

Discouraged Lesson One Handout – My Story – God’s Story



Hebrews 4:12 (NASB95)

¹² For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.





2 Corinthians 11:24–27 (AMP)

²⁴ Five times I received from [the hands of] the Jews forty [lashes all] but one; ²⁵ Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned. Three times I have been aboard a ship wrecked at sea; a [whole] night and a day I have spent [adrift] on the deep; ²⁶ Many times on journeys, [exposed to] perils from rivers, perils from bandits, perils from [my own] nation, perils from the Gentiles, perils in the city, perils in the desert places, perils in the sea, perils from those posing as believers [but destitute of Christian knowledge and piety]; ²⁷ In toil and hardship, watching often [through sleepless nights], in hunger and thirst, frequently driven to fasting by want, in cold and exposure *and* lack of clothing.

Acts 27 (NASB95)

¹ When it was decided that we would sail for Italy, they proceeded to deliver Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan cohort named Julius.

³ The next day we put in at Sidon; and Julius treated Paul with consideration and allowed him to go to his friends and receive care.

¹⁴ But before very long there rushed down from the land a violent wind, called Euraquilo; (typhoon)

¹⁸ The next day as we were being violently storm-tossed, they began to jettison the cargo; ¹⁹ and on the third day they threw the ship's tackle overboard with their own hands. ²⁰ Since neither sun nor stars appeared for many days, and no small storm was assailing *us*, from then on all hope of our being saved was gradually abandoned.

²¹ When they had gone a long time without food...

⁴¹ But striking a reef where two seas met, they ran the vessel aground; and the prow stuck fast and remained immovable, but the stern *began* to be broken up by the force *of the waves*. ⁴² The soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, so that none *of them* would swim away and escape; ⁴³ but the centurion, wanting to bring Paul safely through, kept them from their intention, and commanded that those who could swim should jump overboard first and get to land,

Acts 28 (NASB95)

¹ When they had been brought safely through, then we found out that the island was called Malta. ² The natives showed us extraordinary kindness; for because of the rain that had set in and because of the cold, they kindled a fire and received us all.

³ But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat and fastened itself on his hand.

2 Timothy 4:7 (NASB95)

⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;

I am a part of God's story and my life is His and I have committed my life to Him to use me any way He pleases in order to make HIS NAME GREAT.

American Ebola victim Dr. Kent Brantly is on the mend. "I am writing this update from my isolation room at Emory University Hospital, where the doctors and nurses are providing the very best care possible," he says. "I am growing stronger every day, and I thank God for His mercy as I have wrestled with this terrible disease."

Brantly is [one of two Americans](#) flown from Liberia to Emory University Hospital for treatment, the other being 59-year-old missionary Nancy Writebol.

Brantly adds: "My wife Amber and I, along with our two children, did not move to Liberia for the specific purpose of fighting Ebola. We went to Liberia because we believe God called us to serve Him at ELWA Hospital."

"One thing I have learned is that following God often leads us to unexpected places. When Ebola spread into Liberia, my usual hospital work turned more and more toward treating the

increasing number of Ebola patients. I held the hands of countless individuals as this terrible disease took their lives away from them. I witnessed the horror firsthand, and I can still remember every face and name."

"When I started feeling ill on that Wednesday morning, I immediately isolated myself until the test confirmed my diagnosis three days later. When the result was positive, I remember a deep sense of peace that was beyond all understanding. God was reminding me of what He had taught me years ago, that He will give me everything I need to be faithful to Him. "

He concludes: "Now it is two weeks later, and I am in a totally different setting. My focus, however, remains the same—to follow God. As you continue to pray for Nancy and me, yes, please pray for our recovery. More importantly, pray that we would be faithful to God's call on our lives in these new circumstances."