

Chapter 1

The Why, Where, What and How of the “Simply the Word” in short STW Workshop

In Workshop 1 you will learn about the why, where, what and how of Bible Storying. (this material is taken from “Simply The Story” by Dorothy Miller and the ONE STORY project of SIL, and other Orality programs adapted by Marianne Chiong, SIL, Philippines.

The goal of the development of this material is

1. to develop a simple and effective method of memorizing and internalizing Bible stories for every age group, social group and language group.
2. to develop a simple cross-culturally applicable method of leading people to discover spiritual truths in the passage.
3. To guide the participants into hearing what God is speaking to them personally through the passage and help them to apply it through prayer and active outreach by sharing it with others.

1 Why do we do Bible Storying?

First of all God wrote the Bible as

- 10% exposition, 15% poetry and 75% narrative (story)
- **How did Jesus teach?**

Out of the 183 times Jesus was asked a question, Only 3 times He responded with a direct answer!

All of the other times Jesus responded by asking a question or telling a story or parable. Usually, after the story, He asked a question and invited discussion.

2. Where can we use Bible Storying?

- For Personal spiritual growth
- For the Family’s & children’s spiritual growth
- For Witnessing
- For the spiritual growth of the Church members
- For Evangelism
- For Discipleship
- For leadership training
- For Youth meetings and any other topical teaching

3. What is the effect of Bible Storying?

- Personal deeper Bible knowledge
- Personal practical application
- People get personally involved,
- They have greater motivation to listen,
- They are challenged to pass on what they have learned

- Practical application in their own lives.

Summary:

Bible Storying is for all ages, all educational levels, all languages, it will last without a Bible, and will speed up church planting and church growth.

4. **How are we going to do Bible Storying Training** (there are just 4 simple steps in this lesson)

1. **Memorize** and internalize the story
2. **Find** the spiritual treasures in the story
3. **Apply** the spiritual treasures in your life by asking yourself what is God teaching me through this story.
4. **Then Share** the message with others.

Chapter 2

Preparation of the Training Team: The focus of this exercise is to learn how to:

Part 1) Memorize and internalize a Bible story

Part 2) How to ask questions to lead the group to discovering the spiritual treasures

Part 3) How to guide them to practical application with the help of the Holy Spirit and prayer.

Part 4) How to make an Action Plan of how to share storying in a practical way

Part 1: Memorizing and internalizing the story (visualizing story) (30 min.)

1. **Tell story:** Group **Listens** and **Visualizes** each part of the story
2. **Tell story:** Group **Looks** at hand signs and listens to the story again
3. **Tell story one sentence at a time,**
let group repeat new sentence, then they repeat all the sentences from the beginning just watching the leader's hand signals.
 1. Add another sentence, let group repeat new sentence,
 2. then repeat story from the beginning.
 3. Leader only gives hand signals while group is repeating story from the beginning.
 4. Sentence 1, 2. Repeat from the beginning
Sentence 1, 2, 3, Repeat from the beginning
Sentence 1, 2, 3, 4 Repeat from the beginning etc. until the entire story is memorized.
No need to memorize exactly word for word but exactly picture by picture and correct message.
Guideline: do not add or take away from the message and the meaning of the story.
4. **Tell story to each other 2 by 2.**
If participants need more repetition let them change partners as many times as you feel is necessary.
5. **Divide into small groups of 5-7**

➤ divide groups according to language groups, age groups and or social groups.

- 1 Group leader and 1 assistant will join the group and guide them.
- if more memorization is needed divide the group into smaller groups of only 3 or 4 people and let each one repeat the story again until they are **confident** in sharing it.

Multi-languages: If participants have memorized the story in a second language like a trade language, let them retell the story 2-3 times in their own language until they are comfortable. To help remember, they can record the story several times until it sounds natural to them. Then later on they can write it down to keep a record.

Important: The main focus of storying is to have a natural sounding, consistent, faithful to scripture message not a literal repetition of the written Scriptures, because the written form is different from the spoken form. In order to be faithful to the original Biblical message it is important that the facilitator does a good Biblical background study before crafting the story. More about story crafting and background study in later workshops.

Part 2: Questions to Search for Spiritual Treasures (30-45 min)

1. What did you learn about the people?

- Who are the people
- What are their characters
- What are their feelings
- What are their believes
- What are their choices (what did they do, what could they have done)

2. What did you learn about Jesus / God / the Holy Spirit

- His character
- how did he deal with the situation, how did he respond
- How else could He have responded?

Part 3: Questions for Spiritual Application

A) Write in a notebook (10 min)

- What is God teaching you personally through this story
- What does God want to change in your life. Find a scripture verse as a promise or guide

B) Share in the small group 2 minutes each (15 min)

C) Pray for each other 2x2 or 3x3 the things you want God to change in your life (15 min)

- give time for conviction and confession of sins
- encourage to pray positive prayers based on the Word.

