

Children at Worship-Congregations in Bloom: The WordSource Biblical Story Telling Process

WordSource is the weekly framework created by the Children at Worship team for children's biblical story telling, including drama, interactive conversations, congregational responses and more. For access to even more great materials, become a member of Children at Worship-Congregations in Bloom. Simply go to www.childrenatworship.org.

What follows is a brief description of the process the Children at Worship team undertakes each week to craft their dramatic presentations of scripture ...

We take a look at the lessons assigned for any particular Sunday, and pose certain questions. Do any of them lend themselves to a certain kind of story telling? If the answer to that is yes, then what style of story telling might work here?

In the case of options in the readings assigned, we will consider which of the alternatives lends itself to dramatic or narrative interpretation. If one does and another doesn't, chances are we will choose the one that does. Again, in the case of options, we may consider that one alternative supports the Gospel better than the other, and so we would choose that one. Sometimes the Hebrew Scripture jumps out at us and begs to be illuminated. Other times it's the Gospel or the Epistles.

Sometimes we ask if there is anything at all that we can develop for a certain lesson. When the answer is no, and we have certainly had that experience, we don't force it. That's not what we're trying to do. Nor is it what we would have you do.

We look for themes. It happens on occasion that the three lessons and psalm will weave a tapestry around a pastoral theme. In that case, rather than focus on a lesson, we might focus on the theme.

... We would love to hear from you. If you have tried something we've suggested, or developed something on your own, please share it. A web community can be a vital and invigorating experience for the people who are willing to participate in it.

Thank you all for your support and your interest. We only hope this is as exciting for you as it is for us.

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info@childrenatworship.org