



*True Story: A Christianity Worth Believing In*  
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## *True Story* reveals a new way of sharing the gospel

“Brilliant. . . . Tools like this can change the world.”—Rick Warren

“Is our gospel too small?” This is the question being asked by the Christian Vision Project in 2008. It is also the question that divisional director of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (San Diego) James Choung tackles in his engaging narrative between a jaded believer and an antagonistic skeptic entitled *True Story: A Christianity Worth Believing In*.

As the story progresses, a new way of talking about the gospel emerges—a way that acknowledges that Christ’s sacrifice on the cross offers believers more than just a ticket to heaven. For James Choung, the good news of the gospel is that God is calling believers to participate in his work of restoring creation to its original design. Such work includes actively reconciling people to each other and to God, bringing healing and testifying to the goodness of the kingdom of heaven that is already and is still to come.

As Brian McLaren, author of *Everything Must Change*, notes, “One of the most important theological conversations going on these days is about the shape of the biblical narrative. Not surprisingly, many leaders in this conversation are those working in the intellectual ferment of the college campus and at the intersection of church and the emerging culture. James Choung is one of these important voices, and this book opens up important new vistas regarding the story we find ourselves in.”

Choung’s diagram, presented here in *True Story* and also in an accompanying booklet called *Based on a True Story*, may well revolutionize how the gospel is shared and communicated across the nation for years to come. Leonard Sweet, professor and well-known Christian futurist, has even made the claim that “Choung’s ‘napkin theology’ and its ‘four-worlds’ diagram promise to be for evangelism in the twenty-first century what the ‘Four Spiritual Laws’ were for the twentieth century.”

While a diagram cannot save the world, it can present a fuller picture of what the good news is and make it easier to share. Rather than focusing on an individual making a one-time decision towards an eternally happy afterlife, the gospel message presented here emphasizes the ongoing process of transformation in the life of the believer in Christian community, living out a missional life here and now. True story.

