

Welcome

Notes:

20 minutes

Welcome

- △ Facilitator information
- △ Introduction of students
- △ Agenda

Welcome participants and congratulate them for taking the study!

Provide your name and relevant information about yourself (why you are fit to instruct this course; additional areas of subject-matter expertise.)

Review information about facilities – where bathrooms are, when there will be breaks if any and so forth.

Discuss course structure

Ask participants to introduce themselves and what they expect from this course.

Open with a prayer and scripture reading e.g. 2 Tim 3:16-17 or Psalm 19: 7-11 or Psalm 119: 105

Play any song that relates to Scripture like “Thy Word” by Amy Grant

Transition into agenda slide

Ask Question



Agenda

Notes:

5 minutes

Agenda

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

Discuss the agenda. Tell participants that the passages chosen follow the storyline of the Bible, starting with God and the through some of the major characters in the Bible and back to God.

Ask participants if there are any questions at this time.

Transition into next slide

Ask Question



Course objectives

Notes:

5 minutes

Course objectives

- △ 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.

Instruct



Discuss the points on the slide.

Explain how personal attainment of the objectives will help the participants in their life. We will see how the stories of the Bible connect with the stories of our lives.

Transition into next slide

Notes:

1 minute



Ask Question

1. HOW TO INTERPRET NARRATIVES

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

Ask a participant to read the objective.

Ask a participant to 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:

Instruct



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

.....
.....

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

.....
.....

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

.....
.....

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

.....
.....

1. How to interpret Narratives

Notes:

20 minutes

THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A NARRATIVE

1. A narrative has a CHRONOLOGICAL framework and is also NON-PRESCRIPTIVE. The message is IMPLIED.

	Non-prescriptive	Prescriptive
Chronological framework	NARRATIVE	PROCEDURE
Non-chronological framework	EXPLANATION	INSTRUCTION

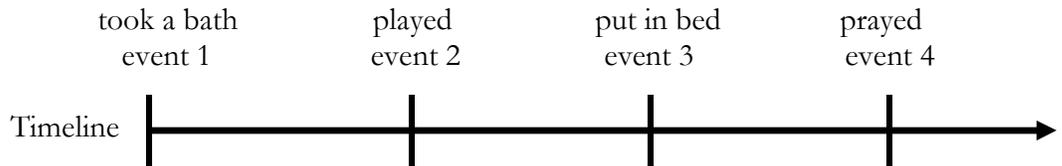
Instruct



Read the sentence and ask the participants to fill in the blank space.

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.



Tell participants that in a story events happen in a timeline.

2. Non-prescriptive

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

Ask participants if a direct instruction was given in the first story “Celebrate?”

Answer: No

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

Answer: The message is implied

Ask participants if there are any questions at this time.

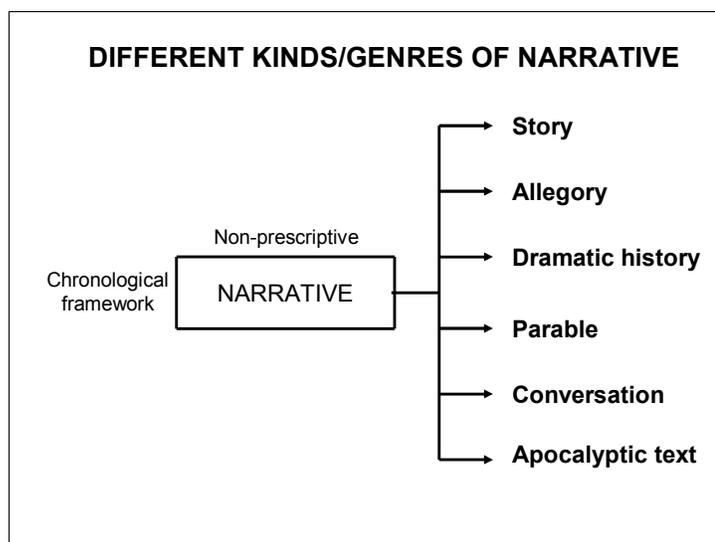
Transition into next slide

Ask Question



1. How to interpret Narratives

Notes:



Instruct



Discuss the points on the slide.

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.

Ask Question



Ask participants if there are any questions at this time.

Transition into next slide

1. How to interpret Narratives

Notes:

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?

Answer: The plot is the way in which a story develops and serves to keep the interest of the audience.

Ask Question



Share examples of each element:

Plan – execution structure: the overall structure of the book of Acts is an example. In the first chapter Jesus instructs his disciples to be witnesses to the ends of the earth (the plan) and the rest of the book describes how this plan was carried out (the execution).

Mystery – explanation structure: The riddle of Samson is a good example. In Judges 14: 12-18 Samson tells his 30 wedding companions a riddle at a wedding (he mystery), and eventually they find the answer to the riddle (the explanation)

Problem – resolution structure: Moses in the basket is a good example of this structure.

