

1 2 **Commission:
Live the Story**

Keynote Session 3 – Sarah Agnew

3 **God's Story: Ours for the living**

The fundamentals of Christian living stem from our indwelling of the story of God. When we inhabit, live inside, the story of God, it becomes our story – and we know this deeply from our practice. So when we tell our personal story, which as humans, we naturally and necessarily do, we tell the story of God. When we live our story, we are living the story of God, who is hope and life, justice, peace, and love.

4 **God's Story: Ours for the living**

We seek to form 'Christian performers who can faithfully and creatively act their roles as ones in Christ in changing contexts.'
Ahmi Lee

5 6 **God's Story: Ours for the living**

Telling our stories reminds us of
who we are
 what we value
 where we have been, and
 what we hope for the future.

7 **God's Story: Ours for the living**

'To have a life, you must have a story. In fact, many stories. ... Your life is not like a story; it is a story. And if any part of it is to have significance beyond you, this story must be told.'
My story is not important because it is mine, as much as if I tell it well, you will recognise that it is in many ways also yours
Frederick Buechner (cited by Daniel Taylor)

8 9 **Helping people
tell *their* story**

Workshops and Worksheets

10 **Story sharing events**

- The Moth
- Tenx9
- Faith sharing

11 **Workshops: equip & empower**

From Sarah, for VFG 2020 participants:

- Worksheet – ‘Preparing to tell my story’
- Worksheet – ‘Crafting my story’

12 **Workshops: equip & empower**

Ideas from Heather Walton Writing Methods in Theological Reflection:

- Call stories – placing ourselves in the Biblical narrative
- Call stories – weaving Biblical themes into our story
- Journey stories – ‘the challenging, but liberating, work of ... allowing wisdom to emerge even out of the fragments of our lives’ (Nicola Slee)
- Pastoral care – focussed autobiography

13 **Telling God’s story
by telling our own**

For people of faith telling our story *is* telling God’s story, whether that is explicit in the story told or not. We tell our stories in order to understand ourselves, and God – or ourselves in relation to or relationship with God.

Heather Walton

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