



NORTHVIEW  
**STUDENTS**  
5th/6th grade

DATE(S)

January 22-23, 2022

SERIES AND LESSON TITLE

My Story – Week 1 (God's Story)

TAKE-HOME POINT (THP)

God's story is all about  
relationships!

SCRIPTURE FOCUS

John 21:25

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Give any Campus-Specific Announcements



THE OVERVIEW

# OPENING GAME / GROUP TIME

## LARGE-GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

### "Poser – Star Wars Edition"

You've all seen the new Star Wars movie, right? If you haven't, cancel your 56 service and go see it right now! Just kidding...sort of. The only thing you need for this game is the video. All of the directions are provided within the video. Be prepared to laugh a lot and award a cool prize to whoever wins. May the Force be with you.

## OPENING SMALL GROUP

### QUESTIONS

Take attendance and make sure to welcome anyone who is a first-time guest!

What was the highlight of your week AND your Christmas?

What was your favorite story or book when you were younger?

When you're finished (and there's time), pray for our time of worship.

STUFF TO ASK TO UNIQUELY CONNECT THE LESSON TO KIDS' LIVES

### ACTIVITIES

STUFF TO DO SO THINGS AREN'T BORING

# LARGE-GROUP SCRIPT

## THE MESSAGE

**"My Story" – Week 1 (God's Story)**

**January 8-9, 2022**

We are going to kick off this series in a unique way. It's called "My Story" and before we begin each message, we're going to hear someone's story...in fact, you'll be hearing stories from some of your leaders! We wanted to give you an example of what sharing your story is all about.

**(Teacher's Note: Bring up 1-2 adult or high school leaders to briefly share their testimony. Ask them leading questions like, "How were you introduced to Jesus?" or "Tell me about what led you to make the decision to follow Christ," etc. Keep it brief!)**

There is nothing like a good story. I mean, when you hear a good story for the first time; whether it's epic, funny, serious, sad...you are so focused on what the details are. You want to know who the characters or people are. Maybe you start to put yourself into the story.

**You just heard a story/some stories from your leader(s) about how God has changed them. Many of you have had your life changed by God as well, but I want to ask you something...and it will be something that I will ask you often over the next several weeks...WHAT'S YOUR STORY?**

Today, we are starting a brand new series called "My Story" that will be 3 weeks long. It's a series that is designed to help us as Christians share our faith by telling our story. Each week will focus on a different story: God's story, my story, and their story. However, in order to get this started on the right foot, we really need to know what God's story is. Not just any god...the God of the Bible.

**Let's jump right into our THP for today! Here it is: God's story is all about relationships!**

God's story is all about His interactions with people. God loves people...He loves all of His creation. In the very first story in the Bible, we learn in Genesis 3 that God actually walked with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. We see that God talked to them. He talked to people like Noah, Abraham, and Jacob in the Old Testament. God wanted to have a relationship with them.

# THE MESSAGE

That same God wants to have a relationship with you and with me. He wants to walk with us in this life just like He did with Adam and Eve in the garden. He wants to speak to us just like the people in the Bible. It's not a fairy tale; this is a real story with real people!

Unfortunately, the relationship between humans and God was broken because of sin. We did not follow God's commands and therefore we disobeyed Him. While that created some separation between us and God, He promised to send a Savior to fix what was broken and to live the life of obedience that we were unable to live. Ever since then, the Bible has been all about helping people find their way back to God.

**(Teacher's Note: Share a story where you tried to earn someone's favor or trust back after you had wronged them.)**

Even though we blew it, and for thousands of years throughout the Old Testament, people tried to earn God's favor and good relationship back, God gave us a gift: His Son, Jesus Christ. The best news about Jesus was that he showed us that God still accepted us and loved us even though we messed up. We didn't need to earn anything from him. It was given to us freely as a gift!

We have talked many times about God being a God of second chances, but I want to serve a God like that because it means He wants to have a relationship with us in the good AND the bad of our lives.

Do you want to have a relationship with that God? Do you want your life to be a part of His story? Do you want to participate in God's ongoing story? Just like our THP says, "God's story is all about relationships." He isn't this far away God – He is closer than our very breath. He's a great listener and He just wants us to talk to Him.

In fact, this God is a BIG God! There aren't enough amazing adjectives to describe Him. One New Testament writer says this about Jesus in John 21:25: *"Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written."*

John is saying that there are so many amazing things about God. There are countless stories of Him changing people's lives and there aren't enough books to fill up and write about it.

# THE MESSAGE

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Here's the other cool thing...God's story is still being written! He is still changing lives all over the world, and someday, Jesus Christ will come back and all the evil in the world will be gone. We will worship Him and be with Him for eternity just like it was meant to be in the Garden of Eden. Everything will be fixed and everyone who has put their faith in Christ and has a relationship with him (from every time period in history and everywhere in the world) will be with Jesus forever!

As we move into our group discussion time today, I want you to think about what your relationship with God is like. Would you like it to be better? Do you want to know more about God's story? If our THP is true – that **God's story is all about relationships** – the most important relationship you will ever have in this life will be the one you have with God.

Let's pray!

# CLOSING SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

## CLOSING SMALL GROUP

### QUESTIONS

What was the THP today and why was that important during the message?

What did you learn from \_\_\_\_\_ when they shared their story? **(insert name of leader who shared their story before the message)**

What do you think a relationship with God looks like?

Can someone read this verse from John 3:16 for us? Some of you may even know this verse already! It is one of the most famous passages in the New Testament.

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

What part did Jesus play in God's story?

Today, we talked about how sometimes God can feel so big and so far away that He may not even care about what's going on in our lives. Have you ever felt that way before? Was there something that happened that caused you to feel that way?" **(Leaders Note: Be sure to encourage students that while we may feel this way, God is NEVER distant or indifferent towards us!)**

Do you feel that you have a good relationship with God right now? Why or why not? What do you think needs to happen for that relationship to improve?"

How will the THP help you to live differently this week? Try to think of a specific example.

How can this group pray for you this week?

### FINAL THOUGHTS

**After your group is finished with your discussion questions, close in prayer!**

Encourage those students in your group who made first-time decisions or who made re-commitments to follow Jesus today! Tell them that this group is a support system for them and they don't have to do this life alone. If there is a student who makes a first-time commitment to Christ, have them text NVSNEXT to 85379 or fill out a response card so you can capture their information and our staff can follow up with them. Once your group discussion is over, close your group in prayer!



# PREP NEEDS

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## SMALL-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Some Bibles for students to share during group discussion
- Pen/paper for SOAP study (optional)

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## LARGE-GROUP SUPPLIES

- Stupid Video of the Week
- Message script
- Message slides

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## AUDIO/VISUAL NEEDS

- Pro Presenter or Playlister

