

## STORY TELLING

Luke 2:15-18 & 1 Peter 3:13-17 • March 13, 2022  
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### INTRODUCTION:

A. You are wonder-full and your story is wonder-filled.

***And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the Shepherds told them.***

— Luke 2:16-18

C. Initiating a spiritual conversation with another is a wonder-filled adventure.

- Asking open-ended questions and listening a lot.
- We become "spiritual tour guides" helping people to "Ask...seek...knock..."—Matthew 7:7

### I. DRINK WITH THEM. DON'T DROWN THEM

A. As spiritual tour guides, we need to be sensitive to what others are ready to hear and experience. We need to let them drink in our story, not be drowned by it.

***Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.*** — 1 Peter 3:15-16a

B. Spiritual Tour Guide edict:

- Pray for Holy Spirit sensitivity.
- Take notice of them (stand-offish, cautious, eager).
- Ask good questions and listen.
- Identify common ground.
- Keep it short.
- One verse from the Bible is usually enough.

***The right word at the right time is like a custom-made piece of jewelry.***

— Proverbs 25:11a (The Message)

### II. WHAT'S YOUR STORY STYLE?

A. When you share your story are you...

- Confrontational like Peter? **Clear** (Acts 2:14-21)
- Intellectual like Paul? **Engaging** (Acts 17:16-34)
- Testimonial like the blind man? **Personal** (John 9:1-41)
- Invitational like the woman at the well? **Encouraging** (John 4:1-43)

### III. THE BIBLE BRINGS SUPERNATURAL INSPIRATION.

A. There is no substitute for God's Word.

***All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true...*** — 2 Timothy 3:16

B. Be discerning about what they need.

### IV. REMEMBER

A. God is in charge.

B. Some will be unresponsive...even upset at your efforts to build a bridge to them.

***So be careful (alert) how you live...(be) wise. Make the most of every opportunity...***

— Ephesians 5:15-16

C. Keep loving them.

### CONCLUSION: