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## ACT II

### COMMISSIONED

April 7, 8, and 11, 2018

*Jesus' Act I ended on Good Friday. After the Sabbath intermission, his Act II began on Easter morning with a new life. Every day we celebrate the end of our Act I and are commissioned to live a new life... our Act II.*

#### BELLS AND WELCOME

#### HYMN 153

**Alleluia! Jesus Lives**

- M The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- M Brothers and sisters in Christ, when confronted with the news of Jesus' resurrection, Thomas couldn't believe it. He had to see Jesus for himself. He had to see and touch Jesus' scars to make sure they were real.
- C **In our moments of doubt, we too long for some tangible evidence of God's presence. We want God to prove he will keep his promises.**
- M Our faith-struggles are evidence of the spiritual weakness that afflicts us. Yet, just as Jesus reached out to meet Thomas where he was, so Jesus comes to us today to assure us of his love, his forgiveness, and his guiding presence in our lives. Let us, therefore, humble ourselves before God and confess our sin.
- C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**
- M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

**Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.

**Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,  
And honor, blessing, and glory are his.

**Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Sing with all the people of God,  
And join in the hymn of all creation.

**Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you

C **And also with you.**

M Let us pray.

Father God, through the suffering and death of your Son you lifted us up from death and despair.

C **Through his resurrection you've transformed our lives with the priceless gift of hope.**

M Because you live, we too will live.

C **Help us to live lives that proclaim this hope to those around us;**

M through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

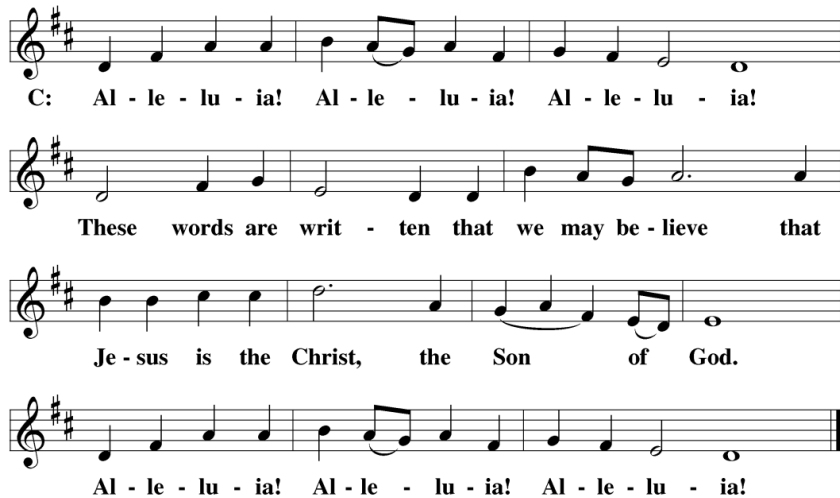


#### FIRST LESSON

**1 Corinthians 15:12-22**, Bible page 1154

*Our faith is not futile for Christ has indeed been raised from the dead.*

## VERSE OF THE DAY



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## GOSPEL

**John 20:19-31**, Bible page 1088

*After his resurrection, Jesus appears to Thomas.*

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

## HYMN 143

**He's Risen, He's Risen**

## SERMON

**Acts 1:1-11**, Bible page 1090

*Pastor Peter Panitzke*

## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### OFFERING

OFFERTORY (*Saturday*)  
(*Sunday*)

Welcome Happy Morning, *Jennifer Rossman*  
I Will Rise, *Mike and Emily Krill*

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

M The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M Lift up your hearts



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.  
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.  
You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.  
I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -  
va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.  
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

*Please see Communion note on page 7.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 165  
166

O Sons and Daughters of the King  
The Day of Resurrection

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



COMMISSIONING

- M Jesus gave many convincing proofs that he is alive.
- C **I commit myself to growing in my knowledge of these proofs in preparation for my ministry.**
- M Jesus has promised: "You shall be my witnesses."
- C **I trust his promise and ask Jesus to open my eyes to the opportunities he gives.**
- M Jesus will come back again.
- C **With urgency I recommit to our mission: By every possible means we bring every person within our area of influence closer to Christ.**

BLESSING

M As you leave to carry out your ministry, receive the Lord's blessing:  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDING MINISTER (Sunday) Pastor David Kuehl

ORGANIST Nicole Greanya

## OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE

*The Lord's Supper is a fellowship meal. In this meal Jesus expresses his fellowship with us by giving us his body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. In this meal we also express our fellowship with each other, that is, that we are united in a common confession of faith.*

*We at St. Paul's want everyone to enjoy this fellowship meal. However, we cannot ask someone to express agreement with us until we give that person an opportunity to discover what we teach. That is why we schedule frequent membership classes to provide an overview of our teachings. Following the Promise is currently being held on Tuesday evenings in the Faith Room. Register on the back of your Connection Card.*

