

storytelling ideas creativity speaking humor presence emotion
audience engagement **Creative** impact
message **Communication**

The Essential Guide to Captivating an Audience

clarity **Voice** imagination communication purpose inspiration authenticity
James Hamilton

We are all **communicators**

*“Inside each of us is a natural-born
storyteller waiting to be released”*

- Robin Moore

Jesus, the Master Storyteller

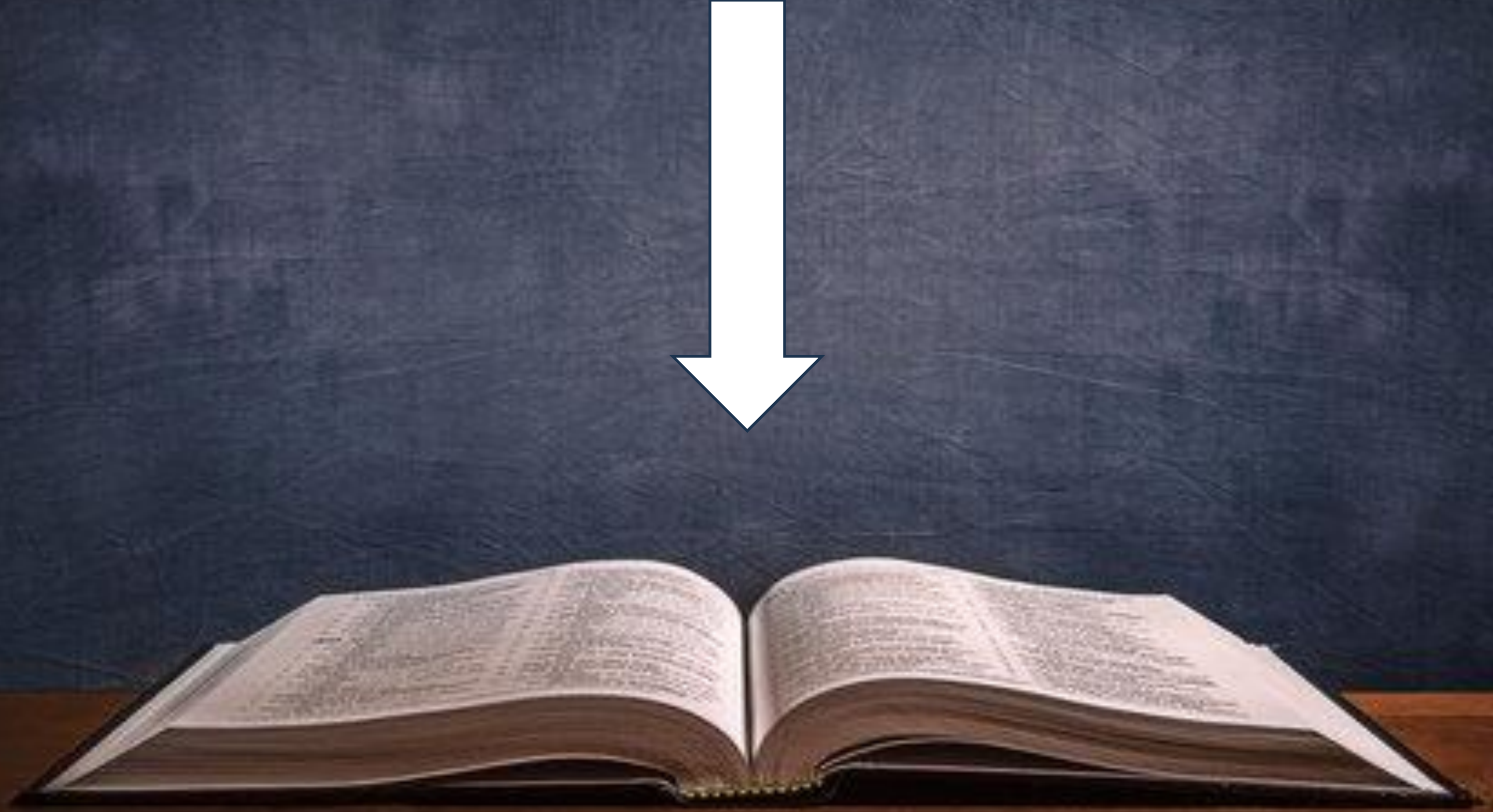
Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: “I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world.”

Matthew 13:34-35

Jesus, the Master Storyteller

- He understood His audience
- He used story and creativity to help them understand truths
- He engaged imagination and emotion
- He had a 'point'.

**What is the best
curriculum for creative
communication?**





**Don't forfeit human
connection when teaching
God's Word to kids**

**The best 10 minutes of a
kid's week**

“If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales”

- Albert Einstein

*“If you want your children to **have faith**,
read them Bible stories. If you want
them to **have more faith**, **tell** them
more **Bible stories**”*

- James “Einstein” Hamilton

Enter and Experience

Allow the listener to not just hear the story, but **experience** it

“Reading the Bible” and “Entering the Bible” are two vastly differing experiences. Reading the Bible will tell you about history and rendering facts. Entering the Bible will be like shadowing Christ” –

Wayne Cordeiro – *The Divine Mentor*.

The storyteller becomes a tour guide

*“You cannot make people learn, you can only
provide the right conditions for learning”*

- Vince Gowman



Tools I used in my story...

