








# THE POWER OF YOUR STORY

HOW TO CHANGE LIVES INCLUDING YOUR OWN







## backstory...

-  Colours the way we feel about ourselves
-  Influences the way we see God
-  Can be complicated
-  Is often avoided if painful
-  Is often celebrated if joyful

# REVIEW CHARACTERS



## characters...

-  **Have you played a role positive or negative in someone else's life?**
-  **Never allow a moment to define you, you define your next moment.**
-  **One bad chapter does not define your story.**
-  **My down time is my prep time for my prime time!**

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# REVIEW PLOT



## What makes a good story?

-  Characters change over time and events
-  Transformation
-  Growth over time through conflict and challenge
-  Conflict drives the plot of our lives
-  Our story ends with resurrection and restoration

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# REVIEW METAPHOR



**The best teachers always teach with story and metaphor.**



**Jesus taught in parables**



**Sharing stories and parables allows people to see themselves without feeling attacked.**

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# REVIEW NARRATIVE



## **Narrative is different from plot.**

- **The overarching tale of a book**
- **From beginning to end**
- **You know the ending and the beginning**
- **The bible is God's narrative story**

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## INCITING INCIDENT

-  **Catapulted into a series of events and decisions that make up the content of your story narrative.**
-  **Conflict which sends you in a new direction.**

# AUTHENTICITY



## CHECKIN IN

-  **Day 1: Esther Esther 2: 1-4**
-  **Day 2: Jonah Jonah 1: 1-3**
-  **Day 3: Mary Magdalene Luke 8: 1-3**
-  **Day 4: The Apostle Paul Acts 7:54 – 8:3**

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## Definition

- 🚧 At its roots, it is about telling the truth
- 🚧 We don't gloss over the messy parts
- 🚧 We tell our story truthfully: the good the bad the ugly.

**“We don't want a sinless church we want an honest church.” Shane Claiborne**

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# The Life of David

 Psalm 31



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## The Life of David

### Psalm 31

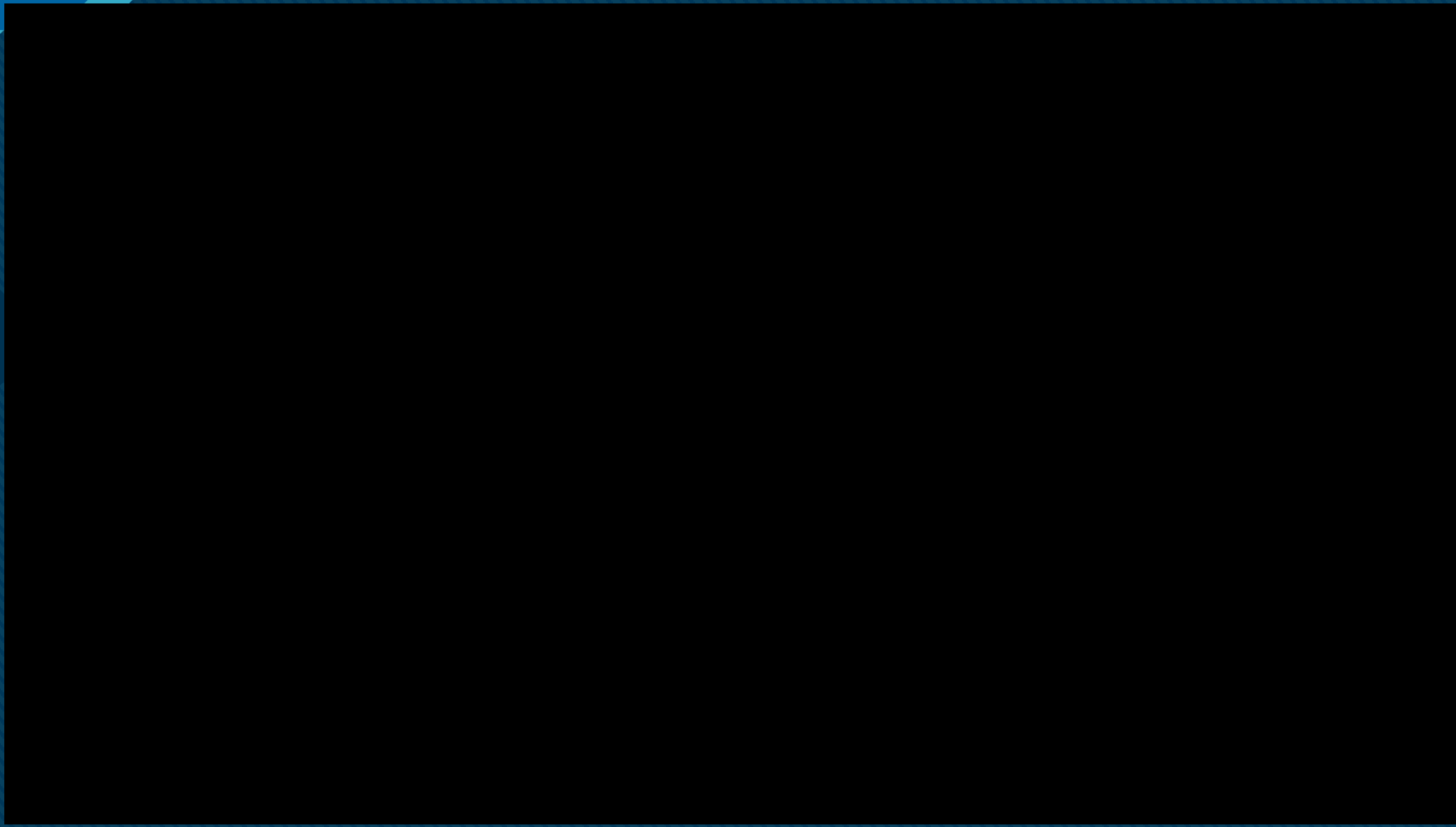
- What was David going through when he wrote this Psalm?
- Have you ever felt the way David does?
- Where is he authentic?

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## Reflections



What does it mean “the most powerful thing you can say to another human being is “Me too”?”

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## Reflections



**The bible never hides the messiness so why do we always cover it up?**



**Why are we afraid to be vulnerable?**

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## Reflections



**Do you think we need the darkness of our stories to make the light more believable?**



**How do we do this without condoning sin?**

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## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- 🚩 What have you learned over the past 7 weeks about yourself and your story?
- 🚩 What is the difference between saying “I forgive you,” and saying, “it’s ok”.

**Write your own Psalm 31 (use as a guide)**

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