*If you are a member of St. Paul's or a member of a WELS or ELS congregation, we invite you to express our common confession by communing with us. You may wish to use the "Personal Preparation for Holy Communion" on page 156 of Christian Worship to examine yourself. Please register your intent to commune as a member or guest by filling out the Connection Card and placing it in the offering plate.*

*The light colored cups in the center of the individual cup tray contain non-alcoholic wine. Gluten-free wafers are located in the trays on the Communion rail. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please inform an usher as you approach the rail. The first pews in the left center section are reserved for those who have difficulty approaching the Communion rail, and we kindly ask those who desire to be communed privately to use these pews.*

### **Your Ministerial Staff**

*Office (414) 422-0320*

Pastor Jeffrey Bonack	Ext. 119	<a href="mailto:jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org">jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org</a>	(414) 422-0501
Mr. Randy Fink	Ext. 120	<a href="mailto:rfink@stpaulmuskego.org">rfink@stpaulmuskego.org</a>	(414) 422-0320
Mr. Seth Fitzsimmons	Ext. 118	<a href="mailto:sfitsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org">sfitsimmons@stpaulmuskego.org</a>	(414) 422-0320
Pastor David Kuehl	Ext. 121	<a href="mailto:dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org">dkuehl@stpaulmuskego.org</a>	(262) 679-1393
Dr. Joel Nelson	Ext. 145	<a href="mailto:jnelson@stpaulmusekgo.org">jnelson@stpaulmusekgo.org</a>	(414) 422-0320
Pastor Peter Panitzke	Ext. 122	<a href="mailto:ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org">ppanitzke@stpaulmuskego.org</a>	(414) 350-1436
Pastor Nate Strobel	Ext. 293	<a href="mailto:nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org">nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org</a>	(414) 422-0320
Mrs. Sally Wallner	Ext. 294	<a href="mailto:swallner@stpaulmuskego.org">swallner@stpaulmuskego.org</a>	(414) 422-0320



Our vision is that by every possible means we bring every person in our area of influence closer to Christ through regular worship, small groups, and serving together.

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# WEEKLY CALENDAR

For the week of April 9, 2018

<b>MON</b>	9:00 am	Western Lakes Pastoral Conference at Pilgrim, Menomonee Falls
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	String Ensemble Rehearsal
	3:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study
	7:00 pm	<i>Through the Bible in a Year</i> (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	Woodwind Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
<b>TUE</b>	9:30 am	Ladies Bible Study (Grace Room)
	9:30 am	Ministerial Growth Team Meeting
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	12:00 pm	Organization of Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors (OWLS) (Grace Room)
	5:30 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study
	6:00 pm	DivorceCare Ministry (School Classroom 9)
	6:30 pm	Handbell Rehearsal (Church Balcony)
	7:00 pm	<i>Following the Promise</i> Bible Study (Faith Room)
	7:00 pm	Volleyball Adult Open Gym (Trinity Gym)
<b>WED</b>	9:30 am	<i>Mommy and Me</i> (Faith Room)
	1:00 pm	<i>Through the Bible in a Year</i> (Grace Room)
	4:30 pm	Public School Confirmation Instruction Classes
	8:00 pm	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal
<b>THURS</b>	6:30 am	Sunrise Bible Study (Faith Room)
	10:00 am	Walking Club (Trinity Gym)
	6:30 pm	<i>Financial Peace University</i> (Grace Room)
	7:00 pm	The Bridge and Contemporary Band Practice
<b>SAT</b>	8:00 am	Men's Breakfast Bible Study (Grace Room)
	5:00 pm	Traditional Worship Service
<b>SUN</b>	7:45 am	Traditional Worship Service
	9:15 am	Traditional Worship Service
	9:15 am	Grace Room Bible Study
	9:15 am	Kids Club and Boost Youth Ministries
	9:45 am	The Bridge Holy Communion
	10:15 am	The Bridge
10:45 am	Contemporary Worship Service	

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HEAR AND SEE THE MESSAGE ONLINE!



- **Watch Live:** Attend church remotely on Sundays at The Bridge at 10:15 am. Live streaming is available at [www.thebridgemuskego.org](http://www.thebridgemuskego.org), Facebook at *The Bridge at St. Paul's*, and You Tube at *The Bridge Church Muskego*. All past live replays are also available on each platform.
  - **Sermon Videos and Podcasts:** Sunday sermons are available at [www.stpaulmuskego.org](http://www.stpaulmuskego.org) and [www.thebridgemuskego.org](http://www.thebridgemuskego.org). They are usually available Sunday evening for that same Sunday's message.
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# St. Paul's News

## FUNERAL

Helen Mary Jacobs, born March 16, 1926, entered eternal peace in heaven on March 31, 2018. A Christian funeral was held on April 5, 2018. May the family and loved ones of Helen find comfort and peace in their risen Savior now and always.

