



Wait... What???

God's Storyline

Luke 5: 17-26
August 18, 2018

3 key points today



- ✦ Jesus's Identity
- ✦ Kingdom priorities
- ✦ Jesus's mercy and compassion

...but first, a foundational principle

God's story

✦ One big, overarching story through history

✦ Creation

✦ Sin

✦ Jesus

✦ (Jesus's return)

Noah's Ark

Exodus

David and Goliath

Rebuilding of the temple

Rise of the Roman Empire

Daniel in the Lion's Den

WWII

Our story



God's story



Jesus's Identity

Luke 5:21-22

- ✦ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, “Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, “Why are you thinking these things in your hearts?”



Jesus's Identity

Luke 5:21-22

✦ Who can forgive sins, but God alone?

EXACTLY !

Jesus is more than a good teacher or even a miracle worker. Jesus IS God.



Kingdom Priorities

When you realize that Jesus is king and His kingdom is so much more expansive than my solitary, 80 years on earth, then it's conceptually easier to agree that maybe His priorities are more important than my immediate circumstances.



Wait... What?

Luke 5:18-20

Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof ...



Wait... What?

Luke 5:18-20

...and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus. When Jesus saw their faith, he said, “Friend, your sins are forgiven.”

What is your “Wait... What?”
moment with God??



Wait... What?

All kinds of intricate and sometimes messy stories being woven together for God's glory right now.

Without God's perspective, we see only what we see and think that is best.

Faith teaches us, that the bigger story that God is weaving together is much better when it follows His script



Jesus's compassion

Luke 5:24 – 25

But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins” —He said to the man who was paralyzed, “I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.” Immediately he rose up before them, took up what he had been lying on, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.



Jesus's compassion

Luke 5:12-13

And it happened when He was in a certain city, that behold, a man who was full of leprosy saw Jesus; and he fell on his face and implored Him, saying, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.” Then He put out His hand and *touch**ed him*, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” Immediately the leprosy left him.



God's storyline

2nd Corinthians 4:14-18: because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you to himself. All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God. Therefore we do not lose heart.



God's storyline

2nd Corinthians 4:14-18: Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.



Chuck Colson's prayer

“Lord, if this is what this is all about, then I thank you. I praise you for leaving me in prison, for letting them take away my license to practice law – yes, even for my son being arrested. I praise you for giving me your love through these men, for being God, for just letting me walk with Jesus.”

7 Men and the Secret of Their Greatness
Eric Metaxas, 2016; Thomas Nelson



Take home

- ✦ **Jesus will forgive our sin when we humble ourselves before Him**
- ✦ **Jesus is compassionate**
- ✦ **God our King is alive and active and working in our midst to accomplish great things for His kingdom. Right now, He is weaving our stories together into something beautiful.**

Take home

Ephesians 3:20-21 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.