesday, Oct 20	
Thursday, Oct 21	
Friday, Oct 22	
Saturday, Oct 23	



STORYBOARD

Discovering Your Story

Week 3



What do you want God to do in your life?



The Bible Person who was the subject of the Sermon:
The Blind Beggar (Luke 18:35-43)

The Bible Persons to Consider in this study (*pick one or more as time permits*):

Mary Jesus' mother (consider during the wedding feast), Hannah (Samuel's mother),
Manoah, Abraham (also consider as relates to Lot and the destruction of Sodom
and Gomorrah), David (consider Psalms), Jacob (consider when he wrestled with God),
father of the boy with an impure spirit (Mark 9:14 – 29)

The Blind Beggar (Luke 18:35-43, Mark 10:46-52)

Jesus was leaving Jericho, followed by a large crowd, on his way to Jerusalem when he comes across Bartimaeus. The crowd was most likely on their way to Jerusalem for Passover. This took place a week before Jesus' death.

Week 3 Questions

1. What did the Bible Person want God to do in his/her life?
2. Why did the Bible Person want it?
3. Was the Bible Person's request in keeping with God's character, God's will, and/or God's way?
4. What is a "simple" ask that you want God to do?
5. What is a "bold" ask that you want God to do in your life?
 - a. Why haven't you asked for this?
 - b. What's holding you back from asking?
 - c. Do you believe He can do it?
6. Does God already know what you want Him to do in your life? Shouldn't that give you confidence to ask?

7. Do you think God may want to hear you ask for it—to believe He can do it—to pray intensely about it—to go through something else to get it/to be prepared for it—to trust Him—...?

8. Do you think that God wants to show us His hand in our lives? Why?
 - a. Do we need “seeing” eyes, “hearing” ears and a believing heart?

 - b. How do we go about getting “seeing” eyes, “hearing” ears and a believing heart?

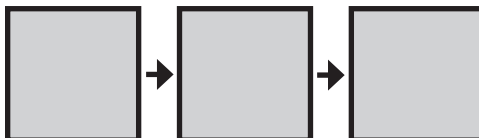
9. Consider the question— “what do you want God to do in your life”— from an immediate, short-term perspective (week/month(s)).
In our everyday relationships, we don’t usually ask “would you do X for me next year?” Rather, we live in the moment and ask for our immediate needs and wants. Take this approach with God.

10. What are your immediate needs?

11. Now consider the question from a long-term perspective— “what do you want God to do in your life long-term (months/years)?”.

Stay on “the lookout” for a display of God’s character and characteristics this week.

Sunday, Oct 24	
Monday, Oct 25	
Tuesday, Oct 26	
Wednesday, Oct 27	
Thursday, Oct 28	
Friday, Oct 29	
Saturday, Oct 30	



STORYBOARD

Discovering Your Story

Week 4



What do you think God wants for you?



The Bible Person who was the subject of the Sermon:
Ruth (Ruth 1:1-9a, 16-18)

The Bible Persons to Consider in this study (*pick one or more as time permits*):

Mary (Jesus' mother), Jonah, Joshua, Sarah, Gideon, Naomi, Elisha (as relates to Elijah), Solomon (he was asked what he wanted the most: wealth, courage, strength, fame, wisdom,...And he picked _____), Joseph (Jesus' father)

Ruth (Book of Ruth)

Ruth was a young widow without a family who became the great grandmother of David and an ancestor to Jesus.

Ruth was a Moabite woman, an outsider. When Ruth's husband died her mother-in-law, Naomi stood by her and she by Naomi. Ruth and Naomi returned to Naomi's homeland (Bethlehem). They were poor, but resourceful. Ruth decided to glean from the fields to feed herself and her mother-in-law. Gleaning was a form of charity during that time where those in need would pick from what was left after the fields were harvested. Ruth went to the field of Boaz where he sees her and falls in love. Naomi devises a plan to get Boaz who is actually her cousin to marry Ruth. Ruth was the great grandmother of king David.

Week 4 Questions

1. What did the Bible Person think God wanted for him/her?

2. Why do you think the Bible Person thought this?

3. Did the Bible Person want to do what s/he thought God wanted him/her to do?
 - a. If not, how did the Bible Person handle it?

 - b. How did it turn out?

4. What do you think God wants for you?
 - a. Consider Romans 8:28 — “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.”

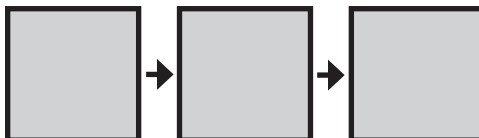
 - b. Consider Matthew 7:9 — “Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask Him.”

