ORAL NARRATION OF BIBLE STUDY

Sexual Purity Stories

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SEXUAL PURITY

For the Facilitators:

These Bible stories and the subjects they discuss are difficult because sexual immorality is wrong. Sexual immorality is sin against God, against others, and against oneself.

But sexuality the way God created it is good. From the beginning, God commanded that man and woman have sexual relations only in marriage. That demonstrates sexual purity.

We want to encourage sexual purity by showing that:

- 1. sexual purity is the will of God, as shown in His Word (1 Corinthians 6:13b)
- 2. God created man and woman to have sexual relations within the institution of marriage (Genesis 1:27-28a; 2:24)
- 3. the results of sexual immorality are wrong, painful, and deadly (Romans 6:23; Galatians 5:19-21)
- 4. God pardons sexual immorality for the person who repents (1 John 1:9)
- 5. God gives the power to avoid and overcome sexual temptations (1 Corinthians 10:12-13; Hebrews 4:15-16)
- 6. for the sinner who repents, new sexual purity can begin immediately (2 Corinthians 5:17)

In the Word of God, the love and relationship between Jesus Christ and His church are compared to the love and relationship between a man and his wife. We show our faith and our respect for the Word of God by living a life of sexual purity and avoiding sexual immorality.

Everyone who is in your group is not necessarily a Christian. Take every opportunity to share the Gospel of salvation in Jesus Christ with each story. If someone wants God to change his life because of something he learned from a story, four things must be understood:

- 1. God loves you.
- 2. Sin separates man from God.
- 3. Jesus Christ can restore the relationship between man and God.
- 4. Repent of your sin and pray to receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

LIST OF STORIES AND MEMORY VERSES:

1. Creation and the Fall of Man (Genesis 1-3)

Verse: Genesis 1:27-28

2. Joseph and Potiphar's Wife (Genesis 39)

Verse: Psalm 111:10a

3. Samson and Delilah (Judges 16:4-21)

Verse: Isaiah 40:31

4. David and Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11)

Verse: Psalm 51:10

5. David and the prophet Nathan (2 Samuel 12)

Verse: Proverbs 15:3

6. The Young Man Entrapped by a Woman (Proverbs 7:6-27)

Verse: Ecclesiastes 11:9
7. Tamar (2 Samuel 13:1-21)
Verse: 2 Timothy 2:22

8. Mary and Joseph (Matthew 1, Luke 1)

Verse: Galatians 5:22-23

9. The Woman Caught in Adultery (John 8:1-11)

Verse: Proverbs 10:12

10. The Woman of Bad Repute (Luke 7:36-50)

Verse: Ephesians 2:8-9

11. The Apostle Paul and the Corinthian Church (Acts 18, 1 Corinthians 5-7)

Verse: 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

First Story Creation and the Fall of Man

Genesis 1, 2, 3

Theme: Man is a special creation of God. Sin separates man from God.

"This is a true story from God's Word from Genesis 1, 2 and 3."

In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth. He spoke, and by His word, he created all the trees and plants that bear seeds. He spoke, and He created the sun, the moon, and the stars. God spoke and He created the fish, the birds, and all the animals.

Then God decided to make a special creation: man. God created him in a special way, from the dust of the earth. He fashioned man and blew into his nostrils, and man became a living being. God saw that it wasn't good for man to be alone. He created woman from the side of man. God created them in His image, the man and the woman. He blessed the man and the woman and told them to have many children. God told them the man and his wife would become one flesh.

God looked at all the things He had made, and He said that it was very good.

God had perfect fellowship with the man and the woman. He walked with them. He talked with them. He took care of them until the day the woman and the man disobeyed God. Their disobedience was sin. Because of their sin, their perfect fellowship with God was broken. Their perfect fellowship with each other was broken. Their perfect fellowship with everything God had created was broken. They were separated from God.

The man and his wife had children. Their children had children, and their children had children, until the whole world was full of people. But just like the first man and the first woman, the continued to be separated from God because of their disobedience. However, God didn't forget His special creation. He had a plan to restore their broken fellowship.

