

**STS-What & Why:**

What is STS?

**Results of STS**

Need for STS

Design of STS

Impact of STS

Origin of STS

Spread of STS

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### **Spontaneous Evangelism & Discipleship**

The results we see from ~~Simple Time Story~~ [Simple Time Story](#) (STS) are most exciting. We list just a few on this page

- [Amazing Results: \*One Year Report\*](#)
- [Personal Testimonies from Amazing Results](#)
- [Multiple Generation](#)
- [Oral Bible Schools](#)



We welcome inquiries about the details of these findings, including the methods used to obtain them.

We feature results from India and Africa on this page. The results are typical of the positive responses a



It is interesting to note that, because of the varied spiritual needs in different countries, the responses to

For instance, in India, we see a high rate of salvations and church plants, while, in Africa, we see measu  
However, in both countries, the positive responses relat

### **STS Results After Four Years**

**“We learned 120 stories□□ in 4 months of school.”**

STS Oral Bible School students



### General Report of STS Impact in India

In 2008, our Indian leadership gathered astounding results regarding 50 villagers who attended one of four different 3-day *Simply The Story* (STS) workshops. The [One Year Report](#) tracked the attendees at one, three, six and twelve months following that workshop. Two years later we felt led to send a team to follow up on some of the 50 original attendees whose effectiveness in ministry we had tracked back in 2008.

[A team went to Africa in Sept of 2010 and did an in-depth data collection from students of three of the seven Oral Bible schools active in Kenya at that time. As well, those who had been trained in STS at workshops over the past three years were interviewed.]

### The Team

The International Director of The God's Story Project, along with an independent representative from an international consulting firm, McKinsey and Company, and a video/audio technician traveled to South Eastern India to verify and document the long-term effects of STS. Some of the 50 India attendees documented in the *One Year Report* live in this region.

The representative from McKinsey and Company has lived in India for seven years and provided outside observation to maintain objectivity during the information-gathering process. The video/audio technician recorded all discussions for future verification if necessary. Translation was necessary.

### Description of People interviewed

The people interviewed were diverse. They ranged from literate to functionally illiterate and non-literate. They were men, women, single and married, some with children. Ages ranged from ten years old to people in their seventies. The team interviewed pastors, evangelists, and lay people all with varied lengths of times of being believers.

### **Bible Passages, Accuracy and Depth**

People were interviewed in groups of three. No two people in a group told the same Bible passage and a combination of Old and New Testament passages were shared. When a story was told the first time, without any review, their telling generally ranged from 65-85% accurate. A few were better than 85% accurate, and none were less than 65%. Typically, some details were left out, and on a few occasions details were added. All the people knew the main parts of the Bible story they chose to do.

After approximately five minutes of review, everyone showed marked improvement so that accuracy ranged from 70 to 95%.

It was very clear people had spent time in the past learning Bible passages and could easily share several passages without review.

Percentages are approximate due to translation, as at times the translator struggled to find the right English word, but the storytellers clearly evidenced knowledge of their Bible story.

After people shared their Bible story, we asked them to tell us what they saw in the story. Every person was able to share at least one Spiritual observation, or more, that was based on the story and Biblically provable.

### **Interview Proceedings**

Most discussions were generally conducted in groups of three, sometimes less.

None interviewed had prior knowledge of the questions we asked or that they would be doing a Bible passage for us.

Some people selected were those documented in the 2008 *One Year* report and some were random selections of people who had attended other STS workshops.

### **Spiritual Results of STS**

All shared testimonies of results using Bible stories in evangelistic situations. Many expressed gratefulness for having the STS training, and how it has helped them to go deep and to understand the Scriptures.

Having traveled to India many times over the past seven years, I see a measurable improvement in people's knowledge of the Bible. As well, I observed that the specific style of discussion, which occurs in STS trainings and Bible schools, enables people to experience sustainable growth in learning and applying the Scriptures with minimal or no Western influence.

These people now can deeply discuss biblical issues. But as well, when asked why they believe a certain way, they refer to information in the Bible instead of having no reason or saying, "some one told me that."

