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story4all

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“My Devotions Have Changed.”

Not a workshop goes by that we do not hear this same sentiment. Every time we teach STS to new people,

Some of these who give that report are young in the Lord, while others have known Him many years.
**Enhanced My Study**

“The skills I have learned through this training have enhanced my personal Bible study skills and made me more confident in my teaching. It also tells me of opportunities that he has where he has used STS in pulpit supply with a good reception by the people.”

Pastor in USA

**Missing Puzzle Piece**

One missionary who has served with her husband for almost 30 years in the Philippines told me, “I trained under the best. I have known to use story, but this way of digging in and discovering deep spiritual treasures is new. It was the missing piece.”

“I have been impressed for awhile we are supposed to meditate on the Word, but I didn’t know what that meant. I was... now. I realize that that is what we have been doing all week in this workshop! This will change my devotions forever.”

**Never Happened Before**

Awhile back at a large conference on the use of oral strategies in teaching and leading discussions, I presented a story STS style. The next evening, in a social setting, I asked a long-time friend, who has been in ministry for nearly 50 years, what he thought of our way of presenting a story and leading discussions.

Not wanting to quibble with him on whether or not one could tell a story dramatically, I continued. “Well, what did you think of the way our instructor led the discussion?”

“It was okay I guess,” my friend observed, “no different than any other story way of leading discussions that I have seen others do.”

“Ohhh,” I groaned, “no different? Did you see the responses, how many wanted to participate and how many did?”

“Well, yes, I guess so. People did participate.”

I thought to myself. Now is just not the time. Maybe one day he can see what we are doing and see it is a unique way of digging deeply into the story and of finding spiritual treasures and applications.

After a few moments of quiet, my friend spoke up. “You know what? Today I went out to have my devotions. I was reading about Phillip and the Eunuch. I saw six new things in that story I’ve never seen before.” I smiled in appreciation.

“No. You don’t understand,” he said. “That’s never happened to me before—ever! Six new things—not one. I guess your way of asking questions affected me.”

Since that encounter I spoke once again to my friend, this time on the phone. “It’s still happening. I’m still seeing new things from the Word in my devotions,” he told me.

Not every Christian who comes to a workshop leads a ministry. In varying degrees, people go out and tell others Bible stories, and through STS, they see more in the Word than ever before, and they are able to make personal application of what they discover.
Miller, USA

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