

2022 Christian Storytelling Conference Workshops and General Sessions

THURSDAY

BibleTelling 101

Phyllis Hostmeyer and John Walsh

During this highly interactive series of workshops, participants will practice several techniques for learning stories without memorizing. By the end of the day everyone will be telling three stories fluently. Come learn the five secrets of becoming a successful Biblical storyteller.

BibleTelling 201

John Walsh and Phyllis Hostmeyer

Some Bible stories are more difficult to tell because of their length or some content that involves long lists and dialogues. During this session participants will practice techniques for learning and telling those more difficult stories.

FRIDAY MORNING

GENERAL SESSION: The Power of Storytelling in Ministry

Mary Claire Anderson and Panel of Speakers

Let's explore how and why storytelling is such a dynamic tool for discipleship. What draws people to stories? How do stories reveal truth? How does our brain process stories? How are they absorbed into our world view? How do stories open doors to the heart and to the mind?

A panel of storytellers will offer insights from their expertise and their experiences to answer these questions.

Talking About Nothing While Talking About Something

Mike Anderson

Having been a lower elementary teacher for 43 years, the usage of stories (and songs) became part of regular, daily classroom discussions. As my performing career developed, stories became part of my typical stage patter. The focus of this presentation will be to give hints and insights into how you can do the same and become one of those teachers the kids love because they can get you "off topic." That's the verbal equivalent of the "educational toy."

Educational toys," ha, when I was six, my folks gave me...

Literacy/ESL using Bible Stories

Jan Walsh

Language Olympics was designed as a literacy program, using one-on-one tutoring to help students who struggle with reading. Lessons are centered around 30 Old Testament stories and 30 New Testament stories.

In time, the course was expanded into an English-learning (ESL) course for refugees and immigrants. Both versions are being used in ministries around the world.

In this workshop, you will examine the material and learn how to use it with an individual who needs it. Language Olympics doesn't require an advanced degree or prior tutoring experience to assist someone in learning English or learning to read. You can help someone change their life!

Encouraging Dialogue

Phyllis Hostmeyer

Now that you are sharing Bible stories, what comes next? This session will show how to use graphic organizers to encourage dialogue during small group studies of Bible stories. Dig into the stories of the Bible while sharing ideas and insights. If possible, please bring a Bible with you – hard copy or electronic

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Make Your Story “Stick”

Mary Claire Anderson

"To be, or not to be?"

"It was the best of times; it was the worst of times."

"We have nothing to fear but fear itself."

Is there a line from a poem or a movie that has always stuck with you? What makes it memorable? The structure of your story, the phrasing of your ideas, and the storytelling skills you use can make a lasting impression. Learn and practice practical tips.

Cross-Cultural Mentoring and Discipleship

Rick Miller

Learn how to mentor/disciple people of other cultures by entrusting them with the task of conveying Bible stories to their own language/culture group. Please do not think that you can not do this. On the contrary, God may be calling you to be the spark that brings many people into his Kingdom.

Small Group Dialog

Phyllis Hostmeyer

Now that you are sharing and telling Bible stories, what comes next? This session will show how to use graphic organizers to encourage dialogue during small group studies of Bible stories. Dig into the stories of the Bible to share ideas and insights. If possible, please bring a Bible with you – hard copy or electronic.

Be Your Own Guest Speaker

Mary Claire Anderson

Bring your lesson to life by portraying an author, an artist, a composer, a mathematician, a character in a story or in a story problem, an explorer, a queen—the possibilities are limitless. Find out steps to complete different levels of research and how to turn your research into a story that you can tell. Your class will retain the knowledge as they remember the story. You will prepare and practice a short story before the workshop is complete.

Short Term Missions: Storytelling in Action

Jennifer Smith

Learn to integrate storytelling into short term missions among people of different backgrounds, cultures, world views, languages, and foundational beliefs. This interactive workshop will provide easily transferrable tips, tools, and hands-on practice opportunities packaged in a safe and fun environment for anyone from a first-timer to a seasoned mission veteran. Participants will walk away with increased confidence that they can successfully navigate the challenges of diversity in mission work by interacting with others at a heart-to-heart level.

FRIDAY EVENING

Story Concert

Host: Mike Anderson

Friday evening includes a “concert of stories” open to the public. Select conference Storytellers will share a variety of stories demonstrating various methods for using stories in ministry. Mostly, it will be a lot of fun!

This is a free event; however, we will receive a voluntary offering to help cover the costs of this event.

If you are interested in submitting a story for consideration, please see details [here](#).

SATURDAY MORNING

Weaving God's Word

Phyllis Hostmeyer

This session will share several poems that have been created by members of various Bible study groups. Participants will then be given time to write similar poems based upon Bible stories. No poetry writing experience is necessary; just a love of Bible stories and a desire to express yourself. Bring a Bible along if you can, but it isn't necessary. Stories will be provided to all participants. All participants will be actively writing during this session.

Recognizing Bible Story Worldviews: Tell Stories to Reach People from all Cultures

Dr. Anne Alexander

The Bible is written to people from many perspectives: guilt/innocence, honor/shame, fear/power, and purity/pollution. Recognizing different themes will radically change the way you read the Bible! In communicating God's good news to others through Bible stories, be aware of how to bridge the cultural gap by intentionally including these themes.

GENERAL SESSION: Ideas and Goals for a Bible-telling Ministry

Phyllis Hostmeyer and Panel

Bible stories are not just for children. Members of this panel will share how setting goals has encouraged them to use Bible telling in ministry, education, and daily life. Come gather ideas on a variety of ways you can establish a Bible-telling ministry.