



Part 6: Rewriting the Final Chapter

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Getting to Know Your Story

What's your name?

Saul / Paul

Where are you from?

Tarsus / Rome

What do you do for a living?

Religious hit man / Missionary

The story of Jesus is rewriting the story of _____.

1 Corinthians 15:3-10

³For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. ⁶After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

⁹For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

The Story of Jesus and Grant

His sacrifice for my sin (vs. 3)

His death for my life (vs. 4)

His victory for my loss (vs. 4)

According to the scriptures = It is written! (vs. 3-4)

His revelation for my adoption (vs. 7)

His grace for my past, present and future (vs. 10)

My entire story pivots on the fulcrum of God's story.

What does a rewritten life look like?

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. – 1 Corinthians 15:58

As God is rewriting my final chapters, I will stand in firm in:

My identity in Christ

My calling in Christ

My pursuit of his holiness

My gratitude for the gracious rewrite he is perfecting in me every day

A Rewritten Prayer of Gratitude

Father, I am thankful.

I am thankful for your forgiveness and mercy.

I am thankful for your gracious patience as I am rewritten.

I am thankful for the story of Jesus.

I am thankful that the story of Jesus is rewriting my story.

I am thankful that because of you, I am what I am.

I am thankful that you give me what I don't deserve.

I am thankful that you have given me purpose.

I am thankful that my life is yours and yours alone.

I am thankful that it is written, "My grace is sufficient for you."

Father, I am thankful.

Next Steps

Gratitude Exercise for Thanksgiving: After dinner, take some time and express gratitude to God and each other about how your story is being rewritten by Jesus.

Small Group Questions

- 1) How do you normally introduce yourself to people? Why do you do it that way?
- 2) What's one aspect of your story that would surprise most people? Why do you keep that aspect quiet?
- 3) Read 1 Corinthians 15:9-10. How did God rewrite Paul's story of insecurity? How do these verses affect your identity in Christ?
- 4) What does it mean to you to stand firm? How can you practically do that this Thanksgiving week?
- 5) What are you most thankful for right now? Read the prayer of gratitude above. Is there anything else you'd like to thank God for after reading the prayer?
- 6) What do you need prayer for today and throughout the week?