



One Story Shared Can Make an Eternal Difference.

Workshop Outline:

1. Welcome (*5 min*)
2. What is “One Story”? (*1 min*)
3. Why Stories Matter (*1 min*)
4. **Part 1: Testimony – Share Your Story** (*12 min*)
5. **Part 2: Scripture – God’s Word Transforms the Heart** (*12 min*)
6. **Part 3: Gospel – Invite Them to God’s Story** (*12 min*)
7. Final Wrap-Up (*3 min*)

1. Welcome

Welcome back, everyone! It's great to see you again. I'm glad you're here.

Last time, we focused on "**One Conversation.**"

We learned how to:

- **Notice** what God might be doing,
- **Listen** with care and intention,
- and **cultivate** — simply **joining what God is already doing in someone's life.**

Before we dive into today's session, can you briefly share your **One Conversation story** at your table?

If you have one, great, if not, that's totally okay—just listen to others and enjoy.

Today, we take the next step in the **THREE ONES** journey: **One Story.**

As you pray for your one, listen well, and join what God is already doing in their life, people begin to grow curious about your life and your faith.

God opens the door through His Spirit, leading to meaningful conversations.

And when those moments come, **your story matters.**

But before we dive in, let's take a moment to invite the Lord to guide this time.

Prayer:

Father, thank You for drawing us here again.

Help us remember that our stories are not about how great we are—but how good You are.

Give us clarity, humility, boldness

Use this time to help us point to Jesus.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

2. What is One Story?

One Story is to share how Jesus has become “real” in your life.

Not a sermon.
Not a presentation.
Just **your real life**.

Psalm 66:16 says:

“Come and hear...and I will tell you what he has done for my soul.

This verse gives us a picture of what sharing faith looks like.

It's not inviting people to hear our wisdom.
It's not presenting our opinions.

It's simply saying:
“Come and hear what God has done in me.”

“This is exactly what **One Story** is about.”

Sharing your faith is not about having the right answers.
It's about telling what God has personally done in your life.

One Story is not complicated.

It's simply sharing what Jesus has done in your life, in your own words.

For example, when the Samaritan woman met Jesus, she shared her story.
The man born blind told what Jesus had done.
Zacchaeus' life changed—and everyone could see it.

Each encounter became a story.
Each story became a testimony.

When you share your story, God begins to work in ways we cannot see.

Your story whispers to their heart:
“If Jesus changed your life... could He change mine too?”

Your story becomes an invitation — **not to look at you, but to look at Jesus.**
Your story helps others see Jesus!

3. **Why Stories Matter**

How do most people come to faith in Jesus?

Not through debates

Not through arguments.

Not because someone had the perfect answer.

Most people come to Christ because someone shared their story — honestly, humbly, and relationally.

Here's why stories matter:

- **Stories are memorable.**
People forget your points, but remember your story. Your story creates curiosity—and it gives people a reason to return for more.
- **Stories build trust.**
Honesty opens the door for honesty.
- **Stories connect emotionally.**
Facts may inform, but stories invite.

In **John 9**, there's a man who was healed by Jesus.

People argued with him, questioned him, challenged him.
And he didn't debate.

The blind man simply said:

'One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.'

— *John 9:25*

His story pointed to Jesus.

God uses both:

- the power of your personal story, and
- the truth of the gospel.

So don't underestimate what God can do with your story.

Even the small moments.

Even the quiet ones.

When your story points to Jesus,
it becomes more than a memory —
it becomes a message of hope.”

4. Workshop Roadmap

So, we've just seen why stories matter.

- Stories connect.
- Stories build trust.
- Stories open hearts.

And when you share your story, you give others a window into **Who God is** and **how His grace is at work in real life**.

But here's the key question:

So how do you share your story in a way that naturally points to Jesus?"

There's a simple way to let your story point to Jesus.

1. **Testimony**
2. **Scripture**
3. **Gospel**

- **Your story** points to Jesus.
- **Scripture** anchors the truth.
- **The Gospel** invites them to respond.

It's about faithfully sharing what is real—
and trusting God with the rest.

5. Part 1: Testimony – Share your story

You don't need a dramatic story for it to be meaningful.

Some of the most powerful testimonies are simple.

