

IGNITE

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ACTS

The Power of Your Story

Sunday, July 16, 2023

Acts 11:1-18

Stories have powerful impact on the lives of people. It is vitally important that Christians know the overarching story line of the Bible. The story line of the Bible begins with creation, to our fall into sin, to redemption through Jesus Christ, and final restoration in the fullness of time. If we are to live as Christians in a fallen world, we must be shaped by the grand narrative of the Scriptures, the worldview we find in the Bible.

The Bible is a story book. It's not a book of lectures, outlines or sermons. It's simply a storybook filled with the most powerful stories you will ever be witness to. So it's no wonder that God wants us to share our stories of His work in our lives. 1 John 1:2-3 tells us: "the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us, that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ." The Apostle John walked with Jesus and was now sharing his story with his readers. He was testifying, announcing the Good News of Jesus to those who would listen. In Acts 11, Peter shares his story of God's activity that changed his understanding that the Gospel is for everyone. When he shared the story with the church in Jerusalem, it had tremendous influence and impact.

Key Thought

Sharing your personal story of God's activity in your life,
influences and impacts people.

1. The catalyst for your story is the activity of God in your life (vs. 1-3)

(John 9:25; John 4:42; John 15:27)

2. The content of your story (vs. 4-16)

In this story, Peter puts together the grand narrative of God's redemptive story. He sees the world from a new perspective, God's perspective.

- a. Biblical Worldview (a gospel framework)
- b. Biblically Accurate (experience is verified and validated by God's Word)
- c. Christ Centered (Jesus is the hero of the story)

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1. The consequences from telling your story (vs. 17-18)

- a. God is glorified (v. 18).
- b. A Biblical truth is learned or strengthened (v. 18).
- c. Christians are impacted, challenged, encouraged, strengthened, and comforted.
- d. Non-Christians are confronted.

“And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony.” Revelation 12:11

2. The call to tell your story

(Acts 1:8; Luke 8:39; 2 Timothy 1:8; Matthew 10:32)

Stories help us connect!

What's your story? Do you see your life in the grand narrative of the Bible, centered in Christ and eternally significant to God?

- a. Salvation Story
- b. Sanctification Story - How is God working in your life right now?

Please use the following link to learn how to tell your story:

<https://notes.subsplash.com/fill-in/view?page=y0Mb7eNsZU9>