

Simply The Story (STS) Changes Lives!

Kenya

"I tried for 3 years to influence the Africa STS Director. We needed money for our orphanage and I was thinking that with his Western connections he would surely help me.

"Well we came together last year, but he gave no money! Instead, his team taught me and our fellow believers on Lake Victoria Island how to learn from God's Word!

"I am now happy to report that as of last week, all 70 orphans have support. And it is our transformed community that supports our own orphans."

[As people listened to God's Word with understanding, their love of the helpless and use of their funds were affected.]

**Beyond enjoyable training,
success must be measured by:**

- Influence on storytellers' lives.
- Usage after training.
- Replication & multiplication.
- Effect on families, ministries and communities.

World Contacts

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The God's Story Project

Producers of: *God's Story &
Simply The Story*

"Declare His glory...His wonders among all people." Ps 96:3

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STS resources on www.SimplyTheStory.org
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951-658-1619 or toll free 877-99-Bible

Simply The Story

Inductive Bible Study
Oral Style



Experiencing Scripture
Through Discussion



Listening and
Responding

Simply The Story

Impact

But—does STS replicate and multiply?

5 years after going global with STS, people from 90 countries were trained!

Sudan: “Our 13 pastors have done the stories since last year. Each one has trained from 5 to 15 of their own church leaders. They all have great testimonies!”



UK: “Troubled youth, who rejected outreach attempts, now come ‘for the stories’!”

India: “First we told 2 stories to prisoners and 14 came to Jesus. Then local pastors started using stories.

“Since then, in 3 months, 200 of the 400 in the prison meet in their cells for ‘church’ to share stories. The Hindu warden wrote to us, ‘Now I can sleep without tension because of the change in the prisoners.’”

Central America: Reports come telling us how STS impacts literates and non-literates, AND melts prejudices. “It was affirming to see this diverse group (5 languages) learning together from God's Word—and from each other.”

USA: “Although I don't formally teach others, my own devotions have changed forever.”

French-Speaking Africa: “STS is very efficient for evangelization. The men and the women who do not read nor write are able to be powerful preachers of the Word of God.”

USA: “I was the theologian, and my wife the supporter. Now we study stories together—and minister together. Our marriage is the best it's ever been.”

Is it Time to

Rethink Strategies ... since 80% of the world are oral learners?

Yes! It is time to retool strategy.

People who cannot read, or who prefer not to learn by reading, are considered oral learners.

These oral communicators do not use literate methods to gain and exchange information. Yet the design of most Christian material involves literate skills, especially discipleship methods.

Oral learners need information presented in a format they can understand and remember. That format is stories—information that can also be seen and felt.

How interesting. Do you think God knew the needs of the people He created, since He designed the Bible as 75% stories?



STS Reaches Oral Communicators.

In countries that we introduce STS, attendees excitedly tell the instructors something similar: “An African designed this training!” “This is Indian.” “This is Egyptian.” We have learned to reply, “It's biblical. So it fits you perfectly!”

Simply The Story

What is it?

Unique to STS is learning how to dig deeply and teach through discussion.

Built on Foundation of “Storying,” STS Uses Oral Methods to Train How to:

- Go deeply into Scripture.
- Form inviting discussion questions.
- Lead others to discovery.
- Help people find applications.
- Train others to replicate & multiply.

People Discover Together No Matter:

- Age or ability to read.
- Social or economic status.
- Ethnicity or culture.
- Religious or educational backgrounds.

Ways to Learn *Simply The Story*

- Workshops (personal coaching!)
- *Practitioner Audio Training (PAT)*
- Web-site resources
- Oral Bible Schools
- *Interactive Discovery of the Bible (DVD)*

Ways *Simply the Story* is Done

- Teaching & discussing a story
- Dramas / songs
- Conversational 5-minute stories

Places to Use *Simply The Story*

- Family devotions /home fellowships
- Sunday school / church
- Bible schools / seminaries
- Outreaches / church planting
- Short-term mission trips
- Prisons / crusades
- Where there are people!