

## STUDY 12

### Telling our Story

*One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare  
your mighty acts  
(Psalm 145:4)*

We live in a post-modern generation, which loves stories. It's all about their particular encounter, journey and feelings and so telling our stories is a great way to communicate the gospel. However the danger is that post-moderns tend to reject the big story in favour of the little but we need to remember that our story is a part of God's story. We also need to remember that although our story may encourage it does not create faith as the word of God does! After we tell our story we need share the word of God!

Three reasons why we should share our stories:

- **We tell stories for God's glory**
- **We tell stories to remember our journey**
- **We tell stories because it is our responsibility**

**CONNECTION AND ACTION** *Use these questions to promote conversation and connection.*

**Q.** Why is it significant to tell your story? Share an experience you have had recently of telling your story

**Q:** Read Romans 10:17 and Hebrew 4:12. Why is it so powerful to share the word of God? How could you include the word of God in your story?

**Q.** Read Acts 21:37-22:22. What do you notice about the way Paul tells his story? Note: Not everyone will react positively to your story!

**Q.** Read Acts 22:10 and Psalm 145:4. What are we assigned to do and responsible for? Who are you responsible to tell your story to?

**Prayer:** Pray for opportunities to share your stories and the word of God!

#### HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- **Men's Conference is all about causing men to take a stand for righteousness & truth. Please speak with the men in your Connect Group and go to [www.mensconference.com](http://www.mensconference.com) to register them today!**

More  
over  
the  
page

# Glorious Ruins

## Tell your story

*As Jesus was getting into the boat, the demon-delivered man begged to go along, but he wouldn't let him. Jesus said, "Go home to your own people. Tell them your story—what the Master did, how he had mercy on you." The man went back and began to preach in the Ten Towns area about what Jesus had done for him. He was the talk of the town.*

*(Mark 5:18-20 Message)*

In his message on how to tell stories Robert Fergusson spoke of three areas we need to bear in mind.

- **Logos = Know what you are talking about.**

We need to share our story with authority (don't apologise for it); truth (put some content in it) and wisdom.

- **Ethos = The way you relate**

We need to share our story with clarity, we need to have dialogue rather than a monologue and we need to give an invitation.

- **Pathos = Passion**

We need to be authentic, detailed and not afraid to share our emotions

Take a few minutes to write down your story or part of it and try to include some of the elements described above. Share your story with the group or in pairs.

### PRAY TOGETHER

- Ps Brian & Bobbie Houston
- Decisions for Jesus in our Services
- New Small Group Leaders

### PASTORAL CARE

- We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside people in your group who may be going through a tough time
- Please contact the church office Sydney 02 8853 5353, Melbourne 03 9720 2099, Brisbane 07 3422 8500 or Newcastle 02 4927 1888 to let us know of anybody in your group (with their permission) who have sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, surgeries.

### NATION BUILDERS – ON MISSION

One of the best ways you can be 'On Mission' is to regularly PRAY for the Nation Builders causes we support, and regularly inspire your group to receive your Nation Builders offering. Your giving makes a massive difference in helping us 'reach and influencing the world'. We have also uploaded three new video resources to play in your Connect Group – check them out on MyHillsong

#### Jesus Lifehouse, Ps Rod Plummer, Japan

Jesus Lifehouse in Tokyo is celebrating their 11th Anniversary this summer. They are a dynamic young church of 1,800 people. They have planted Lifehouse churches in Osaka, Yokohama, Sapporo, Sendai (in Japan) and also Bali, Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Taipei (in Asia). They are passionate about Church planting! Our next two church plants will be in Kobe (City of 1.5 million) and Fukuoka (City of 1.5 million). Currently they are in the process of raising a church planting team and finances for each city. Your Nation Builders giving tonight will make a difference in these cities tomorrow!