

HARVEST COMMUNITY CHURCH

April 30, 2006

It's Not Too Late... #2

"...To Tell Your Story"

Reasons we don't tell our personal God story to people:

I'm _____ I'm _____

I'm _____

To be ready to tell my story I need to:

1. _____

Matthew 13:34 (NLT) Jesus always used stories and illustrations like these when speaking to the crowds. In fact, he never spoke to them without using such parables.

2. _____

Story = _____

Stories of personal encounters with Jesus:

John 4:1-42 - A Spiritual Encounter

John 4:28-30 (NLT) ²⁸ The woman left her water jar beside the well and went back to the village and told everyone, ²⁹ "Come and meet a man who told me everything I ever did! Can this be the Messiah?" ³⁰ So the people came streaming from the village to see him.

John 15:1-15 - A Confrontational Encounter

John 15:6, 8-9 (NLT) ⁶ When Jesus saw him and knew how long he had been ill, he asked him, "Would you like to get well?" ⁸ Jesus told him, "Stand up, pick up your sleeping mat, and walk!" ⁹ Instantly, the man was healed!

John 8:2-11 - A Forgiveness Encounter

John 8:7, 10-11 (NLT) ⁷ They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, "All right, stone her. But let those who have never sinned throw the first stones!" ¹⁰ Then Jesus stood up again and said to her, "Where are your accusers? Didn't even one of them condemn you?" ¹¹ "No, Lord," she said. And Jesus said, "Neither do I. Go and sin no more."

John 9:1-34 - A Healing Encounter

- What was my life like _____?
 - _____ did I encounter Jesus?
 - What has my life been like _____?
3. _____

Colossians 4:5 (NLT) Live wisely among those who are not Christians, and make the most of every opportunity.

1 Corinthians 3:6 (NLT) My job was to plant the seed in your hearts, and Apollos watered it, but it was God, not we, who made it grow.

4. Realize that God's favorite natural resource is _____

Acts 4:13 (NLT) The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men who had had no special training. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus.

Matthew 5:14-16 (NLT) ¹⁴ You are the light of the world—like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see. ¹⁵ Don't hide your light under a basket! Instead, put it on a stand and let it shine for all. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

Don't _____ your story. Let people _____ it.

April memory verse: 2 Corinthians 12:9 (NIV) But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.