

How to Lead a Story Fellowship Group

Goal: To consistently model a Story Fellowship Group (SFG), also called a Story Group, that:

1. Is devotionally oriented
 - Welcome (introductions, sharing)
 - Worship (singing/music, prayer, etc.)
 - Word (telling & learning the story; discussing the story content, not the storytelling style)
 - Works (Discussion questions 5-7)
2. Includes
 - Sharing about telling stories to others
 - Retelling the previous story
 - Telling the story
 - Learning the story
 - Discussing the story

Preparation:

1. Practice your story, not just in your head, but out loud & with others
2. How has God used this story in your life? You need to be able to answer this question yourself before you share the story
3. Select songs and prayer topics
4. Select your learning method

Story Learning:

1. Ask a volunteer to tell the previous story.
2. Tell the story slowly two times.
3. Review the story: the group works together to recall the story in order to learn the sequence and events of the story in order. Review methods include popcorn, hot potato, pass the glass.
4. Tell the story again with a learning method: drama, living/frozen statues, hand motions (gestures), things in my pocket (props/objects), retell in a circle (chunks), etc.
5. Pairs: pair the participants and have them tell the story to each other.
 - The goal is that each person tells the story at least once
 - Regroup when the individuals in the slowest pair have each told the story at least once.
6. Volunteer
 - Request a volunteer to retell the story.
 - The individual should be able to tell it without significant omission or distortion.



Discussion (Discussion leaders can start with, but are not limited to, these questions):

1. What did you like in the story?
2. What did you not like in the story? Alternate: What did you find difficult or confusing in the story?
3. What does the story tell us about people?
4. What does the story tell us about God/Jesus?
5. What does the story tell you about yourself? Alternate: After hearing this story, what do you think needs to change in your life?
6. How will you remember the story? (tell it)
7. To whom will you tell the story?

NOTE: Be conscious of times during the discussion to pray or to sing.