

Welcome

Welcome

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1. *How to interpret Narratives*
 2. The Bible GPS on Genesis 6: 5-8 > God
 3. The Bible GPS on Genesis 22: 2-19 > Abraham
 4. The Bible GPS on Exodus 2: 1-10 > Moses
 5. The Bible GPS on 2 Samuel 11:1-27 > David
 6. The Bible GPS on Luke 12: 15-21 > Jesus
 7. The Bible GPS on Acts 9: 1-20 > Paul
 8. The Bible GPS on Luke 15: 11-32 > God
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Course objectives

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- △ Goal: You will be able to use the tools in the Bible as your GPS to understand, apply and communicate the essentials of the Bible narratives into the 21st century.
 - △ How will we accomplish our goal?
 - You will demonstrate knowledge of the GPS model.
 - You will learn how to get to the message to the original receiver of the Bible passage.
 - You will learn how to discern if the message to the original receiver is applicable or not to our situation.
 - You will learn how to communicate the essentials to specific target groups.
 - You will practice the GPS model on Bible narratives.
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1. HOW TO INTERPRET NARRATIVES

Objective: To apply the GPS method on the Narratives of the Bible.

Please read the following story.

CELEBRATE?

A new monk arrived at the monastery. He was assigned to help the other monks in copying the old texts by hand. He noticed, however, that they were copying copies, not the original books. The new monk went to the head monk to ask him about this. He pointed out that if there were an error in the first copy, that error would be continued in all of the other copies.

The head monk said, 'We have been copying from the copies for centuries, but you make a good point, my son.' The head monk went down into the cellar with one of the copies to check it against the original.

Hours later, nobody had seen him, so one of the monks went downstairs to look for him. He heard a sobbing coming from the back of the cellar and found the old monk leaning over one of the original books, crying. He asked what was wrong.

'The word is 'celebrate,' not 'celibate' sobbed the head monk.

Please answer the following questions:

1. What do you think is the message of this story?

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.....

2. Which part(s) of the story makes it interesting and help us to understand the message?

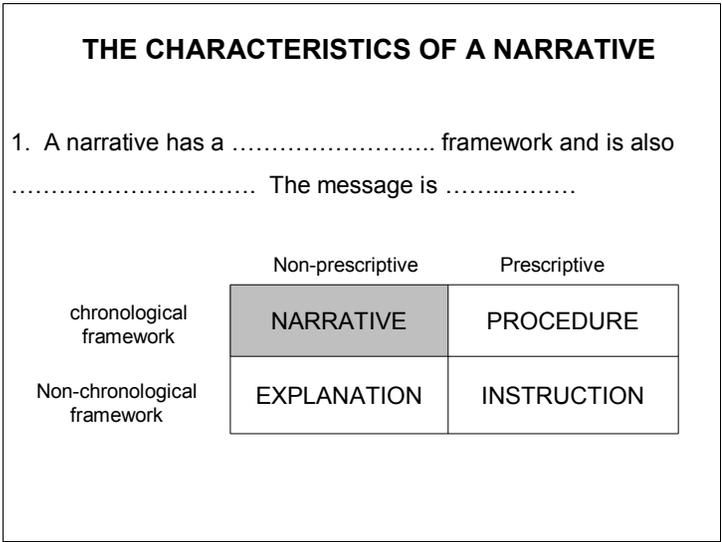
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3. Would you have arrived at the message by only reading the first two paragraphs?

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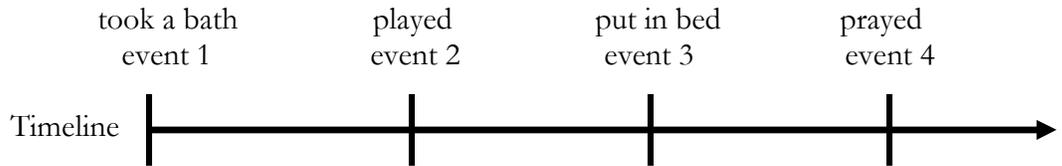
4. What are the implications of your answer for understanding Biblical stories?

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1. Chronological Framework

Andrea took a bath and played a little bit with her doll before her mom put her in bed and prayed for her.



