

A *narrative* is a story—a version of experiences, events or explanations—you want others to hear and share.

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I. Do You Know the Biblical Narrative?

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¹And God spoke all these words, saying, ²“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ³You shall have no other gods before Me.

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⁴You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

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⁵You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation

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of those who hate Me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love Me and keep My commandments. —Exodus 20:1-6 ESV

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“You shall have no other gods before Me.”

—Exodus 20:3 ESV

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The Decalogue declares the...

- Mercy of God
- Authority of God
- Exclusivity of God

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“In a society prone to self-interest and resistant to the notion of authority, the Ten Commandments are widely misunderstood or simply ignored.

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Monotheistic and directive, they smack of exclusivity and demand absolute obedience. Not even believers, though quick to defend the Commandments as part of our heritage,

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spend much time learning or teaching them to their children. Curious treatment for words given to reveal God and frame the identity of His people.” —Dr. Albert Mohler

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2. Are You Following the Cultural Narrative?

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“Roughly speaking, every other culture always taught that the truth is something outside me, it could be family, God, dying for my country;

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and to be a person of honor and worth, authenticity, you had to find that truth and align your feelings with the truth. Now the understanding is, truth is inside you.

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You go inside to find the great depths and then you come out and you tell everybody else that you have to now accommodate me...

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What that means is we're the first culture not only that does not believe there's a truth out here, it's all subjective.

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Also, it's the first culture that doesn't just think Christians are wrong, but they are the problem... Post-Christian culture is based on liberation from Christianity...

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The thing we need redemption from is the idea we need redemption.” —Timothy Keller

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3. What is Your Life Narrative?

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WHAT IS YOUR LIFE NARRATIVE?

- I Have a Derived Dignity

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²¹For although they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

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²²Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things...

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²⁵because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.—Romans 1:21-23, 25

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“Until a man has found God, he begins at no beginning; he works to no end.” —H.G. Wells

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WHAT IS YOUR LIFE NARRATIVE?

- I Have a Determined Priority

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And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. —Colossians 3:17 ESV

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WHAT IS YOUR LIFE NARRATIVE?

- I Have a Defined Responsibility

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¹For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery...
¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers.

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Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

¹⁴For the whole law is fulfilled in one word:

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“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

—Galatians 5:1, 13-14 ESV

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