

Story Preparation

To prepare a meal one needs to collect ingredients in the kitchen and follow a recipe before presenting the final product to the guests. Before presenting a story one needs to follow set guidelines as well:

Pray

Ask for wisdom and insight from God.

Learn the Story

One person reads the Bible story while the rest close their eyes and picture the story in their mind as it develops. Then each person stands and does actions as they repeat as much of the story as they can remember out loud (the story should be read at least three times). Put the story in your own words, changing pronouns to proper names, but be accurate. Practice doing a lead through in pairs.

Spiritual Observations

Go through the story part by part, asking spiritual observation questions based on the "6 C's".

Volunteer

Someone volunteers to tell the story.

Story teller selects 3 Observations

The story teller reviews the observations made by the group and identifies 3 observations that he/she likes best. Questions are then developed which help others discover the same/similar lessons.

Spiritual Applications

After treating spiritual observations, the story teller links those observations to spiritual applications and develops suitable questions.

Introduction

Items placed on the "introduction shelf" during this process are now pulled off the shelf and incorporated into a short introduction if needed

Lead Through

Story teller practices a lead through using questions.

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Story Presentation

After careful preparation in the group and selection of a story teller, the final product is presented following five steps:

Tell the Story

Stand with closed Bible as you give the introduction (if needed). Open the Bible as you begin the story itself, making sure to use expressive body language, vocalization, and gestures as you tell the story accurately in your own words. Close the Bible when you finish.

Volunteer

Ask people to pair up and tell the story as best they can remember to their partner. One can also ask for one volunteer to retell the story. Always be positive and encouraging to those who volunteer.

Lead Through

This third telling of the story corrects any problems with the volunteer step and engages the audience by letting them answer short questions that move sequentially through the story from beginning to end. Note: A helpful way to lead through is to make a concrete gesture and pause for the listeners to answer.

Spiritual Observations

The story teller forms questions to help the listeners discover spiritual truths, lessons, and principles within the story. One must be careful to not preach, summarize, illustrate or go outside the story during this step.

Spiritual Applications

The story teller transitions from the observation step to application by using the key word “today”. Previously made spiritual observations are then linked with questions to spiritual applications.

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