"This is a true story from God's Word from Genesis 1, 2 and 3."

Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:

- 1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story? How did you discern this from the story?
- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?
- 4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

Man and woman are a special creation of God.

God created man and woman in His image.

God blessed sexual relations.

God's intention was for man and woman to have a perfect relationship with him, with each other, and with creation.

The disobedience of the man and woman broke their fellowship with God. God did not forget His special creation.

5. Who will you tell this story to this week? Each must say the name of a person. They're not simply making a promise to you, but they are making a promise before God to share this story with others.

MEMORY VERSE:

"God created man in His image, He created him in the image of God, He created man and woman. God blessed them, and God told them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth" Genesis 1:27-28.

Second Story Joseph and Potiphar's Wife Genesis 39

Theme: Be faithful to God. Flee temptation.

"This is a true story from God's Word from Genesis 39."

Joseph was a young man of the people of God, but he arrived in Egypt as a slave. He was purchased by Potiphar, leader of the guards of the king of Egypt.

God was with Joseph, and Joseph succeeded in all that he did. He lived in the house of his master, Potiphar. When Potiphar realized that God was with Joseph and God caused everything Joseph did to prosper, he trusted Joseph to manage everything he owned. Thanks to Joseph, God blessed the house, the fields, and everything that belonged to Potiphar.

Joseph was very handsome. Potiphar's wife saw him and said, "Sleep with me!" Joseph refused and said to Potiphar's wife, "My master has entrusted everything to me except you. because you are his wife. If I sleep with you, I do a great wrong and I sin against my God and against my master."

Day after day, she asked again the same thing, but Joseph always refused to sleep with her and to even be with her. One day, Joseph was in the house doing his work. The other servants were not there. Potiphar's wife grabbed Joseph by his coat and said to him, "Sleep with me!"

Joseph fled from the house and left his coat in her hands. Then, she called her servants and made false accusations against Joseph. Next, she told the same story to her husband. Potiphar was angry with Joseph and had him thrown in prison.

But God continued to be with Joseph.

"This is a true story from God's Word from Genesis 39."

Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:

- 1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story? How did you discern this from the story?
- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?
- 4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

Honesty is more important than having a good job.

Joseph kept his honesty.

Flee temptation as Joseph did.

Be faithful to God.

The person who chooses sexual immorality will suffer the consequences of his choice.

Sexual immorality is a sin against God and against the other person.

Sleeping with the husband or wife of another person is a sin against God, against that person, and against oneself.

One should show the fear of God which is the beginning of wisdom. God is always with those who follow Him and obey Him.

5. Who will you tell this story to this week? Each must say the name of a person. They're not simply making a promise to you, but they are making a promise before God to share this story with others.

MEMORY VERSE:

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" Psalm 111:10a.

Third Story
Samson and Delilah
Judges 16:4-21

Theme: Sexual temptation is subtle.

"This is a true story from God's Word from Judges 16:4-21."

There was a man of extraordinary strength named Samson. He was a leader of the people of God. One day he fell in love with a Philistine woman named Delilah. The princes of the Philistines who were enemies of the people of God asked Delilah to discover the secret of Samson's great strength. They promised her a lot of money in return.

On night, Delilah said to Samson, "Tell me, where does your great strength come from?" Three times, Samson lied to Delilah. Each time, she did whatever Samson told her, but each time the Philistines were unable to trap him. Delilah said to him, "You mock me and tell me lies."

After the third time, Delilah said to Samson, "How can you say you love me if you don't trust me!" Every day she troubled him. Finally, Samson lost patience with her and told her his secret. He said, "I was consecrated to God when I was born. God ordered that my hair should never be cut. If I shave my head, my strength will leave me."

Then Delilah knew that Samson had revealed his secret. She called the Philistine princes. They gave her the promised money.

