



CHRONIC JOY® DEVOTIONAL

SHARING YOUR STORY

By Cindee Snider Re

Come and listen ... let me tell you what God has done for me.
(Psalm 66:16)

WE ALL HAVE A STORY TO TELL

We all have a story to tell, and each one is a vital part of the mosaic, an integral piece of the whole. Incomplete, insufficient, and disconnected on its own, our story connects with others to create an exquisite, finished, and complete masterpiece.

Think about what happens when we sit down for coffee or dinner with a friend. What do we do? We talk. Share. Catch up. Discuss what's happening in our lives. We work through struggles, celebrate victories, encourage one another, laugh, cry, and love each other through life. That's friendship, good and right and necessary, but there's more. God designed us to do life together as one body, the Body of Christ.

TELL THE STORY YOU LIVE

Without God, our lives are hollow and shallow. However, as we begin to see God at work in the details, as we step out in faith, sharing our stories and the hope of Christ with others, God begins to work. Others begin to see God at work in *their* lives, too. That's what made the disciples so powerful. They were not extraordinary men, but they spoke about an extraordinary God. They shared what they knew – what they had witnessed, heard, and felt – and they rocked the world.

I will tell people how good you are. I will tell about all the times you saved me—too many times to count. I will tell about your greatness, my Lord God. I will talk only about you and your goodness. (Psalm 71:15-16)

STORY AND COMMUNITY

When we share stories of God at work in our lives, others begin to notice God in new ways, and we both grow. It's a glimpse of what community is meant to be.

How amazing that God chose us—ordinary, everyday people—to share what we know, to tell others what we've experienced, and how we've seen God at work in our lives. God's story is passed from heart to heart, knitting us together into the intricate, diverse, and extraordinary Body of Christ on earth.

Remember. Remember how God has met you on the dark days, how He has called you, how He sees you, knows you, and loves you beyond comprehension. God isn't asking us to do something enormous. He is simply asking us to share what we know, what we've witnessed, heard, and felt—because our God still rocks His world one brave story at a time! What are you waiting for? You have been born for such a time as this!

... my tongue is the pen of a skillful writer. (Psalm 45:1)

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Where have you glimpsed God at work in your life this week?
- Who needs to hear your brave story?
- How might Jesus use the story He is writing through your life to encourage someone else?
- Everything in your life becomes an opportunity to worship, honor, and glorify God.

The Lord answered me. He said: 'Write down what I will show to you. Make it very clear on the page where you write it. Then someone can easily read it, and he can tell the message to other people.

(Habakkuk 2:2 EASY)