

Telling the Big Story (T&T) **...in Five Minutes or Five Months**

The Story of the World...and You

We all think the movie is about us, starts when we're born, or maybe with our first memories, and it's over when we die. This is a lie. *That* story is real, but it's just a tiny part.

The real story, the Big Story, starts with the Creation of the world and continues through the present day, through the Last Judgment, into the Re-Creation and eternity. Our lives don't make sense except when we see them that way.

Keys to Chronological Bible Teaching

- 1. Tell the Big Story, all the time**
- 2. Identify organizing themes to select material**
- 3. Connect the stories**

Storytelling Strategies

- 1. Focus on one small story (but tell the Big Story in it)**
- 2. Tell the Big Story (but situate the present moment in it)**
- 3. Tell a small story (that maps well onto the present moment)**

Becoming a Teller of the Big Story

- 1. Read the Chronological Thread books. In order and repeatedly.**
Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Joshua, Judges, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah, Luke, Acts, Revelation
- 2. Understand where the parallel stories fit in (e.g., Ruth, 1 & 2 Chronicles)**
- 3. Grasp Proverbs as a digest of the patterns in the Story**
- 4. Use the Psalms as celebrations, laments and prayers that fit into the Story**

Resources

- 1. Bible Framework Ministries (broadest)**
- 2. Stranger on the Road to Emmaus (easiest, narrowest)**
- 3. New Tribes Missions-Firm Foundations (equally narrow, but more detailed)**
- 4. Michael Bull (<http://www.bullartistry.com.au/wp/>) (weird but helpful nuggets)**