Submitted by A.M. Team Director

### **Amazing Results: *One Year Report***

## The God's Story Project – India

Data collected during first year after graduation from

*Simply The Story* (STS) training in South India

**ALL Graduates are**

**Illiterate or Preferred Oral Communicators!**

*Simply The Story* (STS) Indian instructors trained people for 3 days and gave graduates (one per village) a solar-powered audio-player



formatted with *God's Story*, 85 added story-told Bible stories, and a New Testament - all in their mother tongue. (Players with the content are called "WordLights.")

Statistics below cover the first 50 STS graduates who received these players.

During a six-week period, four workshops were held in different locations.

At each workshop many villages were represented by an average of three attendees per village.

**“Before” STS Workshop**

-----Average Length of Time in Ministry:-----**2.67 years**

-----Number of Salvations Since Beginning of Ministry:-----**815**

-----Number of Churches Planted Since Beginning of Ministry:----**22**

-----Number of Stories Learned by Heart at Training:-----**10 per person**

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**“After” STS Workshop**

**Report Period:**

August 2007-July 2008

Aug 2007

Sept-Oct 2007

Nov 2007– Jan 2008

6 month

Total

Feb-July 2008

1 Year

Total

Different Villages Visited with WordLight

146

186

200

**532**

216

**748**

Times WordLight Played for Listeners

1,617

1,343

1,617

**4,577**

2,564

**7,141**

People Who Listened to WordLight

5,174

9,056

10,024

**24,254**

13,333

**37,587**

People Who Heard Stories Told by Memory

3,453

6,889

7,442

17,784

8,374

26,158

Believers Who Heard Stories

523

892

1,062

2,477

1,893

4,370

Listeners Who Reported Telling Stories to Others

361

900

1,179

**2,440**

1,862

**4,302**

Salvations

707

2,025

2,640

**5,372**

3,750

**9,122**

Churches Planted

18

92

108

**218**

152

**370**

Not included in the above statistics is the impact on the lives and ministries of the literates and non-literates who attended those four STS workshops, but who did not receive a solar player. Nor seen above is the quantity of people led to Jesus by those saved during this one-year period.

Reports from other workshops done in India among literates, semi-literates and illiterates show that they too see a huge jump in salvations and growth from the stories learned and skills gained from this training. City and village, workers from outside India and nationals send similar responses.

### **Amazing Results: *One Year Report***

#### **How Data is Gathered**

Motivated literate pastors and lay people who have attended an STS workshop, volunteer to gather illiterates and oral communicators from various villages for a 3-day STS workshop. These unpaid, volunteer organizers act as registrars. (Data was collected by 4 registrars, one each for 4 workshops held in July-August 07.)

After a workshop, registrars interviewed and collected data from 12 to 14 graduates who received a WordLight. Each graduate represented a different village. These one-page profile reports established the “before” of these church planters’ effectiveness. Later, each graduate was interviewed at one month, three months, six months and one year after STS education.

The usage of the solar-powered WordLight, and impact of STS skills on their ministries, was monitored in 19 categories. This data went to our country director and to The God’s Story Project headquarters. Gathering this information was a daunting task for registrars, but they saw the importance of documentation. One registrar told us, “This is the hardest work I’ve ever done!”

Besides the statistics, the registrars collected testimonies from graduates and from those impacted by the stories.

Due to the sensitive location of these workshops, the names of the graduates, villages and language are not distributed in printed or electronic form. Upon request, a summary of the results can be obtained. All of the individual reports and spreadsheets containing this comprehensive study may be viewed at TGSP headquarters.

After one year, the TGSP Director who led these workshops went back to visit in person these graduates he had trained. “They ran to me with joy. All wanted to tell me what had happened.

Then we had a meeting. I told one STS story. Then they told Bible stories and asked the questions. They taught me! Oh it was a blessed time.”

