

WHY STORYTELLING?

By Bill Bjoraker

Why Important?

- 70% of Scripture is narrative (story form)
- 70% of the world's population are oral learners
- Increasingly, the culture groups of Southern California are from oral culture backgrounds
- Postmodern West is a TV Culture, and has conditioned us all to be more visual and oral on our learning and communication styles (esp. younger people)

Why Effective?

- Relational, holistic
- Real life, concrete situations
- Easily memorized, visualized
- Aids in learning "His Story"- Presents history in chronological/sequential fashion

Jesus as Storyteller

- Matthew 13: 34 – *"Jesus always used stories and illustrations... when speaking to the crowds. In fact, he never spoke to them without using such parables."*
- The Lord Jesus was the Master Teacher, and a Master Storyteller. We are called to follow His example.

The Role of the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit is our internal Teacher, who promised to guide us into all truth (John 14:26; 16:13; I Corinthians 2:9-16).
- Traditional teaching has been teacher-dependent; the teacher breaks down the Bible text into digestible form, and the student mechanically records on paper (like a mother bird would feed a baby bird).
- "Storying" acknowledges the power of the Word of God and the teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit. Theology and doctrine are embedded within every Biblical story. We can trust the Holy Spirit to draw out and apply those truths that are most relevant to the life needs and situation of every hearer.



The Word Made Fresh! The Story Takes Wings