

WEEK 5: YOUR JESUS STORY

Paul's Ministry

"And immediately he began preaching about Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is indeed the Son of God!'" – Acts 9:20

Acts 9:1-31

A recent trend on Twitter challenged believers to tweet "why you're still a Christian in five words or less." The responses were fascinating. Some people went with the obvious one word: *Jesus*. Others got a bit more creative: *God became one of us. Jesus won't let me go. Jesus loved me to wholeness*. It got me thinking – we should all be ready to tell the story of why we're a Christian. We may not be able to reduce it to five words or less, but it's important to be ready to tell our "Jesus story" if we're given the opportunity.

Paul (formerly Saul) had a dramatic testimony. Formerly a pious Jew and brutal persecutor of Christians, he met Jesus on the road to Damascus and was instantly changed. From that point on, his life was all about sharing the story of Jesus. No doubt this included sharing his personal story of how Jesus had changed him from a murderer of Christians to a follower of Christ himself. People were amazed at the changes in Paul!

Your story may not be as dramatic as Paul's, but it is important nonetheless. Evangelist Nicky Cruz once said, "You can argue with someone's opinion, but you can't argue with their story." The story of a life changed by Jesus can be more powerful than a theology lesson or a morality lecture. Be ready to share what he has done for you because it will be the best story you've ever told!

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT:

1. How you would answer the question "Why are you a Christian?" in five words or less.
2. What are one or two of the most incredible things God has done in your life? How does it make you feel to think about those things?
3. Who is someone you'd like to share your story with? Would you be ready today to share your story of your life with Jesus? Even if you don't feel ready, God will go before you and give you what you need to share.