Ministry of the Word: August 29th and 30th, 2020

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The power of parables: God uses his stories to teach his people

How do each of the following stories function to teach something to the audience?

- (1) Rebuke: 2 Samuel 12:1-9
 - How does this story provide a rebuke to God's people?
- (2) Instruction: Matthew 9:14-17
 - How does this story provide instruction to God's people?
- (3) **Promise**: Ezekiel 1:1-14
 - How does this story provide a promise to God's people?
- (4) Warning: Matthew 21:28-32
 - How does this story provide a warning to God's people?

How do these stories function to teach us?

- God's stories provide a new way of seeing the world.
- God's stories bypass our built-up defenses for our behavior.

Application: God has equipped you with his stories to teach others.

- How can we use God's stories to minister within our faith community?
- How can we use God's stories to minister outside our faith community?