

Mentoring Using the Chronological Bible Story Cloths



Story Cloth 1 – Old Testament-Gospels

Share
Showing and sharing your faith

Connect
Connecting to God and other believers

Minister
Demonstrating and helping them do it

Disciple
Teaching them to go and make disciples



(A) Story Cloth 2 - The Book of Acts

Making disciples involves:

1. Working by the power of the Holy Spirit
2. Following the example of Jesus in reaching out to others
3. Spending time with people teaching them about the Lord and His Word
4. Remembering that Jesus has commanded us to "Make Disciples" and is our example for how to do it.

The **first step** in helping other grow into maturity (parenthood) is to **determine their present state of growth.**

SPIRITUALLY DEAD,

INFANT -----> CHILD,

YOUNG ADULT -----> PARENT

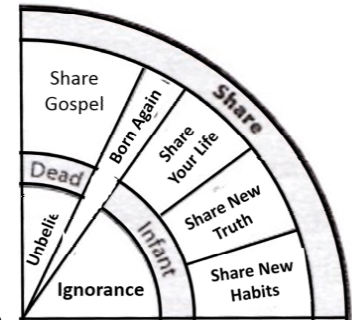
Dead to God

SHARE

Share Gospel

Bible Story Cloth (What the stories show about being dead in sin and being alive in Christ)

- # 1-2 Creation - God is the Creator of everything, the spirit world and the physical world.
- # 3 Adam and Eve - He created us in His image and blesses us through our trust and obedience. Disobedience to God is sin, and sin separates us from Him and everything He wishes to bless us through our faith in Him. He told the tempter that One would come from the seed of the woman whom the devil would bruise His heel, but He would crush the devil's head. God was showing us His plan for saving us when He killed an animal to cover their nakedness. One who was innocent died for those who were guilty.
- # 4 Cain and Abel - Many people think they can be blessed because of what they do. Cain brought the work of his hands. Abel followed the example of God in bringing an animal sacrifice. Sin includes being self-centered, angry and jealous, which can lead to revenge and murder.
- # 5 Noah - God will judge sin one day, but there is one way to be saved and that is to trust God by faith.
- # 6 Abraham - People are made right with God through their faith in Him. (Abraham believed God and it was reckoned righteousness)
- # 7 Abraham's test - do you fear God (Genesis 22:12) **God provides a substitute sacrifice.**
- # 8-11 Jacob, Esau, and Israel - God worked through Abraham's descendants to fulfill His promise to send the Savior
- # 12 Joseph - He was rejected by his brothers, but wound up saving them from the famine
- # 13-16 Moses - God delivered His people from slavery through Moses. The first-born were saved through a substitutionary sacrifice.
- # 17 Parting of Red Sea - God led them to the sea by a pillar of cloud by day and fire by night. God provided the way.
- # 18 The Ten Commandants - God gives Law to demonstrate our need for salvation (Galatians 3:19-24)
- # 19 Golden Calf - People make up their own god when they do not know the One True God.
- # 20-21 Tabernacle - Knowing Holy God is possible only when the penalty of sin is paid (Holy of Holies), and through trusting God's promise.
- # 22-26 Prophets and Kings - God worked through prophets to reveal the consequences of sin and the need for salvation.
- # 27 Birth of Christ - The One God promised was born of a virgin. He was fully God and fully man.
- # 28-36 Ministry of Jesus - Jesus accepted God's plan for Him to be our Substitutionary Sacrifice by being baptized and showed that He was the One God sent, by the people He reached out to and the miracles He did. He spent most of His time with a few men teaching them to follow Him and His teaching. Much of what He did upset those who were trying to please God by their works and their wealth instead of trusting God by faith to be forgiven for sin.
- # 37-42 Jesus explained to His disciples that He was to be the sacrifice for their sins. The religious leaders were jealous and convinced the authorities to crucify Jesus. Jesus bore our sins on the cross as our substitute, and rose again to offer His salvation to everyone who believes.



