



GOD'S GIFT OF STORY

Discovering the Hero's Journey
throughout history and in our own lives

IN TODAY'S CLASS

- What Is Story and How Does it Affect Our Lives?
- The Hero's Journey and Epic Story Elements
- Putting Story to Good Use in Our Lives

“Myth (story) is...at its best, a real unfocused
gleam of divine truth on human imagination.”

C. S. Lewis, letter to Arthur Greeves, October 18, 1931
in *Letters of C. S. Lewis*, Harcourt Brace, 1993.

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- Endings are surprising and inevitable

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- Both: Be careful what you think will save you.

THE HERO'S JOURNEY

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- Christopher Vogler, screenwriter, late 1970s
12 steps

PHASE I: SEPARATION FROM THE ORDINARY WORLD

1. Ordinary World
2. Call to Adventure
3. Refusal of the Call
4. Meeting the Mentor

PHASE II: DESCENT INTO THE SPECIAL WORLD

5. Crossing the Threshold

6. Tests, Allies, and Enemies

7. Approach to the Inmost Cave

8. The Ordeal

9. Reward

PHASE III: RETURN TO THE ORDINARY WORLD

10. The Road Back

11. Resurrection

12. Return with Elixir

HERO'S JOURNEY EXAMPLES

- Lord of the Rings
- Star Wars
- The Wizard of Oz
- The Matrix
- Gladiator
- The Hunger Games
- The Lion King (takeoff on Hamlet)
- Harry Potter

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- Surprising and inevitable: God's ways are the best ways.

LET'S ALL BE HEROES

Get off the couch

Listen to our Mentor

Risk our lives in quest of the good

Bring it back home to serve each other

#GodWritesaBetterStory