**Should we be surprised at this amazing report showing 100-fold multiplication, 50 graduates saw 5,372 salvations, even in the first 6 months? No! Folks. This is God’s Word in an understandable form!** “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” Isaiah 55:11

## Testimonies

### Evangelism - Church Planting - Discipleship

**Below are a few of the hundreds of testimonies from the same 50 attendees documented in the *Amazing Results: One Year Report*.**

**(Names and locations are changed to X & Y.)**

**Testimonies of attendees collected from them by literate pastors, at both the end of the workshop and one month later....**

“One boy (15 yrs) has possessed by spirit of anger. When I shared the story Jesus casting out the demons, He accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior and now he very nice boy in that area.” – Attendee 00001

“One lady had high fever and spent lot of money but when she heard the Story of Naman God healed her.”– Attendee 00006 (Comment by interviewer: “She became a very good Evangelist.”)

“First I used this method at worship service, by next week our believers brought eleven more people to church by telling the story to them.” – Attendee 00040

“One young man in early age he left school he don't know reading and writing but he is very interest to share God's Word with others. When I told this story to him immediately he learned and he said now he can tell to others. he was happy that he is able witness every one he meet by telling story.” – Attendee 00041

“Even though I have not much education still people gather to listen Bible Stories that I know, Praise God for this great opportunity to share His stories and bring them to the feet of Jesus.” – Attendee 00002

“First I shared the story of Martha and Mary story to my orphanage warden, where I was brought up as orphan girl. Warden always work and she never gave time to God. When she heard news we must give time to God, she confess her sin and started to give more time to God and less time to the world activities.” – Attendee 00004

“One woman had family problem. I share the story of Jesus calming the storm, she prayed to Jesus, Lord give peace in our family, Lord spoken to her husband and he asked sorry and now they live very happy life with 3 Children.” – Attendee 00002

“I played WordLight at Mus.lim mos.que. 12 people came to the Lord and now 35 people are gathering to worship the creator God.” – Attendee 00003 [WordLight is a solar-powered audio player with *God's Story*, 85 Bible stories and a New Testament in her mother tongue]

“my Aunty was troubling me since i came to the Lord. i shared the story of Rich man and Lazurus. Jesus spoken to her heart and she came to the Lord and asked sorry for she has done for me since 5 years.” – Attendee 00003

**Testimonies six months later ...**

“On lady has lost her sheep, she was crying and weeping for a week. She came to our Friday Fasting on that day we were learning Jesus the Lost Sheep Story. She started trust Jesus can bring back her sheep. Miraculously that evening her husband found their sheep in next village. Through this all of them (3) came to the Lord.” – Attendee 00006

“A Catholic follower X was living in a very bad life. While he was passing through our prayer meeting he heard the Gospel songs. he came to disturb our worship service but God Controlled him. on that one of our leader was telling the story of Samaritan women. X came to the Lord while we were learning spiritual insights of this story.” – Attendee 00036

“One old man named X from YY Church had a pride saying that ‘I am old Christian I know everything in the Bible.’ He was refused to attend our Bible study, but his wife came and learned Martha Mary story. He has learned from that story. He was ashamed for himself. He came back to us and told us saying that ‘I am still a child in Bible.’” – Attendee 00040

“One Hindu teacher named X attended our prayer fellowship and learned that Jesus can heal a person like leper, later she came to the Lord, She was seeking to know true God since 40 years.” – Attendee 00001 (Comment by interviewer: The Lord is doing miracle after miracle after miracle in these 8 villages through using Bible Stories.)

“Our Risen Lord blessed 15 new souls from these villages. Many farmers started to tell stories during their cultivation time with other farmers. The Holy Spirit blessing these villages with good crop.” – Attendee 00012

“When people surprised to see WordLight in X village, they were started to listen to God’s Story. 4 people prayed the prayer. WordLight is a God given instruments to our field workers. The Lord is doing miracles!” – Attendee 00022

“There was a big opposition to enter the village called YY. One lady named X visited our house to sale milk. We shared about Jesus, She accepted Jesus and welcomed us to enter her village.” – Attendee 00007

“Last 3 months we have visited these 3 villages. 7 new souls came to the Lord and 5 people took the way of commitment in water from these 3 villages. Now these people won't attend any hindu temples rather they worship Creator God regularly.” – Attendee 00009

“I am a house wife. I learned 10 stories and when ever I get time I tell Bible stories to others, many ladies came to the Lord through her testimony!” – Attendee 00027

