

YOUR TESTIMONY & THE HERO'S JOURNEY

Zachary Leighton - **Reliant Creative**

“Great stories told well can inspire action and mobilize the Church”

Storytelling

The Bible is full of commands to testify of all that He has done.

Discussion Question:

How could you see capturing and sharing stories more often be used as a tool to advance your mission?

Story Structures

Joseph Campbell & C.S. Lewis

“Without some semblance of structure, it’s not recognizable as a story.”

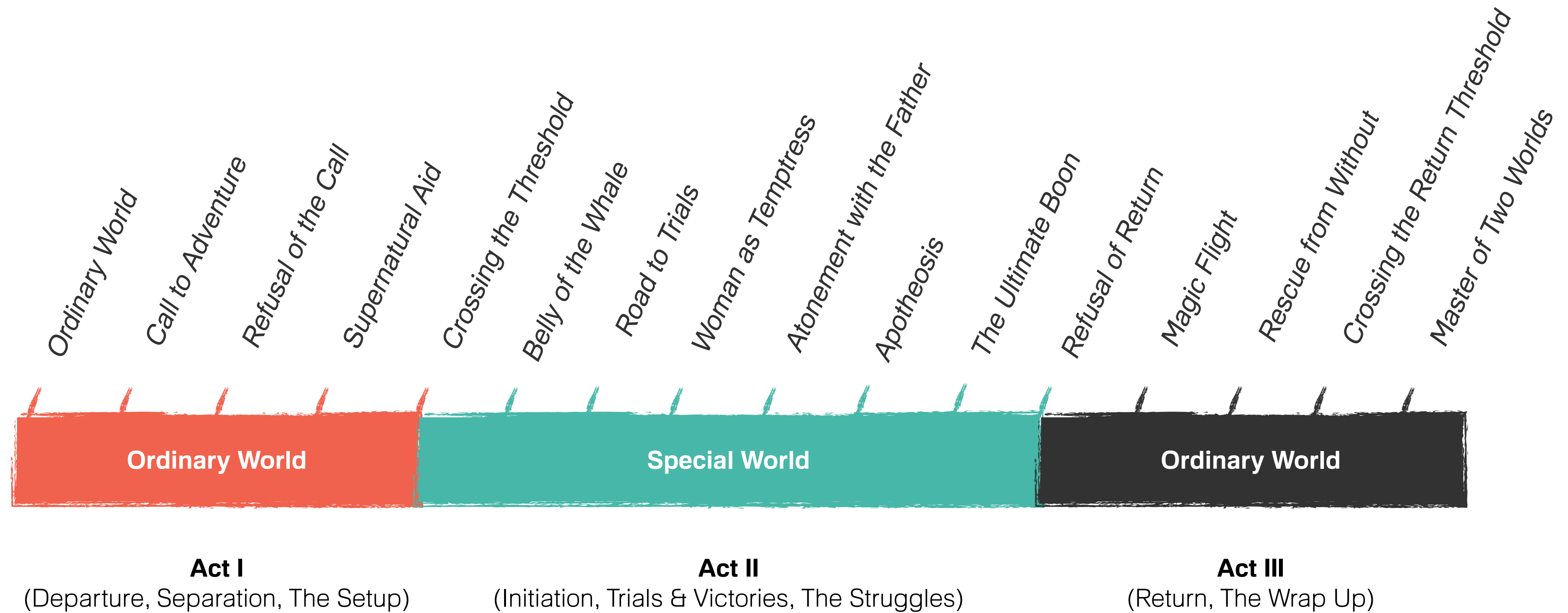
- DAN HARMON

The Hero's Journey

Joseph Campbell coined this phrase, but Jesus is the fulfillment of this age old story structure.

