For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Colossians 3:3-4
“For you have died . . .” means **Authorial Death**
“Your life is hidden . . .”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tr>
<td>Characters can’t see the next page.</td>
<td>Meaning requires a view of the whole.</td>
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</table>
Question: What do you do when your life is hidden?

Answer: Listen to the story!
Three Questions

1. Why listen to the story?
2. How do you listen to the story?
3. What is the story?
Why *listen* to the story?
The mode in which God reveals the story is by listening to the word, not by seeing images.
The linearity of listening reinforces the linearity of narrative.
An image-saturated culture reinforces life as a perpetual, pointless, present moment.
- God creates by means of the **word**.
- Sin enters the cosmos by a **lie**.
- God initiates salvation history with a **call**.
- God establishes his covenant and leads his people with the **words** of the law and the prophets.
- God inaugurates the culmination of redemption history in the incarnation of his Son, the **Word**.
- God establishes and grows his church on the basis of the **preaching** of the Gospel.
- God seals the mystery of his eschatological purposes in the prophetic **words** of a book.
Psalm 19:1-4
How do you listen to the story?
Music and Narrative Structure

Contemporary music is one dimensional.
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Colossians 3:16
God has brought forth Israel

out of sadness to great joy!
What is the story?
Kill the Dragon; get the Girl.