2. Non-prescriptive

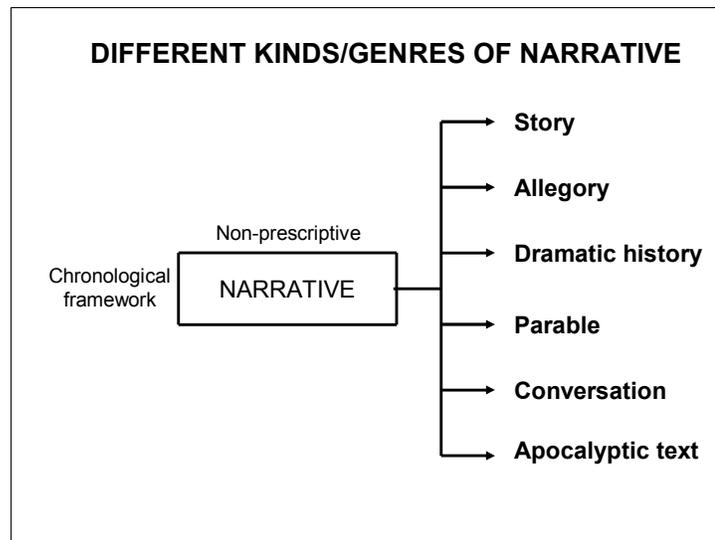
This means that the reader or listener does not explicitly know what to do, think or how to behave.

Was a direct instruction given in the first story “Celebrate?”

.....

How do you know what the message from the story was?

.....



Stories - An account or recital of an event or a series of events, either true or fictitious e.g. the birth of Moses (Ex 2:1-10) <http://www.answers.com/topic/story>

Allegory – Characters and events are symbols of something else (Example: The Sower in Mt 13: 3-23 and the trees in Judges 9: 8-15)

Dramatic history - History of the birth and death of Jesus (Luke 1: 26-45)

Parables - A story intended to teach a moral lesson or answer an ethical question. In the West, the best examples of parables are those of Jesus Christ. (Example: “The parable of The Good Samaritan” in Luke 10: 25-37) www.gale.cengage.com/free_resources/glossary/glossary_p.htm

Conversation - The use of speech for informal exchange of views or ideas or information etc. Peter’s confession of Christ (Luke 9: 18-27) (wordnet.princeton.edu/perl/webwn)

Apocalypse - A genre of literature which refers to early Christian and Jewish writing between 250 BCE and 200 CE which focuses upon dreams and visions of the future, secrets of the cosmos, and revelations from God about the ultimate fate of the world or humanity.

THREE GENERAL TYPES OF PLOT STRUCTURES

Element which creates tension	Element which resolves tension
Plan	Execution
Mystery	Explanation
Problem	Resolution

Most narratives (stories) have plots.
What is a plot structure?

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Examples of each element:

Plan – execution structure:

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Mystery – explanation structure:

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Problem – resolution structure:

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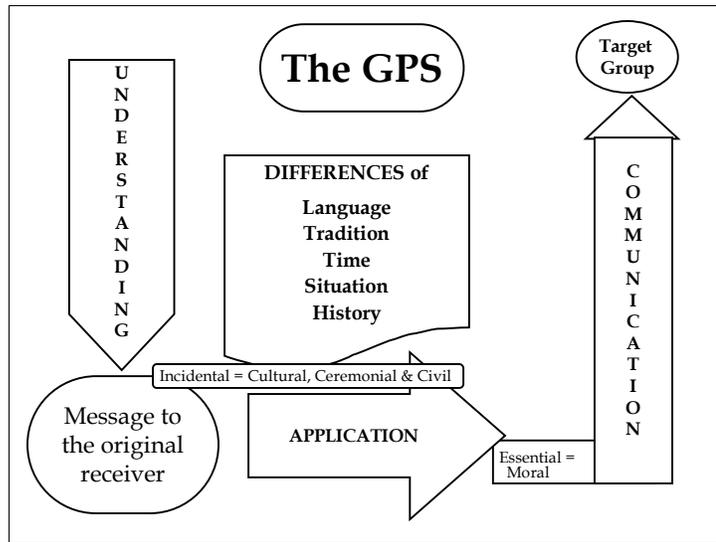
The plot structure of the “Celebrate” story.

Problem:

Resolution:

Result:

The Bible As Your GPS



UNDERSTANDING (S.T.A.R.T.)

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1. **Situation**

.....

.....

2. **Type of literature**

PROSE	POETRY in
Narrative	* Psalms
Procedure	* Prophets
Explanation	* Wisdom literature
Instruction	

1. **Situation**

.....

.....

.....

2. **Type of literature**

.....

3. Analyze the passage

3.1 Divide the Story in Episodes

(An Episode is chain of events that are related, having the same location, time and major participants)

3.2 Determine the Plot-Structure and Main Themes

(The plot is the way in which the story develops and serves to keep the interest of the reader)

3.3 Conclude and summarize the message to the original receiver

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.....