The Acts Story Cloth (What the Acts Story Cloth can help teach about sharing the gospel with others)

- **A# 2** Holy Spirit - He empowered believers to share The Gospel. Peter preached on the fulfillment of prophecy (Joel 2:28-32) and the reason for the coming of the Holy Spirit: **SALVATION IN CHRIST JESUS.**
- **A# 4** There is no other way to be saved than by Jesus.
- **A# 13-14** Peter witnesses to Cornelius - Cornelius was prepared to hear The Gospel. Peter was informed by Holy Spirit of men coming and told to follow. He went to Cornelius' house (Acts 10:34-43). **THERE ARE TIMES WE WILL EXPERIENCE THE SAME URGING FROM THE SPIRIT TO TELL OTHERS.**
- **A# 15-30** Stories show how telling others about Jesus may include suffering and persecution, but the prayers and companionship of believers helps. Jesus promises that when we share His salvation with others and teach them to follow Him, He is with us...

Infants in Growth

"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name," (John 1:12 NAS95).

Share your Life

Bible Story Cloth

- # 5-7 Noah and his family – Abraham and Isaac - What they knew about what God said was from their father. It is important to share how God worked in your life with others and to teach them about God.
- # 13 Birth and life of Moses - Moses was taught about life in Egypt from those who did not know God – Some things we can learn from others, best to learn from God's Word.
- # 18 Moses and the Commandments - God wants us to share what we know with others.
- # 21 The Promised Land - We can learn from the mistakes of others. (Don't be hesitant to share your mistakes and failures.)
- # 29 Disciples - Share how Jesus worked in your life to call you to Himself and how He used others to teach you how to follow Him.

Acts Story Cloth

- **A# 11** Philip and the Eunuch - Share what you know about the Word of God with others in whom God is already working.
- **A# 12** Conversion of Saul - Ananias commanded by God to lead another [Paul] (Acts 9:1-6). We may be sent to others who already have some insight needing explanation.
- **A# 26** Paul sharing with King Agrippa - Be ready to share your testimony wherever there is an opportunity.

Share New Truth

Disciples are made just like children are matured; in a family environment.

Birth > Childhood learning > Young Adult direction > Adulthood and parenting to begin the next family (cycle).

Bible Story Cloth

- # 3-4 Adam and Eve - They shared what God wanted with their children. (Not all will respond as we hope they will.)
- # 5 Noah - His walk with God impacted his family. He shared what God told him with His family. Noah was saved by being in the Ark. We are saved by being in Jesus.
- # 7 Abraham - taught Isaac about sacrifice.
- # 10 Jacob - taught his children God's plan for their life.
- # 18 Moses - taught God's people to love God and to teach their children to love Him and obey Him. Teach them as they go through life (Deuteronomy 6:4-9).
- # 22 Samuel - Even a child can be taught to know and do God's will by listening to God.
- # 27 Birth of Jesus - The Savior learned about His Father from Joseph and Mary.
- # 29 Disciples - Jesus taught His disciples the truth about Who God is and what He wanted for their lives. He showed them through His deeds and His Words.

Acts Story Cloth

- **A# 2** Holy Spirit - He is the one who gives the power to explain spiritual truth. (John 14:26, 16:13-14, Acts 1:8)
- **A# 7** Stephen used the knowledge of the head to teach them the truth.
- **A# 13** Peter on rooftop - sheet containing clean (sacred - kosher) and unclean (common-profane) things. Given command to eat (Acts 10:9-13). We must be open to learning from God's Word and not thinking we already know.
- **A# 17** Saul and Barnabas in the church at Antioch - God works through the church (the many parts of the Body of Christ), to prepare and to call those He wishes to be His servants.
- **A# 21** Paul's night vision- Jesus encourages those who seek to reach others.

