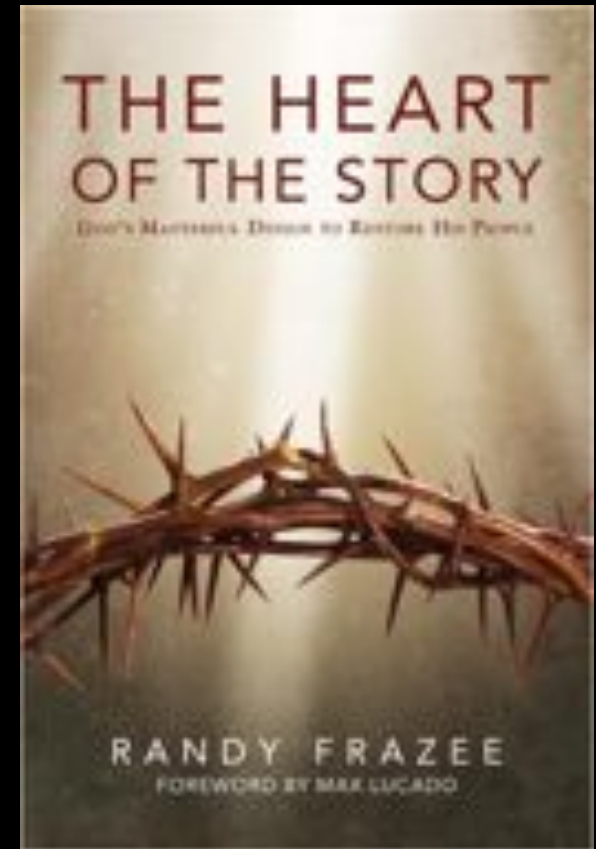


The Heart of the Story

Chapter 14: A Kingdom Divided

January 25, 2012



1 Timothy 2:1-2



God's discipline

- *“...God disciplined them because he needed to make sure his nation accurately reflected who he was and the kind of community he was building.”* (p. 128)
- Is this why God disciplines?
 - Proverbs 3:11-12
 - Hebrews 12:4-11
- Do we discipline our children because of how it reflects upon us? Why then?

A Divided Kingdom

- Ten tribes vs. Two tribes
- A familiar story?
 - A king mistreats his people
 - A courageous revolutionary leads a rebellion
 - A struggle for power ensues
 - The kingdom is divided



An Upper Story View

- “...*this is my doing.*” (1 Kings 12:24, The Story p. 195)
- WHY?
- The Lower Story vs. The Upper Story

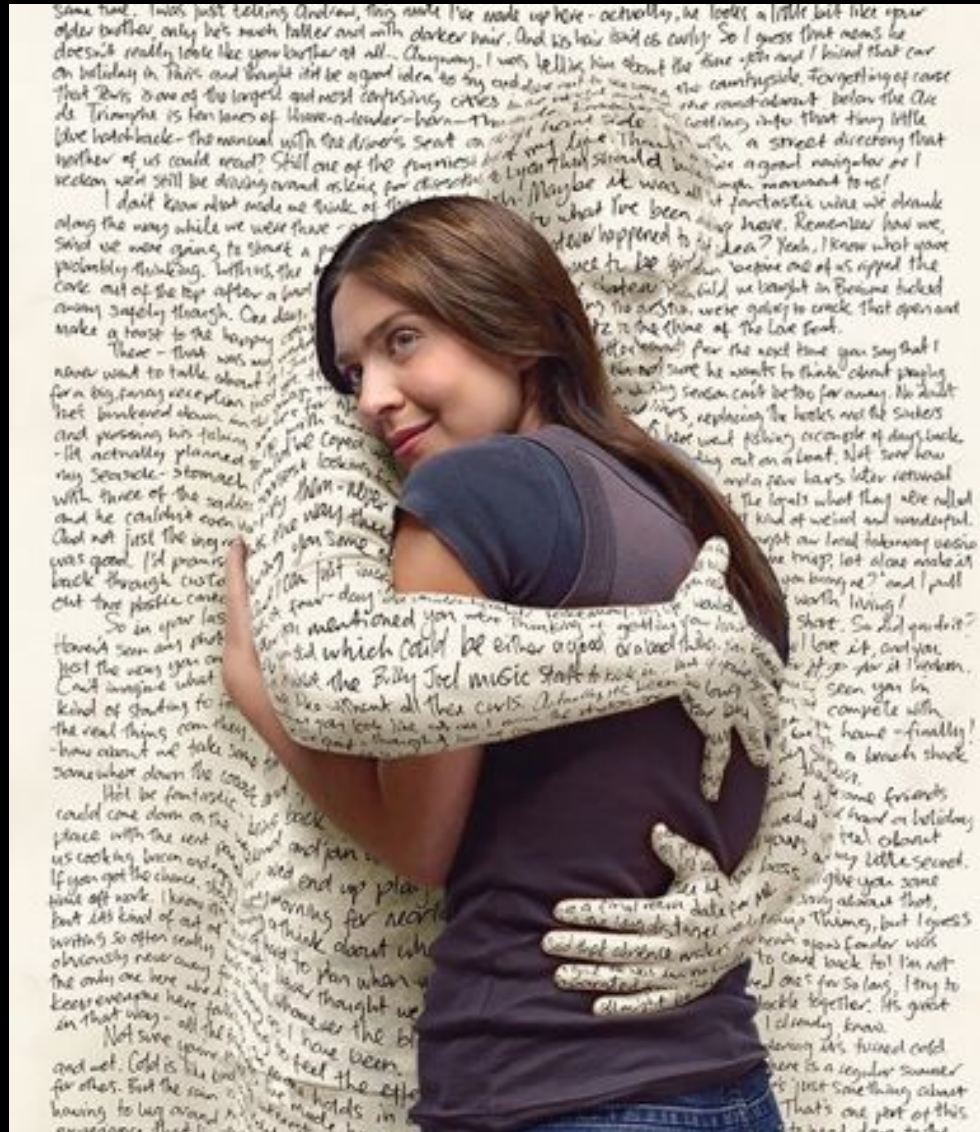
“I keep my word!”

