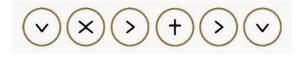


COVER TO COVER – TELL ME THE STORY

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:

True Story of the Bible – What It's About from Beginning to End, The Bible Project (YouTube)
True Story, Missio Dei Mass (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:
 * <u>www.youversion.com/the-bible-app</u>
 * <u>www.bible.com/reading-plans</u>
 * <u>www.youtube.com/@bibleproject</u>

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