Leslie Leyland Fields writes in “*Your Story Matters*”:

“We do not tell our stories to glorify ourselves. We tell them to proclaim the grace and truth of God. Our stories are sacred ground—places where others can encounter the transforming power of Jesus.”

Your story matters **not because you are the hero**, but because **Jesus is**. He **rescued you**. He **changed you**. He **is still shaping you today**.

Think of your story in **three parts**:

1. Before Christ — What was missing?

Ask yourself:

- What was I relying on?
- What was I searching for?
- What were my struggles, regret, or fears?

2. Meeting Christ — What changed?

Ask yourself:

- What truth finally connected from your head to your heart?
- When did the gospel become clear to me?
- What helped you realize I needed a Savior, Jesus?

3. After Christ— What's different now?

Ask yourself:

- How has Christ changed your priorities, peace, or relationships.
- What gives you hope today?
- How do I see God working in my life?

Here is a simple example of Before Christ – Meeting Christ – After Christ's testimony.

Before Christ

“I looked fine on the outside — smiling, acting like everything was okay. But when I was alone, I felt fragile, afraid, and empty.

I wondered, ‘*Does my life even matter?*’

Deep down, I felt like I was stuck in a dark pit — unseen and alone.”

Meeting Christ

“A friend shared her story with me. She said Jesus changed her life.

Honestly, I didn’t know what to think — *Jesus? Really?*

But her peace was different.

Slowly, through conversations and little moments, I began to realize something: Jesus was already reaching out and He loved me.”

After Christ

“My life isn’t perfect, but I’m no longer alone.

When fear comes, Jesus gives me peace.

When I feel weak, He gives me hope.

I don’t question my worth anymore —

I know I am seen, loved, and held by God.”

— — —

“It’s simple, isn’t it? This is something every one of us can do.”

This is something you can begin doing today.”

When you take time to prayerfully prepare your testimony, you are joining Jesus in telling what *He* has done. And He will give you an opportunity to share your story naturally.

This is my encouragement for you!

People can debate your beliefs.

But they cannot debate your story.

They might say,

“I don’t agree with you.”

But they can’t say,

“That didn’t happen to you.”

Whether you were raised in the church or came to Christ later in life—**God’s grace is the miracle.**

A few quick tips for sharing your testimony:

- **Keep it short** (2–3 minutes)
- **Be honest — real beats polished**
- **Make Jesus the main point!**
- **Be invitational**

“This is how Jesus changed my life... and He can do the same for you.”

Table Discussion #1 (8 min)

Step 1: Reflect — Before Christ → Meeting Christ → After Christ

Step 2: Write 2–3 sentences for each part

Step 3: Share with a partner

Share only what you are comfortable sharing.

Encourage one another — we grow as we practice.

Transition Back

Thank you for sharing your testimony!

I'll be praying that you'll have opportunities to share your story in the coming weeks and months.

Your story matters because **Jesus is in it.**

6. Part 2: Scripture – God’s word transforms the heart.

Your personal story reaches the heart.

God’s word transforms the heart.

In **Isaiah 55:10-11**, God says,

“¹⁰ The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth.

They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry.

¹¹ It is the same with my word.

I send it out, and it always produces fruit.

It will accomplish all I want it to,

and it will prosper everywhere I send it.” (New Living Translation)

What these verses are teaching us is that:

Just like rain and snow fall to the ground and make things grow—plants grow, food is provided, and life is sustained—

in the same way, God’s Word always produces results.

When His Word is spoken, it is never wasted.

It always accomplishes what He intends.

That’s Why Scripture Matters.

- It shows that your hope is **based on truth**, not just emotion or opinion.
- It connects to your story to **God’s story** — people don’t just hear about *you*, they hear about *Jesus*.
- It invites people to **explore the Bible** for themselves — curiosity becomes hunger.

J.I. Packer said it well in *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*:

“We share, but God saves”

So, when you share Scripture, even briefly, you can trust that **God is at work.**

Here are **5 commonly used Scriptures** while people share their faith.

1. **John 3:16** – “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

I am sure that you have heard this.

Sometimes when people hear John 3:16 for the first time, it almost feels unreal.

God loves me? Really?

