His Story – Our Story

By Pastor Jim Cashwell

HAD A LIFE-CHANGING EXPERIENCE. It happened when I was nine years old. A visiting pastor shared that I had a heart that was prone to sin. My heart was not just prone to sin! I knew that I was a sinner. He continued to share that sin in my life would separate me from a righteous and holy God, and my punishment would be eternal separation from God in hell. I knew beyond a shadow of doubt that I was in trouble — eternal trouble. This visiting pastor then shared the solution. He shared that God had sent His Son who lived a perfect, sinless life to take my place and pay for my sin. Jesus was my way out. How do I make this great exchange?

"IF YOU CONFESS

with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

Romans 10:9-10

Romans 10:9–10 held the answer. Through prayer, I confessed my sin and accepted Jesus as Lord of my life. In my heart, I knew that God had given me victory over this eternal death and hell. My life — my eternity — changed forever. On that day, I began a personal relationship with Jesus, and my life has never been the same.

Sharing how Jesus changed our life should be as easy as telling someone how you met your best friend. I think we allow thoughts of rejection to flood our minds and cause us to hesitate. God's

Word challenge us, "How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?" (Romans 10:14).

God has given you and me the responsibility of sharing Christ with His lost world. Telling "His Story" of how He saved us from our sinful lives is the best tool for sharing Christ with another person.

I usually begin "My Story" with a word from Scripture. It could be Romans 10:9-10. Other times I use John 3:16, and I talk about how much God loves us. John 10:10 is a great passage to share when you want to contrast the abundant life Christ offers with the lies of the enemy. Romans 5:8 is a wonderful passage to share explaining that Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; many people think they are not good enough to follow Christ.

From there, I just share about my life-changing experience — I cried out to Jesus, and He came into my heart. The best thing about "My Story" is that it cannot be disputed. I am telling first-hand of the transformation that Jesus has made in my life.

There are other great tools to help you frame your personal testimony of how Jesus came into your life. Tracts, such as "Steps to Peace with God" or "The Four Spiritual Laws," have been used successfully for decades to tell the Gospel story. "The Roman Road" (Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-10 and 10:13) is another effective tool to use to share Christ's love as we witness to others.

Whatever tool you use, do not hesitate because you fear rejection. God just commands us to share. We are to trust Him for the outcome!

Take a moment and list five people you know who need Jesus.

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Now, make plans to tell them "Your Story."