



CHRISTIAN STORYTELLING

Telling the Old, Old Story in New Ways!
A Tip Sheet from The Territory Tellers of Oklahoma
www.oklahomtellers.com

What is Storytelling?

Storytelling is communication with an emphasis on shared human experiences used to entertain, educate, motivate, and inspire. Storytelling can be tradition-oral, digital, musical, visual, and/or kinesthetic. Although often relegated to work with children, storytelling is used with every age, and has been re-discovered in work with the ill, in business, in teaching, and in the church. People like stories!

What is Christian Storytelling?

Following the example of Jesus, people also share stories as a means of communicating the messages and themes of the Bible. A story is shared, without explanation, or a "this story means...", so that people can hear the message or the theme, visualize in new ways, and meditate on its meaning for their own situation.

People are invited – as they did with the parables of Jesus – to "step into a situation" to find meaning. Once the Biblical stories, themes, and allusions were a common part of society, but today there is a need to reconnect people to the "stories" of the Bible in an engaging and vital way.

The philosophy of Christian Storytelling is to share tales of hope and inspiration that cause people to understand scripture and encourage relationship of person and God. That emphasis on hope, love, justice, and inspiration.

In the local church (via worship, youth ministries, adult classes, outreach) or sharing with family and friends, stories can share meaningful, thought provoking, and memorable messages to help people understand the Gospel messages.

RESOURCES

Network of Biblical Storytellers
<http://www.nobs.org/>

Territory Tellers of Oklahoma, state storytelling organization
www.territorytellers.org

Story Embers. Designed for writers but good tips/ideas of tellers
<https://storyembers.org/>

Christian Storytelling and Bible Sharing at <https://scripture-engagement.org/content/christian-storytelling-network/>

Christian Storytelling
<https://www.christianstorytelling.com/why-learn-storytelling/>

Center for Creative Ministry
<http://www.creativeministry.com/>

Biblical Storytelling Library (Videos)
<https://biblicalstorytellinglibrary.com/>

Check the library for books on storytelling and begin to add stories to your ministry work.

