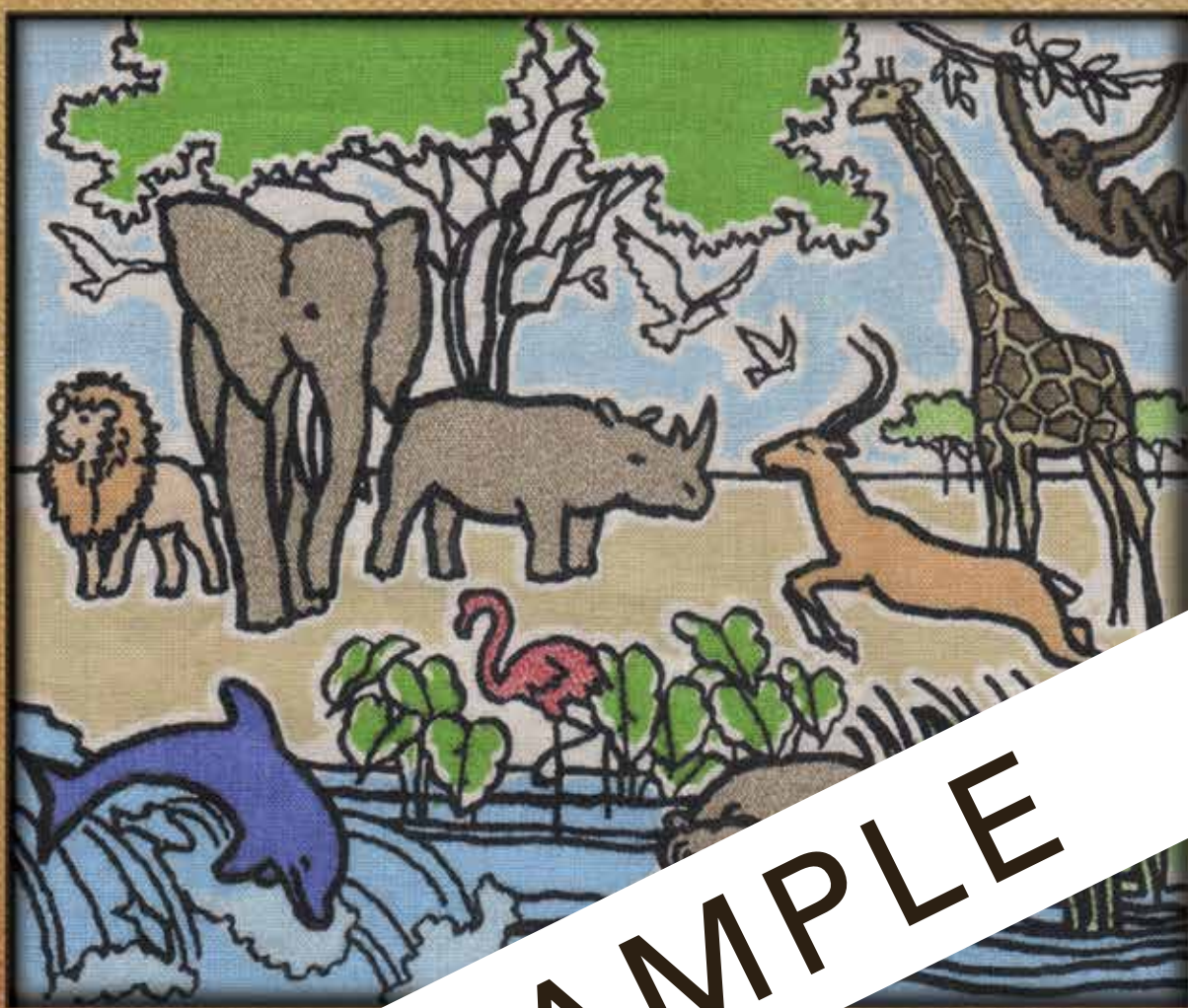


Tell the Story

Bible Storying for Kids



SAMPLE

STORYTELLING BASICS

As you prepare to tell Bible stories, consider the following:

1. UNDERSTAND THE STORY.

Read and reread the Bible story. Fix the theme of the story in your mind. Read it until it sounds natural.

3. LEARN THE STORY.

Do not memorize it—tell it like a story. Practice telling it over and over to yourself. Let your family members or friends critique you.

2. IMAGINE THE STORY.

Use your imagination—close your eyes and picture the scene where the Bible story takes place. Imagine the scene alive with colors, sounds, smells, and tastes. Put yourself in the place of the main characters. Picture the drama unfolding. Plot out the story's action.

4. TELL THE STORY.

Open your Bible as you begin the story to let your group know where the story is coming from. Tell the story staying as close to the original as you can. Tell Bible stories in past tense. Move with the action of the story. When telling Bible stories, instead of your interpretation, you are letting the Bible speak directly to your audience. Do not interrupt the story to explain anything. Discussion time will come later.

5. CONSIDER YOUR AUDIENCE.

Simplify some words for a child's understanding. For example, instead of saying *Scribes and Pharisees*—call them *the religious leaders of the day*.

6. BE YOURSELF.

Some storytellers will be more dramatic than others; so don't try to be someone you aren't. Just tell the stories in a way that comes naturally to you and leave children feeling like they could tell the story, too.

