STORY TELLING

* **VIDEO: BAO (**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cB_2qU4GLCw>)
	+ *What was the moral of the story?*
	+ *What character did you relate to? Which emotions did you feel (why)?*
* **THE IMPORTANCE OF STORY TELLING**
	1. **Stories are BIBLICAL**
		+ **Jesus constantly used stories:** *Matt.13:34-35 “Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables* (stories with a point); *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.” (Ps.78:2)*
		+ Paul, the Prophets, Moses, and others used stories
		+ *What are some parables Jesus told? (Name them, don’t tell them)*
	2. **Stories are TIME TESTED**
		+ Storytelling predates writing
		+ Most languages started as pictographs (picture stories)
		+ Radio stories created a new era of story telling
		+ Movies, television, etc. are large money makers.
		+ *What was the first story you ever remember hearing?*
		+ ***IE: For me, The 3 Bears (If they don’t know it, tell it)***
	3. **Stories are THERAPEUTIC**
		+ Knowing others can empathize can lead to emotional healing.
		+ Expressing your own struggles can bring stress relief and peace.
		+ Stories can provide hope, coping skills, and emotional release.
		+ *What Bible story do you relate to? Brought you comfort? Joy? Hope?*
		+ *Ie: For me, Joseph in jail on false accusations*
	4. **Stories are MEMORABLE**
		+ We are more likely to remember stories than statistics
		+ *History class: Boring if using statistics, Exciting if using stories*
		+ *Using story songs to help memorization*
			- ***IE: Days of Creation***
	5. **Stories are EDCATIONAL**
		+ Stories can teach values, languages, concepts, etc.
		+ We are more likely to remember concepts and details.
		+ Stories can introduce new details to a familiar story
			- *Ie: Ellen Gunderson Traylor*
	6. **Stories are MOTIVATIONAL**
		+ Stories give hope and inspiration to change.
		+ Read 2 Timothy 3: 15-17
		+ *What* ***non****-Biblical story has inspired you in the past? ( The Christmas Carol)*
* **KEY ELEMENTS OF STORY TELLING**
	1. **INTERESTING**
		+ Am I keeping their attention as I tell this story?
		+ *People cannot be educated or motivated when they’re asleep.*
		+ ***I show 2 ways to describe the Last Supper (boring and emotional)***
		+ *Tuen black & white words into a colorful story*
	2. **INTENTIONAL**
		+ What is my purpose for telling this story? What do I hope to do?
		+ *Why would I tell the story of the* ***Prodigal Son****?*
		+ *Why would I tell the story of* ***Job****?*
		+ *Why would I tell the story of* ***the Battle of Jericho****?*
	3. **BODY LANGUAGE**
		+ **Intonation**: Is my voice too loud? Too soft? Monotonous?
			- ***Ie: College professor put us all to sleep; monotonous***
			- ***Ie: preachers that are too soft or too loud***
		+ **Expressions**: Do my facial expressions tell the same story?
			- ***Ie: say “Who are you?” (scared; mad; smiling; sad)***
		+ **Gestures**: What is the rest of my body doing to reinforce the story?
			- ***Tell motorcycle jumping story***
	4. **APPROPRIATE**
		+ Is this story age appropriate?
			- *What Bible stories would not be appropriate for children?*
		+ Is this story culturally appropriate?
			- ***Ie: Amazon testimony (change to warrior, weapon, etc)***
	5. **APPLICABLE**
		+ Does this story apply to the hearer? Is it relevant?
			- *What Bible stories would you tell farmers? (Seeds)*
			- *What Bible stories would you tell soldiers? (Gideon)*
			- *What Bible stories would you tell seniors? (Abraham)*
		+ Can the hearer apply the story whether or not I state the application?
		+ ***Ie: Aesop’s tale of the boy who cried wolf***
	6. **STRUCTURED**
		+ Introduction – Who? Where? When?
		+ Body – What? How?
		+ Conclusion – Why?
		+ *Ie: The sewer sews, events happen to the seeds, applied to hearer.*
	7. **EMOTIONAL**
		+ How did you feel when you first heard/experienced it?
		+ What do you want the hearer to feel? *(Laugh? Cry? Fear? Anger?)*
		+ ***Pete Docter (Pixar Director)*** *““What you’re trying to do, when you tell a story, is to write about an event in your life that made you feel some particular way. And what you’re trying to do, when you tell a story, is to get the audience to have that same feeling.”*
		+ ***Ie:( funny) tell the true short version of the Amazon kids***
		+ ***Ie: (sad) tell the short version of getting ready to shoot dad***
	8. **CHARACTERS**
		+ Can the listener identify with one or more of the characters?
		+ *Which Bible character do you identify with?*
		+ Can the listener picture the character clearly enough in their mind?
		+ *What does Jesus look like?*
		+ *How has your opinion been affected by movies, pics, etc?*
	9. **COMPELLING**
		+ Is the listener drawn into the story?
		+ Does the listener want to hear more of the story or less?
		+ ***Ie: Tell only the beginning of meeting Big Steve in jail (wait) finish***
	10. **UNDERSTANDABLE**
		+ Is the story simple enough for the listener to understand?
		+ ***ie: VIDEO: The Present***
		+ If the story gets too confusing, the listener “tunes out”.
		+ *Ie: I have started several books by Michener (never finished one)*
		+ *Ie: Most people stop reading through the Bible at Leviticus (too many details, laws, etc)*
* **TYPES OF STORIES**
	1. **TESTIMONY** *(Telling a story from personal experience)*
		+ *Don’t spend time glorifying Satan. Focus on salvation.*
		+ *Don’t lie. Don’t embellish. Don’t exaggerate.*
	2. **BIBLE STORIES** *(Telling God’s story in our words)*
		+ Be accurate *(give a short Bible quiz)*
		+ Be excited *(if it’s not exciting to you, you still don’t understand it)*
		+ Be respectful *(even when using humor, etc.)*
	3. **ORAL TRADITIONS** *(Stories handed down from generation to generation)*
		+ Prior to Moses, all stories were generationally shared (& written)
		+ **Ie: Grandpa Achord allows bicycle Willy on his side of the river**
	4. **NARRATIVE** *(Linear retelling of an event)*
		+ Most used form of storytelling (43% of the Bible)
		+ Add color. Embellish without distorting facts.
		+ Comedy / Tragedy / Epic
	5. **CHARACTER** *(Telling the story from the characters point of view)*
		+ Ie: I heard a Pastor tell the Resurrection story as a Roman soldier
		+ Ie: I heard a Pastor tell the Christmas story as a shepherd
		+ **Tell the crucifixion story AS AN ANGEL**
	6. **FICTION** *(Making untrue events sound as if they were true)*
		+ Fairytales, Folktales, Mythology, Legends, Fables
		+ What are some popular fictional stories?
	7. **VISUAL**
		+ Pictures, Movies, T.V., Songs, Art, Games
* **Conclusion**:
1. **The Bible has a variety of storytelling styles**
	* Also,,, devotional, proverbs, humorous, tragedy, historical, etc.
2. **Read the story enough times to feel the emotions that envelop it**
	* Put yourself in the shoes of the character
3. **When you get the chance, listen to audio novels (fiction and nonfiction)**
	* Learn to use your imagination
	* **If Jesus saw stories as absolutely necessary and effective, so should we.**