Act 1: How it all began

Creation: God made us for Himself – A perfect relationship in a perfect world, giving, and receiving perfect love.

Love: gives ___________________ that leads to ____________________________.

The Result: ______________________ - Ephesians 2:10

Act 2: How it all went wrong

The Fall: God allowed us to choose or reject His love – Our choice to reject God’s love ushered in sin, death, and selfishness to every relationship, separating us from God, ourselves, and others.

Love: gives ___________________ that leads to ____________________________!

The Result: ______________________ - Romans 5:12
Act 3: How God’s love rescued us

Redemption: Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.

John 15:13 (NIV)

God, the Son, took on human flesh, lived a perfect life to reveal God’s heart, then offered His life as a sacrifice and payment for the sins of all people of all time; that whoever would choose to receive new life may have it.

Love: gives __________________ that leads to ____________________!

The Result: __________________ - 2 Corinthians 5:17-18

Act 4: How it All Will End

Restoration: Jesus will return as promised to make all things right in heaven and on earth forever.

Every moral being will be justly judged (repaid) for their thoughts, choices, and actions. Sin, death, and Satan will be vanquished forever, and God will re-establish perfect relationships in a perfect world, giving and receiving perfect love.

Love: gives __________________ that leads to ____________________!

The Result: __________________ __________________ - Revelation 21:1-5
Two Big Questions:

#1 – How do we know God’s story is true?

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:19-22 (NIV)

#2 – How do we receive God’s rescue?

The facts of the gospel:

1. You are a ________________________________.
   
   ... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
   Romans 3:23 (NAS)

2. The penalty for sin is ________________________________.
   
   For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
   Romans 6:23 (NAS)

3. Christ died to pay for ________________________________ sin.
   
   But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
   Romans 5:8 (NAS)

4. You must personally receive Christ by ________________________________.
   
   Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.
   John 1:12 (NAS)
A picture is worth a thousand words:

Us

______

______

______

God

______

______

______

Discussion Questions:

1. What aspect of God’s “Love Story” is most intriguing to you? Why?

2. How do Easter and the Resurrection demonstrate God’s love for you?

3. Have you ever received Christ’s personal gift of salvation to cover your sins and give you eternal life? Where? When?

4. Is there anything keeping you from trusting Christ “right now” as your Savior and Lord?

5. Who could you talk with about experiencing God’s love in your life?