

Preparing Your Easter Story

A basic outline to share our story goes like this: Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration.

Creation

Our stories begin with where we come from and where God was in our upbringing.

“Growing up...”:

- What did you think about Jesus?

Fall

Eventually, we began living (or at least become aware of) our own version of life without God. This may be a series of habits or decisions that are sinful. Some of our stories will highlight a tragic event or personal crisis that made us aware of our need for a savior.

“My life was...”:

- What event, decisions, or habits marked or exemplified this ‘fall’?

Redemption

Our stories take a turn when Jesus enters in.

“Then I heard the good news...”:

- What was it about Jesus that drew you to trust in him?

Make it clear that Jesus is the hero. You could say something like:

- “I believed that Jesus died from my sins and rose from the grave”
- “All of a sudden, I couldn’t deny God’s love for me in sending his son for me.”

Another option is to quote a bible passage that makes the good news very clear, such as John 3:16, Romans 5:8, or 1 John 4:10.

New Creation

The bible ends with Jesus on the throne. He WINS! However, our stories are not finished yet. We live in a real world, but with real HOPE!

- How has new life in Jesus changed the way you think about yourself?

KEEPING IT SIMPLE

If you feel stuck, just remember whatever you were, you are not that any more! Talk about the way Jesus saved you from that and how he’s showing you a new way of life.

A Sample Story

Growing Up...

Growing up, I saw Jesus as a divine addition to your squad if you needed comfort and courage. Life wasn't about God, life was about girls.

My life was...

I was driven by my need be seen as somebody special. This led to a pursuit of excellence in art, hookups, and blackouts as I did anything I could to be accepted. By the time I moved to NYC, I already felt exhausted and felt empty.

Then I heard...

Then I heard about Jesus. Not the divine hype man, but the King of all things who became a man so he could save us. The Jesus who died but rose from the grave and offers new life to all who follow him.

Now...

I'm not saying following Jesus has made life "all good all the time." But every day he shows me I am not defined by my failures or successes, but by the love of the one who conquered death.