## HOSPITALIZED

Stephanie Brandt is at Froedtert. Betty Teisl has been discharged from the hospital.

## PRAYERS REQUESTED

Please pray for the following individuals in their time of need: Dawn Brown, David Burkowitz, Sharon Dreyer, Namine Eiche, Brittany Gillespie, Tom Goodman, Janelle Gray, Daniel Holtz, Dawn Jahns, Judith Lauber, Sandra Merfeld, Sonia Neuberger, Cheri Sorensen, Jeanne Steinbrecher, and Dick and Jane Sternberg.

## ATTENDANCE

3531 attended Holy Week and Easter Sunday worship services.

## JOIN US NEXT WEEK

If you are living in a "Good Friday" world, thinking your story is over, that your life will never change, and that you will never be good enough for God, *be a part of the story!* Join us as we continue to celebrate the Act 2 of our lives because Jesus is alive!



**April 14, 15, 18**

**Emboldened**

**Acts 2:1 – 47**

Peter's Act I was marked by a cowardly denial of Christ, but his Act II was filled with a courageous sermon that launched the church into the first century. Could you experience that same Act 2 change?

## AN OPPORTUNITY TO KNOW JESUS BETTER

Anyone and everyone is invited to *Following the Promise*, a Bible study tracing the promise of the Savior through the Bible all the way into your own life. This study also serves as St. Paul's pre-membership study. Pastor Nate Strobel is leading these studies in the Faith Room on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm, beginning May 8. A second class begins Sunday, April 15, 8:30-9:30 am, in school classroom 9. Contact Pastor Nate at [nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:nstrobel@stpaulmuskego.org) to register or mark the back of your Connection Card.

## GRACE ROOM BIBLE STUDY

Join Pastor John Brug, Ph.D., retired professor at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, in studying the beliefs and religious practices of Islam: political history, jihad, terrorism, and the role of women. The final lesson will offer suggestions for outreach to Muslims. As part of his doctoral studies, Professor Brug lived in the Middle East for a year. Attend in the Grace Room, Sundays at 9:15 am, April 8-May 6.

## ALTAR GUILD IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS

Altar Guild members are a vital part of worship. They set up communion for worship services and fulfil a number of other tasks to prepare the chancel area for worship. If you would like to help out, please contact Pastor Bonack at [jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jbonack@stpaulmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320, ext. 119.

## EASTER FOR KIDS - ALMOST 100

Easter for Kids was once again a great success. 93 children (ages 3-13) attended and over 30 volunteers (9 teens and 22 adults) made this event possible. All in all, a great morning! Thanks to all of our volunteers and to all the parents who sent their children. If you would like more information about our children's ministry programs here at St. Paul's, please contact Dr. Nelson at [jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320, ext. 145.

## MR. DAN RICK DECLINES CALL

Mr. Dan Rick of St. John's in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota, declined the call to serve as our seventh grade homeroom and upper grade science teacher and athletic director. The Ministry Board will call another candidate on Tuesday, April 10.

# St. Paul's News

## OWLS MEET TUESDAY

The Organization of Wisconsin Lutheran Seniors meets Tuesday, April 10, at noon in the Grace Room. Join in hearing Dan Nommensen present on our church body's historic society. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy the provided dessert.

## DAVE RAMSEY FINANCIAL PEACE COURSE FOR TEENS AND PARENTS

*Generation Change* was created by Dave Ramsey and his daughter to lead teens to a better understanding of God, themselves, and their money—and how it all works together. Email Dr. Nelson at [jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org) if you are interested.

## TUG OPEN GYM APRIL 8

The next Teens Under God is Sunday, April 8, 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Come to the Trinity Gym and Café for open gym and free time of your choosing. Bring a game, bring food, whatever you enjoy. Contact Dr. Joel Nelson with questions at [jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320, ext. 145.

## CLASS OF 2018 – LET US KNOW YOUR PLANS

St. Paul's will be celebrating our teens graduating from junior and senior high school this spring. Contact Dr. Nelson at [jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org](mailto:jnelson@stpaulmuskego.org) or (414) 422-0320, ext. 145, with the following:

CLASS  
OF  
2018

- What school are you graduating from?
- What are are your plans for fall 2018? 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates - what high school? 12<sup>th</sup> grade graduates - what college, branch of military, or work area?

