

5-Day Devotional - January 20-24, 2025

“Tell The Story” (Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Service)
Deuteronomy 6:6-10

Click Each Day Below to Easily Navigate

Table of Contents

Day 1: The Transformative Power of Storytelling	1
Day 2: The Legacy of the Civil Rights Movement	2
Day 3: Making Our Stories Visible and Viable	2
Day 4: The Story of Jesus' Love	3
Day 5: Our Responsibility to Share	3

Day 1: The Transformative Power of Storytelling

Stories have the power to shape our lives and inspire change. They are not merely accounts of past events but are dynamic tools that can educate, motivate, and transform individuals and communities. By sharing stories, we honor the legacy of those who have come before us, ensuring that their sacrifices and achievements are not forgotten. The civil rights movement, for example, is a testament to the power of storytelling in driving social change and justice. As we recount these stories, we are reminded of the ongoing struggle for equality and the responsibility we have to continue this work.

Deuteronomy 4:9 (ESV): "Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children."

Reflection: Think of a story from your life or your family's history that has shaped who you are today. How can you share this story with someone this week to inspire or encourage them?

Day 2: The Legacy of the Civil Rights Movement

The civil rights movement is a powerful parallel to the biblical journey to the promised land. It represents a collective quest for freedom, equality, and justice. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream was not just for African Americans but for all humanity to strive for a world where justice prevails. This legacy challenges us to continue the fight for a just society, recognizing that the journey is ongoing. As we reflect on these stories, we are reminded of the sacrifices made by those who came before us and the responsibility we have to carry their legacy forward.

Isaiah 1:17 (ESV): "Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

Reflection: Consider an area in your community where you see injustice or inequality. What is one small step you can take this week to contribute to positive change in that area?

Day 3: Making Our Stories Visible and Viable

Our stories are valuable, visible, and viable. They are not just historical accounts but living testimonies that shape our identity and purpose. These stories should be deeply ingrained in our hearts, visibly present in our lives, and viable for future generations. By making our stories a part of our daily lives, we ensure that they continue to inspire and guide us. Whether through conversations, visible reminders, or personal reflections, these stories must be told and retold to keep their legacy alive.

Psalms 78:4 (ESV): "We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done."

Reflection: Identify a way to make a meaningful story from your life more visible in your daily environment. Could it be a photo, a written note, or an object that reminds you of its significance?

Day 4: The Story of Jesus' Love

Amidst all the stories we tell, the story of Jesus and His love is paramount. It is a story of redemption, grace, and hope that transforms lives and offers eternal significance. This story is the foundation of our faith and the source of our hope. As we share the stories of our struggles and victories, we must also share the story of the One who lifts us, guides us, and loves us unconditionally. This story has the power to change lives and bring hope to those who hear it.

1 John 4:9-10 (ESV): "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Reflection: Reflect on how the story of Jesus' love has impacted your life. Who in your life needs to hear this story, and how can you share it with them this week?

Day 5: Our Responsibility to Share

We have a responsibility to share our stories and the story of Jesus with others. By doing so, we pass on the wisdom, faith, and courage that have been entrusted to us, ensuring that the legacy of love and justice continues. Sharing these stories is not just an obligation but a privilege that allows us to impact the lives of others. As we embrace this responsibility, we contribute to a world where love, justice, and hope prevail.

2 Timothy 2:2 (ESV): "And what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."

Reflection: Think of someone in your life who has shared a meaningful story with you. How can you honor their impact by sharing your own story with someone else this week?