Delilah held the sleeping Samson on her lap. She called a man to cut his hair. When she cried, "Samson, the Philistines are upon you!" Samson didn't know that God had taken away his strength. He was weak like an ordinary man.

The Philistines caught Samson. They blinded his eyes and put him in prison.

"This is a true story from God's Word from Judges 16:4-21."

Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:

1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story?

How did you discern this from the story?

- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?
- 4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

Samson showed disobedience toward his parents and toward God.

Samson elevated love of his wife above God.

Delilah elevated love of money above her husband.

Delilah used trickery and flattery.

Samson was not wise.

Samson repeated his sin.

Temptation is dangerous.

Temptation is sweet and subtle.

Temptation is a trap.

5. Who will you tell this story to this week? Each must say the name of a person. They're not simply making a promise to you, but they are making a promise before God to share this story with others.

MEMORY VERSE:

"But those who wait on the Lord will renew their strength. They will mount up with wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint" Isaiah 40:31.

Fourth Story <u>David and Bathsheba</u> 2 Samuel 11

Theme: The consequences of sexual sin

"This is a true story from God's Word from 2 Samuel 11."

During the time when kings went to war, King David stayed in Jerusalem. One day, David was walking on the roof of his royal palace. He saw a woman bathing, and the woman was very beautiful. He wanted to know who she was. He was told she was Bathsheba, the daughter of one of his mighty men and the wife of another brave soldier in his army.

David had her come to him, and he slept with her. Bathsheba became pregnant, and she informed King David.

The king had Bathsheba's husband come to give a report about the war. Later David told him to go and sleep at his own home. He sent a gift along with him. But he slept with the servants of the king in front of the royal palace. Later David learned that the soldier didn't sleep at his own home, and he asked him, "Why didn't you sleep at your house?"

The soldier answered, 'We are at war. Your commander and soldiers are sleeping in the open field. How can I, then, go to my house in comfort to eat, drink, and sleep with my wife. I could never do such a thing." David asked the soldier to wait one more day. This time David invited him to eat and drink with him, and he got him drunk. That night the husband of Bathsheba again slept with the other servants of King David. He didn't go to his home.

The morning after that, David wrote a letter for the soldier to take back to the front. In the letter, David asked the general to place Bathsheba's husband in a place where the fighting was very intense. The general obeyed David's orders. The husband of Bathsheba was placed at the hot spot of the war, and their enemies killed him.

Bathsheba mourned her husband, and later David took her as his wife. However, God saw what David had done, and He was not happy with his behavior.

"This is a true story from God's Word."

Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:

- 1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story? How did you discern this from the story?
- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?
- 4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

God sees all our sins.
God does not like adultery.
God does not like covetousness.
Lust is powerful.
Lust destroys.

King David showed infidelity to his marriage, to his country, to his army; in contrast, the husband of Bathsheba showed fidelity to his marriage, to his country, to his army.

The sins of David were many.

David showed corruption through his gift to the soldier.

Both David and Bathsheba sinned.

Innocent people suffered because of the sin of David and Bathsheba (the soldier, the general, other soldiers).

5. Who will you tell this story to this week? Each must say the name of a person. They're not simply making a promise to you, but they are making a promise before God to share this story with others.

MEMORY VERSE:

"O God! create in me a clean heart, renew a right spirit in me" Psalm 51:10.

Fifth Story David and the Prophet Nathan 2 Samuel 12

Themes: Nothing is hidden from the eyes of the Lord. What one does in secret can be revealed by God to others. Sins have consequences. These consequences do not only fall on the one who has sinned.

"This is a true story from God's Word from 2 Samuel 12."

After the Bath-Sheba affair, the Lord sent the prophet Nathan to David. Nathan went before the king and told him a story:

"In a city there were two men. One was rich and the other poor. The rich man had many sheep and many oxen. The poor man had nothing at all except a little sheep he had purchased. He fed it and the sheep grew up with its children. It ate the same food as he did and drank the same milk. The sheep slept next to him. She was like his daughter. One day, a visitor came to the rich man's house. The rich man did not want to take a sheep or an ox from his flock to prepare the meal. Rather he took the poor man's little sheep and cooked it for his visitor."