- The Promises of God:
 - To Adam and Eve
 - To Noah
 - To Abraham and his family
 - To Moses
 - To David
- 2 Corinthians 1:20
- Proverbs 30:5

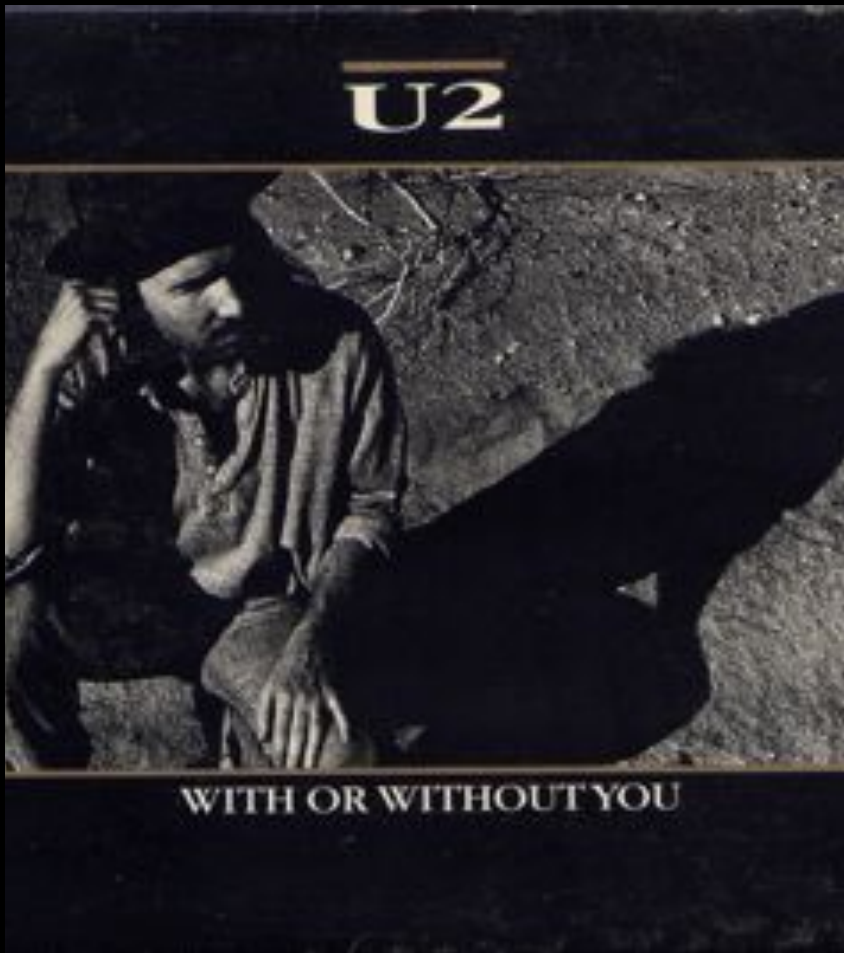


God's Word

- God gives his Word...
literally!
 - John 1
- God's Word is powerful
 - Genesis 1
 - Hebrews 4:12
 - Isaiah 55:10-11



With or Without You



- God's character remains with or without us but his love is so great that he did not want to spend eternity without us...that is why He sent Jesus...that **IS** the Upper Story.
- In one way he can't live with us (in sin) but he also can't live without us (because He loves us so much)

What Can God Do With You?

- He has called us to be in co-mission with Him.
- Matthew 28



God's Call

- *“But God calls us to be bigger than our own likes and dislikes, our petty preferences and Lower Story perspectives. He calls us to trust in him enough to obey him at all times” (p. 131-132...and he loves us so much he can't live without us so he sent his son to die, that we might live.*

All I Want Is You

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=418jEgCf5ts>
- We may want lots of things, make and break many promises and have many desires in our lives but through it all there is one thing God tells us:

—ALL I WANT IS YOU!!