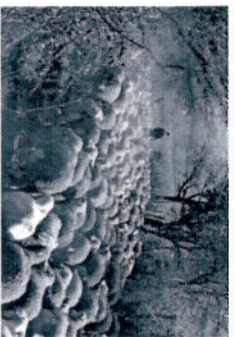


# God's Story<sup>TM</sup>

## Our Story



March 12, 2017

**Devotion:** Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions. You can do this alone or with others; in the morning, during the day, or at night. Find a routine that works best for you.

**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Loving Lord,

You long to gather us under your wings. Let us not reject you, too caught up in in our own lives to recognize the opportunity for repentance and the gift of your grace. Amen.

**Reflect:** Reflect on the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it!*

*How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!* Luke 13:34

**Study:** Study the reading and consider the background.

The question of suffering is an ancient one. But Jesus won't allow victims of tragedy to be blamed for their own misfortune, even if that was (and still is) a tempting explanation. Instead he asks just what are we choosing to do with the precious time we have left?

**Consider:** Consider this theme for the week's text.

Jesus' mission is urgent, even today.

**Read:** Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text. After the reading, ask the follow-up questions.

Sunday: *Lost Sheep, Lost Coin*, Luke 15:1-10

Monday: *Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman*, Luke 13:10-17

Tuesday: *Parables*, Luke 13:18-30

Wednesday: *Jesus Heals a Man with Dropsy*, Luke 14:1-6

Thursday: *Parable of a Wedding Banquet*, Luke 14:7-14

Friday: *Parable of a Great Dinner*, Luke 14:15-24

Saturday: *The Cost of Discipleship*, Luke 14:25-35

**Who are the outsiders in these stories? Who are the insiders?**

**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household. Discuss the following questions, or simply check in with "Highs" and "Lows."

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

How do you and your community distinguish "good" people from "bad" people? Are your assessments accurate? Are there sins that are unforgivable? How might God respond to those sins and those sinners?

How do you measure your own goodness? Are there sins you need to confess to God? Are there sins God has already forgiven that you need to let go?

**DO:** By acting on what we learn we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Make a timeline of your life. Is there evidence that your behaviors cause tragedies? Where is God during the high points and low points in your life?

**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God forgive and cleanse you from carrying the burden of your sin. Amen.