David became very angry with the rich man and said to Nathan, "The man who has done this deserves to die! He has acted without mercy! He must replace the stolen sheep with four other sheep!"

Nathan said to David, "The man who did this is you! This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says to you: 'I have made you king over Israel. I have delivered you out of the hand of Saul. I have given you authority over the family of your master Saul. I have put your master's wives in your arms. I gave you the peoples of Israel and Judah. If that was not enough, I would have added to you many more things like this.

Yet you have despised my Word by doing what is evil before Me. Why? You murdered Uriah the Hittite and took his wife! You had him killed with the sword of your enemies. Now the sword will never leave your family. Indeed, you have mocked me by taking the wife of Uriah the Hittite as your wife. Listen carefully to what I am telling you: I will bring evil on you, and this evil will come from your own family. Yes, what you have done in secret, I will bring about in the daylight, before all your people.'"

Then David answered Nathan, "I acknowledge my sin before the Lord."

Nathan said to David, "In that case, the Lord forgives you. You will not die. But in this matter you have given occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme Him. That is why your child, who has just been born, will die.

After which Nathan returned to his home.

The Lord sent an illness to the child that Uriah's widow birthed. He became very sick. David fasted and prayed to God for the child. He lay all night on the ground. His most respected servants came to him and encouraged him to get up. But the king refused and would not eat with them.

After a week, the child died, but the servants were afraid to tell David. They thought, "While the child was still alive, we spoke to the king. He wouldn't listen to us. How can we tell him now that the child is dead? When he finds out he may do himself harm."

David saw them talking quietly among themselves and understood that the child had died. He asked his servants, "Is my son dead? They answer, "Yes, he is dead."

Then David gets up from the ground. He washed, put on perfume and changed his clothes. Then he went into the house of the Lord to worship him.

Then he went home, asked for food and began to eat. His servants ask him, "What are you doing? When your son was still alive, you were fasting and crying. Now that he is dead, you get up from the ground and eat."

The King David replied, "Yes when the child was still alive, I was fasting and crying. I said to myself, 'Who knows? Perhaps the Lord will have mercy on me, and the child will live." Now that he is dead, what is the point of fasting? I won't be able to make him come back to life! I will go to him, but he will not come back to me."

David comforted his wife Bath-Sheba, and he spent the night with her. She gave birth to a son, and David named him Solomon.

"This is a true story from God's Word from 2 Samuel 12."

Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:

- 1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story? How did you discern this from the story?
- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?
- 4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

- a. Supplemental question:
 - 1. How many people were affected and stricken by David's sin?

(Some Answers: David caused Bath-Sheba to be an adulteress. David caused Uriah's death. David implicated his commander in Uriah's death. The army lost a leader, a man of integrity. The Uriah's parents lost their son. The parents of Bath-Sheba. He caused the death of his child and the mourning of his wife Bath-Sheba. Servants knew what happened. Nathan...)

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

Nothing is hidden from the eyes of the Lord. There are no sins committed in secret.

What we do in secret can be revealed by God to others.

When we confess our sins Jesus forgives our sins.

Sins have consequences. These consequences do not only fall on the one who has sinned but also can affect many others.

5. Who will you tell this story to this week? Each must say the name of a person. They're not simply making a promise to you, but they are making a promise before God to share this story with others.

MEMORY VERSE:

"The eyes of the Lord are in every place, watching the evil and the good." Proverbs 5:3

The Sixth Story

A Young Man Entrapped by a Woman

Proverbs 7:6-27

Theme: Beware of falling into a sexual trap

"This is a true story from God's Word from Proverbs 7:6-27."

A wise man told this story to his sons. He said:

"One day I was looking out the window. I saw a group of young men. Among them I noticed a youth without experience and without intelligence. He spent the night near a house where a woman who dressed like a prostitute lives.