5. How does one even go about asking this, figuring it out?
 - a. How about prayer? How about asking God “I don’t even know how to go about this...please lead me, please teach me, please reveal to me what to ask”?
 - b. What is going on in your life right now?
 - c. What has God brought into your life recently?
 - d. What did you ask for years ago that you have forgotten about?
 - e. What have you not asked for, but nevertheless has been presented to you?
 - f. Is there something or someone challenging you in your life right now?
6. Ask another person (family member, friend, friend from church, Life Group friend, co-worker) what s/he thinks God wants for you.
7. Is what you are asking in line with God’s character, His ways, The Bible?
8. Below are some things to consider:
 - Maybe it’s to help you overcome a bad habit, recurring sin, an addiction
 - Maybe it’s to bring a new relationship in your life
 - Maybe it’s to help you raise your child/children
 - Maybe it’s to help you strengthen your marriage
 - Maybe it’s to bring you closer in relationship to Him
 - Maybe it’s to teach you financial responsibility or provision
 - Maybe it’s continued preparation for something else He has planned for you and your life

9. Consider this question not as “what is the purpose of my life,” but rather, what does God want for your life right now, in the immediate future, this week/month/year/year.
10. For later consideration: After asking yourself and others, what has God revealed to you?

Stay on “the lookout” for a display of God’s character and characteristics this week.

Sunday, Oct 31	
Monday, Nov 1	
Tuesday, Nov 2	
Wednesday, Nov 3	
Thursday, Nov 4	
Friday, Nov 5	
Saturday, Nov 6	



STORYBOARD

Discovering Your Story

Week 5



What does God
want you to do?



The Bible Person who was the subject of the Sermon:

Esther (Esther 4:1-17)

The Bible Persons to Consider in this study (*pick one or more as time permits*):

Mary (Jesus' mother), Joseph (Jesus' father), Gideon, Naomi, Joshua, Jonah,
Abram (Abraham), Saul (Paul), Timothy

Esther (Book of Esther)

A young Jewish woman named, Hadassah who lived in Persia was taken from her guardian, Mordecai and forced to compete for the affection of the king. She was crowned queen and her name was changed to Esther, meaning star.

God's faithfulness and sovereignty are demonstrated through the roller-coaster drama that unfolds in Esther's life (Esther 4).

Esther was of the tribe of Benjamin and lived during the time Israel was exiled. Hadassah (later Esther) was orphaned at an early age when both her parents died. Her cousin Mordecai adopted her. Mordecai loved God and loved Esther.

Esther was said to be not only beautiful, but a woman of honor.

Esther kept her heritage a secret (Esther 2:17-18).

Esther trusted God and He delivered her.

Week 5 Questions

1. What did God want for the Bible Person?
 - a. Why do you think God wanted it?

2. How did God reveal it to the Bible Person?

3. How did the Bible Person respond?

4. Did the Bible Person want what God wanted?
 - a. If not, how did the Bible Person handle it?

 - b. How did it turn out?

5. What do you think God wants you to do?

6. How do you even go about asking yourself this?
 - a. Ask a family member, a friend, someone from church, Pastor Mike, some other person of faith.
 - b. What is going on in your life right now?
 - c. What do you think God has brought into your life recently?
 - d. What did you ask for years ago that you had forgotten about?
 - e. What have you not asked for, but has presented itself to you in your life?
 - f. Is there something or someone challenging you in your life right now?
7. Ask another person (family member, friend, friend from church, co-worker) what s/he thinks God wants you to do.
8. Is what you hear in what God wants you to do in line with His character, His ways, The Bible?

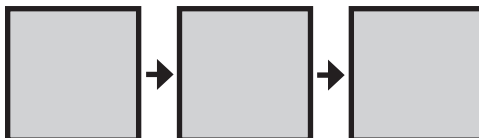
9. Consider this question not as “big assignment,” but rather, what does God want you to do right now, in the immediacy, this week/month. And challenge yourself to obey immediately, in the moment. It doesn’t have to be “big” or significant thing/act. It will likely be in the small things, which incrementally increase and evolve with time.

Read Esther’s story in the Book of Ruth (it’s a short Book with only four chapters). Esther was asked to do things in small increments that ultimately led to the saving of thousands of Jewish lives!

10. For later consideration: What did God reveal to you after you asked?

Stay on “the lookout” for a display of God’s character and characteristics this week.

