



Inspired to Share HIS Story — Leader Guide

HIS – what does this mean? President Debbie Larson introduced this as the theme for the 2019-2021 LWML biennium. We pray: *O Lord, through us proclaim Your glory! Amen. (LSB 941)*

This is what HIS means for us.

We are _____ children,
guided by _____ hand,
through _____ Word,
to share _____ story,
all the while surrounded by _____ grace.

(Place HIS in each of the blanks.)

Simply put, we are HIS!

H – Held by God’s Word

I – Inspired to share HIS Story

S – Surrounded by HIS grace.

Held by God’s Word.

We are held by God’s Word. See **John 10:28**. *Jesus said, “I give them eternal life, and they will never perish and no one will snatch them out of my hand.”* Whose hand are you in? _____ **Jesus’ hand.** What promise is made by Jesus? _____ **No one can snatch you out of Jesus’ hand.**

Wait a moment, did we not say that “H” stood for “Held by God’s Word”? But now we are saying that we are held in Jesus’ hand. Read **John 1:1**. *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* Who is the “Word” in this passage? _____ **The Son of God is the Word. We believe in a Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Here, we learn that the Word, the Son, is truly God.**

Now read **John 1:14**. *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and wisdom.*

Who is this Word? _____ **This Word is the Son of God incarnate. Here John speaks of the Word becoming flesh, being born of woman, being a human.**

So, when we say “Held by God’s Word,” we are saying that we are held in the hand of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world.

Take a look at that hand that holds you: **John 20:20a** _____ *When he (Jesus) had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.* Those hands still have the holes of the nails that held Him to the cross. You are held in those special, nail-scarred hands.

What comfort does that give to you? _____ **Answers will vary. The focus should be upon the assurance of life and salvation given through the Savior, knowing that you are in His nail-scarred hands.**

Inspired to share HIS story.

What are you inspired to share? At this point, it would be easy to begin to think that you are to be inspired to share your own personal story, or the story of how LWML has blessed your life, or even the story of the LCMS. But that is not the story that you are to share. The story you are to share is HIS story.

Look at **2 Timothy 3:16-17**. God's Word is given to you, to help you do what? _____
All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

There can be a variety of answers here, but it should come back to this passage. We are given the Word to train us to share HIS story as we carry out the works that bring glory to God.

There are other Scriptures that talk to us about sharing HIS story.

1 Timothy 4:11 _____ *Command and teach these things.*

Psalms 96:2b-3 _____ *Tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the people.*

Matthew 5:16 _____ *In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*

What do these passages tell you about *how* to share HIS story? _____

Answers may vary. The focus is that the Word of God teaches us that we are to live in such a way that we are telling HIS story, so that folks may learn of what He has done for them.

God's Word directs us to tell of HIS story. In the theme, we find that we are "inspired" to tell HIS story. What does "inspire" mean? _____ **The Oxford online dictionary definition is: to fill [someone] with the urge or ability to do or feel something.**

What inspires you to share HIS story? _____ **Answers will vary. We are to be inspired by what Jesus Christ has done for us and our salvation — His life, death and resurrection.**

How do you share HIS story? _____ **Answers will vary. This is an opportunity for each woman to think about how she goes about sharing the story that inspires her.**

Surrounded by HIS grace

Held by God's Word and Inspired to share HIS story, we understand that we are Surrounded by His grace. See **Ephesians 2:8-9**. _____ *For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.*

God's grace surrounds us on all sides. This is not based upon what we have done or what we will do. It is totally a gift given to us by God Himself. It is the gift given through His Son Jesus

Christ, who died and rose again for us and for our salvation. Why do we need to be surrounded by HIS grace? _____ Answers may vary. We know that we will fail in our sharing of the message of the Gospel. We know that we will not always follow the will of God in our lives. We do not always feel inspired to share His story. For that, we ask for forgiveness, and we know that He does forgive us for Jesus' sake.

Read **John 14:26** and **16:13a**. Who it is that brings us this grace? _____

John 14:26 *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*

John 16:13a *When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth*

The Holy Spirit guides us and shows us the grace of God. He encourages and inspires us to share HIS story as we are surrounded by this grace of God.

According to **Psalm 77:11-12**, what are you to focus upon in your life? _____

I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your wonders of old. I will ponder your work and meditate on your mighty deeds.

The grace of God that is shown to us again and again in HIS Word. We remember, ponder and meditate on His grace, knowing that He surrounds us at all times.

Who are the witnesses in **Hebrews 12:1a**? *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...*

In Hebrews 11 we are shown the hall of God's grace shown to people throughout the ages. We see those in the generations before us that were surrounded by this grace of God. We see the faithfulness of God in their lives.

How does this encourage us? _____ Answers will vary. This encourages us because we see how God's grace surrounded the ones in the Bible, how His grace surrounded the generations before us, and we know that He is faithful and will continue to surround us with HIS grace.

As we go through this biennium, we do so:

H- Held by God's Word

I – Inspired to share HIS story

S – Surrounded by HIS grace.

Thanks be to God! We are HIS! Amen.