Share New Habits

Bible Story Cloth

- # 4 Cain and Abel - Doing what we think is right instead of what God says causes problems in our lives and the lives of others (Cain brought an improper sacrifice). **WE CANNOT ACCOMPLISH GOD'S WILL AND DO GOD'S WORK OUR WAY!**
- # 5 Noah's Ark - **Believing God, Trusting God, and Obeying God is required for God to work in our lives.** See Luke 6:46, "Why call me Lord and not obey?"
- # 20 Building the Tabernacle - We can only come into the presence of God through Jesus. He is the light of life, He is the bread of life, we pray in His name, and it is only by His sacrifice that God can see us as holy and righteous.
- # 21 Promise Land - Listening to God and responding to Him by faith is necessary for moving forward and having victory.
- # 22 Samuel and Eli (1 Samuel 1:1-3:21) - Eli personally disciplined Samuel (However, he did not do well with his sons. Remember that teaching others must include teaching our own family.).
- # 29 Jesus taught His disciples by using parables and things they were familiar with to help them change their understanding of the Word of God and their behavior.

Acts Story Cloth

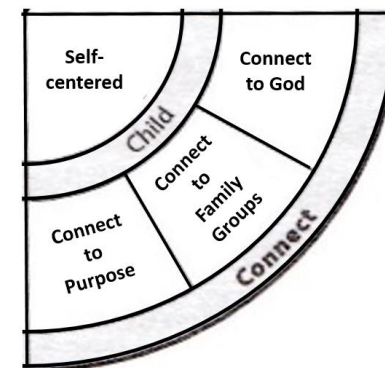
- **A# 1-2 The promise of the Holy Spirit - It is only by the power of the Holy Spirit that we can change and obey Christ's commandments.** (Peter denied Jesus before the Crucifixion and resurrection. After being empowered by the Holy Spirit, Peter became a powerful preacher and servant of the Lord.
- **A# 3** Only Jesus has the power to change people. Some people may not be pleased with what Jesus does in others' lives. The leaders were not pleased that Peter had healed this man on the Sabbath day in the name of Jesus. Peter used this to tell them about Jesus.
- **A# 4** Jesus is the **ONLY** way we can be saved and the only way we will have the power of the Spirit to change and to serve.
- **A# 5** Ananias and Sapphira - Some people pretend to know Jesus and want to obey Him, but they want others to give them the attention that should go to Jesus. The Holy Spirit knows when we are lying or telling the truth. God will give us the power to be truthful. Disobeying the Lord is very costly.
- **A# 14** Cornelius and Peter - God wants to include people from all tribes and nations. He wants us to share the Word of God not only with our people but others. God wants to change how we see people.

✿ Child in Growth CONNECT

Connect to God

Bible Story Cloth

- # 3 Adam and Eve - God is willing to provide all that we need through our trust (faith) in His Word and our obedience.
- # 5 Noah - When we are willing to walk with God by praying and listening to His Word, He is able to use us and bless us.
- # 6-7 Abraham - God is faithful to do what He promises in His Word.
- # 9 God at Bethel - Often God reveals Himself to us when things are difficult for us. He reminds us of who He is and of His plan and purpose for life.
- # 14 Burning Bush - Moses learned about God from his family. God called Moses to be His servant and gave him a ministry.
- # 15 The plagues - No matter what happens, God is in control.
- # 21 Caleb and Joshua - In order for God to empower and bless us we have to trust His Word and go forward by faith. When we walk by sight, we hinder what God wants to do in our lives.
- # 22 Samuel as a boy - Even a child can connect to God. All God requires is for us to listen to Him and do what He says.
- # 23 Samuel the Prophet - God uses us to call others to Himself. Serving God requires obedience and trust.
- # 29 The Disciples - Jesus works through those who follow Him to bring others to Himself.
- # 39-40 Salvation in Jesus - Only through accepting Jesus as our Savior can we be forgiven of the sin that separates us from God. It is in Jesus and through Jesus that we connect with God.