But this is where it begins:

He loved us **first!**

God doesn't love some future, improved version of you.

He loves you *right now*, just as you are.

He sees you.

He cares for you.

And His love is not fragile or temporary — it's eternal.

2. **Romans 6:23** – “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

When people hear Romans 6:23, they often feel the weight of it—

“The wages of sin is death...”

That sounds serious. Even heavy.

But the verse doesn't stop there.

There is a turning point:

“But the gift of God is eternal life...”

This verse shows both **the reality** and **the hope**.

Sin leads to death—
but God offers life.

Not something we earn,
but a gift we receive.

3. **Romans 5:8** – “But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

This verse goes against the way love often works in this world.

So much of human love feels conditional:

- “If you change, then I’ll stay.”
- “If you clean up your life, then you’ll be accepted.”

But Romans 5:8 says the exact opposite.

He loved us **at our worst**.

He moved toward us **when we were running away**.

He chose the cross **before we ever chose Him**.

This verse reveals a love that doesn’t hesitate to rescue us.

4. **Romans 10:9-10** — “because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.”

Why this Scripture is a blessing:

This verse gives a **clear and simple way to be saved**.

It tells us:

- You don’t need to be perfect.
- You don’t need to earn your way to God.
- You don’t need to know everything.

Instead, God makes it simple:

- **Believe in your heart** → trust that Jesus died and rose again
- **Confess with your mouth** → openly say, “Jesus is Lord”

And the promise is strong: **“You will be saved.”**

5. **Ephesians 2:8–9** – "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

When people understand Ephesians 2:8–9 for the first time, it's like a weight comes off their shoulders.

God says:

"By grace... not by works."

I don't earn His love by being good enough.
I simply receive what Jesus has already done.

Grace means: **Jesus is enough.**

So we don't point people to ourselves — we point them to God's Word.

Your experience opens the door, but Scripture shows them **who Jesus is** and **what He offers**.

Think of Scripture as the **anchor**. It keeps the focus on God's truth.

Here's how I shared Scripture with my "one," Benjamin.

You may remember that my "one" was studying very hard to enter the radiology program at Harper College.

Recently, however, his father decided to move from Illinois to Tennessee. He had been without work for about two years and needed to downsize the house and reduce living expenses.

When Benjamin heard this, he was very upset. He felt it was a bad decision. It meant starting over, taking more classes, and leaving his friends.

Later, I heard that Benjamin had stopped talking to his father.

On Saturday, February 28—I still have the text message—I sent him these Scriptures.

I didn't send something like,

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." **Ephesians 6:1 (ESV)**

Instead, I shared:

Matthew 6:34 (ESV)

"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

Proverbs 3:5–6 (ESV)

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths."

After sending these Scriptures, I invited him to our home. I cooked steak for him and my son, and we sat down together, three of us, in front of the computer to look at schools that might be a good fit for him.

By God's grace, we were able to find a good school. It looks like he can transfer many of the classes he has already completed. They also came up with a great idea—to find a place to live where the property taxes are much lower.

Now my one Benjamin and his father are moving forward with peace.

And I'm confident—it wasn't my help that made this work out. God was already at work before I stepped in.

A Few Tips for Using Scripture

- Choose verses that connect with your “one’s” situation.
 - Share them naturally in conversation.
 - Be ready to explain what the Scripture means.
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Table Discussion #2 (8 min)

Write down 2 or 3 Scriptures that speak to your “one’s” life right now, and share with your group how you might share them.

Transition Back

Alright, let’s come back together.

Thank you for sharing — it’s powerful to hear how God’s Word is alive in our lives. Now let’s talk about how to share the gospel clearly through your story.

7. **Part 3: Gospel – Invite Them into God’s Story**

We’ve been looking at how your story matters.
How God uses your testimony to open hearts.
And how God’s word transforms the heart.

But there comes **a moment** when we gently take a simple next step.
We move from our story to God’s story.

The Gospel invites your “one” to respond to what God has done for them.

So, **what is the Gospel?**

Scott Lothery who is the author of Always Good News writes that

“The gospel is not good advice. **It is good news!**”

It’s not about our effort. **It’s about His finished work.**

That’s why the gospel gives confidence.