Ask participants if they can tell the plot structure of the “Celebrate” story.

Answer:

Problem: “He pointed out that if there were an error in the first copy, that error would be continued in all of the other copies.”

Resolution: The head monk went down into the cellar with one of the copies to check it against the original.

Result: ‘The word is ‘celebrate,’ not ‘celibate’ sobbed the head monk

Show participants from “The Bible as Your GPS: a few examples of stories.

Show them how stories can be divided in “tension” (plan, mystery and problem), “relief of tension” (execution, explanation and resolution) and then there is always a ‘result’ or an “outcome.”

Ask participants if there are any questions at this time.

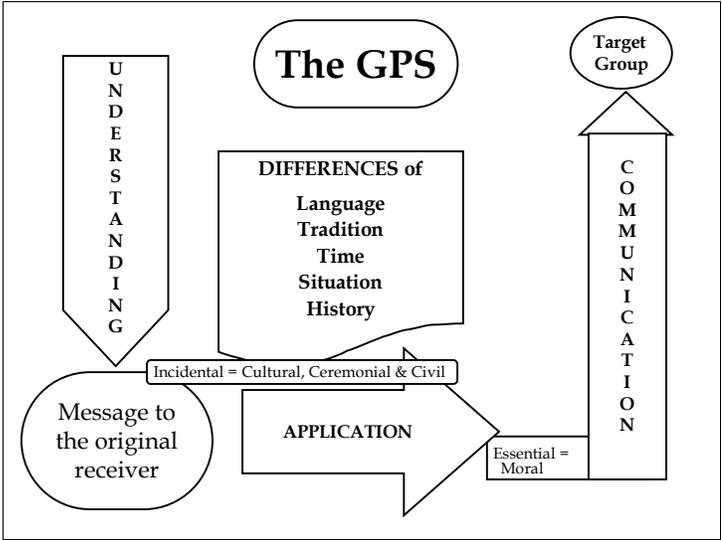
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Instruct



1. How to interpret Narratives

Notes:



 **Instruct**

Discuss the points on the slide and tell participants that we use the same method of Module I to interpret Narratives. Tell participants that we will use Genesis 37: 1-11 as an example how to interpret narratives.

 **Ask Question**

Ask participants if there are any questions at this time. Transition into next slide

Notes:

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

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

1. Situation

.....

.....

2. Type of literature

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

Ask Question 

Ask participants what the first step of the GPS method is.
Answer: UNDERSTANDING

Instruct 

Ask participants what the purpose of this process is.
*Answer: The **Purpose** of this process is to understand the message as well as or almost as well as the original receivers did.*

Ask participants to use their certificates to follow along.

Ask Question 

1. Situation
You can either ask a participant to read from a study Bible or you can share the situation (background) of the Genesis 37.

2. Type of literature
Ask the participants if they can tell what type of literature this passage is.
Answer: Narrative – story

Ask participants if there are any questions at this time.

Transition into next slide

1. How to interpret Narratives

Notes:

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

.....
.....
.....

3.1 Tell participants that the smallest unit of a story is and episode. Genesis 6: 5-8 is an episode because the events are related, it is the same location, time and major participants.

Instruct



3.2 Read through the passage and try to find the plot structure as well as main themes.

The plot structure of Genesis 37: 1-11 is:

Tension (Problem): Joseph gossips (verses 2-3)

Relief of tension: (Resolution) Joseph's brothers take a dislike in him (verses 4-10)

Result: Tension in the family (verse 11)

.Establish the meaning structure

A = Joseph gossips

B = Jacob shows favor to Joseph

C = Joseph's brothers hated him

D = Joseph shares his dream

E = Joseph's family is not happy about his dream

3.3 In this step you summarize the findings of 3.4.

Arrogance and favoritism can cause a lot of turmoil in that family.

Ask participants if there are any questions at this time.

Transition into next slide

Ask Question



1. How to interpret Narratives

Genesis 37 (story)

Tension: Joseph gossips

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.

A

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.

B

Relief of tension: Joseph's brothers take a dislike to 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.

C

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

D

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?"

E

Result: Tension in the family

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

(New International Version)

The meaning structure:

A = Joseph gossips

B = Jacob shows favor to Joseph

C = Joseph's brothers hated him

D = Joseph shares his dream

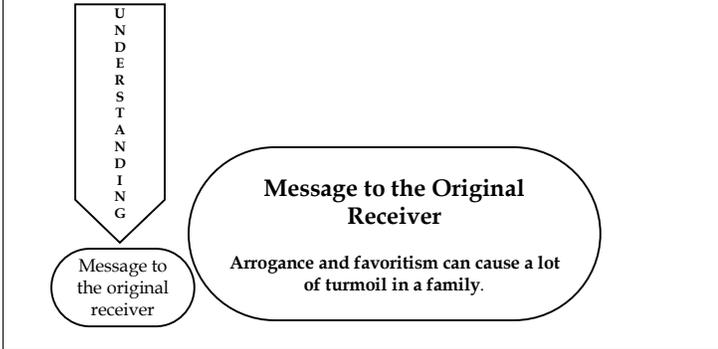
E = Joseph's family is not happy about his dream

1. How to interpret Narratives

Notes:

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

5. Test your findings



Instruct

4. Tell participants that steps number 4 and 5 are to make sure that your findings from step number 3 are in line with the broader Biblical message.