"She called to him in a loud voice and without shame. She seized the youth. She kissed him and said, 'I have offered a sacrifice to God today. I've been looking for you and I've found you to share the food from the sacrifice with me.' Then immediately she said to him, 'I have prepared my bed. Come, let's make love till the morning. My husband is away on a long trip.'

"She convinced him with her sweet words that destroy. The young man accepted her invitation like an animal walking into a trap. He didn't know that he was in danger."

Then the wise man said, "My sons, listen to me and pay attention to what I say. Don't follow a woman like her, because she destroys and deceives many men. Her house is a place of death."

"This is a true story from God's Word from Proverbs 7:6-27."

Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:

- 1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story? How did you discern this from the story?
- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?
- 4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

Sexual temptation is very strong and difficult to overcome.

Sexual temptation can be hidden in misinterpretations of God's Word.

Some people who say they are Christians can deceive young people.

Sexual temptation is a trap.

Sexual temptation is subtle.

One must avoid going to bad places.

One must avoid bad company.

One should not wear sexy clothing.

5. Who will you tell this story to this week? Each must say the name of a person. They're not simply making a promise to you, but they are making a promise before God to share this story with others.

MEMORY VERSE:

"You who are young, take advantage of your youth, be happy during that time. Do whatever you want, whatever you like. But you must know that God will judge all that you have done" Ecclesiastes 11: 9.

Seventh Story <u>Tamar, Daughter of David</u> 2 Samuel 13:1-21

Theme: Lust is powerful and destructive.

"This is a true story from God's Word from 2 Samuel 13:1-21."

King David had a beautiful daughter named Tamar. She was a virgin. Her half-brother fell in love with her. He became ill because he knew he could not have her.

A wicked friend counseled him to pretend to be sick and to ask his father, the king, that Tamar go to his house to prepare cakes for him in his presence.

King David sent Tamar to him. She prepared cakes for him, but he refused to eat while everyone else was present. Her half-brother told everyone else to leave his house. But he said for Tamar to bring the cakes into his bedroom.

There, he seized her and said, "Come, sleep with me, my sister." She said, "No, my brother. Don't force me! Don't do this horrible thing! I will live in shame forever! If you ask the king he will permit you to take me as your wife."

But he would not listen to her. Since he was stronger than she he seized her and slept with her. Afterwards, he was disgusted with his sister. He forgot his love for her. The love was transformed into hatred. The hatred was greater than the love he had had. He ordered her, "Leave!"

Tamar replied, "No, if you force me to leave it will be worse than the violence you have just done to me." But he would not listen to her. His servant chased her away and closed the door. Tamar left desolated. She put ashes on her head and tore her long-sleeved garment as a woman in mourning. She wept loudly as she left.

She lived a long time as an abandoned woman in the house of her brother, Absalom. He formed a plan to avenge his sister.

After two years, Absalom finished what he had planned by killing his half-brother who had violated his young sister. But then he had to flee for his life to another place.

"This is a true story from God's Word from 2 Samuel 13:1-21."

Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:

- 1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story? How did you discern this from the story?
- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?
- 4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

God knows the heart of man.

Lust is powerful.

Lust destroys.

The consequence of sin has no time limit.

One must avoid bad company.

Do not confuse true love with lust/passion.

The half-brother premeditated his deception.

Even if Tamar had accepted her brother's invitation to have sexual relations, he would have hated her afterward.

The half-brother's sexual sin against Tamar resulted in his own death and the estrangement of the brother who killed him to avenge Tamar. Sexual sin weaves a web of pain.

5. Who will you tell this story to this week? Each must say the name of a person. They're not simply making a promise to you, but they are making a promise before God to share this story with others.

MEMORY VERSE:

"Flee youthful passions, and seek justice, faith, love, peace, with those who call upon the Lord from a pure heart" 2 Timothy 2:22.

Eighth Story

Mary and Joseph

Matthew 1, Luke 1

Theme: Sexual purity is possible.

"This is a true story from God's Word from Matthew 1 and Luke 1."