“Joshua was backsliden believer, He recommitted his life to Christ again through hearing the story of Prodigal son. Now He shars about Jesus to others.” – Attendee 00018

“There are many nominal Christians live in this one village. People do not have proper Bible knowledge. S.T.S. helped them to learn more stories from the Bible. Now they started to learn now the Bible. Before I was a nominal Christian. Through S.T.S. I recommitted to the Lord.” – Attendee 00024

“the people in one village were worshipping YY, They always oppose the Gospel, but one day they had fighting between low and high caste, we use this opportunity to share about Jesus. They (6) received Jesus and started to worship Him rather than YY. Now worship Service is going on this village. Please pray for all the believers.” – Attendee 00014 (Comment by interviewer: We thank God for this attendee's witness to 6 high caste family, through them many are coming to Christ.)

“STS workshop helped me make to 2 churches. Many people witnessed that Bible stories helped us to understand the plan of God towards men...” – Attendee 00026

### **Testimonies twelve months later ...**

“One Hindu woman who had high fever. She shared that God healed her while she was learning the Story of the Blind man. After God healed her, she accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior.” – Attendee 00001 (Comment by interviewer: “Christ Jesus Helped them to Start 5 more Churches through using STS method.”)

“I was sharing the Word of God in my uncle’s house in X village. Three people accepted Christ first time. They had been searching true God since twelve years.” – Attendee 00004 (Comment by interviewer: “We praise God for three new souls.”)

“Story telling method is very easy way to share the Word of God it helped us to win 66 new souls for Christ.” – Attendee 00044

“Some of the villages where we ministry give animal sacrifice to the gods to please them. When they heard Jesus gave himself to bless us 20 people came to the Lord.” – Attendee 00045

“The village president accepted Jesus as his personal Savior while they studying the Word of God. The Story of Nicodemus.” – Attendee 00005

“I find difficult to take the word of God to this one village, but STS way we took the Gospel. 13 people came to the Lord, we have Started a house church in the place. Please pray.” – Attendee 00006

“My Uncle was opposing to the leaders who share the word of God, because they were confusing him, but STS way helped him receive Christ as his Savior.” – Attendee 00008

“In a village one lady named X had stomach pain. She attended our Bible class while we are learning Bible stories. God healed her Completely.” – Attendee 00013

“Man was listening the Story of Creation. He came to oppose the class while he was listening the Creation Story he accepted Jesus as his Savior. He was believing Darwin theory.” – Attendee 00002 (Comment by interviewer: We thank God for X’s salvation.)

“These 3 months we had heavy Rain So all have faced lot of problems. Still God saved 89 people through using TGSP tools.” – Attendee 00010

“A young man names X had the habbit of drinking, His parents took many hospital to Hindu temples but Word of God changed him to not to drink. Through this 6 people came to the Lord.” – Attendee 00012

### **Multiplication**

#### **Multiplication In Africa**

In 2007, we first trained our first African storyteller in *Simply The Story*. He soon became the East Africa Director for The God’s Story Project. In 2010. This director was selected by the leaders in International Orality Network, a movement to promote the utilization of oral strategies, to represent the movement by speaking at the Lausanne Cape Town 2010 Congress on World Evangelism. That makes our leader 2nd generation.

He trained Pastor Richard, who then became a 3rd generation trainer and practitioner.

Richard leads STS workshops in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania using a staff he trained. His staff are 4th generation trainers.

Richard’s staff set up and oversee multiple STS Oral Bible Schools in Kenya. The students in the school are 5th generation practitioners and trainers.

Most of the students are pastors and evangelists. On their trips home, they minister to their congregations using stories STS style, and also use stories in outreach. In a data finding trip in Sept 2010, interviews done by outside observers were done with the students who are already ministering using STS. The students testified of people in their flocks using stories to evangelize and disciple others. That means that the flock members are 6th generation STS practitioners.

As well, the students told of people in their flocks who were telling stories to people who were using stories to minister to others. That is the 7th generation!

All this in 3 ½ years.

