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.**