Genesis 37 (story)

² This is the account of Jacob. Joseph, a young man of seventeen, was tending the flocks with his brothers, the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives, and he brought their father a bad report about them.

³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made a richly ornamented robe for him.

⁴ When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.

⁵ Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him all the more.

⁶ He said to them, "Listen to this dream I had: ⁷ We were binding sheaves of grain out in the field when suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright, while your sheaves gathered around mine and bowed down to it."

⁸ His brothers said to him, "Do you intend to reign over us? Will you actually rule us?" And they hated him all the more because of his dream and what he had said.

⁹ Then he had another dream, and he told it to his brothers. "Listen," he said, "I had another dream, and this time the sun and moon and eleven stars were bowing down to me."

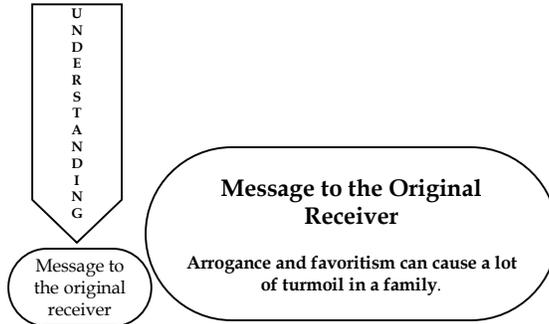
¹⁰ When he told his father as well as his brothers, his father rebuked him and said, "What is this dream you had? Will your mother and I and your brothers actually come and bow down to the ground before you?"

¹¹ His brothers were jealous of him, but his father kept the matter in mind.

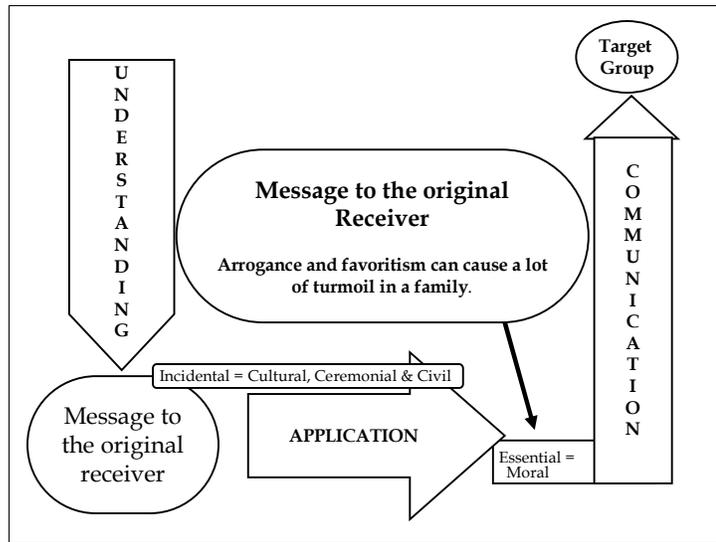
(NIV)

4. Relate the message to the broader Biblical and theological framework?

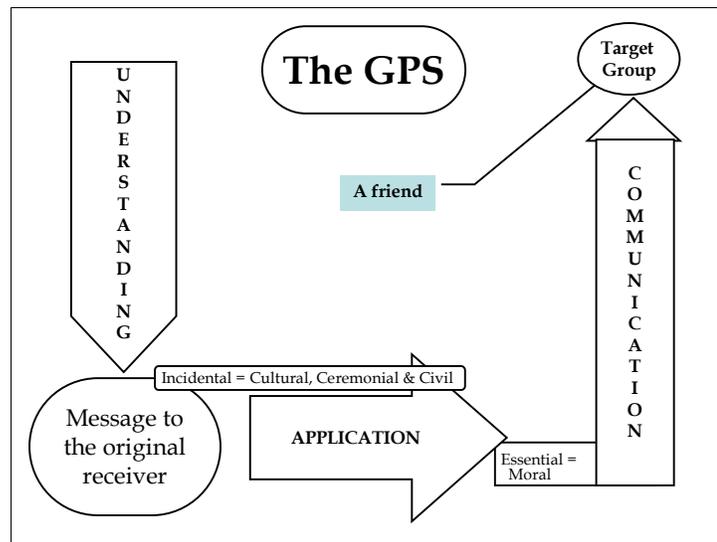
5. Test your findings



The Bible As Your GPS



The Bible As Your GPS



Your friend got a promotion and following the promotion she experienced that some of her colleagues were very jealous and did not treat her very well.

Discuss in your group how you will comfort her.

Share in your groups of a situation in your life where you also experienced arrogance and jealousy and how you dealt with it.