

**The Story Series**  
**Receiving and Believing, Part One**  
**06/25/22**  
**Newport News**

**Opening**

-giving slide

-missions giving slide

-(Roe V. Wade statement)

-(show The Story Slide)

-(show our slide for tonight)

-John 1:12 NLT / NASB / KJV / ESV

**Introduction**

-next week I'll talk more about how to "receive" and "believe" (or better yet, "have I received because I believe?")

*-Receiving and Believing means that you are committed to following the example of Jesus for the rest of your life.*

>**Are you willing to follow the example of Jesus?** (hold here)

>*How far are you willing to go?*

-(show diagram of three circles of example)

- Incarnation Example
- Vicarious Example
- Resurrection Example

*Is His example our experience?*

- they are sequential (no shoots and ladders...lol!)
- they are non-negotiable (His example isn't tailored to us)
- they are unnatural (like love your enemies)

## Incarnation Example

**-Jesus left Heaven to come to earth.**

- The pre-existence of Jesus
- Follow me there...okay, have you been there before?

-Philippians 2:5-11

-Luke 9:28-36 (reference only, Mt Transfiguration)

-some questions for you

**1. How often are you stepping into spaces that are unfamiliar?**

- Aqueducts...first time in an at risk community.
- City Life...first time sitting next to a Dem/Repub.

**2. How often are you with people who are dramatically different than you?**

- City Life...first time you've followed the lead of...
- City Life...first time you've shared a meal with...

**3. How long are you willing to be in that space with those people?**

- Incarnation is not visitation...it's habitation!
- Revelation 7:9-12 (will you be uncomfortable?)

**-(show intercultural intelligence chart)**

## Vicarious Example (in place of...substitutionary)

**-Jesus died in our place. He didn't deserve that death, and we don't deserve His grace.**

-Luke 9:23

-Matthew 10:38

-Philippians 2:1-4

**-How are you dying to self on behalf of the people you are with who are not like you?**

**-(show three circles again)**

**-(show nine practices by Paul Maconochie)**

**-(show diagram of two circles: curiosity vs. concern)**

- you might still end up in concern circle
- the end goal is not agreement
- the end goal is not sameness
- the end goal is not abdication
- (Jesus wasn't conceding on The Cross!!!!!!!!!!!!)

**-Ask first: What is in the best interest of the people around me who are different from me?**

- 1. Deeper understanding of one another**
- 2. Deeper grace for one another**
- 3. Deeper relationship with one another**
- 4. Deeper desire to serve one another**

### **Resurrection Example**

-Philippians 3:10-11

-Romans 8:11

**-Acts 3:1-11**

*-Is it possible that one of the reasons that we don't see Christians moving in the same power as we see Christians in the first century, like the books Acts, is it because we keep trying to skip the steps of incarnation and vicarious dying?*

### **Band**

-Acts 1:8

-(talk about Bishop Claude Alexander's interpretation here...)

-have we missed some steps?

### **Close**

-1 Kings 12:19