

A LOVE THAT BROUGHT ME HOME
My 1st short memoir from Psalm 107:4-9

Big Idea: Tell your story of a heavenly love that heard your cry from the desert and came to bring you home.

Sermon Summary: Your soul craves your home in Eden, so you sought it here. But this is not your home. God came to free your soul from a false home and set you out on an adventure to find Eden again. God has been with you along the way, caring for your soul, and one day you will know the delights and pleasures of home as it was always meant to be experienced.

Chapter 1: Your Perils of Wandering

- In what things did you seek Eden on the earth? An ambitious career? A high from drugs? The embrace of a lover? An escape through alcohol? The comforts of Home? A Perfect family? Popularity/Fame?
- Tell how it didn't deliver
- Tell how it imprisoned you (stole hope from you, made you depressed, made you feel unworthy, etc.)

Chapter 2: Your Cry

- Explain how you prayed to God, you asked him for help, and something happened. He answered

Chapter 3: God's Rescuing Love

- How did you find out that God's love is greater than any love this world has to offer? What was revealed about his love that seeks you?
- Explain how this false Eden never sought you, but required you to seek it, and even if you caught it, it used you and never loved you back. For example, your job only required more of you, your spouse can't love you as much as God does, the comfort of home is easily lost, work success goes to your head, and work failure goes to your heart, but God was always there, always rescuing, and always loving.

Chapter 4: God's Leading Love

- How is he still saving you in the middle of your journey home?
- What are some ways he has been with you on the journey home?
- In what ways will the future paradise give you, what you were seeking here?
- What is your favorite part about what is to come?

Chapter 5: Your Thanks

- Write down how thankful you are that God has come for you, set you free from the false promises of the world, and has promised you a future and hope.

Chapter 6: Your Story and Praise

- Praise God with your words for all that he has done for you and all the ways he has saved you, is saving you, and will save you.

Now you are ready to tell your Story!

A LOVE THAT SET ME FREE
My 2nd short memoir from Psalm 107:10-16

Big Idea: Tell your story of Christ's redemptive love that freed you from guilt, shame, and death; and gave you life now and forevermore.

Sermon Summary: Your sin has been weighted and measured and you are found guilty. That guilt has imprisoned you behind the bronze gate of shame, thrown you into the dark dungeon of death, and chained you into the darkness. But Christ heard you cry and shattered the bronze gate, ripped off the iron bars, lifted you out of darkness and carried you into freedom and life forevermore.

Chapter 1: Your Perils (Death's Shadow)

- How has guilt ruled your life? How has shame affected you?
- What are some ways you tried to escape guilt and shame that didn't work?

Chapter 2: Your Cry (Mercy)

- Explain how you asked him for mercy, and something happened. He answered

Chapter 3: God's Rescuing Love (A New Record)

- What did Jesus do to free you from guilt? How did he trade places with you on the cross? What did he endure to purchase your freedom from guilt and shame?
- How does it feel to be freed from guilt?
- What is it like to be emptied of shame?
- What are some ways you keep falling back into the courtroom guilt and shame? How does God's freeing love continue to help you?

Chapter 4: God's Leading Love (Freedom from Death)

- How has Christ freed you from death?
- Do you still fear death? How are you experiencing Christ calming that fear?
- What truth will you go to for comfort and strength at death?

Chapter 5: Your Thanks

- Write down how thankful you are that God has come for you, set you free from guilt, shame, and death.

Chapter 6: Your Story and Praise

- Praise God with your words for all the ways he has freed you from guilt and shame and the power of death.

Now you are ready to tell your Story!

A LOVE THAT HEALED MY HEART

My 3rd short memoir from Psalm 107:17-22

Big Idea: Tell your story of Christ's redemptive love that rescued you from pain, destruction, and the pit of death by healing your heart and making you strong.

