

The Case of the The Case of the Remembered Rescue*Exodus 12; Luke 22: Isaiah 25:7-9***Story-telling Tips**

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Choose story action cues and prepare storyboard figures/Story Scenes, if using. (In Visual Aids book)
3. Practice telling story with the storyboard figures/Story Scenes, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary.

During your presentation:

1. Maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story.
2. Put up storyboard figures/add story action cues/hold up Story Scenes as you tell the story. Allow the children to help you put them on the board, if desired.
3. Include the children in your story with a few questions about what they think will happen or words/concepts that might be new to them.
4. Watch the kids for signs that their attention span has been reached. Shorten, if necessary.

INTRODUCTION/ LISTENING ASSIGNMENTS

"Our story is called: The Case of the Remembered Rescue. Here is your listening assignment." Read from Detective Dan's Listening Assignment signs, but questions are summarized below:

Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

I need to know:

1. **What rescue did Jesus and his followers remember on the night before Jesus died?**
2. **What even bigger rescue do Jesus is followers remember now?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is Luke 22:19,20**

"This is my body, given for you...This is my blood, which is poured out for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

I need to know:

1. **Who gave His body and blood to save God's people from their sins?**
2. **What special meal do God's people eat to remember what He did?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:I found six clues, but two of them are **NOT** in the story.

They are: a lamb, a book, Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, the cross, a little meal, and a life preserver.

Hold each of them up for the children to see as you identify them.

I need to know:

1. **Which four belong in the story and which two don't?**
2. **What do God's people thank Jesus for as they take eat the bread and the wine during the Lord's Supper? What day do they look forward to as they eat it?**

Read the assignment questions, THEN SAY,

"Ok, Deep Down Detectives! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can hear the answers to Detective Dan's questions. When I finish telling the story, we will see if we can answer all the questions."

Read the Bible Truth story, answer questions, present the gospel and lead in prayer.

Answers to questions; the gospel; and, ACTS prayer are included with the story text.

The Case of the Remembered Rescue *Exodus 12; Luke 22; Isaiah 25:6-9*

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics) Numbers correspond to storyboard pictures and placement upon the storyboard. Always feel free to use less pictures, if it's best for your kids. Simply black out the numbers next to pictures you do not plan to use. All pictures are found in the Visual Aids book. Put BG (background) pictures on storyboard ahead of time. SB pictures (listed below in story text) are added to board as you tell the story. These numbers are also found on the back of each picture. Tip: Stack pictures in numerical before telling story for easy use. Use sticky-back velcro to attach pictures to storyboard felt. Use sticky-tac putty to stick a picture on top of another picture. OR, if using the Story Scenes to tell the story, disregard the storyboard picture references listed below.

(SB1) Every year the people of Israel gathered together to remember how God had rescued them long ago from their strong enemies, the Egyptians. (SB2) The Egyptians made the people of Israel their slaves. They treated them meanly. They made them work terribly hard and didn't pay them at all! They hurt them when they did not work hard enough, and they planned to never let them go!

(SB3) The people of Israel cried out to God. "Help us, help us! Save us from these strong enemies!" they prayed. Would the LORD hear them? Would the LORD help them?

What do you think?

Yes, He would! (SB4) The LORD heard them, and He sent Moses to help them. Through Moses, the LORD did many amazing things to show the Egyptians that He was the one, true God, and to make them free the people of Israel.

(SB5) At last, on the night before the people of Israel were to be freed, the LORD gave them some special instructions through Moses: "I'm going to send a terrible punishment into Egypt tonight, says the LORD." After this terrible punishment, the Egyptians will free you.

But there is something you must do, if the terrible punishment is not to come upon you, too," the LORD told them. "Each family must take the blood of a lamb and put it along the top and sides of the door to your home," the LORD said. "If you do this, I promise that the terrible punishment will pass over you and you will be saved. Only your enemies, the Egyptians will have it," the LORD told them through Moses.

"After the terrible punishment comes to the Egyptians, it will be time for you to go," the LORD said. "Get everything ready right now for you will be leaving early in the morning. Don't even wait for your bread to get puffy and rise. Bake it and eat it flat, so you will be ready to go," they were told. Tonight is your last night in Egypt," the LORD said. "Celebrate! Eat the lamb whose blood you put on your doors and eat the flat bread at dinner tonight. Do this to remember what I have done for you."

Their last night in Egypt!? Could this really be true? The king of Egypt had promised to let them go before, but changed his mind every time. Would he really let them go now? Would they believe the LORD's promise and obey Him?

What do you think?

The people of Israel obeyed the LORD. They did everything He told them to do. (SB6) They made sure to put lamb's blood on the sides of their doors. (SB7) They packed up their things and they didn't wait for their bread to get puffy, like they usually did, but baked it flat. And that night, they ate the lamb and the flat bread to remember what the LORD was doing for them.