7. WRAP UP THE STORY.

Close your Bible and let children know the story has ended and it is time for discussion.

* Visit wmustore.com and sign in to Digital Library to access Bible Storytelling Tools to view videos of Storytelling.

Session 30:

Jesus Feeds the 5,000

Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:30-44;
Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-15; 6:24-71

"Give thanks to the Lord, because he is good. His faithful love continues forever."

Psalm 107:1 (NirV)

GETTING READY FOR BIBLE STORYTIME

Say, *In our last story, Jesus was thirsty and sat down by a well. Who gave Him a drink of water? Jesus began to tell the woman about a different kind of water, and she listened carefully to Him.*

Enter into dialogue with children. Ask, *Who feeds you when you're hungry? Why does he or she feed you? How does that person get food? This story is about a special man named Jesus Who fed some people in a special way. I'll be asking you to tell me how Jesus fed the people at the end of our story, so listen closely.*

Open your Bible and begin to tell the story.



Jesus was known for His teachings and making sick people better again. One day, a big crowd gathered to listen to Him. People who were sick came to be healed. The people had not brought food with them. They were out in the middle of nowhere with no place to buy food.

Jesus asked His friend Philip, "Where can we go to buy some bread for these people?" But Philip said, "We can't feed all these people! It would cost everything a man could earn in 200 days just to give each person a little bit of bread."

Another one of Jesus' friends spoke up. It was Andrew. He said, "Here is a little boy with five small loaves of bread and two fish. But that won't feed this large crowd!"

Jesus said, "Tell all the people to sit down and ask the boy to come over here.

About 5,000 men were there. Jesus took the bread and prayed over it, giving thanks to God. Then, He gave the pieces to those people who were sitting down. After that, He passed out the fish.

Everyone ate as much as he or she wanted. When everyone was full, Jesus turned to His friends and said, "Gather the leftovers so nothing will be wasted." They got up and filled 12 large baskets with the leftovers.

The people were very surprised. They knew this was a miracle, something only God could do. Jesus was a man; but He was also God's Son, and He was able to do things God could do. The people were amazed with all Jesus was doing and wanted Him to be their king. But Jesus left because He did not want to be their king. He slipped off and went back up the mountain to be by Himself.

QUESTIONS

1. Why were the people coming to listen to Jesus?
2. Why didn't Philip think Jesus could feed the people?
3. Which one of Jesus' helpers told Him about the little boy?
4. What did the little boy bring with him for his lunch?
5. How many men were in the crowd?
6. What did Jesus do with the food before He gave it to people to eat?
7. How much food was left over?
8. Why were the people surprised at what had just happened? Would you have been surprised? Why or why not?
9. If someone asked you to give the definition of *miracle*, what would you say?
10. What did the people want Jesus to be? Did Jesus agree?
10. What do we learn about Jesus in this story?
11. What did you like about this story?
12. How can you be like the little boy who shared his lunch?

APPLYING THE BIBLE TO LIFE

Gather children into a large group. Point to Story Block 32, "Jesus Feeds the 5,000," and explain, *We may not be able to see Jesus, but we can know that He loves us and will take care of us just like He took care of the people in this story. How can we know Jesus is taking care of us?*

Wait for responses and offer suggestions as necessary.
(Jesus can help us when we're faced with making a choice about

whether to do something we know is wrong. He can help us when we are afraid, when we're alone, and when we think we don't have friends.)

Say, *Tell us some ways you can help others like the little boy did.* After responses say, *Those are wonderful ways to help others! Choose one you can do this week. Pray and thank Jesus for taking care of us and ask Him to show us how to help others.*



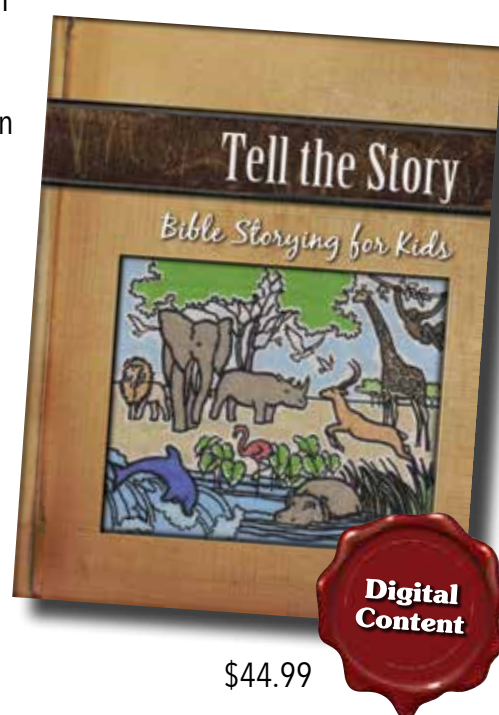
Tell the Story

Bible Storying for Kids

Hearing God's stories and applying them to life has never been more clear-cut and effective.

Share the gospel in a simple way using the tools in this digital product:

- Bible Story Cloth with coordinated pictures for each Bible story
- Helpful ideas for working with unchurched children and children of other cultures
- Tips for adapting the story sessions with adults
- Bible storytelling basics
- 8 ways to share with children about Christ
- 40 Bible story sessions
- 20 Scripture memory activities, 20 Bible story activities, 20 fun games to customize with each Bible story session
- 5-day Bible storying plan for a missions trip or local community outreach



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