

## Tell Your Story



Jesus has changed our life. And we want nothing more than for our friends and co-workers to know the freedom and the joy that comes from understanding the grace of God.

In order to help them understand, we need to become better story-tellers.

View or download our 3 page resource on "How to Tell your Story" with Jesus as the hero. When you have gone through the work of putting it into writing, email it to one of the Soma Eastside Pastors so we can read it too and rejoice! Doing this exercise will better prepare you to share your story with others and introduce them to Jesus.

Here are some examples from our church family:



## *BETH'S STORY*

"As I was studying the book of Ephesians with my mom when I was 14, the Holy Spirit revealed to me that my life looked nothing like Jesus Christ's. I had called myself a Christ follower since I was 4 years old...my life on the outside even looked pretty good...but on the inside, my heart was full of pride, arrogance, vanity, contempt, and self-righteousness.

If others were better than me, I put them down. If I saw myself as better, then I gloated. I had tried so hard and failed so terribly at being good. I asked Jesus to transform my life. And he did.

Instead of measuring up my actions against others, my approval and worth came from God's unconditional love given to me in Jesus. This has freed me to love others, serve others, sacrifice for others, not based on what they've done or how it benefits me. I am so thankful for God's continued work in my life to remind me that he has already done all that is needed to be free from the relentless, life-sucking path of proving I am enough.

Jesus is my identity, and he is more than enough."



### *FRANK'S STORY*

Jesus did not come to make us religious.

He came to show us that, no matter what our background, God's grace is sufficient for our weakness and his love is big enough to right our wrongs. This is what God has been showing Frank. Here is his story:

"I grew up in a religious environment. As a young person I drew my sense of worth from being good, or at least being seen as good. I lived in fear of being seen as bad so I worked hard to gain the approval of my parents and those around me.

Still I felt powerless against the evil desires in my heart. What I didn't realize was that by focusing on "being good", I wasn't leaving any room for Jesus to be the healer of my soul.

Thankfully, through reading the Bible and interacting with Christians, I realized that Jesus has already paid for every wrong I have done and ever will do. So I don't have to be afraid of looking bad... I still struggle with wanting to appear better than I am. But, each time Jesus reminds me to trust in His goodness. My worth doesn't come from what I do, but from what he has already done for me."

