PIERCED BY HIS STORY

- Intro series and Passage
 - Context / Setting / 800 years
 - Isaiah 52:13-53:12
- The greatest summary of Jesus sacrifice.
- The greatest Story ever told.
- Why are we not more moved by this Story?
- See the <u>uniqueness and unparalleled</u> beauty of His Story.
- 2 no form or majesty that we should look at him
 - No greater contrast from who this Hero appeared to be verses who He actually was.
 - Colossians 1: 16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
- 3 and we esteemed him not.
 - $\circ~$ No Hero was ever disrespected more by the ones He died for.
 - SLIDE 7: NLT says, "We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and <u>we did not care.</u>"
 - Grand Canyon Video & Pic
- 3 He was despised and rejected
 - Some Heroes will die for a friend or loved one but this Hero died for an enemy.
 - **Romans 5:** 7 For one will scarcely die for a righteous person, though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die. 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- 4 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows;
 - This Hero didn't just rescue us. He took our hurt and pain upon Himself to destroy its power once and for all.
- 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities;
 - No Hero experienced more pain, not just physical but separation and rejection from the Eternal Father to make us One.

- 5 the punishment that **brought us peace** was on him, and **by his wounds** we are healed.
 - This Hero didn't just rescue us from death. He heals our souls and brings eternal peace.
- 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way
 - $\circ~$ No one has ever been more rebellious or run further from their Hero.
- 7 He was **oppressed**, and he was **afflicted**, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is **led to the slaughter**,
 - No Hero gave up more comfort to suffer this much.
 - Philippians 3
 - If Jesus gave up the eternal comfort of heaven to suffer, why do we feel we'll not eventually endure similar? It was His glory and it will be ours.
- 8...and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?
 - This Hero was cut off from His family. His friends disowned Him. He was punished and killed. To make us His family...friends.
 - NLT says, "<u>No one cared</u> that he died without descendants, that his life was cut short in midstream."
- 10 Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt,
 - This guiltless Hero took our guilt as an offering and yet was crushed by His own Father.
- 11 Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous,
 - This Hero didn't just rescue us. He transforms us and gives us a new identity in Him. We are becoming...superhuman.
 - 2 Corinthians 5:21: God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
- 11 Out of the anguish of his soul **he shall see and be satisfied**; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous,

- This Hero already had everything yet was "satisfied" to give it all up to see us made "right" and "satisfied" in Him.
- He gave up complete satisfaction to give us eternal satisfaction. He was satisfied in us. Why aren't we satisfied? Why isn't He enough?
- SLIDE 26: NO STORY LIKE THIS.
- SLIDE 27: MONTAGE The Story
 - We incorporate art and media not simply to be relevant or emotional but to teach. Connect. Show that all humanity wants this Story more than any other Story.
 - "The Gospels contain a story of a larger kind which embraces all the essence of fairy-stories...But this Story has entered History and the primary world...There is no tale ever told that men would rather find was true, and none which so many skeptical men have accepted as true on its own merits."

J.R.R Tolkein (On Fairy Stories)

- It seems impossible to believe.
- **SLIDE 28:**
 - It's a <u>supernatural story</u> so you're going to continually need <u>supernatural help</u> to believe it.
 - Sit on it deeply again this week. Ask the Helper, the Spirit, to drive these truths deep and bring them alive.
 - Suspend your disbeliefs and believe the story.
 - $\circ~$ Be satisfied in Him. Feast on Him
- C.S. Lewis said there are **essentially 2 kingdoms**.
 - The kingdom of self and the kingdom of God.
- The kingdom of self says "I'll feast on you. I'll take your glory and and consume it for myself. You die so I can live."
- In the kingdom of God, Jesus says "Feast on me. I'll give up my glory. Take me in and be satisfied. I'll die so you can live."