Sermon Summary: Heart sickness has plagued humanity since we left Eden. Our sickness is following us, ruining our lives, causing us to dig ourselves in a pit that will eventually swallow us. Christ comes as the seed of life that is buried with us in the pit of death. By faith, he roots into our hearts, and resurrects into the tree of life within us. Now we have new hearts that are learning to walk in this wide world, back to the mountain of Eden.

Chapter 1: Your Perils (Heart Sickness)

- Do you need more joy, peace, and strength in your life?
- How have you experienced pain, heartbreak, and sorrow in your life?
- What kind of remedies have you used to escape the pain that didn't work?
- How has heart sickness affected your relationships?

Chapter 2: Your Cry (For Healing)

- Explain how you asked him for healing, and something happened. He answered

Chapter 3: God's Rescuing Love (A New Heart)

- Explain how God has given you a new heart that finds joy, peace, and strength in Christ during difficulties.
- How has God helped you love others better than in the past?

Chapter 4: God's Leading Love (A Growing Heart)

- How have you fallen back into the prison of your old life? And how has Christ given you the strength to rise back up again?
- In what areas of your life has God been helping you grow?
- How has God healed your relationships by healing your heart?
- How has God's word helped you grow?

Chapter 5: Your Thanks

- Write down how thankful you are that God has come for you, died, rose to give you a risen heart, alive to the wonders, goodness, and beauty of Eden that is to come.

Chapter 6: Your Story and Praise

- Praise God for your new and growing heart and the blessing it is to people in your life.

Now you are ready to tell your Story!

A LOVE THAT HELD ME THROUGH THE STORM

My 4th short memoir from Psalm 107:23-32

Big Idea: Tell your story of Christ's redemptive love that held you through your storm, and carried you home.

Sermon Summary: To walk through life is to sail through a storm. But we have a good, loving, and sovereign God who controls the storm. He uses the wave of trials to lift us up to get a vision of heaven in the storm. A gift that only the storm brings. The vision gives us hope and peace through the waves and the wind. Then at the perfect moment, God calms the storm and makes us glad. Then our captain stays with us through the journey, to guide us home to our desired haven, paradise.

Chapter 1: Your Perils (The Seas)

- Describe your greatest trials in life (Give raw and real details of your story. Be courageous and truthful.)
- Tell how your desire for something greater was a desire for Eden.

Chapter 2: Your Cry (For Land)

- Describe your prayer for God to deliver you and bring you to dry land

Chapter 3: God's Rescuing Love (A Calm Sea within and without)

- How did God give you hope, peace, strength, and even joy through the trials?
- How did the waves lift you to glimpses of heaven that wouldn't have happened without the trials?
- Once the trial passed, what were some of the ways God transformed you?
- When God eventually calmed the storm how did you feel?
- Explain the ways he gave you peace through the storm, and gladness once he calmed the storm.

Chapter 4: God’s Leading Love (Our Desired Haven)

- How is God with you now, as your captain, keeping you hopeful, as you sail to the shores of paradise?
- How has faith helped you keep your eyes on both the storm and the future promise of paradise?
- How has Christ been your Eden away from Eden?

Chapter 5: Your Thanks

- Write down how thankful you are that God entered into the chaotic waters of sin, death, and evil to come and get you. Who on the cross, He drowns under the watery weight of sin and death. Torn by the waves, broken by the wind. He is buried at the bottom of the trackless sea of waste, in regions dark and deep. Surrounded by all that is vile, evil, sinister, and perverse. But it was his sovereign plan, he didn’t lose, he made a way for us. His plan was always to rise from the depths, and stand above the waters, so he could be the ship that conquers all death, sin, and evil, and sail you to paradise. He never lost, he won with the perfect path to victory, the only path that gives him you. And whether right now he is calming the sea or calming you, the truth is, he is on the move, sailing with you to the celestial shores of paradise. Your desired haven. Thank him for all he has done.

Chapter 6: Your Story and Praise

- Praise God for being in the storm with you, for bringing good out of the storm, for eventually calming the storm, and praise him for the promised future that has been secured through this death and resurrection.

Now you are ready to tell your Story!