



EFFECTIVE USE OF TELLING A STORY IN CHILDREN'S CLASSES

I. Thanksgiving and Praise

“Come into His presence with thanksgiving in your heart and give Him praise... and give Him praise.

Come into His presence with thanksgiving in your heart - your voices raise... your voices raise.

Give GLORY, and HONOR, and POWER unto Him Jesus, the Name above all names.”

Hold to the Word of God when telling the story of Bible characters.

Children are gullible and will believe what the teacher says. *Guide them carefully.*

We may have the same group together only once; TODAY is the most important time to tell this particular story. Some child will probably remember it years from today.

II. PRAY - Remember your calling

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing.”

John 15: 5

Jesus said, “...when I am LIFTED up from the earth, I will DRAW all men to Myself.” John 12:32

Be compelled for the service God has anointed us to do to bring glory to the Father.

“The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me because the LORD has anointed me to preach Good News to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor...” Isaiah 61:1-2 and Luke 4:18-19

III. Consider your audience

IV. Bible Memory Verse (How will it be displayed? Memorized?)

V. Preparation

- **What translation of the Bible is best for this age group?**
- Read the curriculum as early as Monday before presenting it the next Sunday.
- Meditate on the Bible story; memory verse; setting; moral of the story.
- Will it all be humorous?
- Will you share it in a serious tone with some laughter or will it all be lighthearted and laced with familiar Disney characters?
- What props will you use?
- What materials will you need?
- Are the props/materials age appropriate?
- As you anticipate sharing the story, how many of the 5 senses will be involved? (More senses involved - the greater the learning.)
- Will it be told in 3rd person or will you act it out in first person?
- Will you lecture or be interacting with the audience during the story?

Practice telling the story at least 3 times before Sunday.

VI. Telling the story/reading from the Bible/role playing

- Sit on their level; make eye contact with each child in a comfortable manner.
- Move with ease as you use pictures/props to make a point and capture their attention.
- Focus on the “Moral of the Story” (Virtue/Excellence/Value).
- Quote the displayed Bible Memory Verse in your story and tie it in with the character’s life.
- Relate the events to what is happening today.

VII. Asking Questions

Application: Children should be led to ask themselves, “How does this apply to my life?”

Allow them to express their understanding of what they have heard.

How was God at work in this person’s life?

Is God at work in your life?

What has happened this last week to let you know that God is present?

VIII. Conclusion:

- Is God speaking to your heart today through what has been shared in the story/ Bible verse?
- Apply the story to our lives today.

Presenting “The Good News”

The Bible tells us there are two kinds of people in the whole world: those who know Him and those who don’t. Those who have admitted they have sinned and need to be forgiven and asked Jesus to save them are known as Christians. Those who have never asked Jesus for forgiveness and admitted that they need a savior are lost, separated from God.

- “Have you invited Jesus into your heart?”
- Have you made a public profession of your faith in Christ by being baptized in water?
- Have you asked Jesus Christ to fill you/to baptize you with the Holy Spirit (and with fire) for service to Him?

Prayer of faith: Dear God, Thank you for loving me. I believe that Jesus Christ is the only Son of God. I believe that He lived a perfect life; He never sinned. I believe that He died and shed His blood on the cross for my sins and for the sins of all people. I believe that Jesus was buried in a tomb and rose from the dead after the third day and that He is alive forevermore. Today, I confess that I am a sinner. Please forgive me of my sins and come into my heart and live forever. Thank You for the gift of Your Holy Spirit who comes to live in me and helps me to do all that You want me to do.

In Jesus’ name,
Amen

IX. Evaluation

What do you want class members to remember about today's story?

Do they know what they will say when Mom or Dad asks them to tell them about today's Sunday School lesson?

If anyone made a decision (accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, water baptism, etc.), follow up by talking with their parents and with your pastor. Continue to disciple the individual.