### **Multiplication in India**

#### **Five Generation Multiplication in Nine Months!**

MUMBAI From J S

In October, 2007 TGSP trained 125 of JS's leaders in *Simply The Story* workshops in Mumbai, India. Before this time these leaders had been adding 200 new believers monthly to their cell groups. During our April trip to India to certify instructors for STS, J S showed us the results below.

He kept saying, "It is not just the 50% rise in new believers that has us excited, look at the increase in leadership and cell groups!"

[Redacted]

[Redacted]	[Redacted]
-	[Redacted]
<b>Celebration Centers</b>	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	(Churches)
<b>Cell Groups</b>	[Redacted]
<b>Leaders</b>	[Redacted]
<b>People</b>	[Redacted]

NOV. '07

135

836

395

5342

DEC. '07

138

868

435

5511

JAN. '08

145

915

469

5999

FEB. '08

157

982

500

6498

MAR. '08

161

1022

515

6770

INCREASE FROM NOV. '07 TO MAR. '08

26

186

120

1428

### South India

#### Great Great Great Grandchildren in Nine Months!

In Brief

**The team from the USA who first brought STS to India is the “Father”:** In Sept 2006 we trained our TGSP India Director Dr. S. M. Mark how to do *Simply the Story*.

In that workshop he learned how to tell interesting "pure" Bible stories, nothing added, nothing left out, and how to do inductive Bible study "oral style."

Son, Mark: In Oct / Nov Mark trained some of his leaders.

**Grandsons Mark’s Team:** Since then that team has been going out leading STS trainings in North and South India.

**Great Grandsons, those Mark’s team had taught at SIC:** In mid-May 2007 Mark and his new team led 60 pastors of the South India Church (SIC) in a 2-day workshop. Six were "saved"!!!! Later in May one of the SIC workshop attendees wrote the letter below telling his testimony of learning and using STS.

**Great Great Grandsons, pastor taught by those from SIC:** He also sent the testimonies of two pastors he just trained.

**Great Great Great Grandsons:** those two pastors gave their testimonies of people they are reaching!

#### More Details of the Same

We shared *Simply The Story* (STS), with leaders, including Mark, our India Director of The God’s Story Project. (Since our USA staff trained Mark, for this report, we will call him “SON.”) In Aug / Sept Mark and the rest learned how to tell Bible stories and learned how to teach

others using inductive this STS “oral style” Bible study. In Oct / Nov Mark, our “son” trained some of his leaders. (SON TEACHES GRANDSONS)

After that, Mark and the leaders he trained began traveling and leading STS workshops in North and South India. In mid-May, Mark's new team led 60 pastors of the South India Church in a 2-day workshop. Six pastors were "saved"!!!!

Shortly after that workshop, one of the workshop attendees (a “grand son”) wrote the letter below telling his testimony of using STS. He also sent the testimonies of two pastors he just trained, and they gave their testimonies! (great grand sons).

From sons to great grandsons in a very short time (less than a year to be exact). All are more effectively presenting God's Word. As well, they are seeing more fruit than they have ever before seen, and the seed of that fruit is growing and bearing fruit!

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### **Total Details of the Same**

To Dear Beloved Rev Mark (these testimonies were sent by Pastor N.P. who was the one we call Mark's GRANDSON.)

Greetings to you in the Precious name of our LORD and Saviour JESUS CHRIST.

I am Pastor N.P. South India. (Specific names and places are withheld due for safety of these pastors.)

I am very happy to write this letter with a deep sense of gratitude to God and heartfelt thanks to the GOD story Project's India.

### **Pastor N.P's Background**

I was born and brought up in a Hindu Priest Family. When I was 13 years old I came to know JESUS CHRIST as my personal Saviour and I committed my life to JESUS. In my 16th year old GOD called me to be a Youth Leader. I was very active in the Church activities, Sunday school & in the Youth's Meeting. The church Pastor and Elder's decided to send me to a Theological Course called School of Evangelism. After the completion of this course, I joined for the B.th Course in XXX Biblical Seminary then after my Graduation, I became a Pastor in C.S.I. Church in XXX. I am married, now having 3 children.

