

These notes are designed to be used by small groups on Zoom, by members of a family or by a couple of friends on the telephone. They are based on our Sunday sermons and are designed to help us all think through the issues raised about “God in my Everything”. You will get the most out of them if you have heard the sermon first.

Sermon Date

19 Sept 2021

Bible Passages

1 Peter 3:13-16, 1 Timothy 2:1-6a

Theme & Introduction

This was the second of three sermons aimed at helping us talk more easily with other people about our faith. This second part deals with how to start telling our stories.

Having copies of the printed sermon notes with you will help.

Questions

1. How did you get on with filling in your “circles of influence” diagram last week? Share what you learned about those you have contact with.
2. Read 1 Peter 3:12-16 and 1 Timothy 2:1-6a again – out loud. Ponder the passages for 2 minutes in silence. Share anything that strikes you in the apostle’s teaching or anything that puzzles you.
3. “*Who you are is part of the message*”. Share examples of Christians who influenced you. What about their lifestyles can we learn from?
4. Do the lifeline exercise Alan spoke about on Sunday (copies can be downloaded from the worship page of the website – or see the 2nd page of these notes). Spend some time, initially in pairs and then maybe in the whole group, sharing what some of the crosses on your line are about.
5. If anyone in the group has completed their first “*less than 100 words*” story, share them with the group.
IF NOT
Try the matchstick challenge. Speak about something God has done in your life while holding a lighted match. You have to stop speaking when it gets too hot to hold!

In preparation for next week....

6. Try repeating the matchstick challenge – this time explaining what the Christian faith is.

Be Prepared to Give an Answer

Learning to Share your own Story



The green line below represents your life.

At the left end write your date of birth, at the other end write today's date.

Now, on the line, mark with a cross any experiences or events that helped you gain a deeper understanding of God and develop your faith, at roughly the time in your life when you experienced them.

Then tell someone what one of the crosses means.

DOB

Today

Using Events from that Lifeline....

Write up to 100 words (shorter is good) to describe something important in your faith story. There are some tips to get you started overleaf. Share it with another Christian and get used to telling it.

If you are happy to share it with us please email:

alanhulme@smsso.org.uk

Over time create several stories: eg.

- How you came to faith.
- What difference your faith makes to you day to day.
- The difference your faith made at a difficult time in life.
- An answer to prayer.
- Etc.