Sunday, Nov 7	
Monday, Nov 8	
Tuesday, Nov 9	
Wednesday, Nov 10	
Thursday, Nov 11	
Friday, Nov 12	
Saturday, Nov 13	



STORYBOARD

Discovering Your Story

Week 6



Where does Jesus
fit into all of this?



The Bible Person who was the subject of the Sermon:
Peter (Matthew 16:13-20)

The Bible Persons to Consider in this study (*pick one or more as time permits*):

The Apostle Paul, Mary Magdalene, Zacchaeus, The Apostle John,
Judas (the betrayer), James (Jesus' brother who first denied Him
and later wrote a book of The Bible), The Apostle Thomas, Timothy (Paul's protégé)

Peter

Peter was one of the first followers of Jesus. He was an outspoken disciple and one of Jesus closest friends. He was an apostle, strong willed, enthusiastic, and impulsive. He was also a pillar of the church (Galatians 2:9).

Peter was originally from Bethsaida (John 1:44) and lived in Capernaum (Mark 1:29). Both were cities on the coast of Galilee. He was married (1 Corinthians 9:5), and he was partners with James and John in a fishing business (Luke 5:10).

Simon (Peter) met Jesus through his brother, Andrew who followed Jesus after hearing John the Baptist proclaim Jesus as the Lamb of God (John 1:35-36). Upon meeting Simon, Jesus gives him a new name, Cephas (Aramaic) or Peter (Greek) which means "rock." (John 1:40-42). Jesus calls Peter to follow him producing a miraculous catch of fish (Luke 5:1-7). Peter immediately followed!

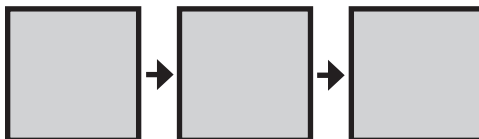
Week 6 Questions

1. Where and how did Jesus fit into The Bible Person's life?
2. Did the Bible Person allow Jesus to transform his/her life? How?
3. Do you think the Bible Person was surprised with how Jesus fit into his/her life, or did s/he expect it?
4. Who is Jesus to you?
 - Lord of my life
 - Consultant
 - Sidekick
 - A "get out of jail" pass
 - Coach
 - Friend
 - Occasional friend
 - Neglected friend
5. Are you allowing Jesus to transform you? Are you resisting it?
6. Are you ignoring what He places before you?
7. Do you want to be like Jesus? In what way?

8. What miracle that Jesus did when He walked the earth most resonates with you? Why?
9. What part of Jesus' life on earth resonates most with you? Why?

Stay on "the lookout" for a display of God's character and characteristics this week.

Sunday, Nov 14	
Monday, Nov 15	
Tuesday, Nov 16	
Wednesday, Nov 17	
Thursday, Nov 18	
Friday, Nov 19	
Saturday, Nov 20	



STORYBOARD

Discovering Your Story

Week 7



The Gospel in a Word



The Bible Person who was the subject of the Sermon:
John the Baptizer (John 1:6-9, 14-18, 24-28)

John the Baptist (Luke 1)

Born to elderly parents, Zachariah and Elisabeth.

John the Baptist and Jesus were second cousins on their mother's side (Luke 1:36).

John was 6-8 months older than Jesus, but they only met twice. The first meeting was in the womb and the second was at Jesus' Baptism.

John lived in the desert of Judea until he was 30 years old. He wore clothes made of camel hair and ate wild honey and dried locusts.

John baptized people in the Jordan River at Bethabara which is the same place the people of Israel crossed the Jordan more than a thousand years earlier into the promised land.

John is called the forerunner because he preached about Jesus to the world around him (John 1:31-34).

John convicted Herod Antipas for illegally marrying his brother's wife who was also his niece (Mark 6:18-28 and Matthew 14:3).

John was put in prison after Christ's sermon on the mount. While in prison, John was visited by his disciples and Herod came to ask him questions.

John became discouraged in prison and began to question and doubt (Matthew 11:2-4).

John was executed in 32 BC.

5. Write out your testimony.

6. Would you be willing to share your story with someone else?

7. How is understanding God's work in your life and your testimony significant as we enter the Christmas season?

a. Could it give new meaning to Christmas and the hope that we celebrate in the birth of Jesus Christ?

8. How will understanding God's work in your life and your testimony enrich your experience as a Christian?

Stay on “the lookout” for a display of God’s character and characteristics this week.

Sunday, Nov 21	
Monday, Nov 22	
Tuesday, Nov 23	
Wednesday, Nov 24	
Thursday, Nov 25	
Friday, Nov 26	
Saturday, Nov 27	