The Acts Story Cloth

- **A# 2** The Holy Spirit brings us into fellowship with Christ and empowers us to share Him and serve Him. As people are saved, God adds them to His church (Family, Body of Christ, Temple of the Living God). It is His plan that we **MAKE DISCIPLES**.
- **A# 11-14** God uses those who are connected to Him to connect different people to Himself: people of other nations, people who may have wronged us, people we have avoided in the past.
- **A# 17** Paul and Barnabas - God works through the church to connect people to Himself and to teach them to follow Him.

Connect to Others The beginning of Mentoring/Discipleship

The Bible Story Cloth

- # 3-11 God fulfilling His promise - Discipleship starts with our own family. Adam and Eve taught Cain and Abel, one disobeyed, the other obeyed. Noah taught his sons, Abraham taught Isaac, Isaac taught Jacob, Jacob taught his family. When discipling others, teach them to start at home. Giving them information is not enough, showing them and letting them see your faith and obedience is necessary.
- # 14,18,23,24 **God's servants** - What God teaches you about Himself, He wants you to tell and to teach others.
- # 29 Disciples - The only way to help people learn to follow Christ is to spend time with a few people and teach them to listen to Jesus and to follow Him
- # 41-42 **Jesus instructing followers - Jesus commanded us to make disciples as we go. He wants us not to do it in our own strength, but in the power of His Spirit. Apart from Jesus we cannot make disciples.**

The Acts Story Cloth

- **A# 2** Pentecost: beginning of The Church - **Why does the church exist?** To share the Gospel, to be devoted to the teaching of the Word, to fellowship together, to be reminded of our Lord's sacrifice (communion), to pray, and to help meet the needs of others and to share The Gospel with others. (TO BE THE BODY OF CHRIST! See Acts 2:41-48)
- **A# 19** Paul and Silas going from city to city. There are many parts to the Body of Christ. People need to connect with God and one another to grow into maturity.
- **A# 13-14** Peter goes to the home of gentiles and shares the gospel. Divisions between people and people groups must be removed. God wants you to love Him and one another and teach others. Jesus said that the **world will know we are believers by our love for God and one another.**

Connect to Purpose- We learn What God wants us to do and why we DO what we DO.

The Bible Story Cloth

- # 5 Noah - Noah was given something critical to do – proclaim God's message that He was going to judge the world. He was also given a job –to build an Ark that would allow people to be saved. Connecting to God's purpose requires obedience.
- # 6 Abraham - directed to train his household and those who follow to **keep the way of the Lord** (Genesis 18;19). Look to Abraham's descendants to see if they connected to God's purpose. [Isaac-Jacob]

- # 7 Abraham's test - Do you fear God? (Gen. 22:12). Sometimes, God will test us to show us if we are ready for His purpose. Abraham believed God's promise so much, he believed God would raise Isaac from the dead. God provided a **substitute sacrifice**.
- # 8 Jacob and Esau - God can cause all things to work together for God. He is always watching over His plan to perform it.
- # 29 The Twelve Disciples (Luke 6:12-18) - Jesus chose only 12 men whom He called to be with Him and learn from Him before He sent them out. Why didn't He add more to the group? He knew that He needed to have time to spend with each of them, teaching them individually, or in small groups. This is called mentoring. He wanted to teach them and then prepare them to reach others who would teach others. Making disciples is a process of reproducing disciples.
- # 41-42 Jesus appearing to His disciples and ascending to the Father - Jesus promised that when the disciples He taught went to make other disciples in all the nations, teaching them to obey all that He had commanded them, that He would be with them.

Acts Story Cloth

- **A# 2** Arrival of Holy Spirit - Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to His Disciples to empower them to be used of God to take The Gospel with **TO THE WHOLE WORLD** (Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to ends of earth (Acts 1:4-8) and empower them to make disciples of others.
- **A# 3** Peter and the Lame Man - God gave power to Peter to heal the lame man for the purpose of showing those in Jerusalem that He spoke for God. God used Peter to bear witness to the leaders that Jesus was Who He said He was. God will confirm His calling and purpose as we read the Word and obey Him.
- **A# 11** Phillip and the Ethiopian official - Sometimes we will not understand why God is leading us where He is until we take steps to obey Him where we are.
- **A# 12** Saul on the Damascus Road - God is capable of interrupting our plans and changing our understandings so we will seek to obey His purpose for our lives.
- **A# 16, 18** Peter and Paul put in jail - Obedience to God's purpose does not mean that there will not be difficulties and hardship. When we have faith in God, He can reveal Himself even when there are problems as we serve Him.

