

Isolation

Many of us at points in life have endured periods of prolonged isolation...

times when the Lord has set us aside from normal ministry for the purpose of allowing us to evaluate life and more clearly hear His voice.

1. Reflect on the story of Job.

How did the Lord bring about periods of isolation in his life and what was his response?

What was the result of that period of isolation for Job?

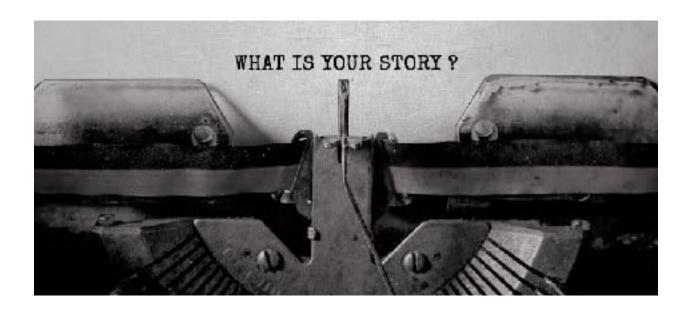
2. Reflect on your own life.

Perhaps you have endured isolation in the past or are enduring it right now. Perhaps this period of isolation has been brought about by an illness or personality conflicts. Maybe you have voluntarily entered this period of isolation.

As you reflect, what has been the result of this isolation time in your life? What are the things you have learned? How have you more clearly heard the voice of God? What are the things you've seen/recognized about yourself?

Take a few moments to record these insights on the Post-It notes available. Then, insert them into your Story.

What patterns do you see? What are some common themes that the Lord taught you throughout different seasons of isolation? How well have you learned those lessons? How do you think the Lord would have you apply these experiences to your future story?



Mentoring

One of the beautiful aspects of the body of Christ is the way the Lord allows us to influence and shape one another. Many of us have been blessed along the way by being influenced by Godly men and women who have mentored us, encouraged us, and walked alongside us.

These people have engaged with us on a deeply personal and relational level and empowered us by sharing their knowledge, experience, and resources.

1. Reflect on Jesus' mentorship of His disciples.

Try to envision this relationship from the perspectives of the disciples.

What type of learning took place? How did Jesus empower them? What was their response?

2. Reflect on your own story with the people who have mentored you.

Perhaps someone took the time to disciple you as a new believer. Did someone coach you through the initial adjustments to a role in ministry? Perhaps someone simply walked alongside you in the journey of marriage, parenthood, or life in general and shared their wisdom and experience.

What did you learn from your mentors?

Record that learning on one of the Post-It Notes available and affix it to your Story. Then, grab a card and write a quick note to your mentor, specifically thanking them for the ways that they impacted you. (For time purposes, you may want to take a note card with you and write this note later in your room.)



Conflict

One of the most difficult areas of life to handle well is conflict. Whether it happens within a family, church, or an organization, conflict places enormous amounts of stress on the relationships and the people involved. That said, conflict is often a tool used by the Lord to lessen our confidence in our own self and deepen our trust in the Lord.

1. Take a few moments to reflect on the role of conflict in Scripture.

Genesis 13.6-7 shows us conflict between Abraham's and Lot's herdsmen. In Mark 9.33-35, we see conflict between the Disciples themselves. Acts 15.38-39 perhaps gives us the most famous example of Biblical conflict between Paul and Barnabas.

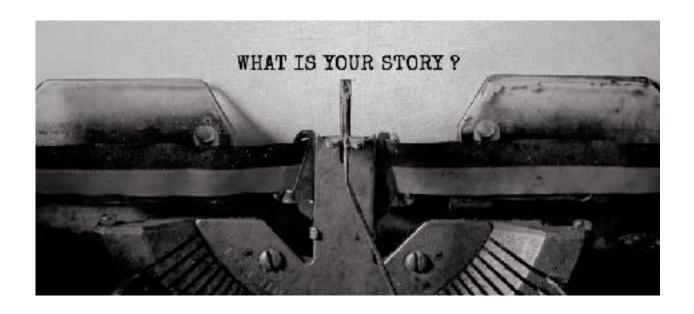
As you read those passages, what are some points which jump out at you?

2. In reflecting on your own life, what are some major conflicts that have impacted you?

What have you learned through that conflict? How did that conflict affect your spiritual life and relationships? What fruit of the Spirit were developed in you as a direct result of that conflict? What new doors and relationships were opened or deepened as a result of that conflict? What relationships still need healing?

Take some time and notate these insights on Post-Its. Name one conflict on each Post-It and then jot out the insights learned. Affix the Post-It to the appropriate place or time-frame on your Story.

Ask God for healing where unforgiveness or bitterness still remain. Pray that God would continue to teach you thru past or present conflict.



Divine Guidance

As believers, much of our Story has a distinctly spiritual undertone. After all, we do believe the Lord is working to change us, so we are able to see His action in our lives.

At this station, let's take some time to reflect on the unmistakable ways the Lord has worked to guide your steps. What are the times in your life when you have seen/heard the Lord work very powerfully and very tangibly?

1. Take a few minutes to open the pages of Scripture.

What are the ways in Scripture the Lord worked powerfully and tangibly to reveal Himself to His people?

Thinking of your favorite Biblical hero...how did he or she encounter God? Divine Guidance

2. Now, reflect on your own life.

What are the powerful ways in which the Lord has spoken to you? What did He say? What was your response?

What patterns can you see in the ways the Lord has spoken into your life?

For each time you remember a powerful experience with God, grab a Post-It and write about it. Affix it to your Story. Reflect on the patterns you see and open your heart to what the Lord wants you to hear from Him.

Pray for clarity as the Lord works center stage and behind the scenes to unveil His plan for you. Take an index card, and record a promise from Scripture that you can keep in your Bible as a reminder of the Lord's divine guidance.



Names of God

Our stories have been held together by a God who was, who is, and who is to come. While He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow, He has also played different roles in your story.

1. Take a few minutes to look over the list of Biblical names of God.

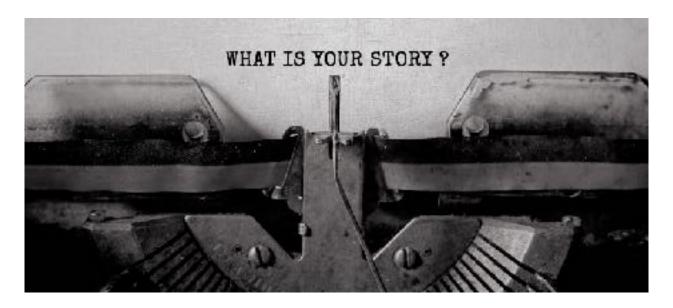
What names jump out at you? Why?

Silently pray and praise God for who He is using names from this sheets.

2. Now, reflect on your own story.

How have you seen some of these names of God in your personal story?

Take a moment and write some of the names of God you can vividly remember in your Story. You can place them at specific points on your timeline or simply write them on your folder.



the Well

Often times as ministry leaders we are so concerned about ministering to others, we neglect time for ourselves. Ministry is hard and with it comes wounds only a living Savior can heal.

1. Take a few minutes to reflect on the woman at the well in John 4.

How do you relate to the woman at the well?

What do you see in Jesus as He ministers to this woman?

2. Now, reflect on your own story.

Are you weary and tired in ministry? Are you ready to quit? Are you confused and worn out or are you new and feeling overwhelmed?

Take a few moments and read over the verses on the provided labels. Peel off the verses that speak to you and put them on the back of your folder.