This, lines up perfectly with this four-point Gospel outline (Lord, Sin, Savior, Faith)

1. **Lord**—Jesus is God and King.

Jesus is not just a good teacher.

He is Lord — God himself, Creator and King.

He has authority over the universe, and over our lives.

2. **Sin**—We went our own way.

Sin is more than doing wrong things.

It’s living our way instead of God’s way — ignoring Him, resisting Him, and replacing Him.

3. **Savior**—Jesus came to rescue us through the cross.

We could never fix ourselves or undo our sin.

Though we sinned, Jesus didn’t leave us there. He came to rescue us. By dying on the cross and rising again, He took our place and paid our penalty.

4. **Faith**—We respond by trusting Jesus.

We respond by trying Jesus — not trying harder or “cleaning ourselves up.” We turn from our way and surrender to Him as Lord and Savior.

“That’s the Gospel. It is Good News.”

Here's an example of how I was invited to Christ through my friends.

About 25 years ago, I was studying abroad in Canada. One day, a close friend of mine — a missionary from Guatemala named **Jorge Santizo** — invited me to take a walk at MacArthur Island Park. He led our young adult group, and I had watched his life, listened to his testimony, and I saw something real in him. I trusted him how God transformed his life.

As we walked, he began the conversation gently.

“Shohei, you’ve spent time with us and you’ve heard my story. You know there is a God. Do you believe **Jesus is Lord** — that He knows you, cares for you, created this world, and oversees everything?”

I said, “Yes... I believe.”

Then Jorge continued, “If that’s true, then you know Jesus came to die for your sins so you could be saved. Can you confess before God that you are a **sinner**?”

He asked me to place my hand on my chest and close my eyes. In that quiet moment, I became aware of what was inside my heart.

“Yes,” I said, “I am a **sinner**.”

Then he asked, “Do you believe Jesus is your Savior — that He died on the cross for your sins and rose again so you can have eternal life?”

“Yes,” I said, “I believe Jesus is my **Savior**.”

Finally, he asked, “Will you trust Jesus with your whole life — not just today, but in every challenge in your future?”

With peace in my heart, I said, “Yes. I **trust** Him.”

Right there in the park, we prayed together.

That day, I didn’t just learn about Jesus —
I gave Him my life.

This is just one simple example...

Table Discussion #3 (8 min)

Now, let's briefly **share God's story**

- Using the outline **Lord → Sin → Savior → Faith**
- Share the Gospel with someone at your table (60–90 seconds).
- Reflect: *How did it feel to share God's story simply and clearly?*

Transition Back

Thank you for practicing

- **Now you know how to tell your story...**
- **how to anchor it in Scripture...**
- **and how to invite your "one" to respond through the Gospel.**

Imagine the impact:

- one story shared.
- one heart encouraged.
- one invitation to respond.

8. Final Wrap-Up

Let's pause and take in what God has been doing in this room.

Today wasn't about crafting the *perfect* testimony.

It was about noticing what God has done in your life
—and learning how to invite them into God's Story through the gospel.

We walked through three simple parts:

1. **Testimony — Share Your Story**

Who you were *before Christ*.

How you met *Him*.

What has *changed* since.

2. **Scripture — God's Word Transforms the Heart.**

Your story opens the heart.

God's Word brings the truth.

Scripture shows that your transformation is real!

It's God at work in you.

3. **Gospel — Invite Them into God's Story**

Your story opens the door.

The Gospel invites people to respond.

You don't need to be dramatic.

You don't need to be eloquent.

You just need to be **willing**.

Because God works through **ordinary people**,
in **ordinary moments**,
to reveal **His extraordinary grace**.

So here's the invitation this week:

Share your story with one person.

It could be:

- someone who's struggling.
- someone who asks a question.
- someone who simply needs encouragement.

You never know how God might use your story to open a door in someone else's heart.

Closing Prayer

“Let's pray.

Father, thank You for every story in this room.
Thank You for redeeming brokenness, for healing wounds,
and for writing hope into places that once felt hopeless.

Give us eyes to see the opportunities You place in front of us.
Give us courage to speak, humility to listen, and sensitivity to Your Spirit.

Use our stories to point people to Jesus—
not to us, but to You.

Send us out with boldness and love. In Jesus' name, Amen.”