



...and the
Title
of
your Life
Story is ...



life

is a

story

what does yours
say?

STORIES CHANGE LIVES

WILL YOU EXAMINE THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE?



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UNNATURAL:

A Glimpse of the Life of the Paul



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Seems legit



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Followers of Jesus are new creations, called to be unnatural compared to the direction of this world

True followers of Jesus don't blend in very well.

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Saul or Paul

an over-the-top pharisee and an anti-Christian activist

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Arrested

Met
Jesus

~~Cool~~



Arre



Arrested

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We are writing the story of our lives
one decision at a time.

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But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me—and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles; yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace.

I Corinthians 15:10 (NLT)

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1. He knew where his Identity comes from –

“yet it was not I but God who was working through me by His grace.”

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Usually, your identity is the sum of outside influences and your inner responses.

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Don't let your identity be defined by
outside influences and your inner
responses.

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Paul understood that following Jesus means completely abandoning your old self and embracing Christ as your identity.

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I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

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1. He knew where his Identity comes from –

“yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace.”

2. He knew what part he needs to do. –

“and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles”

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God's grace can be given and still produce no results.

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When God opened Paul's eyes,
he saw what God wants for him and the
necessary gifts that God has provided.

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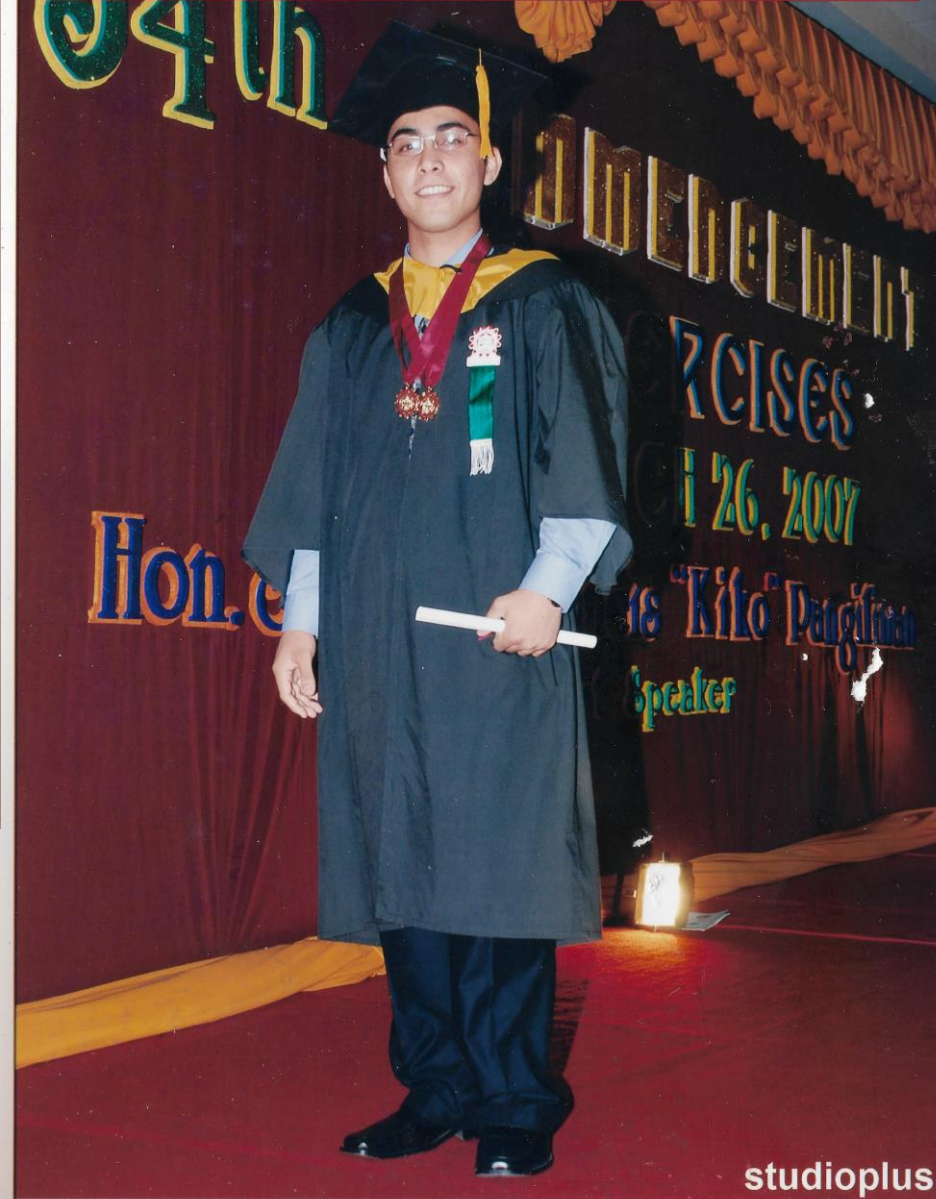
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“Whatever I am now, It’s all because”

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Small
groups
life's better in groups



- ? How would you finish that sentence? “Whatever I am now, It’s all because..”
- ? Name someone (could be dead or alive) you would consider an outstanding Jesus follower with a great life story. Why do you think so?
- ? What is something that Jesus or the Bible says about you that is hard to accept or believe? Why?
- ? Think of an area of your life where the decisions you are making now could significantly impact your next five years. Would you say you are currently making decisions that will likely create the story you want to tell? Explain.



Discussion Questions:

1. How would you finish that sentence? “Whatever I am now, It’s all because”
2. Name someone (could be dead or alive) you would consider an outstanding Jesus follower with a great life story. Why do you think so?
3. What is something that Jesus or the Bible says about you that is hard to accept or believe? Why?
4. Think of an area of your life where the decisions you are making now could significantly impact your next five years. Would you say you are currently making decisions that will likely create the story you want to tell? Explain.
5. More common than not, people around you tend to see God’s gifts/grace in you before you do.
 - a. What are the things in your life that you think God has given you to use for your growth and His glory?
 - b. What are your friends and family saying that you possess that is from God?
 - c. Tell(edify) each other in the small group (as much as you them) with what you see in them that God has given to their growth and His glory.
6. What steps or changes will you do right now to make better decisions and end up with a better life story?

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