The Gospel as Story

The purpose of this section is to help planters understand the narrative power of the gospel—that it is more than a concept. Instead, it is a story that we and the entire world find ourselves a part of.

A REDEMPTIVE HISTORY

This five-part framework gives us language for our active role in the redemptive arc—it gives language to the "already but not yet" element of the story. Be attentive to the impact of the Fall on individuals (Genesis 2) as well as the Fall's impact on systems and structures (Genesis 11).

CREATION	FALL	REDEMPTION	RENEWAL	RESTORATION
Genesis 1:31 *"And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good."*	**Romans 3:23** *"For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."*	**1 Corinthians 1:30** *"And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption."*	**Ephesians 2:10** *" For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand."*	**Revelation 21:5** *"And he who was seated on the throne said, 'Behold, I am making all things new.'"*

(These texts are from the ESV)

Gospel Fluency II Assignment: Your Personal Gospel Story

Use these prompts to write your own personal gospel story. A fillable PDF is available in Google Classrooms.

CREATION (life as it was meant to be)
Describe a time when your life was characterized by blessedness, goodness, and wholeness.

FALL (impact of individual and systemic brokenness)
When did you first become aware of peace being shattered or encounter injustice? How have you rejected God and tried to restore peace on your own?

REDEMPTION (God rescues, reconciles, liberates)
How have you already experienced the saving work of Jesus in your own life?

RENEWAL (seek first his Kingdom now)
How is God inviting you to grow in love for him? How has God called you to love your neighbor as yourself? How are you enjoying peace and justice, even though it may be partial?

RESTORATION (this is what I long for)
How do you envision your life when you are completely whole, free, and glorious?

This tool has been adapted from *Beyond Duct Tape* by Shari Thomas & Tami Resch. Shari and Tami lead Parakaleo, a ministry to church planting spouses and couples. www.parakaleo.us.