Young Adult in Growth TRAIN/EQUIP

Reproducible process – Luke 6:12-18

Equip for Ministry

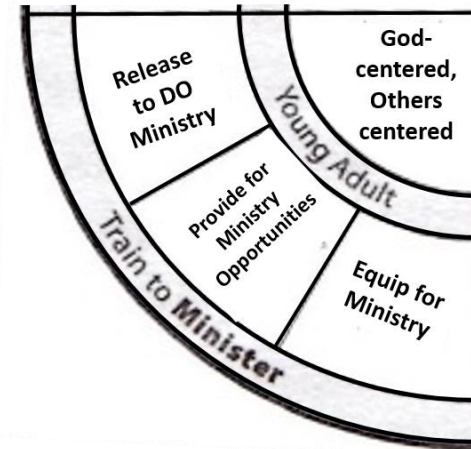
The preparation for ministry to others begins with patience in practice.

The Bible Story Cloth

- # 6-7 Noah – Abraham - It took over 100 years for Noah to build the Ark. Abraham had to wait 25 years for the son God promised Him. God uses time when there does not seem to be much happening to deepen our faith and prepare us for service.
- # 8 Jacob and Esau - Sometimes problems in families prepare us for God's purposes.
- # 10 Deception of Jacob by Laban. God can work even when things do not turn out like we thought they would. God is preparing us to be faithful in everything that may happen with us.
- # 11 Jacob wrestling - times when ministry (life) seems like warfare.
- # 14 Moses - had to watch the sheep for 40 years before God spoke to Him and called Him. God's servants need to stay faithful where they are.

The Acts Story Cloth

- **A# 7-8** Stephen - To be obedient to God in proclaiming His Word may involve a price to pay. God can give us the grace to share Him even in the midst of suffering.
- **A# 17** Paul and Barnabas preaching - When we are ready, the Spirit will speak to the hearts of other leaders and will use His church to send us out to serve Him.
- **A# 20** Paul and the unknown god - knew who to mentor (Acts 17:22-34).
- **A# 23** Paul at Ephesus - sometimes it is good to remind others of the things you have been through in serving the Lord to encourage them to follow your example.



The resource for developing the use of Chronological Bible stories in discipleship and mentoring was "Disciple Shift" by Jim Putman and Bobby Harrington, Zondervan, 2013

Provide Ministry Opportunities

The Bible Story Cloth

- # 12 Joseph (Genesis 45:2-8) - given the opportunity to understand God's purposes in the midst of rejection by others, and to stand for truth (faith). He could have been bitter (flesh).
- # 14 Moses and Burning Bush - God called Moses to Himself, gave him an important ministry and sent him out.
- # 29 Disciples - The best training is to spend time with the one you are discipling. After Jesus chose the Disciples, He mentored them for three years. When they knew enough about Jesus and His work and mission, He sent them out (Luke 10:8-12).
- # 32 Feeding of 5,000 (John 6:5-11) - Jesus tested Philip, then provided food, and allowed disciples part in ministry.

The Acts Story Cloth

- **A# 17** Paul and Barnabas (Acts 14:8-18, 21-28) - Barnabas was able to help Paul be accepted by the Jews in Jerusalem. Threatened with death, Paul spent several years learning the true meaning of the Scriptures. When many people began being converted, the church in Jerusalem sent Barnabas to Antioch to see what was happening. Needing help, Barnabas went to get Paul, to help (Acts 11:19-26. In the same way that Barnabas chose Paul to disciple, Paul chose Timothy (Acts 16:35).

