

HELP

COMING UP WITH GOOD QUESTIONS

FIRST, spend some significant time in prayer as you meditate on this story in order to consider how it affects you personally. If you still need help after that, consider **The Five "C's"**.

- 1). **Characters:** Which character did you identify with the most, and why?
- 2). **Context:** Have you ever been in a situation like this? Has anyone ever done this to you? What challenges did you have to face?
- 3). **Conversations:** Can you relate to what was said in this story? Can you give an example of a similar conversation? How did that impact you? What does God say about you? What did your words and tone reveal about you personally?
- 4). **Choices:** The people in this story faced choices, right? What influences our choices? Have you ever faced a similar dilemma? What choice do you need to make right now based on this story? What's keeping you from making those choices?
- 5). **Consequences:** Some of the characters in this story faced consequences for what they said or did. How have you suffered a consequence for what you did or said? What did you learn from that experience?

[RESOURCES]

For ground rules, story sets, and other useful helps:

www.accblog.net > group resources.

Password = "disciple"

A very useful site for finding and sharing stories, and more:

www.btstories.com

PURPOSE

WHY BIBLICAL STORYTELLING?

People relate to and find meaning more through oral narrative (stories) than mere transference of information.

[ACCESSIBILITY]

Unlike most curriculum, stories from God's Word connect with **everyone** at some level. Whether Bible scholar or Bible newbie, **No one gets left out of the discussion.**

[TEACHABILITY / DISCIPLESHIP]

Storytelling puts everyone on the same playing field. You don't have to be an expert to tell a story. You don't have to come up with the most profound things to say. Instead, you simply allow what God has already said to be spoken through you.

Because it is teachable, it serves as a useful training tool in equipping one another to minister through the use of Biblical storytelling

[EVANGELISM]

As opposed to arguments based on principles or logic, stories are relatable. A good story draws the listener in and connects with them at a personal level, cutting right through the layers and walls and into experiencing truth, vs. simply hearing arguments about truth.

Questions?

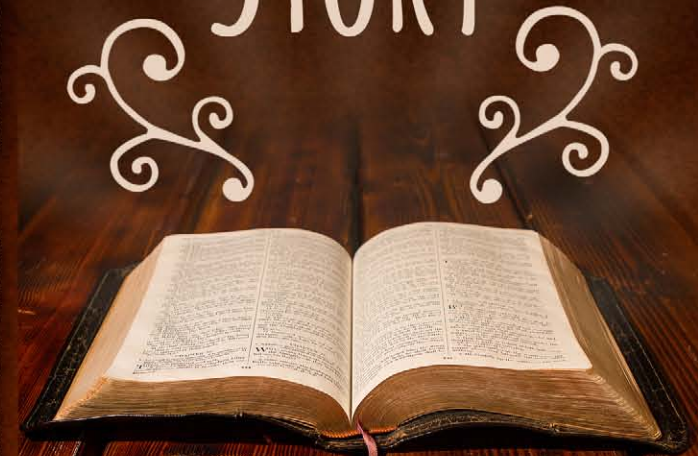
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TELL THE STORY



BIBLICAL
STORYTELLING
MADE EASY


Anacortes Christian Church

1.) PREPARATION

LEARN THE STORY

- 1) Read the story **Aloud** to yourself one time.
- 2) As best you can, retell the story from memory, in your own words. Don't stop to make corrections.
- 3) **Repeat** this process until you feel comfortable telling the story (at least three times).

TIP: Try to **VISUALIZE**, rather than memorize the story word for word.

 **Not So Much**

 **That's The Idea**

...water and they were in danger. They went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are sinking." And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was calm. 25 He said to them, "Where is your faith?" And they were afraid and they marveled, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that commands even winds and waves to obey him?"



TIP: Be Yourself when telling the story.

TIP: Try to put yourself in the story. Tell it as an eyewitness, as opposed to analytical Bible study (transfer of information).

- 4) Identify areas of improvement.
- 5) Practice telling the story to someone else before telling it to the group.

2.) SHARE

TELL THE STORY

[SET THE STAGE]

If necessary, BRIEFLY provide any background information needed in order to understand what's happening in the story (don't need to go too deep).

[SHARE THE STORY]

- A) In your own words, as a storyteller.
- B) **Don't** stop or try to teach along the way.
- C) Stories don't *tell*, they *show*.

["Show, don't tell" is the most fundamental bases of storytelling, and for good reason. Your audience should see a picture, feel the conflict, and become involved in the story.]

- D) For now, don't read the story from the Bible. Be well prepared. Does your audience see someone who has taken real ownership in and actually believes in what they are talking about?

[REBUILD]

Ask questions of your audience member(s) in order to chronologically rebuild the story from memory.

[CHECK]

Have your audience or group identify any errors - they can check their Bibles at this point to make sure nothing was added or taken away.

3.) QUESTIONS

UNCOVER TRUTH

Jesus asked lots of questions... He even answered questions with questions. The point?

"discovered truth is far more effective than dictated truth."

[GOAL:]

Try to come up with at least **ONE APPLICATION QUESTION** that is relevant and personal.

Begin by asking pertinent **OBSERVATION QUESTIONS** to build up to your main question. (Ex. *"Did Jesus reach out and touch the leper before or after he healed him? Why is this significant?"*)

[SAMPLE QUESTIONS]

Here are five main fall-back questions. Your main question(s) can be a form of one of these **Application Questions**, though perhaps more specific.

Observations

- What do we learn about God in this story?
- What do we learn about man / ourselves in this story?
- What does this story reveal about Satan?

Application

- Did you learn anything new in this story?
- What is God asking you to do differently because of this story (changes in beliefs, attitude or actions)?

**If you need help with questions, see the reverse side for some tips.*

[REMINDERS]

- 1) **DON'T PREACH.** Ask questions.
- 2) **DO MODEL** authenticity and intimacy. Set the example by answering your own questions as deeply and as personally as you are able. If you want others to get below the surface, be the first to jump in.