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A Virtual Conference to Train Teachers in the Local Church

TEACHING THE BIG STORY OF SCRIPTURE

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SESSION NOTES:

The overarching message of Scripture (undergirded by the many individual biblical stories) is God's desire for relationship with us.

- God uniquely wired our brains to process both micro elements (details) and macro elements (morals) of a story.

- Jesus used stories (parables) to teach.

- The Bible itself contains many stories to tell its one overarching message.

- Not only should we use stories as we teach, but we must ensure we are ultimately helping students "connect the dots" to see how each of these stories connects to the one big story of God's plan for us.

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Start with a systematic teaching plan that puts every story in the context of the overarching story.

- You may be teaching topically to target key discipleship objectives.

- If not, through-the-Bible teaching will naturally convey the overarching story of Scripture: God's desire for relationship with people.

Include context as you teach a Bible passage.

- Study the passages before and after your Bible passage.

- Convey that context as you teach.

- From that context, pull out what it shows us about God and how we should apply that truth to our lives.

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Wrestle with the uncomfortable stories, but tell them.

- Acknowledge the discomfort. Be real about stories that convict and challenge you on a personal level.

- These stories drive home the overarching truth in unique ways. End these (and all) stories with prayer so the Holy Ghost can whisper application.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION:

1. How are you reinforcing the "big story of Scripture" (God's desire for relationship with us) each session when you teach?

2. When and how do you lead students through the uncomfortable stories?

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