

AMAZING STORIES #3

03/20/2022

Rom 10:17; Ps. 71:14-18; Rev. 12; Genesis 26

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

- **Cognitive science (interdisciplinary study of the mind/its processes)**
 - STORY – how truth becomes embedded in our hearts/minds/lives;
- **Rom 10:5-17 EXPLORING** – “how do people come to faith/belief in Christ?”
 - 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
- Near-Eastern (oral, story) vs. Western – written; linear, information focused

SLIDES 5-7 – PSALM 71:14-18

SLIDE 8 – TELL YOUR STORIES (pass them on to the next generation)

- Psalmist declares his intentions: I will ALWAYS have hope; praise You; speak of You & what You’ve done/how You’ve saved me (beyond #)
- To ANY & ALL, I will remind/share of You/Your righteousness;
- From my youth to old age – I will tell my stories to NEXT generation/to ALL
 - Key element/role of Christ-followers – pass it on (build faith/disciples)

SLIDE 9 – GOD’S COVENANT WITH ABRAHAM

- **Gen. 12** – Abram – go from what you know to a land I will show you
- *I will: make you a great nation; BLESS you; make your name GREAT; you will be a BLESSING; bless those who bless, curse those who curse;*
 - ALL peoples on earth will be BLESSED through you
- 75 years old – no kids; God will bring miracle baby – stars/sky; sand/beach
 - Abraham to Canaan – this is it – 25 years later, kid born
- In the meantime – great famine, left Canaan, went to Egypt
 - Nile Delta – most resistant to famine/drought/lack – last place hit
 - **Abram & Sarai – fearing Pharaoh – ‘you’re my sister’ – story**
- Abram very blessed – wealthy in livestock/silver & gold – flourishing

SLIDES 10-15 – GENESIS 26:1-6, 12,13

SLIDE 16 – ISAAC & GOD’S BLESSINGS

- Abraham’s son → blessing of dad is on him & his family too
- God doesn’t deal with us through another person → no grandchildren

- Promises of God for Abraham RENEWED in promises of God → Isaac
- Great famine – like in Abraham’s day – Isaac – ‘let’s go to Egypt’
 - Dad did; makes sense; best plan for famine/drought
 - God says “don’t go to Egypt; LIVE here in land of promise; STAY”
 - “I will be WITH YOU & I will BLESS you” – renewed promise/covenant
- Isaac BELIEVES & stays – God brings INCREDIBLE fruitfulness
 - 100x crop (vs. 15-20x crop) IN middle of famine/drought
 - THIS is our God – THIS is what He does –
- Take cues & directions from God – Word, Spirit, etc...
 - Not just traditional wisdom; what others doing; environment/culture
 - God will direct your steps – God will bless
 - *Isaac & Rebekah – same as dad – Abimelech; “she’s my sister”*

SLIDE 17 – DAY TO DAY – GREAT THINGS (living daily life, faithfully & obedient)

- What GREAT THINGS is God preparing for me to receive? To do? To be?
- What about living & honoring Him in the day-to-day – w/faithfulness & consistency, holding fast to His word/instructions; sow/ reap
- Any great things God has for you will come from day-to-day obedient life
 - **THIS is OUR faith & THIS is OUR God**

SLIDES 18-20 – HEBREWS 12:1-3

SLIDE 21 – 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 22 – 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

SLIDE 23 – THE BLESSING – NUMBERS 6:22-27

- *Numbers 6:22-27 The LORD bless you & keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you & be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you & give you peace.” So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.”*

ANNOUNCEMENTS – 3/20/2022

- 3/27 – Annual Meeting/Members – right after church ratify new council members, 2021 financials, 2022 focus, Louie & Joni Sabbatical
 - PUSH TO Hillside APP – Social Media – IG & FB
- BELIEVE – invite cards to Easter Weekend
 - Good Friday – 4/15 7-8 p.m.
 - Easter Sunday – 4/17 9 & 10:30 a.m.