**Sharing the Story of Jesus**

*Series, B.L.E.S.S — The Church In Action*

Aug, 22, 2021

What is your favourite story?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Stories are **P** because they give us a **S** of who we are, where we come from and what we are called to do in this life

Acts 13:13-33a, 36-39, 42-48

**Paul and Barnabas in Antioch of Pisidia**

**13** Then Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. John, however, left them and returned to Jerusalem; **14** but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. **15** After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, “Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it.” **16** So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak:

“You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. **17** The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. **18** For about forty years he put up with[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+13&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-27369c)] them in the wilderness. **19** After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance **20** for about four hundred fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. **21** Then they asked for a king; and God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. **22** When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, ‘I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes.’ **23** Of this man’s posterity God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised; **24** before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. **25** And as John was finishing his work, he said, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+13&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-27376d)] on his feet.’

**26** “My brothers, you descendants of Abraham’s family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent. **27** Because the residents of Jerusalem and their leaders did not recognize him or understand the words of the prophets that are read every sabbath, they fulfilled those words by condemning him. **28** Even though they found no cause for a sentence of death, they asked Pilate to have him killed. **29** When they had carried out everything that was written about him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. **30** But God raised him from the dead; **31** and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, and they are now his witnesses to the people. **32** And we bring you the good news that what God promised to our ancestors **33** he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising Jesus;

**36** For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, died, was laid beside his ancestors, and experienced corruption; **37** but he whom God raised up experienced no corruption. **38** Let it be known to you therefore, my brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you; **39** by this Jesus everyone who believes is set free from all those sins from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.

**42** As Paul and Barnabas were going out, the people urged them to speak about these things again the next sabbath. **43** When the meeting of the synagogue broke up, many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to continue in the grace of God.

**44** The next sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord **45** But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy; and blaspheming, they contradicted what was spoken by Paul. **46** Then both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, “It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken first to you. Since you reject it and judge yourselves to be unworthy of eternal life, we are now turning to the Gentiles. **47** For so the Lord has commanded us, saying,

‘I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, so that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.’”

**48** When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and praised the word of the Lord; and as many as had been destined for eternal life became believers.

Theme & Goal:

We don’t **I** God into our story. God invites us into **H**  story.

1. **K**  God’s Story.

The **R** Story: We are citizens of Rome, come from a holy city, and are called to be part of Rome’s spiritual **D** .

Story of the Bible: Creation, Fall, **R** , Consummation

**D**  of Scripture:

The King Creates a Kingdom,

Rebellion in the Kingdom,

**The King Chooses a New People,**

**The Return of the King,**

**The Kingdom of God Reestablished,**

The King will Come Again.

2. **L**  God’s Story.

God’s story fundamentally shapes who we are: We are **C** of God, created by the King of Kings. We have been **R** from sin so that we may now live in his new Kingdom, until The King comes back again.

The story of Jesus **T** us in 5 ways: Hospitality, Relationship, Integrity, Church rootedness, Message bearing.

**Relationship:** “Evangelism is not mechanical; evangelism is relational. Strangers to the faith are not targets; they are full-fledged human beings, with whom Christians are called to be in relationship.”

“As you become more conscious of these five qualities, as you practice them day by day, you will, perhaps even without realizing it, be preparing for good evangelism. Good evangelists do not sprout overnight; they mature as they cultivate these qualities.” Priscilla Pope-Levison’

3. **S**  God’s Story.

**E an invitation to share.**

“Live such a life that provokes the questions to which only the gospel can answer”.

**Tell God’s story in a way which C to the audience.**

**U the story of Jesus to share the story of Jesus.**