

ChristChurch London Life Group Discussion Outline – 16/11/08

“Telling Your Story - Just Walk Across the Room, Week 3” - Adrian Holloway

Note to leader: If you are following in the book, Sunday's talk was chapter 6.

Group Activity: Give everyone a piece of paper and a pen (a pencil and rubber are even better!). Each member of the group writes their story **in less than 100 words**. Please try and identify a key word that describes what you were like before you came into a personal relationship with Christ, and a key word that describes you since.

Here are some examples . . .

“I was self-destructive ... but now I have power.”

“He's moving me from success . . . to significance

“Fear-stricken, but now confident.”

“From fame . . . to servanthood.”

“From aloneness . . . to adoption.”

“I was striving ... but now I'm at peace.”

“Guilty, but now liberated.”

“Despairing, but now hopeful!”

“Born worrier . . . peace”

“Shame . . . grace”

“Money . . . poor”

“Self-righteousness . . . grace”

“Earning . . . gift”

“Cool . . . loved”

If you've been brought up in a Christian home, if you've “known Jesus all your life”, the question is “has God done anything in your life that you identify?” Not everyone raised in a Christian home is living for God today! How come you are? Was there a moment when you could have walked away? What did God do? Has there been a “defining moment” in your Christian life, which you can use as a “before” and “after” point?

Once everyone's finished their ‘first draft’, pass all the stories round and get others to edit them, suggest improvements.

Now read the stories out loud! They have to sound “normal.” They have to sound authentic. You have to be able to present them with your “true voice”.

Remember Bill Hybels' 4 criticisms of Christian testimonies:

1. It's too long (45 seconds max)
2. It's fuzzy (one plot line, one line of coherent reasoning)
3. Avoid the use of religious terminology
- 4.** Avoid any sense of superiority