(SB8) Late that night, the terrible punishment came, just as the LORD said. It came upon every single Egyptian family, because there was no blood of the lamb around their doors. But the punishment passed over the people of Israel. The LORD had kept His promise and spared them this punishment, thanks to the blood of the lamb!

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)

“(SB9) Boo hoo! Boo hoo!” cried the Egyptians. “How terrible is this punishment that the LORD has brought upon us! We don’t want the people of Israel to stay here and work for us anymore! Go away from us, people of Israel! Leave us alone!” they exclaimed.

(SB10) But “Yay! Yay!” shouted the people of Israel. “Praise the LORD who has freed us!” They gathered up their belongings and walked out of Egypt. They were so glad to be leaving their enemies at last!

What a great day this was for the people of Israel! How the LORD had powerfully rescued them....and He didn’t want them to forget it! So, through Moses, the LORD told the people: “Remember this Passover night! Remember this day when I rescued you and freed you from your enemies!

“(SB11) Once a year I want you to eat a special meal to remember,” He told them. “Drink red wine (juice of grapes) and remember how My punishment passed over you because of My promise made to you through the lamb’s blood,” the LORD said. “Eat flat bread to remember how quickly yours and trust had to leave Egypt on the day I freed you from your enemies. Do this every year so you won’t forget the great things I did to save you from your enemies, the Egyptians,” the LORD told them.

And so, all the way down to Jesus’ day, the people of Israel kept on remembering the Passover with the special, red wine (juice from grapes) and very, flat bread. After all, what greater thing could the LORD do than make the terrible punishment pass over them? And what greater enemy had the people of Israel had than the Egyptians who hurt them so much?

What do you think? Could there be a greater enemy or a greater thing the LORD could do for His people?

(SB12) Well, the truth is, there WAS a greater and more terrible punishment that all the people of Israel and even all the people of the whole world deserved from the LORD! It was His punishment for their sins. For you see, we all are sinners who have disobeyed God and we all deserve the LORD’s punishment for our sins. Yes, the sin in our hearts is a far stronger enemy than those Egyptians ever were! But who could rescue people from this kind of enemy? Who could save us from God’s punishment? Could the blood of a lamb do this, like what the people of Israel used for Passover?

What do you think?

(SB13) No, the blood of a lamb would never be enough! But there was blood that could. The blood of God’s perfect Son. Do you know His name?

Can you tell me?

(SB14) It’s Jesus!

Yes, Jesus came to earth and lived a perfectly life that pleased God completely! His life was enough to pay for all the terrible punishment for sin for all who would ever turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. And Jesus was willing to do this! Oh, how God loves His people!

So that is just exactly what Jesus planned to do. He would suffer and die on the cross for God’s people. He would save them by giving His own body and shedding His own blood to pay for their sins.

(SB15) Many times, Jesus told His disciples He would do this. One of these times was during the Passover dinner Jesus ate together with them on the night before He died on the cross.

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)

(SB16) Jesus used the special, red wine and the very, flat bread of the Passover dinner to explain what He was about to do. Jesus took the flat bread and said to them, "From now on when you eat this flat bread don't just think about the flat bread the people of Israel made when they left Egypt in a hurry long ago. Now use it to remember Me," Jesus told them. "Think of My body. Tomorrow I will give it to be the perfect sacrifice for you and all of God's people when I suffer and die on the cross. Take it and eat it...and remember Me when you do!"

Then Jesus picked up the cup of red wine and said, "From now on when you drink this red wine, don't just think about the blood of the lamb that was shed so that God's terrible punishment would pass over the people of Israel long ago. Now use it to remember Me," Jesus told them. "Think of My blood when you drink it. Tomorrow I will pay for the sins of God's people with My blood when I suffer and die on the cross," Jesus said. "Because of Me, God is making a new, big covenant promise to all of His people. They will be forgiven their sins forever! On the Last Day when God gives out His punishment for sins, He will pass over His people—all those who have turned away from disobeying God and have trusted in Me as their Savior. They won't be punished because I will have taken it for them already, when I died on the cross," Jesus explained.

"After I am gone, eat this little meal when you gather together with God's people, Use it to remember what I've done for you. And keep on eating it regularly until the day I come back as King and put an end to sin and death forever," Jesus told them.

Jesus' friends were sad and surprised by Jesus' words. Would He really die like He said He would?

What do you think?

Yes, He would!

(SB17) Late that very night soldiers came and took Jesus away. (SB18) The next day, Jesus was nailed to a cross and there He suffered and died, just like He said He would. (SB19) He was buried in a cave-grave by friends.

(SB20) But Jesus wouldn't stay there! On Day One, Two, Three, Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus had really paid for all of God's people's sins. He had beaten sin and death for God's people!

Jesus' disciples were so happy! (SB21) They went out and spread the wonderful news: "Because of Jesus, your sins can be forgiven and you can become God's people. Come, repent and believe in Jesus!" they exclaimed.

