

**Sermon Discussion Questions, September 25, 2011**  
*Think Local: Why Changing the World Starts in Your Backyard, Week Six*

***Telling Your Story***  
**Dr. Rod MacIlvaine**  
*Selected Scriptures*

**THE MANDATE** – Be prepared to say something about your faith on a moment's notice. 1 Peter 3:15

1. How do you feel about sharing your story with someone? Is it easy or hard? Why?
2. Is it easier to do with total strangers or within the context of relationships? Why? Give examples.

**THE MEANS** – Prepare your story so that it can be told in a variety of ways. Acts 9:1-9, 22:1-23, 24:1-25, 26:1-32; Luke 16:1-9; Galatians 1:11-24

3. Why is it important to fit your testimony to the context and audience to whom you are speaking?
4. Why do you think Paul was so effective with such a variety of people? Do you think his methods were manipulative or wise? Why?

**THE METHOD** – Write out your testimony as an equipping exercise.

5. Take a few minutes to fill in the blanks of the four dynamics of your story. These will be the essential facts. Practice in your small group using minimal words.

\* Be sensitive to your group, some people may not want to participate.

a. The past: What was life like before Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

b. The crisis: What happened that made you look for answers? \_\_\_\_\_

c. The changes amid crisis: How did your response to the crisis change? \_\_\_\_\_

d. The present: What is life like now with Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What will you do this week to prepare to tell your story? Where will you look for new opportunities in your daily routine?