Ask Question

Ask participants if they think that the message can relate to the broader Biblical and theological framework.

Answer: Yes, it does! (1 Sam 2: 3, 1 Sam 15: 23, Proverbs 14: 3, 2 Corinthians 12: 20)

Instruct

5. Tell participants that this step is to test your findings by reading commentaries, Study Bibles etc. We need to understand that many godly people have wrestled with this passage before.

After you realized that your findings corresponds with the findings of others you have come to the message to the original receiver.

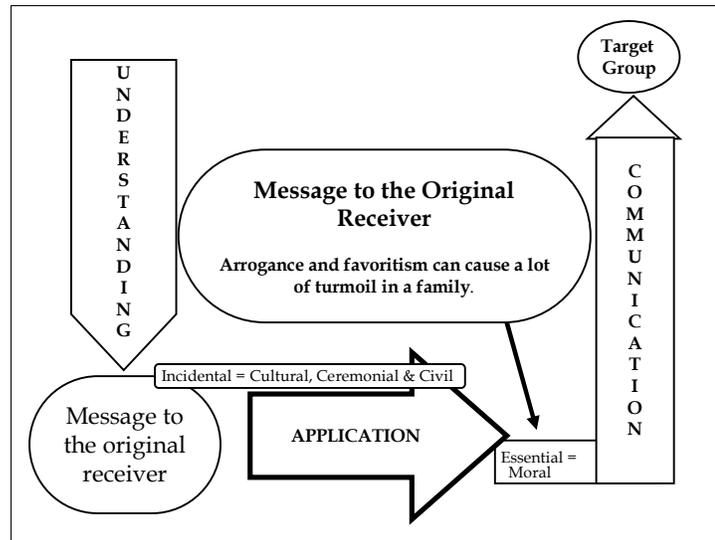
Ask Question

Ask participants if there are any questions at this time.

Transition into next slide

1. How to interpret Narratives

Notes:



Ask Question



Ask participants what the second step of the GPS method is.

Answer: APPLICATION

Ask participants what the purpose of this process is.

Answer: The Purpose of the process of Application is to bring the message to the original receivers across time by applying it to our situation.

Ask participants how we determine whether the message to the original receiver is an essential or an incidental.

*Civil and Ceremonial laws as well as Cultural practices are incidental.
Only the moral laws are essential and therefore applicable.*

Ask participants whether the message to the original receiver is essential; or incidental.

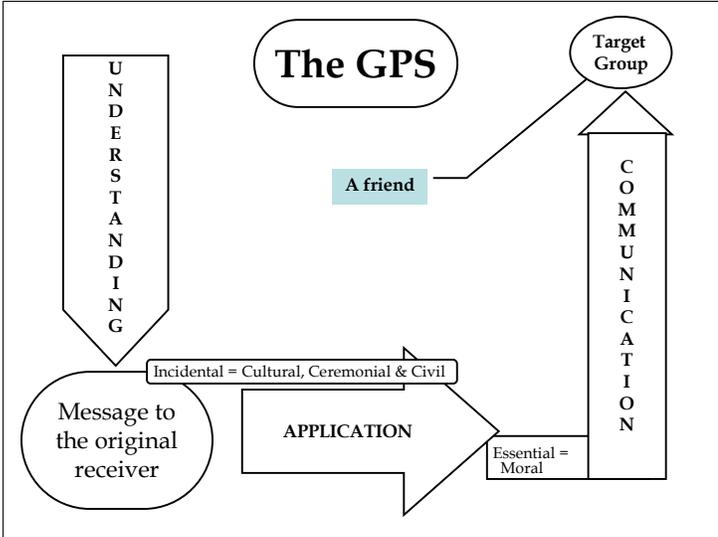
Answer: Essential

Ask participants if there are any questions at this time.

Transition into next slide

1. How to interpret Narratives

Notes:



Ask Question 

Ask participants what the third step of the GPS method is.
Answer: COMMUNICATION

Coach and Direct 

Ask participants what the purpose of this process is.
Answer: The Purpose of the process of Communication is to communicate the essentials in a relevant way.

Tell the participants to form groups of four to five people. Tell them that 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 the 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.

Feedback 

Get some feedback from the group. If there is time, ask the group to read day 7 from "The Bible as Your GPS"

Ask Question 

Ask the group how they feel about this devotion and how it can help to address the problem of jealousy.

Feedback 

Ask participants how they have experienced this session.
 Close with prayer