Part 4: Action Plan how to share the stories with others

1. Group assignment for the participants

Each group will develop an action plan for their church, or ministry
Preparation time 1-2 hours , presentation 20 min each group

2. Topics:

- What is your Goal
- What is your Strategy
- Who are the people who will train and who will be trained
- What will be the budget

3. Home assignment after the workshop

- **Tell** the story to as many people as possible to gain confidence and improve story telling ability.
- Each trainee will **lead** the entire Bible study from the beginning memorizing, observation to application in as many sessions as possible. This can be done in the church, outreach, in the family informally with friends etc.

Part 5: Reinforcement of the Stories.

This can be done in the afternoon or evening during the workshop

1. Songwriting about the story

2. Dramatization of the story

3. Drawing pictures

4. Pantomime

5. Poem

6. Video viewing if available

Sample of Crafted Story: Jesus Visits Martha and Mary Luke 10:38-42

Introduction:

Jesus and his disciples had been teaching all over the country side.

Now they were on their way back to Jerusalem.

This is the beginning of our story.

38 Jesus and his disciples continued on their way toward Jerusalem.

They came to a village where they met a woman by the name of Martha. Martha welcomed them into her home.

39 Martha had a sister by the name of Mary. Now, while Jesus was teaching,

Mary sat down at his feet and listened to him.

40 In the meantime, Martha was all worried and upset over the big dinner she was preparing.

So she came to Jesus and said, "Lord, don't you care that my sister is just sitting here while I am doing all the work. Tell her to come and help me!"

41 But Jesus looked at her and said: "Martha, Martha!

You are worried and troubled over so many things,

42 but there is only one thing worth being concerned about.

Mary has chosen the right thing, and I will not take it away from her."

Sample of Prayer Song about the story of Martha and Mary

Composed by M. Chiong Sunday, March 08, 2009 during mediation.

1. I want to learn to sit down at the feet of Jesus every morning every evening, all the time.
I want to listen to his Word and apply it in my life.
I want to know him more und understand his heart.
2. **But O Lord you gotta help me cause I'm like Martha I'm so busy in the kitchen all the time
There are a thousand things I think of every morning
and I am so worried over small details.**
3. I want to practice and become more like Mary sitting down at Jesus feet and listen to His word.
I want to understand his heart of compassion
I want to be like Him and do what he says.
4. Lord I thank you cause I too can be like Mary
I can listen to your word I've hidden in my heart.

And your Holy Spirit teaches me and guides me to make right choices as I go along.

5. ***If you're a Martha just like me, don't you worry it is a special gift from God to bless the world. Just make sure you always keep the right attitude and make sure you always listen to His Word.***
6. ***The Lord will help you in your struggles and your hardships
You can ask him anything you need and the Holy Spirit teaches you and guides you and he will give you all power you need***
7. **Lord I thank you** cause I too can be like Mary
I can listen to your word I've hidden in my heart.
And your Holy Spirit teaches me and guides me to make right choices as I go along.
8. **Lord Jesus thank** you so much for your patience
Thank you so much for your love and care.
Thank you so much for the power of your Spirit, who leads and guides me as I go along.

Stories used for Basic STW workshops				
	Theme	Tagalog	Verse	Topic
01	Martha	Marta & Maria	Lu 10:38-42	Priority, spiritual, physical food
02	Storm	Bagyo	Mk 4:35-41 Luke 8:22-25 , Math 8:23-27	Power over nature
03	Ananias	Ananias & Safira	Ac 5:1-11	Holiness, lying, honesty
04	Prodigal Son	Alibughang Anak	Luke 15:11-32	Repentance, God's love, forgiveness
05	Feeding 5000	Pagpakain ng 5000	Jn 6:1-15	Supernatural power
06	Talents of 3 servants	Ang kaloob ng tatlong utusan	Mt 25:14-30	Stewardship, faithfulness
07	Tax collectors prayer	Ang panalangin ng maninigil ng buwes	Lk 18:9-14	Humility, prayer
08	Elisha and Widows Oil	Eliseo at ang Balo na may langis	2 Ki 4:1-7	Faith, God's provision
09	Moses' prayer	Dasal ni Moises	Exo 17:8-16	Praying for leaders
10	Jesus washing feet	Naghugas si Jesus sa mga paa	John 13:1-20	Servanthood, humility
11	Elijah leaving Elisha	Iniwan ni Elias si Eliseo	2 King 2:1-12	Discipleship, leadership
12	David counting people	Binilang ni David ang mga tao	1Chro 21:1-21	Effect of leaders decision
13	David & Goliath	David & Goliat	1 Sam 17:41-54	Faith, God's power
14	David & Bathsheba	David & Batseba	2 Sam 11:1-27	Temptation, sin, lust
15	David's sin, Lamb	Kasalanan ni David at kwento ng tupa	2 Sam 12:1-24	Repentance, judgment
16	David's son dies	Namatay ang anak ni David	2 Sam 12:15-22	Consequence of sin
17	3 Men fiery furnace	3 lalaki sa pugon	Dan 3:1-30	Faithfulness, dedication

Additional List of stories to help you develop your own Storying set.

You might want to find other stories to meet the need of your congregation.