One day, God sent His angel to Mary. She was a virgin engaged to a man named Joseph.

The angel said to Mary, "Don't be afraid, for you have found favor with God. Soon you will become pregnant, and you will give birth to a son whom you shall call Jesus."

She responded, "How can this be possible, since I am a virgin?"

The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of God Most High will overshadow you. For this reason, He will be called holy and the Son of God. For nothing is impossible to God."

Mary replied, "I am the servant of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you have said." Joseph, her fiancé, was a good and righteous man. He didn't want to denounce her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement secretly.

But the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child she carries is from the Holy Spirit. You shall call Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

Everything happened as the angel of the Lord had told them.

Joseph took Mary as his wife, but he didn't have sexual relations with her until after she gave birth to her son. As the angel had told him, Joseph gave Him the name Jesus.

"This is a true story from God's Word from Matthew 1 and Luke 1."

Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:

- 1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story? How did you discern this from the story?
- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?
- 4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

God desire for everyone to be holy.

Joseph demonstrated self-control.

Joseph showed discretion toward Mary.

Sexual abstinence is possible.

Sexual purity is possible.

Virginity is possible.

Mary and Joseph showed faith and confidence in God and in His Word.

Mary and Joseph showed obedience to God.

5. Who will you tell this story to this week? Each must say the name of a person. They're not simply making a promise to you, but they are making a promise before God to share this story with others.

MEMORY VERSE:

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" Galatians 5:22-23.

The Ninth Story The Adulterous Woman John 8:1-11

Theme: God forgives sexual sin.

"This is a true story from God's Word from John 8:1-11."

One day, Jesus was teaching in the Temple before a large crowd. The teachers of the law and religious leaders brought before Him a woman who had been caught committing adultery. They placed her in front of everyone.

They said to Jesus, "This woman was caught in the act of committing adultery. The law of Moses ordered that this woman be stoned to death. Now, you, what do you say?" Jesus bent down and wrote something with His finger on the ground. The continued to ask Him their question.

Jesus stood up and said to them, "Whoever among you is without sin, let him throw the first stone." After this, He bent down again and continued writing on the ground. The accusers began to walk away one by one.

At last, Jesus was left alone with the woman who had been humiliated. He asked her, "Where are your accusers? Has no one condemned you?"

She said, "No one, Lord."

Jesus said to her, "I condemn you either. Go, and sin no more."

"This is a true story from God's Word from John 8:1-11."

Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:

- 1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story? How did you discern this from the story?
- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?

4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

Everyone is a sinner and is guilty.

God forgives the sins and the sinner.

No one is purer than anyone else.

No one has the right to judge and condemn others.

We are all saved by the grace and love of God.

A child of God should not make a habit of sinning.

God forgives the person who repents of his sexual sins.

For the sinner who repents, sexual purity can begin again from that moment.

5. Who will you tell this story to this week? Each must say the name of a person. They're not simply making a promise to you, but they are making a promise before God to share this story with others.

MEMORY VERSE:

"Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses" Proverbs 10:12.

Tenth Story The Woman of Bad Reputation Luke 7:36-50

Theme: Great love, great grace, faith that saves

"This is a true story from God's Word from Luke 7:36-50."

One day, a religious leader invited Jesus to eat at his home. A woman of bad reputation arrived at the house with a flask of perfume. She stood at the feet of Jesus. Weeping, she washed His feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. She kissed His feet and put the perfume on them.

When the religious leader saw her, he said to himself, "If this man was truly a prophet he would know that the woman touching him was a woman of bad reputation."

Then Jesus said to him, "I have something to tell you." "Speak, Master," he replied.

Jesus said there was a man who lent money to two men. To one he lent 5 pieces of silver and to the other 50 pieces. They were not able to pay him back. The man who had lent the money forgave the debts of both men. Which one do you think loved him more?

He replied, "In my opinion, the one who was forgiven the greater debt."

