Small Group Questions for January 1, 2017 E38: Understanding God's Story, Their Story & Your Story *The Story Begins*

2 Tim. 3: 10-17; 1 Cor. 10: 1-13

Opening Questions:

- What for you was the highlight of 2016?
- What is one of your first memories of interacting with the Bible?
- Are you excited or indifferent about this new preaching series? What commitment can you make to get the maximum spiritual growth from this series?

1. Discuss the concept: "When it comes to reading the Bible, it is not so much our desire to read the Bible, but how we see the Bible." Have you ever had a desire to read the Bible, but got confused or frustrated? Discuss that experience.

2. We are seeing the Bible through a two lenses, God's Upper Story and Our Lower Story. Reviewing your notes or the power point at <u>www.crosspointlew.org</u>, how would you as a group explain God's Upper Story and our Lower Story to a twelve year old?

3. How does it change our everyday struggles knowing our Lower Story is part of God's Upper story?

Read the Lord's Prayer. How do you see Upper Story and Lower Story in this prayer?

Matthew 6:9–13 "Pray then like this: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.'"

4. How does it change how you view confusing global events and confusing personal events knowing that God uses all Lower Story events to accomplish his Upper story Plan?

5. Where in your life is God asking you to trust Him with a confusing, or testing a, Lower Story because it is hard to see or believe that he can accomplish his Upper Story purpose with it.

How can you pray for each other?