

AMAZING STORIES #2

03/13/2022

Rom 10:17; Heb. 10:22-25; 36-39; 11:1,2,6; 12:1-3

Sunday a.m.

SLIDE 1 – COVER SLIDE

SLIDE 2 – AMAZING STORIES – PURPOSE?

- Discipleship/Train w/Confidence/encouragement to share faith (MY story)
 - Better understanding of BIG PICTURE STORY – GOSPEL GOOD NEWS
 - Clarity & power of MY STORY – (witness, testimony, what Jesus did)

SLIDE 3 – ROMANS 10:17 *Faith comes by hearing; hearing through Word of Christ*

SLIDE 4 – THE POWER OF STORY

- **Rom 10:5-17 EXPLORING** – “how do people come to faith/belief in Christ?”
 - Testimony – “Here’s what happened; here’s what I saw”
 - Story – “Let me tell you about what Christ did for us”
 - Power of Holy Spirit + ministers of reconciliation – (intro others to Christ)
- The power of story: masters of metaphor, analogy... > words alone
- **Cognitive science (interdisciplinary study of the mind/its processes)**
 - **STORY** – how truth becomes embedded in our hearts/minds/lives;
- Near-Eastern = oral tradition: STORY → history, culture, values, beliefs
 - Vs. Western – written word; academic, linear, information focused

SLIDES 5-8 – HEBREWS 10:22a-25

SLIDES 9-11 – HEBREWS 10:36-39

SLIDES 12,13 – HEBREWS 11:1,2,6

SLIDE 14 – OUR GOAL: BE DISCIPLE/MAKE DISCIPLES

- Heb 10:22a-25 – intentionally draw near to God, by FAITH through GRACE

SLIDE 15 – LET US... (*this is what we’re to give ourselves to...*) *HOW?

- **LET US** – behaviors/practices to be & do as a part of everyday Christian life
 - *Hold unswervingly* (seize, lay hold of, make secure) to hope we profess (b/c of Christ’s faithfulness)
 - *Consider* (think on, focus on) ways/means to *spur* (provoke, incite, poke) one another on towards LOVE & GOOD DEEDS
- **WHAT** are we supposed to encourage each other WITH?
 - Stories of God’s goodness in our community’s past & present
 - Stories of God’s goodness in MY life
- *Persevere* –(have patience, be steadfast, endure, hold fast) & *have faith*
 - Don’t shrink back; don’t live in fear; feed your faith (Rom 10:17)

SLIDE 16 – FAITH IS... *CONFIDENT ASSURANCE

- **Romans 10:17** – FAITH → hearing; HEARING → Word of God/testimony/story
- Faith is the CONFIDENCE (substance, foundation, real stuff, a proven quantity) of what we HOPE for
- ASSURANCE (fully tested thing, proof, well-placed conviction) of the VERY REAL (eternal) things that are unseen/can't be seen by the physical eye

SLIDE 17 – YA GOTTA BELIEVE *HERE'S WHY

- Faith is vital – w/o it, it is impossible to please (hit the mark w/) God;
- If/when you come to (draw near/give assent to) God, Must BELIEVE INTO Him
 - He IS (exists, real, I Am)
 - He REWARDS (pays wages to, blesses) those who diligently seek Him

SLIDE 18 – AMAZING STORIES – MICRO *HEBREWS 11 STYLE

- *By faith Abel; Enoch; Noah; Abraham; Isaac; Jacob; Sarah; Joseph; Moses; Rahab; Gideon; Barak; Samson; Jephthah; David; Samuel; the prophets*
- *By faith – conquered kingdoms, admin justice, received promises; faced down lions; quenched flames; escaped sword; weak to strong; battles; foreign armies*
 - Vv35-40 – *unnamed incredible happenings – ALL by faith*
 - **THIS is OUR faith & THIS is OUR God**

SLIDE 19 – RAHAB – ONE STORY – Heb 11:31 – by faith Rahab saved b/c...

SLIDES 20-22 – HEBREWS 12:1-3

SLIDE 23 – RUN THE RACE *FULL OF FAITH

- STORIES → COURAGE → FAITH → JESUS → PERSEVERANCE
- So many examples (crowd of witnesses/those that have gone before)
- Lay aside ANYTHING that keeps us from pursuing Christ → SIN
- Run w/courage & faith IN JESUS/BY JESUS – our own race
- Fix eyes on JESUS – this is WHY we're running & WHO we're running for
 - Follow His example, follow His life

SLIDE 24 – WHAT ARE WE DOING WITH THIS?

- What do we take away as the 'point'? Life application?
- What does it look like, lived out, to trust in Lord w/all heart & not lean on own understanding?
- Where am I anxious/afraid/worried?
- Prayer for HS to fill/refill us w/HS power – what we need for today