

- Common Mistakes
 - **Ignoring the non-Christian or the new person**
 - *Start off each teaching giving a brief context for what we're reading and why*
 - What period in history is this? Where is this happening?
 - Why are we reading these old stories? Is this just ancient story time?
 - Maybe you need to point out that the OT and the NT are distinct
 - Here's where we are at, here's what we are going to look at, etc...
 - *Give relevant apologetics*
 - You have to get done with your prep to look back over your teaching and look at it through the eyes of the non-believer
 - This is such an important ethos! We've got to work hard to keep this!
 - You can raise tension with this too!
 - *Think creatively about how to bring the gospel in*
 - Not just give the same gospel message over and over..
 - Don't just bring it up out of nowhere
 - *Include some analogies, illustrations, personal stories, references to pop culture, etc...*
 - This would be the ____ of today
 - Chance to have some fun with it, to give some humor
 - If you don't assume there are new people there, there won't be new people there
 - **Allegorizing**
 - Watch for taking a legitimate type and extending it was too far
 - Will see this a lot with reading the church into OT passages
 - Find the actual application of what's happening and apply that
 - **Failing to tie into the bigger story**
 - This one story is apart of the bigger story
 - Ex: Genesis
 - Talk about the fall and the promised one
 - Abrahamic Covenant
 - This is a good way to tie in the gospel
 - **Disrupting the story**
 - *Don't lose the thread of the story by stopping too long!*
 - If you lose the story, you lose everything
 - Stopping to apply is good...
 - Stopping to supply background is cool...
 - Stopping for apologetic explanation...
 - Stopping to mention how the NT picks up the OT is cool...
 - Stopping for discussion is cool...
 - Especially discussion that gets you back into the passage

- JUST DON'T STOP TOO LONG!
 - Or just recap where you're at in this!
- *Summarize something you should have just read*
 - Your version will probably be worse
 - NLT flows really well in narrative BTW
- *Don't read what you should have summarized*
 - Passage length sometimes guides this
 - Sometimes narratives are too long to cover so you need to learn how to summarize
- *Don't summarize what you just read*
 - LOL haha don't go back and summarize every single thing
 - Options:
 - 'I'd like to draw your attention to this one part'
 - "I'd like you to listen closely as I read Jacob's prayer, and when we get done we'll talk about what you noticed"
 - Rephrase it as a contemporary situation or saying it in a funny way
 - Ways to make points throughout
- **Taking a deductive rather than inductive approach**
 - With a story, don't give away the ending in your introduction !!
 - What good movie does this?
 - Let the story reveal this!
 - This is different than foreshadowing and giving people little tastes of what's happening
 - "Here's my 3 main points"
 - This works with an epistle, but not so much narrative
 - Don't rearrange the story to fit your outline
 - There is a reason they told things this way...
 - Walking along and gathering things
 - Then you get to the end and you're like "look at all these things!"
 - Finding them together and then talking about what you've learned
 - Communicating things through the unfolding of the story
 - *Your points are going to land a little harder as you unfold the story*
 - Ex: Rahab
 - Set the scene, tell the story, draw out how she got there
 - Marvel at the statements that she's making! Rahab is a woman of faith and God has used the most unlikely circumstances to direct them to the most unlikely person
 - Let's think about Rahab's faith? MAKE YOUR FIRST POINT
 - Then you see the next thing about her... MAKE YOUR SECOND POINT

- Then how she acts on her faith (read the rest)
 - Scarlet rope= teach her a lesson they learned about God 40 yrs earlier in the exodus BOOM (they also celebrate passover when they get back to the camp)
 - Then you can give the gospel
 - What happened to rahab?
 - She waited, rescued, married salmon royalty, line of Christ! (became a mom), praised in the NT as a woman of faith
 - SO GOOD!!!! (save best point for the end about the grace of God)
- Presentation Tips
 - Write out if possible
 - Reach good authors and good hist. Novels
 - Research culture, history, geography
 - Use accepted elements of style
 - Use concrete, specific words
 - Avoid too many modifiers
 - Eliminate deadeners (passive voice, I think...)
 - Avoid being too clever- gotta be you when you're up there
 - Physical gestures and facial expressions
 - Nervous gestures are bad
 - If you can do what one of the characters is doing, that is good
 - Illustrating a point
 - Ex: Exodus 32-34 taking wedding ring off and then back on at the end of the teaching
 - Use of space (easier for CT teachings)
 - Can use this with dialogue and movement
 - Get some humor this way too
 - Visual aids
 - Big maps
 - Timeline
 - Charts
 - Videos and pictures
 - Make sure all this is ready to go
 - Easier for PPTs and screens
 - Helps people to have more of a "you are there" experience
 - Especially show pictures of real places
 - Helps the skeptic to see that the bible is legit
 - With students, we try any to get them engaged in this stuff
 - Voice:
 - THE PAUSE IS UNDERRATED
 - If you constantly fill the room with sound, their minds won't get a break
 - This is what stand up comedians do

- Take out words like “he replied” or “he said”
 - Pauses can stand in place of this
 - Frustration and anger
 - Use funny voices and accents if there are small verses
 - Would not wanna use this for multiple verses....
- Discussion Questions
 - How do you think he’s feeling right now?
 - Trying to get at empathy for the characters
 - How would you feel if you were in this situation? What would you do if you were in this situation?
 - What did you notice about ____?
 - What sticks out to you about ____?
 - What can we learn about God here?
 - What are some lessons we could take away from this story? How does ____ apply to our lives?
 - Compare and contrast characters in a chart
 - Why does he spend so much time on this? Why does he keep bringing this up?
 - Why did the author include this? What would we lose if this wasn’t here?
- Conclusions
 - Stories are powerful
 - They are especially powerful when they are apart of God’s word
 - Your job is to faithfully hold them out to people
 - And enjoy them