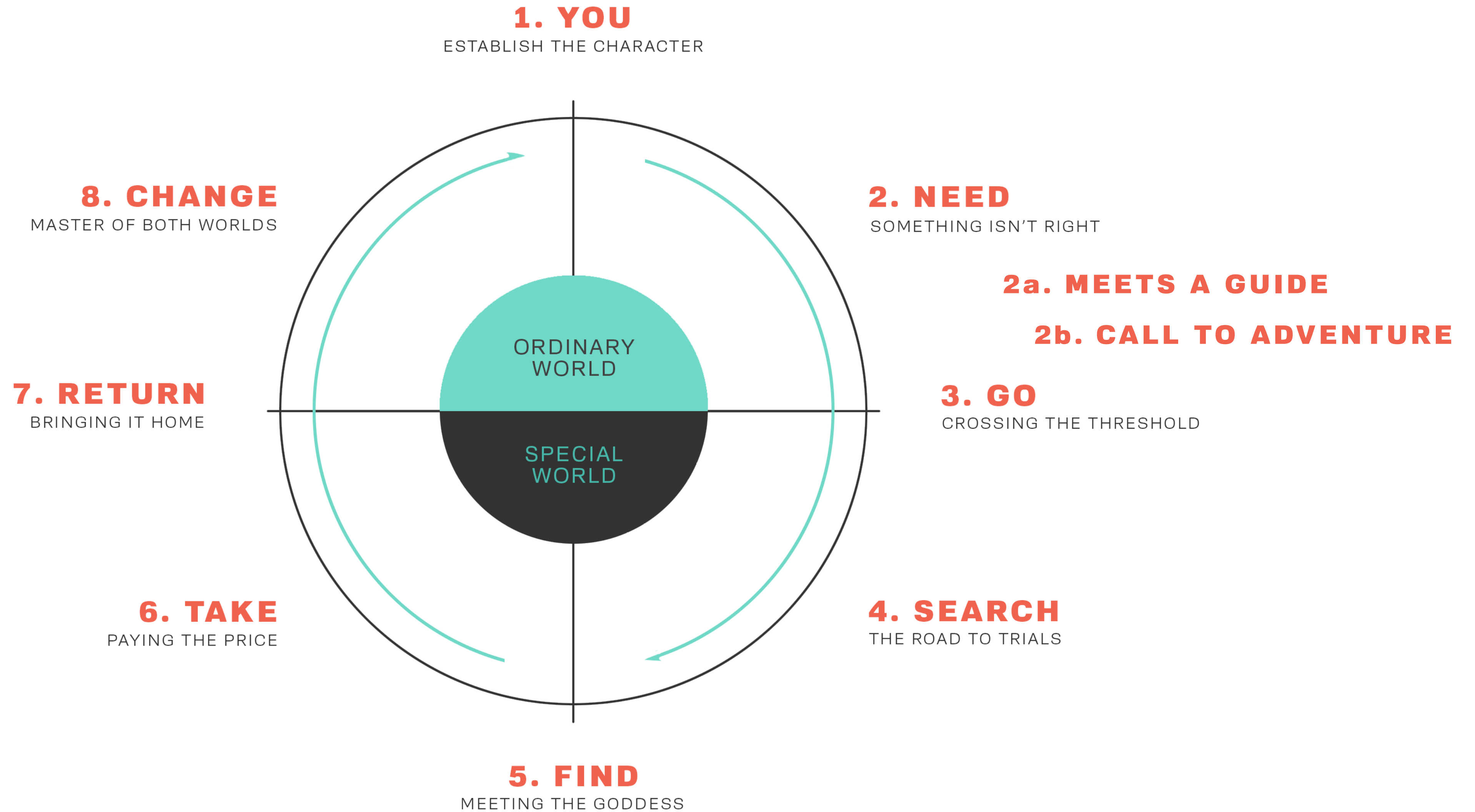
Why Does this all Matter?