## TWELVE OILS OF ANCIENT SCRIPTURE

You are invited to *Ancient Oils of the Bible* on Sunday, April 15, 12:00-1:30 pm, in the Grace Room. Learn how a powerful collection of essential oils can benefit your life. There will be a handout, power point presentation, and light refreshments. Please contact Karen Schram at [spirit.thing.kas05@hotmail.com](mailto:spirit.thing.kas05@hotmail.com) or (262) 232-7901 by April 8 to reserve your spot.

## ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL PRESENTS NIGHT AT THE WAX MUSEUM

All are invited to enjoy our talented Lutheran school kids as they perform *Night at the Wax Museum*. All performances will be presented on the Centennial Gym stage at the following times: Wednesday, April 18 – 1:00 pm; Thursday, April 19 – 7:00 pm; Friday, April 20 – 7:00 pm.

## THE POINT OF GRACE CAMPUS MINISTRY JOB OPENING

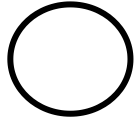
The Point of Grace campus ministry is hiring a ministry administrator. This new part-time position (20-25 hours per week) will work with students and partner churches to administrate ministry operations. This is a great opportunity for someone who is passionate about sharing Jesus with young adults. For a full job description and more information, contact Daniel Schroeder at [daniel@tpog.net](mailto:daniel@tpog.net) or (414) 963-2047.

## STONEY CREEK ADULT COMMUNITY JOB OPENING

Stoney Creek Adult Community is looking for a creative, energetic, and compassionate person who has a heart for seniors. The part-time position available has many facets, with the main duties coordinating a balanced variety of activities for their community of residents. Contact Cindy at (414) 422-4686 to apply. More information about Stoney Creek may be found at [www.stoneycreekmuskego.com](http://www.stoneycreekmuskego.com)

## SCHOOL HOT LUNCH HELPER JOB OPENING

Our school hot lunch program is in need of another smiling face in the kitchen. Hours are 10:30 – 2:30 pm the days school is in session, with duties including general food prep, serving the students, and clean-up. Contact Jill Fehler at [j.fehler@taher.com](mailto:j.fehler@taher.com) to apply.



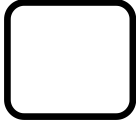
## GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

*Life application materials for us in Connector Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.*

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1. **“I will be with you always” (Matthew 28:20).** Where have you seen Jesus active in your life this past week?
2. **Convinced:** Read Luke 24. Luke was writing to reassure Theophilus that Jesus’ resurrection really happened. How would this chapter give Theophilus and/or you confidence that Jesus’ resurrection really happened?
3. **Wait:** Share a time in your life when you didn’t know what to do, so you waited and asked God to make it clear to you. How was your prayer answered?
4. **Witness:** Read Acts 1:8. Jesus promised that the apostles would be witnesses. Share a time in your life when your faith in Jesus mattered most. This can be the heart of your “witness” story.
5. **Now:** List the name of those with whom you feel called to share your story and Jesus’ story. Read Acts 1:9-11. What gives you a sense of urgency in sharing your story/Jesus’ story?
6. **Commissioned:** Read Acts 1:14. The early Christians prayed together. Break up into groups of 3 or 4 and commission each other to be witnesses. Let the group lay hands upon one individual at a time, praying for the Holy Spirit to come upon her/him and give her/him opportunities and the words to speak to witness to those listed in #5.



# NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points

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## Be a Part of the Story

### Our Act II Begins – We are Commissioned

Acts 1:1-11, page 1090

#### 1. Convinced (verses 1-3)

- a. Jesus gave us a g\_\_\_\_\_ by “giving many convincing proofs that he was alive.”
- b. I will use this g\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ (time) at \_\_\_\_\_ (place) beginning in \_\_\_\_\_ (Bible book) on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

#### 2. Wait (verses 4-7, 14)

- a. God’s p\_\_\_\_\_ is not ours (Philip, Paul in Caesarea and Rome)
- b. While waiting, p\_\_\_\_\_

#### 3. Witness (verse 8)

- a. Thanks be to God for this p\_\_\_\_\_, not a command
- b. Thanks be to God that it is a BHAG p\_\_\_\_\_ (Example of Mordecai Hamm)

#### 4. Now! (verses 9-11)

### My Next Steps in God’s Story as a Commissioned Witness

**Convinced:** Begin reading/listening to the Bible daily. Check out the YouVersion App. There are many Bible reading plans. You can listen while you drive. You can share your insights with friends.

**Wait:** Spend quiet time this week thinking of a period in your life when your faith in Jesus meant the most to you. What was happening? How did your faith sustain you? Write out “your story” as a lead-in to “God’s Story.”

**Witness:** Pray for an opportunity to be a witness to a family member or friend. Often the conversation can follow the “Your story, my story, God’s story” outline. As someone shares their story with you, you can talk about how your story is similar in some way, and how God’s story about Jesus helped you.