

# What's Your Story?

*Spend the next 30 minutes in alone time with God.*

## The 3 Circles of *ONE* are: My Story, My Identity, My Purpose

The foundation of who we are today in Christ begins with our story. Our capacity to know our story of Christ's transformation in our lives and to effectively share it with others is the launch pad for God working in and through us.

During this 30 minute devotional time, you will write a capsulated version of your story. This version will be ready to further develop and share with someone later in the morning. Consider the below two stories from John Burke's book *Soul Revolution* as examples of how to "drill down" your story to the absolute simplicity of the following formula: "I was \_\_\_\_\_...now I am \_\_\_\_\_."

Complete the following page with your story, assuming that you have **only 30 seconds** to share the most important transformational facts of your exchanged life.

*My neighbor friend came to faith after getting to know some of the women in our neighborhood. She wanted her husband to find faith too, but he was a very stoic, skeptical intellectual. For months and months, our husbands would try to grapple with his deep questions as they dialogued about faith, but nothing could convince him, it seemed. One day I was in my garden, praying for him as I knew it was his birthday. As I prayed for him, I felt prompted to pick a red rose to give to him with a birthday card. I was actually quite intimidated by him, so I took the rose early in the morning and taped it to his front door with a card that simply said, "Love you, and so does God." Shortly after that, he became a Christ-follower, and they started coming to church. Later, I was talking to him and he said, "You don't know this, but the reason I opened my heart to Christ was because of the rose you left me on my birthday—I'd never been given a flower before in my life, and for some reason, God's love for me struck my heart for the first time when I got that rose. It was the factor that opened me to faith." I was awestruck at how God works in ways so unique to individuals—in ways beyond worlds and imagination.*

**He was** controlled by his intellectual skepticism...now he has fully put his faith in Christ because God's love he experienced through other people.

*I have had struggles for a long time now. Since mom's death, I started drinking a bottle of wine a night, then a bottle of wine plus a six-pack, then I started taking painkillers. For more than two years, I faked being hurt to supply myself with painkillers. I also took them for others. I'm so sorry for being selfish and deceitful. I hope people can forgive me and learn to trust me again. My friend's drug-related death was my awakening. I realized I've been living a lie. I am just as selfish, weak, deceitful, and unhealthy as my friend, and headed for the same fate. I checked myself into a rehab clinic several years ago. I've been honest about this with my husband, daughter, my church and my work. I truly am a new person in Christ, and I'm very thankful. I have times of real struggle and times that I've fallen off the path. They are most always little trips as I'm willing to come to God and those I love right away in order to prevent a spiral back into the hell I once lived in.*

**She was** living a destructive life, killing her emotional pain with alcohol and drugs...now she finds her healing and peace in Christ.



# What's Your Story?

List bullet points of your story:



Write your "30 second" story:



Write your story in one sentence:

"I was \_\_\_\_\_...now I am \_\_\_\_\_."