



# Releasing the Power of Heaven

Title: Part 2 – share your Jesus story  
Date: Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2017  
Reading: John 4:1-42

## The power of story

Books/films/plays – have the ability to stir our emotions, make us pause and think, inspire us to action and even change the words and phrases we use. What makes a good story (book/film/play) good? Why is the story of Jesus so powerful?

## Share how Jesus impacted you

Do you think your Jesus story is exciting or rather ordinary? The woman's testimony in John 4 was simply "*Come and see a man who knew everything I ever did.*" If you reduced your Jesus story (testimony) down to one sentence, what would that sentence be? Could you identify a few separate sentences about what Jesus means to you? Would you be prepared to share this with other people?

## The 'religious trap'

When sharing our Jesus story, using 'religious language' can get in the way of people meeting Jesus – we confuse them. What is 'religious language'? Another trap is focusing on religious issues rather than pointing to Jesus. In John 4 the issues were Jews speaking with Samaritans and where/how to correctly worship. Our issues may differ, but how do we ensure we keep our story focused on Jesus?

*It is important for us to dig deeper into our faith, to engage in theological and ethical discussion around us. But remember, religion does not save people – Jesus does.*

## Allow Jesus to save

Our job is not to save people, but to share our Jesus story, introduce/point them to Jesus and let Him save. Have you ever seen Jesus deeply touch someone's life in response to just a few words shared? Read John 4:42. How does sharing our Jesus story 'Release the power of Heaven'?

**Be ready. Be courageous. Be expectant.**



Notes