

Food for Thought

For the week of September 1, 2013

(Questions and Scriptures for further personal study)

1. A powerful way of sharing your testimony or your “story” is by talking about what God has done in your life. As you read through Titus 3:3-8, write down anything that could be used to help someone understand how God works in their life when they ask him to?

What part of this passage is most important for you to remember and why?

2. Sometimes the hardest part of telling other people about your faith in Jesus is getting around some of the damage done to others by family and church. What reminders do the following verses give that help you share your story in non-judgmental ways?

Romans 3:10

Romans 3:23

2 Corinthians 5:17

Ephesians 2:8-9

3. How could the following verses help someone who fears sharing their “story” or doesn’t feel adequate?

Acts 1:8

Matthew 28:19-20

Luke 12:11-12

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Titus 3:3-8

3 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. 4 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. 8 This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone. [NIV]

What part of this passage is most important for you to remember and why?

2. Sometimes the hardest part of telling other people about your faith in Jesus is getting around some of the damage done to others by family and church. What reminders do the following verses give that help you share your story in non-judgmental ways?

Romans 3:10

10 As it is written:

“There is no one righteous, not even one; [NIV]

Romans 3:23

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, [NIV]

2 Corinthians 5:17

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! [NIV]

Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. [NIV]

3. How could the following verses help someone who fears sharing their “story” or doesn’t feel adequate?

Acts 1:8

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” [NIV]

Matthew 28:19-20

19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” [NIV]

Luke 12:11-12

11 “When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, 12 for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.” [NIV]