



## Rooted

### Tips to Tell Your Story

God is alive and moving in powerful ways today. Your story of what God has done through your life is the way many will hear the Good News of Christ for the first time. For many, this experience has answered important questions, increased faith, deepened connections to God, and provided a glimpse of what it means to live as a disciple of Jesus. As powerful as sharing our story can be, this may be intimidating for some. So if this idea of sharing your story of faith is intimidating, here are some tips to help.

It begins with a basic understanding of storytelling. Every story has three parts: beginning, middle and end. Another way to look at it is orientation (how you see the world), disorientation (an experience like Rooted or a life event <positive or negative> that has altered the way you see the world), and the new orientation (based on how the Gospel has changed the way you see the world now).

While formulating how to share your story most effectively you may want to answer some questions like...



What was your life like before you came to Christ?



What event served as a catalyst to you coming to Christ?



Who played a significant role in you coming to Christ?



As you have grown in faith, how has your understanding of God changed/matured?



How has the way you lived changed in light of your faith and growth in Christ?

Sharing your story of transformation does not have to be scary or feel like we are preaching to the people in our life. Rather it's our opportunity to tell the greatest story ever told. These stories, our stories, are Gospel stories. "I once was lame, but now I walk." "I once was blind, but now I see." "I once was dead, but now I am alive in Christ!"

To bring your story all together, consider finding a theme in the Gospels as a foundation for the story to stand on. Redemption, forgiveness, reconciliation, mercy, justice, or healing are some examples of themes we see throughout the stories of Jesus.



If we can understand how to use our suffering to help other people; we find joy. The kind of joy Christ experienced on the cross.



By sharing our story to help others we identify with Christ on a new level as the most difficult point in His life was the implement for redemption and reconciliation.



By sharing the story of our pain to help others, our pain is redeemed and has a newfound purpose in spreading the Gospel.