

# SERMON NOTES

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> August

sunnysidechurch

## Telling God's Story in our Story

**Bible passages: Psalm 66; John 4.39-42**

### Introduction

- stories are powerful things
- individual stories bring bigger stories to life
- telling our stories is one of the best ways of telling other people about Jesus

## Telling God's Story in our Story

1. Seeing God at work
  - helps us recognise what God is doing and how following him makes a difference to our lives
2. Thanking God for what he has done
  - gratitude points us to the giver of all good things
  - points us to truths about who God is and what he has done
3. Thinking about how we might tell our story to others
  - story of God at work or larger story of our journey of faith
  - 3 questions that are a good start to think about:
    - when did you become a Christian?
    - what made you decide to follow Jesus?
    - a story of how knowing Jesus has made a difference to your life

### Conclusion

We all have a story to tell, and our story is part of God's story – the greatest story ever told. 'Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what he has done for me.' (Psalm 66.16)

## Some questions for discussion

1. Do you agree that our society is suspicious of overarching stories but fascinated by the stories of individuals? How does this affect how we share our faith?
2. Read John 4.39-42 (you might find it helpful to read the whole story of Jesus' encounter with the woman from John 4.1). What made Jesus' conversation with the woman surprising, revealing and transforming?
3. Read Psalm 66. Why is gratitude so important?
4. Where have you seen God at work this week? What has this revealed about who God is?
5. How would you answer these three questions about your story?
  - when did you become a Christian?
  - what made you decide to follow Jesus?
  - how has knowing Jesus has made a difference to your life?
6. What is God asking you to do as a result of what he has said to you through these passages? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something he wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

'Come and hear, all you who fear God;  
let me tell you what he has done for me.' (Psalm 66.16)

Why not spend some time thanking God for what he has done for you and ask him who he would like you to tell your story to?

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