

**The Story Series  
Barabbas  
Newport News  
11/11/2023**

**Opening**

**-(promote resource)**

- 10/7 - session #1**
- 10/14 - session #22**
- 10/21 - session #23**
- 10/28 - session #24**
- 11/4 - session #25**
- 11/11 - session #26**
- 11/18 - session #27**

**Introduction**

**-Top boy names of 2023**

- 1. Liam**
- 2. Noah**
- 3. Oliver**
- 4. Elijah**
- 5. James**
- 6. William**
- 7. Benjamin**
- 8. Lucas**
- 9. Henry**
- 10. Theodore**

Names on the rise: Bennett, Graham, Wesley, and Miles

Non-English popular: Luca and Enzo

Bible names making a comeback: Levi, Josiah, Caleb, and Ezra

**-Top girl names of 2023**

- 1. Olivia**
- 2. Emma**
- 3. Charlotte**
- 4. Amelia**

5. Ava
6. Sophia
7. Isabella
8. Mia
9. Evelyn
10. Harper

Popular feminine classics: Lydia, Natalia, Cecilia, Eliana and Alina  
Gender neutral: River, Blake, Parker and Sloane  
Short modern names: Isla, Nova, Eden  
Surprise on the rise: Claudia, Astrid, and Simone

### -How did you pick your children's names?

-Vannessa and I talked about all the following options...

- There is the Bible name route...
- There is the pick a name that has meaning...
- There is the family name approach... (joke about me and V)
- There is the pick a name you like...

-In Hebrew culture (in the Bible)

- A characteristic...Esau means hairy
- The time of a birth...**Sha**-har-'em means born at the dawn
- A parent's prayer...Zechariah means God has remembered

-So why are we talking about names?

### -Matthew 27:15-16

-Acts 3:14 (reference only...he was a murderer)

-The **name**, the **rescue**, and the **city** of Barabbas are all used by God to teach me three vital lessons: (God orchestrated!!!!)

### 1. My Ultimate Need

- 2. My Fundamental Value
- 3. My Present Suffering

### **His Name...My Ultimate Need**

-Barabbas

- Matthew 16: Peter as Simon Bar Jonah... (explain bar)
- Abba literally means "Father" - Aramaic
- The MOST generic name ever!
- No one loved this child enough: description, time, or prayer
- Can you imagine his embarrassment growing up?
- His name, our condition & His name, our Savior!!!!!!

**-The Son of The Father died for EVERY child of every father!**

**-The incarceration of The Incarnation was the coronation of our salvation!**

-2 Corinthians 5:21 (MY ULTIMATE NEED FOR A SAVIOR!)

### **His Rescue...My Fundamental Value**

-What is the value of something?

- tax assessments...crazy!
- Price reflects value...so tax assessments on the rise!
- cars, motorcycles, boats, art, antiques...video games LOL!!!!

**-Jesus' death was setting the value of humanity by the measure of His own worth!**

-Barabbas was the very first person redeemed by Jesus!!!

-Confusing MEANING with VALUE!!!! (parents, pay attention!!!)

- Work

- Hobbies
- Relationships
- Church

-You HAVE value because you ARE!

-1 Peter 1:18-19 (MY FUNDAMENTAL VALUE IS MEASURED BY THE LIFE OF JESUS!)

### **His City...My Present Suffering**

-Jerusalem was in utter chaos!

- Disciples went from being celebrities to being hunted...
- From Parades to Safehouses, cowering
- The crowds that once praised Jesus are now cheering His death...
- From Thursday night until Sunday morning, they hid in terror...

### **Band**

**-Whenever there is shift in my context, God is preparing me for change in my character. The greater the shift, the greater the change!**

-(talk about historic viewpoint of Holy Spirit had to come before they could begin their work, step into their purpose...)

**-Have you ever considered that their suffering, their time spent languishing, their time spent wrestling...made room in their hearts for the measure of the Holy Spirit that God wanted to pour out?**

-What are you going through now?

-When we overlay this story with our story, remember...

**-God is using your situation to make room in you, displacing what doesn't belong to make room for a greater measure of Himself, for the power to fulfill a divine purpose!**

### **Close**