



# YOUR POWERFUL STORY

## ACTS 22:1-21

*And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONY, for they loved not their lives even unto death."* REVELATION 12:10-11

### I. Every powerful story has a \_\_\_\_\_.

*"I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city, educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day." v. 3*

### II. Every powerful story has a \_\_\_\_\_.

*"As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' And I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' And he said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.'" vv. 6-8*

### III. Every powerful story has \_\_\_\_\_.

*"And he said to me, 'Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.'" v. 21*

Allow \_\_\_\_\_ to free you from your past.

Always highlight \_\_\_\_\_ as the hero of your story.

Align the rest of your story with \_\_\_\_\_ to see His power.

You have a  
**POWERFUL  
STORY.**

REVEALING  
THE UNKNOWN  
GOD



# TELLING MY STORY

Dr. Doug Cecil

## PART A: Identifying the themes in my life

### BEFORE JESUS

- Worry/anxiety
- Guilt/shame
- Anger
- Empty/lack of purpose
- Grief
- Stress/burnout
- Low self-esteem
- Poor health
- Disappointment
- Insecurity
- Regrets
- Discontent/always busy
- Fears
- Loneliness
- Addictions/habits
- Self-centeredness
- Despair/depression
- Cheap thrills
- Boredom with my life
- Fear of death
- Something is missing
- Bitterness/resentment
- Pain of rejection
- Marriage problems
- Financial problems
- Career/job problems

### AFTER JESUS

- Inner peace
- Forgiveness
- Patience and love
- Purpose in life
- Comfort and joy
- Power for living
- Significance to God
- Strength to go on
- Trust in His plans
- Confidence and security
- A second chance at life
- Contentment and peace
- Faith to face my fears
- He's always with me
- Power to change
- Love for other people
- Hope
- Real, lasting happiness
- Adventure with God
- Assurance of Heaven
- Sense of fulfillment
- Freedom from my past
- God's unconditional love
- Changes in my marriage
- Changes in my finances
- Changes in my career/job

The predominant theme in my life before Jesus was: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART B: Writing my testimony

### 1. What my life was like before I met Christ

What common circumstances would an unbeliever identify with? What were your attitudes that an unbeliever would identify with? What was most important to you? What substitute for God did you use to find meaning in your life (sports/fitness, success at work, marriage, sex, making money, drugs/alcohol, having fun, entertainment, popularity, hobbies)? Remember, focus on the root of the problem, not the fruit of the problem.

### 2. How I realized I needed Christ

What significant steps led to your decision to follow Christ? What needs, hurts or problems made you dissatisfied with the way you were living without God? How did God get your attention? What motivated you? What were you thinking? What were you feeling?

### 3. How I committed my life to Christ

How, specifically, did you place your faith and trust in Jesus Christ? Where did it happen? What did you say in your prayer? Be specific. Share the gospel (sin, substitutionary atonement, faith)!

### 4. The difference Christ has made in my life

How has your decision to trust Christ been fruitful or beneficial? What problems have been resolved? How has Jesus helped you change for the better? How has it helped your relationship? Give a current example.

## COMING UP AT CHRIST CHAPEL

Here's a glimpse at what you need to know for this week at Christ Chapel. If you'd like to find out even more, visit [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events).

### MAKE PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE WITH CHRIST CHAPEL

We are looking forward to a wonderful Christmas Eve service as we celebrate the birth of Jesus! On Sunday, Dec. 24 we'll be hosting both contemporary and traditional services across all three campuses. Come be a part in person or through our online broadcast, and bring your friends, family and neighbors, too! When you leave the service today, make sure to get a few inviter cards at the Christmas station and find your Reservation Reminders at [www.ccbcfamily.org/christmaseve](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/christmaseve). We can't wait to celebrate with you!

### REACH WITH US THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

Unsure how to invite someone to Christmas Eve? Journey with us through 21 Days of Reach! Receive daily texts with fun, simple ways to reach out to more of the 800,000 this holiday season. From devotionals and playlists, to coloring pages and unique Christmas Eve invites, be a part by texting REACH to 24253.

**EMBARK** We're here to help you find a place for your community, gifts and faith to deepen! Embark, formerly Connecting Point, is where we begin to walk with you as you journey here at Christ Chapel. Classes will begin this January, and we can't wait for you to be a part. Sign up today at [www.ccbcfamily.org/embark](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/embark).

### SIGN UP FOR BAND OF BROTHERS AND WOMEN IN THE WORD

Looking for a place to connect at Christ Chapel while learning more about Scripture? Join us for our men's and women's Bible studies! Band of Brothers will be taking this spring to step into a study of Hebrews. Ladies, come to Women in the Word and study Romans. Learn more and sign up today at [www.ccbcfamily.org/events](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/events).

**RE|ENGAGE YOUR MARRIAGE** reengage offers hope to marriages by helping couples move toward oneness through stories of grace, teaching and small groups. Whether you would rate your marriage as a two or ten, there is hope for your marriage to be renewed and strengthened in Christ. Classes begin this January! Register today by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/reengage](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/reengage).

**AVENEW** From dating and engaged couples to newly married, AVENEW is where you will receive a biblical framework of marriage and learn more about walking out God's design and purpose for you in marriage. Sundays, starting Jan. 14, from 5 to 6 p.m. Register and learn more by visiting [www.ccbcfamily.org/avenew](http://www.ccbcfamily.org/avenew).



**LOOKING FOR THE CONNECT CARD?** Scan the QR code here to fill out a Connect Card. Our team will reach out this week to answer your questions and tell you more about Christ Chapel.

**IF YOU'D LIKE TO GIVE AN OFFERING TODAY, YOU CAN DO SO STRAIGHT FROM YOUR PHONE.** The process is quick and easy—text GIVE to 24253 to get started.