

Story

Relationship - Part 5

October 8, 2023

Once upon a time ...

The main ingredients of every story are relationships.

The Bible is the most interesting and influential book ever printed.

What is the Bible? It is a collection of stories (historical accounts) that tell one single story.

The Bible is 66 books, written over a period of 1,500+ years, by 40+ authors, in 3 languages, on 3 continents, with 1 single thread throughout.

God is the ultimate author of the Bible.

*“²⁰Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet’s own understanding, ²¹or from human initiative. No, those prophets were **moved by the Holy Spirit**, and they spoke **from God**.” 2 Peter 1:20-21 (NLT)*

One verse to summarize them all ...

*“So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new **relationship** with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us **friends** of God.” Romans 5:11 (NLT)*

The Bible tells us the overarching story of our **relationship** with God, which was lost in the beginning, but is restored by **Jesus**.

What about your story?

Everyone has a story.

Every story matters to God.

God wants to transform your story into something beautiful and good through a relationship with Him.

*“¹Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. ²You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. ³**All of us** used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very **nature** we were subject to God’s anger, just like everyone else. ⁴**But God** is so rich in mercy, and He **loved** us so much, ⁵that even though we were dead because of our sins, He gave us life when He raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s grace that you have been saved!) ⁶For He raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms because we are **united** with Christ Jesus. ⁷So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of His grace and kindness toward us, as shown in all He has done for us who are united with Christ Jesus. ⁸God saved you by His grace when you **believed**. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a **gift** from God. ⁹Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. ¹⁰For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.” Ephesians 2:1-10 (NLT)*

God has so much good stuff for us in the Bible. You should check out for yourself what it has to say.