**CHRIST IS THE FULFILLMENT
OF THE MONOMYTH.**



Dan Harmon's Story Circle

Revised version of *The Hero's Journey*



1. YOU

ESTABLISH THE CHARACTER

2. NEED

SOMETHING ISN'T RIGHT

3. GO

CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

4. SEARCH

THE ROAD TO TRIALS

5. FIND

MEETING THE GODDESS

6. TAKE

MEET YOUR MAKER

7. RETURN

BRINGING IT HOME

8. CHANGE

MASTER OF BOTH WORLDS

Exercise #1

New Believer Interview Questions:

YOU: (Establish the Character)

1. What is your name and can you quickly summarize your background?

NEED: (Something isn't right)

2. What did you place your hope in prior to knowing Jesus?

GO: (Crossing the threshold)

3. When did you first start to experience Jesus pursuing you and stirring in your heart?

SEARCH: (The Road to Trials)

4. What challenges or struggles did you face as Christ began opening your heart? (i.e. Were you worried what your family or friends might think?)

FIND: (Meeting the Goddess)

5. When did you meet or experience Jesus for the first time and what was so compelling about him?

TAKE: (Meet Your Maker)

6. When did you say yes to Jesus and submit to his authority in your life?

RETURN & CHANGE: (Bringing it Home & Master of Two Worlds)

7. How does your relationship with Jesus affect your life?

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Exercise #2

Mature Believer Interview Questions:

YOU: (Establish the Character)

1. What is your name and can you quickly summarize your background?

NEED: (Something isn't right)

2. What have you struggled with and placed your hope in other than Jesus since you started following him?

GO: (Crossing the threshold)

3. When did you first realize that Jesus asking you to lay that at his feet?

SEARCH: (The Road to Trials)

4. What challenges or struggles did you run into as you laid this sin at his feet? (Maybe you've found that it's a little harder than you thought? Maybe you know the surface level result of your sin, but you weren't sure what the core issue was)

FIND: (Meeting the Goddess)

5. What did you find as you searched your heart and laid the sin at his feet?

TAKE: (Meet Your Maker)

6. What happened when you were able to lay that specific sin down?

Return & Change

7. How has your life changed now that you're able to specifically pinpoint your sin, lay it at his feet, and experience his forgiveness?

Quest, Ordeal, & Return

This Story Structure in its most simple form follows the 3 act story structure.

Simplified Interview Questions:

QUEST: (Act 1)

1. What did you place your hope in prior to knowing Jesus? (What did Jesus save you from?)

ORDEAL: (Act 2)

2. What is your hope in now that you know Jesus? (What did Jesus save you into?)

RETURN: (Act 3)

3. How has your relationship with Jesus changed your life?

COMMON STORYLINES

Overcoming
The Quest
Voyage & Return
Rebirth
Pursuit & Origin

Rescue
Escape
The Riddle
The Rivalry
Transformation

Resources

Books

- C.S. Lewis - "Miracles," "The Four Loves," & "God in the Dock: Essays on Theology and Ethics"
- Joseph Campbell - "The Hero with a Thousand Faces"
- "The Hero and the Outlaw" - Margaret Mark and Carol Pearson
- Christopher Vogler - "The Writer's Journey"

Videos

- Every Story is the Same - <https://youtu.be/LuD2Aa0zFiA>
- Dan Harmon Story Cycle - <https://youtu.be/-XGUVkOmPTA>
- Jonah Sachs Story Wars - <https://youtu.be/o69xW8wtBhk>

Articles

- Jesus and The Hero's Journey - <https://everydayexiles.com/2018/11/19/jesus-and-the-heros-journey/sageblalock/#.XaSoUi2ZPGJ>
- Moses and The Hero's Journey - <https://everydayexiles.com/2018/11/05/moses-and-the-heros-journey/sageblalock/#.Xn-QI9NKjGK>
- Jonah and The Hero's Journey - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UR897fDKbpl>

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*Ministries are busy doing ministry work and don't have time to tell their stories.
God is at work globally in powerful ways and those stories inspire action.
We partner with Christian ministries to tell engaging stories that mobilize the Church.*



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Thank You!