

# A S Y O U G O . . .

## Day 1:

read John 4:1-42

The woman at the well had a past and was an outcast. Jesus already knew about her life but He still talked to her, accepted her, and ministered to her. As a result she went back to the town and invited the people to see Jesus. What are some ways you can relate to this STORY? Have you been like the woman at the well with a past and present that causes you to feel rejected? Has someone gone out of their way to listen to your STORY? Jesus is ready to listen to your story. Have you been on the other side of the STORY? Have you gone out of your way to listen to someone else's STORY? Take time this week to reflect on the influence different stories have on your life's journey.

## Day 2:

read John 3:1-21

Nicodemus was a person searching for answers. He questioned Jesus' teaching. Jesus took time to have conversation with Nicodemus in order to answer his questions. Have you had friends or family ask you questions about your beliefs and you were not sure how to answer them? Make a list of questions you have been asked or a list of questions you may have and take some time to think about what the answers should be to those questions. This passage of scripture gives a good explanation of how Jesus' STORY can help us better understand His love for us.

## Day 3:

read Luke 18:18-30

This STORY of the rich young ruler reveals how, in spite of the fact that he came to the right person, asked the right question, and received the right answer, but still he made the wrong decision. Sometimes things can stand in the way of a person coming to Christ. It may be pride, position, family, friends, a particular sin or even wealth. In this man's case it was money. Have you experienced a friendship or relationship with someone who has made the decision to not follow Jesus? It is a difficult thing for a self-sufficient person to realize his or her need and come to Jesus, but the things which are impossible with men are possible with God. As an individual, as a family, or with a group of friends pray for those that you have come to know that feel they have no need for God. Pray and ask for wisdom concerning them.

## Day 4:

read 1 John 5:9-11

When was the last time you took a moment to reflect on your STORY? What is the significance of where God has placed you in your job, in your family, in your school, in your neighborhood, in your city, and in your church? What is your family's STORY? Allow the Holy Spirit speak to you about how God has intersected with your story and how your STORY has intersected with other peoples' STORY.

## Day 5:

read Matthew 5:13-16

Salt can be used to preserve things and flavor things. What does it mean to be SALT? SALT enhances flavor and is a preservative. How can we apply that to being SALT in our world? Everyone has a STORY. How can you help to bring out and enhance their STORY? What does it mean to be a LIGHT in the world? God puts people in your life each day. How can you be the LIGHT of Jesus to them? As an individual, as a family or with a group of friends, pray and ask for courage to be both salt and light to those around you everyday. Take notice of when others around you are being SALT and LIGHT and give them a word of encouragement. Allow the Holy Spirit to make you aware of those around you who might need someone to listen to their STORY and be the SALT and LIGHT that Jesus desires for you to be.

## Next steps:

Do you know God's Story?

Step into God's Story

Begin to reflect on Your Story

Where is the intersection of Story in your life?

- With God's Story
- With Others' Stories

Further reading:

- Just Walk Across the Room  
by Bill Hybels
- The Good and Beautiful God  
by James Bryan Smith
- The Reason for God  
by Timothy Keller

