

# Teaching and Training...the Power of the Story

SEED Conference

Heather Hills Baptist Church

ABF Leadership Dinner

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# The Power of the Story

- Human beings are set apart from the rest of creation, in part because we are the keepers of stories.
- We can't even describe ourselves to someone else without some kind of story.
- We relate and engage with life in almost every way through stories.
  - -R. Albert Mohler – *The Conviction to Lead*

# As Teachers...

- How well do you know the stories of the people in your classes?
- Are you more concerned with them “sitting still while you instill?”
- In what ways do you intentionally foster life story connections among your people?
- In what ways are you encouraging them to tell their story to others?

# The Power of the Story

- Winston Churchill told the British people they were part of a great national drama, participants in a story that was already centuries old – a story of honor and duty, of sacrifice and freedom.



# The Power of the Story

- In Germany a very different man was telling a very different story. Adolf Hitler was telling the German people a story of conquest, racial superiority...
- Churchill's story was true and Hitler's false and the future of the human race depended on the right story prevailing.
  - A. Mohler *The Conviction to Lead*



# The Power of the Story

- “Leadership that matters grows out of the leader’s own belief that the story is true, that it matters, and that it must both expand and continue. The story must be believed with conviction, told with conviction, and stewarded with conviction.”

- A. Mohler *The Conviction to Lead*

# The Story is the Gospel

- In what ways does your teaching follow the contour of the gospel?
- Do the people you teach see the gospel connected and applied to their daily lives?
- Or, is the gospel tethered to their salvation experience and left there?

# The Gospel is the Core

- Tullian Tchividgian spoke at Southern seminary and in his message he said:
- *“Once God saves us, He doesn’t move us beyond the gospel, but He moves us more deeply into the gospel. We never, ever outgrow our need for Christ’s finished work, freshly applied daily by the Holy Spirit. In essence, all theology is nothing more and nothing less than an outworking of the gospel.”*



# The Gospel

- I think we have for so long as the church defined “the gospel” as evangelism and left it there that we’ve lost the real meaning of the word. The gospel is just as important to our daily life in Christ as it is to our initial salvation. And when we finally grasp that definition, it transforms our view of God and our worship of God.

# The Essential Story

- In the Bible, God has revealed the story that underlies every true story, and in which every other true story finds its meaning...
- The story of God's determination to glorify Himself by saving sinners through the atonement accomplished by His own Son.
- Every word of Scripture serves to tell this story
  - A. Mohler *The Conviction to Lead*

# The Essential Story

- The Story has four chapters or movements:
  - 1. Creation
  - 2. The Fall
  - 3. Redemption
  - 4. Consummation

# The Essential Story

This story tells us who we are, how we got here, and where we are going...

This story is also what allows us to die, knowing that the story will survive us and that we are still a part of this story even after our death.”

- A. Mohler *The Conviction to Lead*

# Our Connection to the Story

- Whatever the context of leadership, the Christian leader is accountable to this story.
- This is who we are, what we believe, and what we hope for others to know as well.
- The leader has stewardship of these stories
  - - A. Mohler

# The Story

- Bob Kauflin :
- Every Liturgy tells a story...
  - Every Christian gathering tells a story.
  - What story does your teaching tell?
  - When people understand the gospel...they worship!

# God is Self-Revealing

- *“All true worship is a response to the self-revelation of God in Christ and Scripture, and arises from our reflection on who He is and what He has done...The worship of God is evoked, informed, and inspired by the vision of God...The true knowledge of God will always lead us to worship.”* - John Stott

# What's at Stake in Your Teaching?

- People's View of God
- Their understanding and application of the gospel
- The way this church worships corporately!!