- Learning styles – What did you See, Hear, Do?

Learning Styles



In your story, what do the kids **hear**, **see**, and **do**?

Tools I used in my story...

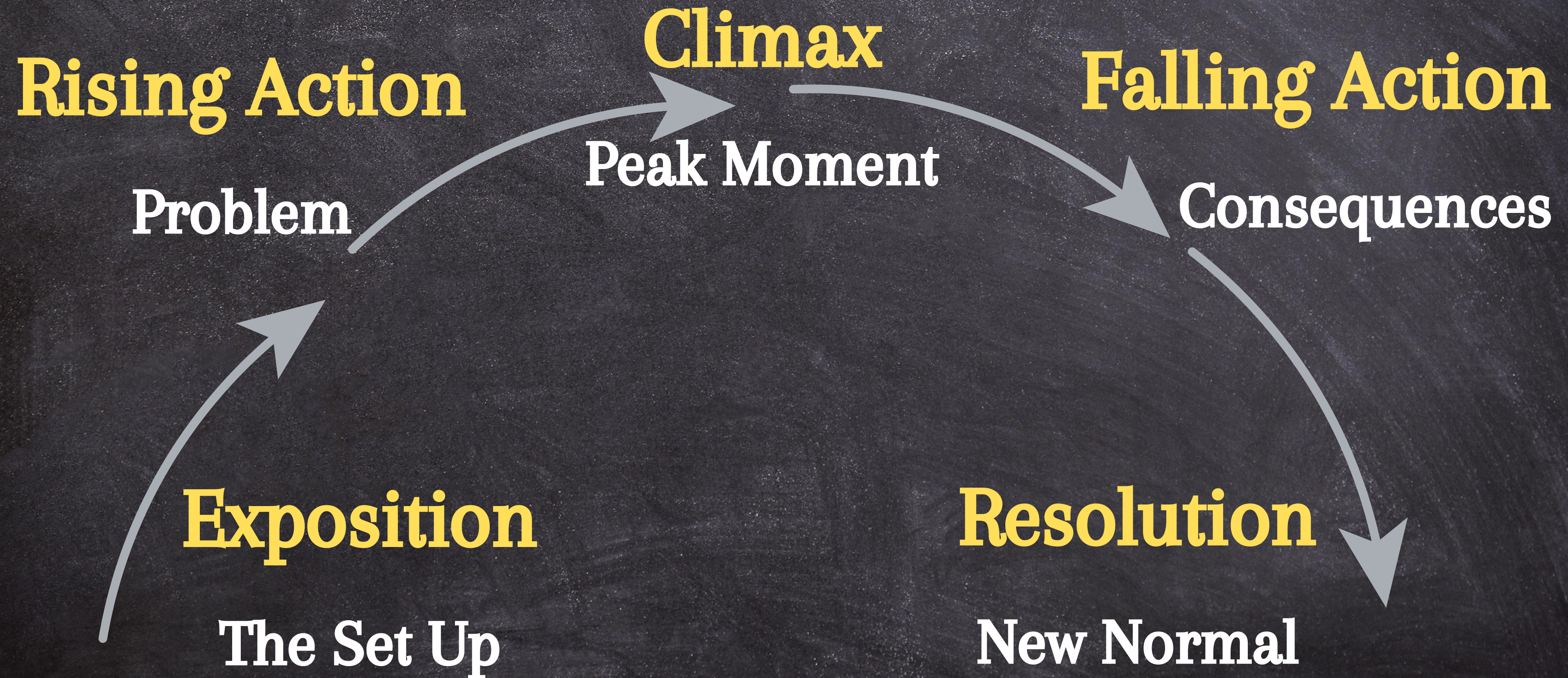
- **Learning styles** – What did you See, Hear, Do?
- **Hook** – How did I draw the listener in?
- **Memorable Moment** – What will be the first thing you will recount?
- **Comedy** – Kids love nothing more than other people's misfortune
- **Repetition** – What did I repeat and why?
- **Creative Ingredients** – Music, props, costume, art, technology
- **Optimal Teaching Moment** – Where in the story was the most powerful moment to share the message? (Climax)

The Story Arc

“When you tell a story, you have to take the listener somewhere. You can’t keep driving around the block”

- Alistair Bane

The Story Arc



The Story Arc

- **Exposition** – The Set Up. Let the listener know who you are and where you are so they can join you.
- **Rising Action** – What problem is building?
- **Climax** – Everything hangs in the balance
- **Falling Action** - How is the problem overcome?
- **Resolution** - What is the new normal / different as a result of the events in the story?

Hot-seating



Audience Response

What do you remember most
about my story?

How did my story make you feel?

How did the story apply to you?

Challenge

- Prioritize live, human connection
- In your presentations, ask what will the kids **hear, see, and do?**
- **Enter** the Bible story to create the **best 10 minutes of a kid's week**

Conclusion

Jesus didn't just tell stories, He was the story, and He's invited every one of us into it as storytellers for the next generation. I dare you to be willing to **step out of the boat and risk telling the story with everything you've got.**

Kids may not remember your bullet points, but they will remember **how your story made them feel**, and that feeling can shape a lifetime of faith. So, be creative in how you communicate to kids and give them the **best 10 minutes of their week.**

thrivingkidmin.com



James Hamilton
816-759-9475

james.hamilton@baysideonline.com

@jam_ham7