And as they told the good news of Jesus, many people turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior. (SB22) Soon, they gathered together with the other believers to worship God and love one another. (SB23) And as they gathered, they ate the special meal of flat bread and red wine. They called it (SB24) the Lord's Supper and through it, remembered what Jesus, their Lord, did for them when He died on the cross.

And so even today, God's people still gather together to worship God and love one another. And they STILL take the Lord's Supper together. They eat the flat bread and drink the red wine (or grape juice) and remember what Jesus did for them when He suffered and died on the cross. And they will keep on eating and drinking this special meal until Jesus comes back to earth to take them home, just as He told them to.

(SB25) Then, at last, this meal will never be eaten again. Instead, God's people will have a NEW meal, called the Wedding Feast of the Lamb. The food will be the best food anyone has ever tasted! The drink will be rich and delicious, too. And it will be the biggest and best party ever. God's people will be all gathered together with their dear Savior, Jesus! Nothing will ever part them again. Sin, sadness, and death will be gone for all time. And they will go on enjoying the Perfect Wonderfulness of God forever. Forever happy. Forever together. Forever praising God.

Cracking the Case: (story wrap-up for Listening Assignments)

It's time to see how we did with our Listening Assignment.

Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

I need to know:

- 1. What rescue did Jesus and his followers remember on the night before Jesus died?** How God rescued the people of Israel from being slaves in Egypt.
- 2. What even bigger rescue did Jesus give them to remember from that night on?** How He would rescue God's people from their sins when He suffered and died on the cross in their place.

For You and Me:

Even today God's people continue to remember how Jesus saved them from their sins when He died on the cross for them. Even today, they still eat the special little meal He first ate with His disciples on the night before He died. If we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus is our Savior, then one day we will also get to share in this special meal and remember what Jesus did for us on the cross. Ask God to help you do this. He loves to answer this prayer!

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is Luke 22:19,20**

"This is my body, given for you...This is my blood, which is poured out for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

I need to know:

- 1. Who gave His body and blood to save God's people from their sins?** Jesus did when He suffered and died on the cross.
- 2. What special meal do God's people eat to remember what He did?** The Lord's Supper—a little meal of bread and grape juice/wine.

For You and Me:

Even today God's people continue to remember how Jesus saved them from their sins when He died on the cross for them. Even today, they still eat the special little meal He first ate with His disciples on the night before He died. If we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus is our Savior, then one day we will also get to share in this special meal and remember what Jesus did for us on the cross. Ask God to help you do this. He loves to answer this prayer!

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found six clues, but two of them are **NOT** in the story. They were: a lamb, a book, Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, the cross, a little meal, and a life preserver. *Hold each of them up for the children to see as you identify them.*

I need to know:

- 1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't?** The lamb, Pharaoh, the cross and the little meal belong. The book and the life preserver do not.
- 2. What do God's people thank Jesus for as they take eat the bread and the wine during the Lord's Supper? What day do they look forward to as they eat it?** They thank Jesus for suffering and dying in their place, so that they could be forgiven of their sins and could become God's people. They look forward to the day when Jesus will come back and bring an end to sin and death forever. Then, they will live with Him, happy forever. What a celebration that will be!

For You and Me:

Even today God's people continue to remember how Jesus saved them from their sins when He died on the cross for them. Even today, they still eat the special little meal He first ate with His disciples on the night before He died. If we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus is our Savior, then one day we will also get to share in this special meal and remember what Jesus did for us on the cross. Ask God to help you do this. He loves to answer this prayer!

The Gospel (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)**Our Bible Truth is:****Why Do God's People Go to Church?****To Worship God and Love One Another...****By Remembering Jesus Died to Save Them!**

Why do God's people go to church? To worship God and love one another... by remembering Jesus died to save them!

Jesus told His people to take the Lord's Supper (that's what we call this special meal) to keep remembering how He gave up His body to save them. As they eat the little piece of bread and drink the juice/wine, they are grateful to God helping them turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. They are grateful that Jesus would die to pay for their sins.

One day, if you turn away from your sins and trust in Jesus as your Savior, you will join God's people in remembering how Jesus died to save you by eating this special meal. What a great day that will be!

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

- A** God, we praise You, God, for being the Savior of Your people, the Church.
- C** God, this special meal reminds us of what Jesus did to save sinners like us. We know that we have all chosen to live life our own way. We have all chosen not to love You or obey Your good ways. We need a Savior! You are our only hope.
- T** God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for His body given to pay for the sins of all who trust in Him as their Savior. Thank You for His blood poured out making the promise stand forever that through Him, the sins of Your people are forgiven forever.
- S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us Your people. Use this special meal to remind us of what You have done for us.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Go to Lesson Plan, p.9 for the script to the rest of the lesson.