This devotional is for individuals and small groups (Groups discuss each day's question(s) together).



Memorize Mark 8:35

For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel (GOOD STORY) will save it.

Mark 8:35

Take time over the next three weeks to read through the book of Mark. Begin this week by reading chapters 1-5. As you read, insert the words GOOD STORY in place of *good news* and *gospel*.

DAY ONE

READ Mark 1. Review Mark 1:14-19.

What do you think Jesus said as he went into Galilee? PICTURE what it must have been like to be those first disciples. What do you think Simon, Andrew, James, and John's stories were? What kind of story would it take to abandon everything you know to follow Jesus?

DAY TWO

READ Mark 8:35.

Now re-read it and PRONOUNCE IT (Read the verse several times paying special attention to each word) then PARAPHRASE IT.

If life only makes sense in the context of story, how would it look to save your life or even to save your own story? What would it look like to lose your life for God's GOOD STORY?

DAY THREE

READ Mark 1:1.

Refer to the outline's second question, "WHAT'S THE GOOD STORY?"

Which story is worth being a part of?

Is it MY story?

(in which I'm the hero, the purpose and the meaning)

Is it my HERO's story?

(in which I follow someone else's story as I weave my story into theirs) Is it OUR story?

(in which I connect my story to others' to have a shared story)

DAY FOUR

READ Revelation 14:6. What's God's GOOD STORY?

He's the hero we're looking for. His story is eternal. His story is worth living and dying for.

DAY FIVE

READ Lamentations 3:40 and 2 Corinthians 13:5.

Am I living the gospel?

Am I living God's GOOD STORY? Have I made His story my story?

It's His story that will give meaning to my/our story.

This is the GOOD STORY we were created to be a part of.

NOTES