

Session 3: Connecting with God

*Jesus used stories to tell all these things to the people;
he always used stories to teach them.*

Matthew 13:34 (NCV)

God the Master Storyteller

Let's add some things to the way we tell the story to make it come alive and get the children into the Bible story. Remember, we stay ACCURATE to what the Bible says and not add anything of our own. Let's first look at some principles in how God told His stories. He made them so they were...

- **Memorable:** God delivers His message in ways that you don't forget; they allow us to experience the story. Some examples are: the rainbow that God placed in the sky after the flood and Thomas feeling the holes in Jesus' hands.
- **Unexpected:** Sometimes the messages come in an unexpected manner. Some examples are: Balaam and the donkey, Moses & burning bush, Saul being blinded, different healings in the Bible (Naaman, the lame and blind men). We can change the environments by the locations of where we meet, the seating arrangements, or creating moods with light/dark.
- **Multi-Sensory:** God used the senses in making His Story memorable; the more senses and activity we use, the more likely we are to remember!
 - **Visual:** We are especially visual people and so it might be helpful to have things that people can see the story. You can simply use readily available objects, pictures or devise some simple costumes to wear.
 - **Touch:** examples: objects to hold or pass around, splashing water on kids
 - **Hear:** examples: sound effects; rubbing hands to make the sound of rain
 - **Smell:** examples: incense burning, fish for visual but also the smell
 - **Taste:** examples: food to taste (manna)

**Click Here to Watch a Video on
God the Master Storyteller**



Tell the Story

It is finally time to actually tell the story. Here are some things to consider to make the story more realistic while staying Biblically accurate:

- **Movement:** Don't be glued to your chair. It's okay to move around especially if the story moves from one location to another.
- **Expressions:** Your facial expressions make the story believable; you don't need to say as much if you have facial expressions.
- **Audience Participation:** Sometimes it is fun to have some or all of the children be involved in actually telling the story. This can happen with:
 - **Reoccurring Words/Phrases** that the participants can say or respond to
 - **Hand & Body Motions**
 - **Sound Effects**
 - **Song**
 - **Active Participation:** act out the whole story or different parts of the story
- **Voice:** the voice makes the story come alive. What produces boredom within a group or classroom? #1 answer is a monotone voice. Try varying the:
 - **Pitch**
 - **Pause:** This can be very effective in a story and a discussion. Do not be afraid of silence. It allows the Holy Spirit to work in the stillness/quiet which helps the story and the predicament to go from head to heart.
 - **Pace:** Talk at a pace that is easy for the kids to follow the storyline.

**Click Here to Watch a Video on
Telling the Story**



Ask Yourself

1. What excites you to become a better storyteller of God's Word? What challenges you most?
2. How will you involve your audience when telling a Bible Story?

Join us for Session 4 when we engage the children in the many ways to Retell the story so they are having fun while learning God's Story.

For more information on Kids Around the World, go to:

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