- We become people who _____ _____ to the reality of God's kingdom in the way we love our neighbors, pursue justice, practice forgiveness, care for the vulnerable, make disciples, and share the good news of Jesus.
- We live in the _____ between what God has already begun and what He has promised to complete.

5. Your Story Finds Its Meaning Within God's Story

- The invitation of Jesus is not simply to believe that certain things about God are true. It's an invitation to trust Him, follow Him, and discover what it means to _____ as part of His kingdom.
- It means allowing the story God tells to _____ the stories we tell about ourselves.
- What would it mean for you to see your _____ within the bigger story of God?



FINDING OUR PLACE IN GOD'S STORY

- God's story isn't just a story we're invited to read. It's a story we're invited to _____ and participate in.
- What if the story that makes the most sense of our lives isn't the story our culture is telling us, but the story _____ is telling us?

1. The Bible Tells One Big Story

- **Creation**: God makes a _____ world.
- **Fall**: God's good world is _____.
  - The world remains God's creation, but it is no longer the world as God _____ it to be.
  - We see its effects all around us, and if we're honest, we recognize its effects within _____.
- **Israel**: God chooses a _____.
- **Jesus**: God acts to _____ His creation.
- **The Church & New Creation**: God will make all things _____.
  - The Bible's final vision is of God dwelling with His people in a renewed creation where everything that has been corrupted by sin is finally _____ _____.

- The story that begins with creation in Genesis ends with _____ _____ in Revelation.
- The ultimate goal of God's redemptive plan is not simply to save individuals from sin. It is to redeem a _____ and restore His _____ under the reign of Jesus Christ.

2. The Biblical Story Makes Sense of the World We Experience

- When I look at the world around me, I see extraordinary beauty, _____, and joy. But I also see profound _____, suffering, and evil.
- God made a good world, and our capacity to experience beauty, love, joy, and goodness is consistent with that story.
- When we stand beside the grave of someone we love, something deep within us cries out, "This isn't right. This isn't the way things are supposed to be."
- Why do we experience the world as both _____ and broken?
- Paul is describing something we recognize intuitively: the world is not as it should be, and we long for it to be made _____ (Romans 8).
- The _____ of creation points toward the promise of renewal.
- The biblical story helps us understand both the goodness of the world we love and the brokenness of the world we grieve.

3. The Biblical Story Makes Sense of Our Own Inner Struggle

- The same tension we experience in the world _____ within the human heart.
- "For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing." (Romans 7:19, NIV)
- The Bible doesn't deny our dignity, because we are created in God's _____. But neither does it minimize our brokenness.
- It tells us that we are people made for relationship with God, created with dignity and purpose, yet deeply _____ by sin.
- "Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (Romans 7:24–25, NIV)
- Through Jesus, God offers forgiveness and reconciliation. Through the Holy Spirit, He begins to transform us into the people He created us to be. And through the resurrection of Jesus, He gives us the promise that sin, suffering, and death will not have the final word.

4. Jesus Is at the Center of God's Story

- Jesus didn't come simply to teach people how to be better individuals. He came to announce and embody _____ _____ —to confront the power of sin and evil, to heal the sick, to welcome the excluded, to forgive sinners, and to call people into a new way of life under God's reign.
- Jesus is the Messiah Israel was waiting for. He is the faithful Son who fulfills Israel's calling and the one through whom God's blessing extends to the nations.
- And everything God is doing through the church today flows from what Jesus has _____ and will ultimately be brought to _____ through Him.
- In Colossians 1:19–20, Paul writes that God was pleased to reconcile _____ _____ to Himself through Jesus, making peace through the blood of His cross.
- God's purpose is not confined to a small corner of our personal lives. His redemptive plan encompasses the _____ creation.
- Jesus invites us to become part of _____ story.