1.	Reference	Title	Topics (fill in your own categories)
2.	Genesis 12:10-20	Famine Leads to Lie	
3.	Genesis 12:1-9	Call of Abram	
4.	Genesis 6:9-22	Noah's Instructions	
5.	Genesis 28:10-22	Jacob's Dream	
6.	Genesis 35:1-5	Back to Bethel for Jacob	
7.	Exodus 4:1-17	Selection of Moses	
8.	Exodus 17:1-7	Moses Rock One	
9.	Exodus 17:8-16	Aaron, Hur & Moses	
10.	Numbers 12:1-16	Moses God's Leader	
11.	Numbers 20: 1-13	Moses Rock Two	
12.	Numbers 21:4-9	Brass Serpent	
13.	Numbers 33:51-56	Drive Out Dwellers	
14.	Joshua 2:1-24	Rahab & Spies	
15.	Joshua 5:6-15	Joshua Meets Captain	
16.	Joshua 6:1-27	Conquest of Jericho	
17.	Joshua 7:1-15	Defeat at Ai	
18.	Judges 2:1-13	New Generation Forsakes	
19.	Judges 7:1-25	Gideon's Battle	
20.	1 Samuel 2:27-36	Eli's Loss	
21.	1 Samuel 5:1-12	Ark in Ashdod	
22.	1 Samuel 8:1-22	Israel Demands King	
23.	1 Samuel 13:4-14	Saul Loses Kingship	
24.	1 Samuel 15:7-35	Saul's Obeys Part	
25.	1 Samuel 17:31-52	Goliath's Defeat	
26.	1 Samuel 17:15-30	David Goes to Fight	
27.	2 Samuel 3:1-20	God's Message to Samuel	
28.	2 Samuel 9:1-13	Mephibosheth	
29.	2 Kings 4:8-17	Prophet's Chamber	
30.	2 Kings 4:1-7	Widow Jars of Oil	
31.	2 Kings 5:1-27	Naman, Elisha & Gehazi	
32.	2 Kings 6:1-7	Lost Axe	
33.	2 Kings 8:1-6	Elisha, King & Woman	
34.	1 Chronicles 21:1-8	Numbering People	
35.	Psalms 1:1-6	Which Council?	
36.	Ecclesiastes 12:1-12	Remember Creator	
37.	Isaiah 6:1-13	Vision of God	
38.	Daniel 4:18-37	King's Tree Dream	
39.	Jonah 1:1-12	Jonah Runs	
40.	Jonah 4 1-11	Jonah's Dark Heart	
41.	Matthew 4:1-11	Temptation	
42.	Matthew 8:5-13	Centurion's Faith	
43.	Matthew 25:14-30	Talents 3 Servants	
44.	Matthew 26:6-13	Precious Ointment	
45.	Mark 1:21-28	Jesus Casts Out Demon	
46.	Mark 1:40-45	One Leper	

47.	Mark 2:1-12	Crippled Man Lowered Down	
48.	Mark 4:35-41	Storm & Jesus	
49.	Mark 5:21-42	Lady & Jairus Daughter	
50.	Mark 7:1-16	Tradition or God	
51.	Mark 10:46-52	Blind Bartimaeus	
52.	Mark 12:41-44	God's Values	
53.	Luke 5:1-11	Peter Goes Fishing	
54.	Luke 6:6-11	Withered Hand	
55.	Luke 7:36-50	Much Forgiven	
56.	Luke 10:30-37	Good Samaritan	
57.	Luke 10:38-42	Martha & Mary	
58.	Luke 13:10-17	Bent Woman	
59.	Luke 15:11-32	Prodigal Son	
60.	Luke 17:11-19	Ten Lepers	
61.	Luke 18:18-27	Rich Ruler	
62.	Luke 18:9-14	Two Prayers	
63.	Luke 19:1-10	Zacchaeus	
64.	John 1:43-51	Jesus, Phillip, Nathanael	
65.	John 2:1-11	Marriage & Wine	
66.	John 4:46-54	Centurion's Son Healed	
67.	John 6:5-14	5,000 Fed	
68.	John 12:1-11	Mary Anoints Jesus	
69.	John 13:1-11	Jesus Washing feet	
70.	John 16:1-13	Comforter to Come	
71.	Acts 1:8	Progression of Witness	
72.	Acts 3:1-10	Silver & Gold Lamé Healed	
73.	Acts 4:13-22	Peter & John Preach	
74.	Acts 5:1-11	Ananias & Sapphira	
75.	Acts 5:12-21	Arrest & Rescue	
76.	Acts 5:22-33	Peter's Boldness	
77.	Acts 6:8-15	Stephen Before Council	
78.	Acts 5:34-42	Persecution of Apostles	
79.	Acts 14:8-21	Lame Man at Lystra	
80.	Acts 17:1-12	Paul Preaches Two Cities	
81.	Acts 24:24-27	Paul & Felix	
82.	Acts 28:1-6	Paul's Shipwreck	
83.	James 1:22-27	Do the Word	

End of Introduction to Storying

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