



I hope like me you love to hear a good story? I showed a video awhile back at our W@9 service about Bono (Lead singer of U2) being interviewed about his faith. It went like this: "I think it's the defining question for a Christian: who was Christ? And I don't think you're let off easily," he continues, "by saying, 'A great thinker,' or 'A great philosopher.'" "Because actually, *he* [Jesus] went round saying he was the Messiah. That's why he was crucified. He was crucified because he said he was the Son of God. So, he either, in my view, was the Son of God, or he was nuts" A bit later, the interviewer is direct: "Therefore, it follows you believe he was divine?" And Bono is clear in his response: "Yes." Over the years Bono has been very public about his Christian faith, invoking it as the primary motive for his philanthropy and efforts to combat HIV/AIDS and global poverty.

There are so many great faith stories that we can read about but have you ever thought that your story is worth sharing? Have you considered the fact that people you know would be as interested in your faith story as I am about hearing Bono's story?

We all have a story to tell, a story that is rooted in real life. It's my story and it's your story. It is personal, it is true and it is a story that is within us and just waiting to be told. I can hear you now saying, Keith, who would ever want to hear my story? I haven't been

famous, my story is just a run of the mill story, no excitement, little drama, it's a bit boring. No, it's not! It is a story of your journey with God, through the good times and the bad. It is a story that speaks of God's love for you and your love of him. It's a best seller in God's eyes!

For too long Christians have been keeping their faith story to themselves. How can people know of the love of God and the transformation he brings to your life, if we don't share it? I think back to my friends who shared their faith story with me. I think of my parents who lived out and talked to me about their love of God. We love to read and hear those great stories from the Bible of Noah, Joseph, Moses, David, Esther, Ruth, Peter, Paul and of course Jesus. But once upon a time someone had to tell those stories, someone had to share them with others and today we are those storytellers. Now my story is not in the same league as David, or Moses, that's for sure, but it is a story of redemption, it is a story of hope and it is a story for today.



I learnt long time ago that as a Christian I have no other choice but to share it with others. We all know that Jesus said "Go and make disciples" and we can't go and make disciples if we don't share what Jesus has done for us. This is "Good News" that we have to share. The story we are sharing is the greatest story ever told. I can think of friends that I wish I had been more open with about my faith. You never know what your words and story can mean to someone when God is at work through you. I have read many times of people who wanted to end their life when they heard a song on a Christian radio station or had someone tell them how special they thought they were and it stopped them in their tracks and changed their life.

Don't underestimate what God can do through you, when you are willing to take a risk and be vulnerable as you share your story. You see it really isn't your story, it's God's story and his story has the power to change lives. God needs you and I not to be ashamed of the Gospel or ashamed to say that we are followers of Jesus Christ. So go tell your story and leave the rest to God!