

HIS
PLAN
OUR
PURPOSE

IS THERE MORE?

Understanding the Storyline of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation

THE STORIES OF **POWER, CHANGE + HEAVEN**

TEACHER GUIDE

28
nineteen[™]

THE WHOLE STORY

Warren Wiersbe writes, “When He wrote the Bible, God didn’t give us a ponderous theology book divided into sections labeled God, Creation, Man, Sin, and so forth. Instead, He gave us a story, a narrative that begins in eternity past and ends in eternity future.”



THE STORY OF **GRACE**

> *January*



THE STORY OF **DELIVERANCE**

> *February*



THE STORY OF **PROMISE**

> *March*



THE STORY OF **FAITH**

> *April*



THE STORY OF **RENEWAL**

> *May*



THE STORY OF **PURPOSE**

> *June, July + August*



THE STORY OF **CHRIST: IN HIS OWN WORDS**

> *August + September*

FEATU
RED



THE STORY OF **POWER**

> *October*



THE STORY OF **CHANGE**

> *November*



THE STORY OF **HEAVEN**

> *December*

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GOD HAS BEEN AND
WILL ALWAYS BE IN THE
LIFE-CHANGING BUSINESS.

THE STORY OF CHANGE

Jesus' first miracle was changing water into wine. He changed men who caught fish for a living into fishers of men. Jesus changed a burial grave into an empty tomb. Jesus wants lives to change, including yours and mine. And He meets people, right where they are, on a hillside, in a boat or on the road.

The Apostle Paul experienced a dramatic change in his life while traveling to Damascus to persecute and capture Christians. On the road, Jesus captured his attention with a light described as "*brighter than the sun.*" For three days, Paul was blind, but in those days of darkness, the Light of the World changed his heart. Paul was educated in the teachings of the prophets and the writings of the Law of Moses. Undoubtedly, he studied these words of Ezekiel:

EZEKIEL 36:26 *Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.*

He was now experiencing this himself.

God has been and will always be in the life-changing business. In the Old Testament, God would often change someone's name to mark the occasion, such as Abram becoming Abraham and Sarai becoming Sarah, and Jacob becoming Israel. In the New Testament, Simon came primarily to be known as Peter, the rock. While Saul later came to be known as Paul, name changes are not as important as the changing of one's heart.

Our story of change begins with understanding who we are in view of our holy God. Scripture declares we are all on a level playing field as we enter this world as babies. Regardless of nationality, zip code, bank account, or family size, the reality is we are all sinners in need of a Savior. Once we realize who we are, then we can understand who Jesus is. Many immediately think of Jesus as the baby born in the manger that we celebrate at Christmas. Others will think of Jesus dying on a cross at Easter. But until we see Jesus in light of our desperate need for a Savior, the manger, the cross, and even the resurrection will be misunderstood.

However, understanding who we are and who Christ is, is only part of the story. For change to take place in our lives, we need to understand what we truly need, what Christ provides, and how we can receive it. These next four weeks, we are going to take the Story of Change step by step, looking at the writings of the Apostle Paul to the early church.

November 7-8 Who We Are - Romans 3

November 14-15 Who Christ Is - Colossians 1

November 21-22 What We Need - Romans 5

November 28-29 What He Provides - Romans 6