

# COVER TO COVER – TELL ME THE STORY

NOTES:



# Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

**Series:** The Grand Story

**Message:** Cover To Cover – Tell Me The Story

**Speaker:** Shawn Vandop

**Date:** September 24, 2023



## Connect (30min)

\*If this is your first meeting of the fall season, we recommend using the *Connect* segment from last week's guide.

\*For *Connect* and *Prayer*, you may want to break into two groups, or groups of 3-4 people, if you have a large Life Group.

### 1. Fact or Fiction (aka *Two Truths & a Lie*)


Think of 3 statements about yourself and your life; 2 that are *fact/true* and 1 that is *fiction/false*.

Mix up the order and share with your group. Then, see if the group can guess which statement is *fiction*.

### 2. Breathing In & Breathing Out

*"When asked, 'What is more important: praying or reading the Bible?'*

*I ask, 'What is more important: breathing in or breathing out?'"* – Charles Spurgeon

**Leaders** --  Read [Psalm 119:89-105](#) and Pray for your Life Group as you begin your discussion together.

## Message Discussion (45min)

### 1. Story People

*"A story is based on what people think is important, so when we live a story, we are telling people around us what we think is important. Your story is the greatest legacy you will leave your friends. It's the longest-lasting legacy you will leave your heirs"* – Donald Miller

- a. **Film Genres** – if your life was made into a feature film, which genre would best tell your story, and why?  
Action, Adventure, Comedy, Drama, Musical, Thriller, Romance, Sci-Fi/Fantasy, Western, Animated...?

### 2. The Grand Story

*"The world of the Bible is our world, and its story of redemption is also our story. This story is waiting for an ending—in part because we ourselves have a role to play before all is concluded. We must therefore pay attention to the continuing biblical story of redemption."* — Craig G. Bartholomew

*"The Story of God in the Bible Helps Us Understand His Love and His Kingdom Mission for His People and His Creation."* – Mike Sullivan

### Optional Videos:

 [The Story of the Bible – What It's About from Beginning to End, The Bible Project \(YouTube\)](#)

 [True Story, Missio Dei Mesa \(YouTube\)](#)

- a. **Share your feedback on *The Grand Story*, as told by Pastor Shawn on Sunday.**  
What connected with you, encouraged you, challenged you, or confused you?  
What did you learn? Which wonders and questions did it leave you with?
- b. **Can you recall and relay back the *Six Categories* that Shawn broke the story down into?**  
We will be covering each category from *The Grand Story* in the weeks ahead.  
[Creation – Rebellion – Covenant – Jesus – Church – New Creation]
- c. Which of these parts connects with you the most and why? Which is your favorite part of the Grand Story?

### 3. Our Story

*“If our lives are to be shaped by the story of Scripture, we need to understand two things well: the biblical story is a compelling unity on which we may depend, and each of us has a place within that story.”*

— Craig G. Bartholomew

- a. **Here are some questions to consider as *The Grand Story* develops:**  
(1) Who is God? (2) What is God doing? (3) Who am I in the story?  
(4) How would my life be changed if I believed this story about God, humanity, and the world?

- b. **We all play a part in *The Grand Story*** -- by either accepting King Jesus or rejecting Him.  
If you have accepted Him, share how you came to play a part in *God’s Grand Story*.  
In groups of 2 or 3, share your story (testimony) in 5min or less by answering these three questions:  
**\*When and how did you come to know JESUS as your Lord and Saviour?**  
**\*Why have you decided to believe in and follow JESUS?**  
**\*How has JESUS been changing your life? Share one or two examples.**

### 4. Engage The Story

- a. How can we encourage you and one another to read our Bibles this season? Do you have a daily plan...?
- b. If you need ideas, resources or accountability let us know. Check out:  
\* [www.youversion.com/the-bible-app](http://www.youversion.com/the-bible-app) \* [www.bible.com/reading-plans](http://www.bible.com/reading-plans) \* [www.youtube.com/@bibleproject](http://www.youtube.com/@bibleproject)

### Prayer (15min)

\*Share and pray as a large group, or break into smaller groups (Men/Women or groups of 3-4).

#### 1. In response to the message and discussion – how can we pray for you (personally)?

*God’s Power – Provision – Protection – Presence – Peace*

#### 2. Who is one person in your life who we can pray for?

*God’s Power – Provision – Protection – Presence - Peace*

