

Yesterday. Today. Forever.

Module: Sharing the Story

Lesson 3: Everyone's Story

Objectives:

- Students will learn that God's big story is the renewal of all things in heaven and on earth.
- Students will learn that God wants them to play a vital role bringing new life where they live.
- Students will encourage each other that they all have what it takes to share God's story and invite others to be a part of it.

Materials Needed:

- ☐ 1 Bible per student
- ☐ 1 pen per student
- ☐ 3 copies of Appendix 1 already cut into strips and placed inside envelopes
- ☐ 3 foam boards (or poster boards or Bristol boards)
- ☐ Rolls of tape or glue
- ☐ Variety of coloured pencils or crayons
- ☐ Min. 5 sheets of paper per student
- ☐ A large sample of pictures. Here are some options you may choose to use:
 - Have a series of books or magazines where pictures can be cut out of.
 - Have a laptop with internet access and an LCD projector to download and create a slideshow. (**Leader's note:** Check with your child protection policy about appropriate use of the internet.)

- Provide digital cameras for groups to take pictures with and a laptop to download the pictures to create a slideshow.

Minds On

Have students break into 3 teams. (Leader's note: If you have a large group of students, you may have to divide the group in half to form 2 smaller groups, then each group divides into 3 teams. For example, a group of 30 becomes 2 groups of 15, and then the 15 students are then divided into 3 teams of 5. Follow the instructions below with each half (15 students) operating as a separate group.)

1. Each team takes/picks out 10 loosely related pictures (see Materials Needed on the method you're allowing students to use).
2. Each team puts the 10 pictures in order of their choosing.
3. Once the pictures are arranged, have the teams rotate to another team's pictures. Using the order provided, each team prepares and tells a short story (i.e. less than 1 minute) based on the 10 pictures to the larger group.

Note: Large groups can share within their group of 3 groups.

Afterwards ask: So whose story is this? Is it the people in the pictures, the people who put each picture in its time and place or the ones that interpret the pictures and share the story with us? (Allow students to give their opinions.)

Prompt: Did you feel that it was your story more when you were in it and picking the pictures, when you were ordering it or when you were telling it? Do you wonder where God is in our story sometimes? Have you ever thought that maybe we haven't included Him in our story or we that haven't bothered to be part of His story? Maybe we need to let Him rearrange the pictures in our lives and listen to the story that he wants to tell!

Action

Have students return to their groups, giving each group an envelope with Appendix 1 already cut into strips. Each group will arrange a storyline based the passages provided. (Students do not need to read all the details of the passage but need to know the main idea

of it.) Then they will create a storyboard (i.e. 10 frames) telling their arrangement of God's story. Each group will present their storyboard to the larger group.

Prompt: God's story in the Bible isn't just isolated in history. It's still unfolding before us. And as it unfolds, we get to see how we're included in that. We also get to see how others around us are also included in it.

Consolidate/Debrief

Ask: How do we now share our story as part of God's story?

(Be a witness and disciple: We Communicate, Experience and Commit to Jesus. We share the story with the community. Share the way, truth and life of Jesus in your story.)

End in a special prayer time by encourage your students to pray 1 on 1 with you, your leaders, and/or each other about where they are at with God. Challenge them to think about whether their story is being written in his story and if his story is rewriting theirs. (Adapt this activity to suit the needs of your students.)

Appendix 1

Genesis 1:1

Genesis 3

Genesis 12

Genesis 22:8-18

Exodus 3:5-10

1 Chronicles 17:16-27

Isaiah 6.

John 1:1-5, Romans 5

Matt 28:16-20 Acts 1:8, Acts 2:42-47

Revelation 21:1-7

Appendix 2

1. Creation: Genesis 1:1. God makes everything
2. Sin and Death: Genesis 3. Our sin tears us from God
3. A Call from God: Genesis 12. God reaches out to Abram calling him and his family to new life
4. The first Sacrificial Lamb 22:8-18. Abram now Abraham is challenged and has faith in God, God provides for Mankind
5. Moses and the Exodus: Exodus 3:5-10. After 400 years of trying it on their own God's people cry out and God comes through big time!
6. Nation and Kingdom: 1 Chronicles 17:16-27. Though imperfect God grants his people a nation and a kingdom and then promises them a kingdom that will never end.
7. Prophets: Isaiah 6. During this time God's people are called to speak the truth of bad relationship with God and the coming of God's big plan to reconcile us to Him
8. The Word made Flesh: Jesus the true sacrificial lamb. John 1:1-5, Romans 5. Jesus is born, lives, is crucified and rises again. He show he is the truth the way and the life to God, relationship is restored if we believe.
9. Church: Matt 28:16-20 Acts 1:8, Acts 2:42-47. Those who believe gather and show witness to God's presence and love in this world and they in meeting together live new life in Christ and get a glimpse of what is to come.
10. New Heaven and New Earth: Revelation 21:1-7. God will make all things new and defeat death and sin and bring all who believe to a new Heaven and a New Earth.