

# **Yesterday. Today. Forever.**

## **Module: Sharing the Story**

### **Lesson 1: Tell me a Story**

#### **Objectives:**

- Students will practice sharing stories in a community setting.
- Students will discuss and understand what makes a good story.
- Students will begin to develop a framework for their own life story: Yesterday, Today and Forever.

#### **Materials Needed:**

- ☐ Min. 2 papers per student
- ☐ Pens or markers for students
- ☐ Poster boards (for story boards)
- ☐ LCD projector, speakers and laptop to view storyboarding video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfBsmy2dP40>)
- ☐ Min. 1 per student of any of the following books (Bibles, kid bibles, kids story books, comic books, whatever stories your students love or will relate with.)

## Minds On

Let students choose one of the books provided (Bible, kid's bible, kid's books and comics). Give students five minutes to prepare to tell that story (min. 30 sec, max 1 min).

**(Leader's note:** If you have a large group, you can have small groups tell a story.)

Encourage the students not to simply read or summarize the story, but tell it using emotion, gestures, and descriptive words. **(Leader's note:** It may be helpful to have a leader or someone who is skilled in story-telling to demonstrate.)

Afterwards, gather the large group together. Invite each student/group to tell their story.

When everyone has presented, ask:

- What makes these stories significant or important?
- How do we know a story worth telling?
- What makes a good story?

## Action

**Prompt:** Do you ever feel like your life is boring, not exciting or meaningful sometimes, maybe most of the time? Hopefully, our time together today will help you see your life as an epic story, by looking at it in a new way!

Watch the Story Board video together. (Leader's note: You may also choose to teach that material yourself or invite someone familiar with storyboarding to teach a 5 min.

segment). Then give students each a piece of paper. Ask them to create their own life story boards with 6-8 frames. (It doesn't have to be every moment but 5-6 key events that they remember or shaped their life.) Remind students that a story board is simply a series of pics that share parts of the story and some notes that tell what is happening in each picture. Afterwards, they will share their storyboard in a small group to be assigned. If students are having trouble deciding how to create their storyboard, give them Appendix

1.

After approx. 15 min, divide students into groups of 3-4 and they can share their storyboards to one another.

After they have shared their storyboards, still in their small groups, have them read Proverbs 16:1-9 together. As a group, they will answer the following question: According to this passage, how does God see our story? Each group should be prepared to report their answer to the larger group. You can provide a brief summary tying together what they have shared.

**Leader's note:** Here are some of the elements you're looking for  
What do people do in their plans according to this passage?

- We have plans of the heart and our ways seem pure
- We can commit whatever we do to God
- Proud and wicked will pay their dues
- We can be loving and faithful and fear the Lord
- We plan our courses

You want youth to see that we have the potential to live an excellent life with God...

What does God do in our plans according to this passage?

- Weighs our motives
- Establishes our plans
- Works things to proper ends
- Destests pride
- Helps us avoid evil
- Causes enemies to make peace
- Establishes our steps

We can plan but God will make it last and endure.

## **Consolidate/Debrief**

Give each student two pieces of paper and a pen. Have students find their own space in the room. On the first paper, encourage students to write down reasons they would/should let God write their story with them. On the second paper, ask students to write down one thing they enjoyed about another person's story and write that person's name on it; it can remain anonymous. Afterwards, they can give that note to that person or hand it to you to give to the addressee.

**Leader's note:** With students' permission, you may also want to display the storyboards around your meeting space during the weeks of this module.

End by praying that God would meet the students in their story and help them add meaningful chapters to their story.

## Appendix 1

Guiding Questions to be used as students are thinking through their story board.

- What are some of the themes and key moments in your life?
- What is your story of origin (starting)
- When did you find your passions, skills, best friends, talents,
- Have they ever been in danger or felt challenged faced a great enemy or giant
- When have you felt most alive, at peace, afraid?