Jesus said to him, "You are right." Then He said, "Do you see that woman? When I arrived at your house, you didn't wash my feet, you didn't greet me with a kiss, you didn't anoint my head with oil. But this woman washed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. She kissed my feet and put perfume on them. I tell you this is how she is showing her love, because her many sins are forgiven her."

Jesus said to the woman, "Your sins are forgiven."

The people at the table with him said, "Who is this man that he even forgives sins?"

Then Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

"This is a true story from God's Word from Luke 7:36-50."

Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:

- 1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story? How did you discern this from the story?
- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?
- 4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

One can have a bad reputation because of his actions.

A good reputation is of value to a man.

God forgives us by His grace.

Jesus knows everything, even our thoughts.

Jesus knew well, the woman of bad reputation but He still loved her.

Sometimes God is misunderstood.

Our thoughts about God are limited.

The woman showed the extravagance of her love for God by her expensive gift.

The woman's acts showed her gratitude for the grace she had received.

Faith in Jesus Christ saves.

5. Who will you tell this story to this week? Each must say the name of a person. They're not simply making a promise to you, but they are making a promise before God to share this story with others.

MEMORY VERSE:

"For by grace you are saved through faith, and that not of yourselves. It is a gift of God, not by works, lest any man should boast" Ephesians 2:8-9.

The Eleventh Story The Apostle Paul and the Church at Corinth Acts 18. I Corinthians 5-7

Theme: Sexual sin is a sin against God, against others, against oneself.

"This is a true story from God's Word from Acts 18, I Corinthians 5-7."

During his missionary journeys, the apostle Paul stayed in the city of Corinth for two years. He preached the gospel of salvation through Jesus Christ, and many people believed in Him. Paul made many disciples of Jesus, and they formed a church.

After he had been in Corinth, Paul traveled to other cities, but he never forgot the church at Corinth. One day he received news that there were certain moral problems in the church. The church asked for Paul's counsel, and he sent them a letter.

In the letter he greeted the church and said, "I thank my God for the grace He has given you through Jesus Christ." Then he addressed the subject of sexual immorality. Paul said immorality was practiced more in the church than among the pagans in their city. He condemned the practices of incest, adultery, and fornication. He also condemned infidelity, indecency, prostitution, and homosexuality. He condemned impurity in thoughts, impurity in words, and impurity in actions. The church was practicing all of these things. Paul commanded them to flee from sexual immorality. He wrote that their bodies were members of the body of Jesus Christ. Sexual immorality is a sin against Jesus and also against one's own body.

Paul wrote that whoever unites with Jesus becomes one spirit with Him. His body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is given by God to live in followers of Jesus. His body should honor and glorify God.

"This is a true story from God's Word from Acts 18, I Corinthians 5-7."

<u>Participative Bible Study, ask these questions:</u>

- 1. What characteristics of God have you seen in this story? How did you discern this from the story?
- 2. What did you learn about man in this story?
- 3. What lessons have you learned from this story?

4. What has the Holy Spirit revealed to you that you need to repent of... and obey... after studying this story?

When people respond to this question find someone in the group that will hold them accountable to make the spiritual change in direction needed. If you are meeting weekly, take note of these acts of repentance and obedience and find out how they are doing in these areas each week.

As a leader, if you have any thoughts from the story to add or highlight, do them now.

Suggested lessons from the story to be emphasized:

God is holy.

A Christian should demonstrate holiness in his life.

Sexual immorality affects everyone.

Sexual immorality is a sin against God, against others, against oneself.

There should be a difference in behavior between Christians and non-believers.

A sinner accepts and practices the values of the world instead of the values of God's Word.

Everyone is not a temple of the Holy Spirit; the follower of Jesus Christ is His temple.

A disciple of Jesus follows His commandments.

God forgives the person who repents of his sexual sins.

For the sinner who repents, sexual purity can begin again from that moment.

MEMORY VERSE:

"Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who lives in you, whom you have received from God? You do not belong to yourself. You were bought with a price. Glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which belong to God" I Corinthians 6:19-20.