

Mastering Life **Telling Your Story**

I. Introduction

A. Genesis 12:1-3 (NLT) ¹“Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you. ²I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. ³I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.”

1. The “Zealots.” “The Kingdom of God will come when we finally have enough courage to take up arms and overthrow the Romans.”
2. The “Essenes.” “The Kingdom of God will come when a group of us withdraw enough from society, and become pure enough that God sees our purity. Then, He will bring His Kingdom.”
3. The “Sadducees.” “This Kingdom of God talk is merely a metaphor. So, we need to get all we can while we’re here!”
4. “The ‘Kingdom of God’ is already here! I’ve brought it.”

B. Mark 4:35 (NAS) “Let us go over to the other side.”

C. Joshua 3:10 (NLT) Today you will know that the living God is among you. He will surely drive out the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites ahead of you.

1. In Decapolis, in the Canaanite religion, the pig was regarded as a sacred animal.
2. The Jews regarded “the other side” as the place where Satan lived.

D. The dark powers that were worshipped on “the other side” were thought of as being the rulers over the sea and over nature.

E. Mark 4:39 (NAS) And He got up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Hush, be still.” And the wind died down and it became perfectly calm.

F. Mark 5:7-9 (NLT) ⁷With a shriek, he screamed, “Why are you interfering with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In the name of God, I beg you, don’t torture me!” ⁸For Jesus had already said to the spirit, “Come out of the man, you evil spirit.” ⁹Then Jesus demanded, “What is your name?” And he replied, “My name is Legion, because there are many of us inside this man.”

G. Mark 5:13 (NLT) So Jesus gave them permission. The evil spirits came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the entire herd of 2,000 pigs plunged down the steep hillside into the lake and drowned in the water.

H. Mark 5:20 (NLT) So the man started off to visit the Ten Towns of that region and began to proclaim the great things Jesus had done for him; and everyone was amazed at what he told them.

I. Mark 6:53-56 (NLT) ⁵³After they had crossed the lake, they landed at Gennesaret. They brought the boat to shore ⁵⁴and climbed out. The people recognized Jesus at once, ⁵⁵and they ran throughout the whole area, carrying sick people on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶Wherever he went—in villages, cities, or the countryside—they brought the sick out to the marketplaces. They begged him to let the sick touch at least the fringe of his robe, and all who touched him were healed.

1. One guy told his story!
2. Jesus wants to make sure His disciples understand that the “Kingdom of God” is coming, and it’s coming for everyone!

J. Mark 8:2 (NLT) “I feel sorry for these people. They have been here with me for three days, and they have nothing left to eat.”

K. Mark 6:42-43 (NLT) ⁴²*They all ate as much as they wanted,* ⁴³*and afterward, the disciples picked up twelve baskets of leftover bread and fish.*

1. “God’s dream for the greatness of His people is now being fulfilled in My little community.”

L. Mark 8:8 (NLT) *They ate as much as they wanted. Afterward, the disciples picked up seven large baskets of leftover food.*

M. The good news of Jesus Christ is for everybody!

1. Because every side is His side!

N. There are people in your world that only you can reach!

O. Will you make a commitment today to pray for at least one human being who doesn’t yet know Jesus?

II. Conclusion