

EQUIPPING SERIES

EPISODE 3: YOUR STORY MATTERS

look back

First, **LOOK BACK** at the past week by asking, “How did we do?” Begin with prayer, then check in with one another—sharing honestly, celebrating victories, acknowledging struggles, and graciously offering practical help.

 **PRAYER** - Begin with prayer, inviting Jesus into the conversation.

Follow Up on Last Week’s Assignment

Last week you intentionally spent time listening to a younger person and praying for what they shared.

- What did you learn about their life, faith, or struggles?
- How did God use that time to deepen your relationship or guide your prayers?
- Were there any surprises or insights that shaped how you see them?

look up

Next, **LOOK UP** to God’s Word by asking, “What does Jesus want us to know?” If you haven’t already, watch this week’s video: **“Equipping Series: Listening, Prayer, and Patience.”** Then use the “What Do You Think?” and “What Does God’s Word Say?” sections to draw out the main truths together.

 **WATCH: Equipping Series: Listening, Prayer, and Patience.**

 **Additional Episode Notes on Page 2**

Episode Summary

Your personal story—of faith, struggle, and God’s faithfulness—is a powerful bridge to the hearts of the next generation. Grandparents can use stories from their own lives to inspire, teach, and reveal God’s presence in every season.

HOW TO USE THESE RESOURCES

Whether you’re studying on your own or with a group, each guide follows a simple yet powerful rhythm: **Look Back/ Look Up / Look Forward.** For group leaders, additional instructions for leading a small group are included at the end of the first workbook in each series.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Why do you think personal stories often impact people more deeply than facts or advice?
2. Which moment of God’s faithfulness—whether in victory or struggle—do you most want your grandchildren to remember, and how could that story open a door to sharing the gospel?
3. Think of a time when someone shared their faith journey with you. How did it encourage or challenge you, and what can you learn from that approach?
4. Think of a story—biblical, family, or personal—that shaped your own walk with Christ. What made it memorable and worth retelling?
5. Jesus frequently used parables to reveal God’s kingdom. How can you imitate His method in everyday conversations?

Episode Notes

WHY STORIES?

- The digital age is a storytelling age. _____
- Stories are the best way to present truth. _____
- Stories are emotive. They speak to the heart. _____
- Jesus built bridges with stories. _____
- Stories are a love connection. _____
- Stories have staying power. _____

HOW TO TELL THE STORY WELL

- Good storytellers are good story listeners. _____
- Know your audience. _____
- Know yourself, and be yourself. _____
- The Gospel is the Meta Story. _____
- Good stories have a cogent outline. _____
- Every good story has a main idea. _____
- Good stories have great beginnings. _____

COMPOSING YOUR OWN STORY

- Outline it in three parts. _____
- Find a Meta Point that ties all three together. _____
- Illustrate the main points. _____
- Find two great sentences to introduce your story. _____
- Edit. Edit. Edit. _____
- Craft your personal story to lead to Jesus' story. _____
- Turn your one faith story into many. _____



WHAT DOES GOD'S WORD SAY?

KEY VERSES

Psalm 107:2 (NIV) – “Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story—those he redeemed from the hand of the foe.” **Psalm 66:16 (NIV)** Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me. Our testimony proclaims God’s rescue and invites others to trust Him.

SUPPORTING VERSE

Luke 18:1–8 (NIV) Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’ For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly.” Jesus shows us that truth is best communicated through highly emotive stories.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Mark 4:2
Mark 5:19



Finally, **LOOK FORWARD** by asking, “What does Jesus want us to do?” Commit to practical steps for living out this week’s lesson. Review the assignment, share commitments with the group, pray for one another, and step forward together with faith and hope.

THIS WEEK’S ASSIGNMENT

Write a story from your life or family history—moments of God’s faithfulness or lessons learned using the principles shared in the video. Plan a time to share at least one with a grandchild this week and with your small group next week. **Extra Credit:** Read the chapter in Dr. Bob’s book *The Legacy Imperative* on “Telling Your Story.”

PERSONAL GROWTH COMMITMENTS



- What has God laid on my heart?
- What is the Holy Spirit leading me to change?
- What will I do in my own life, in my relationships, and to reach next-gen loved ones?

SHARE WITH THE GROUP



Encourage sharing commitments, prayer needs, and real-life stories.
Close with prayer.