Release to DO Ministry

The Bible Story Cloth

- # 21 Joshua - After spending over 40 years with Moses, Joshua was called by God to lead the people into the promised land.
- # 29 Twelve Disciples - Jesus called them first to be with them and then sent them out.

The Acts Story Cloth.

- **A# 15** New converts in Antioch gave offerings to help the persecuted Christians in Judea.
- **A# 17** Barnabas and Paul set aside by church leaders to guide new work (Acts 14:21-28).
- **A# 30** Paul in Rome - Paul stayed faithful to disciple others even when he was under arrest and facing death.

Practical Steps

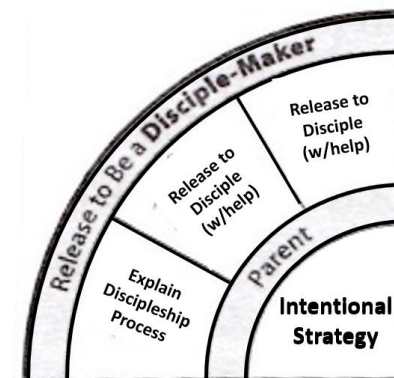
1. Be **INTENTIONAL** - include **INTENTIONAL PRAYER**.
2. Structure the process to include **SHARED RESPONSIBILITY** (When baby is born it is given over to parents to take care of teach etc.).
3. It is **DISOBEDIENCE** not to **share and teach** people how to do the Great Commission and make disciples.

♀ Adult Parent in Growth

RELEASE

The object of the mentoring process is to be intentional in working with individuals in making disciples who will make disciples (2 Timothy 2:2).

The Discipleship Process = Reproducible Mentoring – This is not meant to produce Great Bible teachers, but to reproduce those who will disciple others. Look for learners – meet together for prayer and relationship. Make the context of learning one that encourages growth. Don't LECTURE – DISCUSS, TEACH, MODEL.



The Bible Story Cloth

- # 21 The Promise Land - Joshua was ready to lead God's people into the Promise Land, because Moses had mentored him.
- # 22 Eli's sons - We can learn from poor examples as well as good.
- # 29 Jesus chooses 12 (Luke 6:12-18) - **BE ready for those who decide not to join or depart.** (*Judas left Jesus, Mark left, Paul*)

Acts Story Cloth

- **A# 11** Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:26-40) - Started **where he was!**
- GOD'S role = Holy Spirit directed; OUR role = obedience and training; THEIR role = listen, obey in faith.
- **A# 17** Leaders Praying for others - The Church in Antioch prayed for Paul and Barnabas and sent them out. Paul and Barnabas prepared leaders for churches and prayed for them – There will come a time when those we mentor are ready.
- **A# 18** Paul and Silas in jail - The way we deal with hardship can help those we mentor be prepared for it as well. Praising God when things are hard results in focusing on God rather than our problems.
- **A# 19** Paul and Silas going from city to city. Sometimes our message and our mentoring will be accepted, other times rejected. We are to judge our success not by results, but by our own obedience and faithfulness.
- **A# 20** Paul at Athens – Our knowledge of the Word, helps us communicate with others, but we cannot trust our own knowledge.

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The one you are mentoring should leave this process by personally accepting that the ALL believers should be a part of disciple making. It is God's plan for making disciples. It should be something they do without thought because it is so much a part of their life.

Release to Disciple with help

The Bible Story Cloth

- # 21 The Promised Land - Joshua was put in charge after years of being with Moses.
- # 24 Samuel and David - David learned much from Samuel and was prepared over time to lead.
- # 32 Feeding of 5,000 (John 6:5-11) - Jesus tested Philip, then provided food, and then allowed disciples part in ministry.
- # 37 Last Supper - Jesus taught His disciples over three years. He was preparing them to understand what was about to happen, had been revealed from the beginning. He knew they would be on their own in just a few months.
- # 41 Jesus appearing to His disciples. Before releasing them, Jesus explained their mission. It was to make disciples of all the nations (Matthew 28:18-20).

Release to Disciple w/o help

- # 42 **COMISSIONED TO MAKE DISCIPLES IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

