

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Great Story Ever Told
Message: Every Part Matters
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: March 10, 2024

²⁸ Many, if not most, of us have things in our past we are ashamed about and afraid to admit to God, others and even ourselves. God is fully aware of these things and invites us to come to Him with them all. Jesus makes this invitation clear, “Then Jesus said, *“Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.* ²⁹ *Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.* ³⁰ *For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light.”*

Matthew 11:28–30 (NLT)

He offers to help us carry our heavy and weighty burdens, and to never overload us. He not only gets us, He wants to come alongside and help us!

Is there anything you are carrying from your past that you should ask God to help you carry right now?

It is encouraging that the Biblical historians recorded Rahab’s past because it shows us what God can do with any life surrendered to Him. How does this knowledge help you see yourself and your past differently?

If you are struggling with how to handle some painful parts of your past, is there someone you trust you can talk with about it?

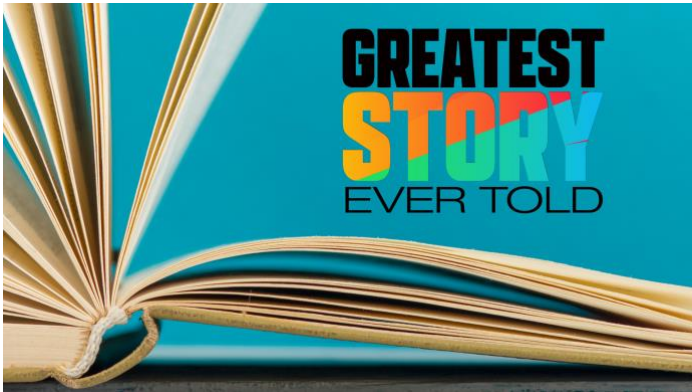
If you are looking for someone, New Hope’s Celebrate Recovery (cr.newhope.org) is a great place to start. For teenagers The Landing (thelanding.newhope.org) is a good place.

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

MSG – The Message

NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



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My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
Galatians 2:20 (NLT)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

Rahab the prostitute is another example. She was shown to be right with God by her actions when she hid those messengers and sent them safely away by a different road.
James 2:25 (NLT)

²⁸ And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. ²⁹ For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so

that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.
Romans 8:28–29 (NLT)

Every part of our life story matters, including the hard, ugly, and painful ones.

When we acknowledge this, we will discover...

1. God loves us as we are, but He doesn't want us to stay that way.
2. God can change us...He really can!
3. Being honest about my story can open up a door of hope for others.

So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.
Romans 12:1–2 (MSG)

In sharing the harder parts of your story with others, use wisdom and discretion.