

The Story Series
Comparative Experience
04/16/22
Newport News

Opening

-(autism awareness month)

-(show The Story Slide)

-(show our slide for tonight)

-Well, I've got some good news and some bad news...let me give you the bad news first. You and I are going to suffer some in this life, now for the good news...you and I are going to suffer some in this life.

-How can that be both good and bad news?

Introduction

-Isaiah 52:7

-Isaiah 61:1

-the the word "gospel" appears 20 times in The Gospels!

-77 more times all the way to Revelation

-Greek is "euaggelion" first translated as Old English from "god-spel" with god meaning good and spel meaning news.

-Acts 20:24

-Revelation 14:6-7

-called eternal because this good news leads to eternal life but also because the message itself is eternal...never fading, never changing...

-so Fred, I get it, it's good news...**but how is suffering a part of that good news?**

Immunization Revelation

-(tell story of Mr. Whitlow, wood working shop, most beautiful carvings, he was the first person as a child I can recall knowing who was in a wheel chair, had no use of his legs...he had suffered from Polio earlier in life.)

-Anyone here have a friend now who is in a wheel chair from polio?

-That's because in 1955 a vaccine was introduced to prevent this terrible disease...it is a virus that can be deadly, often attacking the brain and spinal cord leading to paralysis.

-Immunization is the process whereby a person is made immune or resistant to an infectious disease, typically by the administration of a vaccine.

-Vaccines: a way to stimulate the body's own immune system to protect the person against subsequent infection or disease by introducing safe levels of the disease to their body or with technology like MRNA, it prepares the bodies immune system to fight an infectious disease.

-If this is foreign to you...you can watch World War Z or news reruns for the past two years!

-My first real job was with the Christian Children's Fund, an international child sponsorship agency, worked there 5 years after college...and one of the most saddening realities was how many children died from preventable diseases around the world...

- (talk about Channel to Brazil for Christ...)
- An estimated 18.7 million infants worldwide are still not being reached by routine immunization services.
- An estimated 1.5 million of those children die.

Virology of Humanity

-can I teach you a new term tonight...the virology of our humanity.

-Lucifer

- Revelation 12:7-9...his rebellion
- Luke 10:18...Jesus saw him fall

- Ezekiel 28:14...his role
- Isaiah 14:12-14...his pride

-How do you rebel against the glory of God...how do you risk that?

-I believe Satan was vulnerable to rebellion because he never had a comparative experience...he needed a rebellion vaccination!

-Ethan Crouch...(2013 killed 4 ppl DUI) Yes...and the term we are learning through his behavior is what: *Affluenza which is defined as the inability to understand the consequences of one's actions because of privilege.*

-I think God decided to create a being that would be ready for the glory of paradise!

-We aren't ready for the glory of Heaven until we have endured this life because after we have suffered here we will never want anything else but the glory that awaits us there!

-(go back to the slide and explain)

-You and I are in desperate need for a rebellion immunization that only comes through the vaccination of suffering...the virology of humanity...getting me ready for eternal glory!

Making My Case

-1 Thessalonians 5:18

-James 1:2-4

-Matthew 5:10-12

-1 Peter 4:12-13, 19

-(the Psalms David wrote on the run...He is a credible messenger!!!)

-God is making us ready for the forever we were born to live!

Band

-I've got good news and bad news. The bad news is some of you came in here tonight and Heaven is not waiting for you when you breathe your last breath. The good news is you can change all that right now.

-Matthew 7:13-14

-there is a checkpoint to get into Heaven...will you pass?

-Jesus...

Close

-Let's ask the question this way...if you were arrested for being a Christian tonight, would there be enough evidence to convict you?