When I was pastoring in a C.S.I Church in XXX City. GOD called me for a specific purpose that is in Matt: 28: 19, 20. I was obedient to this call I left the Pastoral Service in C.S.I Church. I committed my life for GOD'S will. GOD has given me the ambition to go and preach the Gospel to the Gentiles & unreached people groups, Who are not known the name of JESUS. Rom; 15,16. So now I am concentrating Evangelistic Ministry in the unreached villages & Educating and equipping young people for the Gospel with simply the story and we are encouraging them to go and share the word of GOD to their own people like School friends, Relatives Family,

Friend's & Neighbors. We thank GOD for the Vision and Mission, which GOD has given to the God's Story Projects India.

### **Simply the Story Ministry Report**

It is great privilege to have such a wonderful Training Program of Simply the story on 21, 22 May at the Bible College. This was a blessed Training program for the villagers. Pastors and Evangelist's in XXX District, it equipped and encouraged and helped the Pastors to know the Bible information in the better way to find the spiritual information, the story contains in the Bible, to fulfill the great communication in our generation.

### **Pastors and Evangelists Involvement, Testimonies**

After the introduction at the simply the story, the pastor and Evangelist's gave more importance to the simply the story method. They wisely started to prepare the story and practiced several times and they presented in their Churches and Ministry Fields in the villages. The people able to understand the spiritual meaning at God's word and applying in their lives and growing in faith.

### **Great Grandchildren**

(People start finding Jesus through hearing the stories. We can call these new believers, Great Grandchildren) 37 members affirmed their faith in LORD, through listening and believing simply the story and dedicated their lives to serve the LORD faithfully. 19 members became believers and they shared their testimonies and said the simply the story is the power of GOD changed their sinful lives and they received the divine healing in their lives, they confessed their sins and accepted JESUS as their personal Saviour.

The pastors and evangelists are able to see the great changes and effectiveness in their gospel preaching and win's many perishing souls for Christ. We are hearing more testimonies from the pastors and evangelists who attended the GOD story Training program. The pastor's are praising GOD for the Revival come to their lives and in the Ministry through the simply the story.

### **Great Grandson #1 (One of Pastor N. P.'s evangelists):**

Pastor, Solomon, Testifies that before he attended the simply the story Training program he use to preach the word of GOD with out preparation believing that the holy spirit of GOD will preach through him. he did not gave much time for preparation to word of God.

He thought, No need of preparation,. Without preparation he did not see the heart changing of the people. In his preaching there is no fruitful in His Ministry. After attending the simply the story Training he started to develop the preaching abilities. We set up the stories and actions and observation and correct Feelings & Emotions. Now this Pastor became and Effective preacher, by the spirit of GOD. Through his preaching many people confessed their lives to JESUS. Many new believers are coming to the church, now he is seeing vast development in His church and Ministry in the villages.

Praise GOD for the simply the story Training Program it gave us light in our Ministry We want to thank Rev Mark for his blessed teaching contribution, through this Ministry. Many people are come to know that JESUS is the only the LORD and Saviour. It is the Gift of GOD for us.

### **Great Grandson #2 Testimony**

Pastor R is doing Children and Youth Ministry in the Unreached Villages, when every he goes and preach the gospel in the villages he used to get some problems in the village Ministry, he thought the village Ministry is not God's will, and he decided to go and do some job. One that day he got the invitation of GOD story Training Program and he attended the Training program, when Rev. Mark was teaching about the steps of communication and the method of the simply the story, GOD specked to him, and he realized the mistakes in his life and he confessed his life to GOD, the spirit of GOD toughed him.

Now he is able to develop his preaching, abilities & communicating skills, he is doing good Ministry in the villages and he also started Youth Bible Studies and Sunday school classes in four villages. The people are giving good response for his preaching. Praise GOD for all His guidance in our lives.

### **Prayer requests**

Kindly pray for our district there is 14 taluks and 2282 villages still the gospel is not reach the people there is many unreached villages and people groups are not known the name of Jesus, kindly pray that God may rise more evangelists for the gospel ministry in this district, through the simply the story and educate and train them for the gospel preaching in the unreached villages, we are always praying for the God story project India

Thanking you  
You're in His ministry  
Pastor N.P.