

The Case of the Women’s Best Gift

1 Timothy



Story-telling Tips

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Choose story action cues and/or prepare storyboard pictures, if using. (Included in Visual Aids book)
3. Practice telling story with the pictures, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary to fit your allotted time.

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 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 Women’s Best Gift. 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 find out:

1. Who are the women in our story?
2. What was their best gift and who did they give it to?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible verse is Psalm 18:30,46: “This God--His ways are perfect. The word of the LORD proves true. The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation.”

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who in our story knew that God and His Word were perfect?
2. Who did they teach God’s Word to?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found four clues, but one of them is NOT in the story.

They are: Food, a zebra, God’s Word (on a scroll, like in Bible times) and some clothes.

Hold up each of the four pictures for the children to see as you identify them. Better yet, put them up on your flannelgraph board, off to one side.

I need to know:

1. Which of these things did Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice NOT give to Timothy?
2. Which of these things did they think was most important of all?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #4 Listening Assignment:

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who did Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice want Timothy to know and love most of all?
2. What book did they thank God for giving to them?

Detective Dan’s Lesson #5 Listening Assignment:

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. What happened in Timothy’s heart as he listened to God’s Word, the Bible?
2. What good news from the Bible did Timothy preach about when he grew up?

Read the questions, THEN SAY,

“Ok, Hide ‘n’ Seekers! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can find the answers to Detective Dan’s questions. When I finish telling the story, we’ll see what we come up with.”

“The Case of the Women’s Best Gift” | Timothy

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 order 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.

(SB1) Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice loved the (SB2) Bible. They loved what the Bible told them about God and His Son, Jesus (SB3). They loved how it worked in their heart(SB4) and helped them know God and live for Him! If Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice knew one thing, it was that there was NO BOOK like the Bible! It alone was God’s Word! It was always true. They could count on it.

Do you see a Bible in this room? Point to it.

Now, Mother Eunice had a little boy named Timothy (remove BG 1 and show Timothy in BG 2). She and Grandma Lois (SB5) loved Timothy very, very much. And because they loved him, they hugged him... and they fed him good food (SB6)...and they gave him clothes (SB7) to wear...and a good place to sleep at night (SB8). They taught good manners and how to do his chores (SB9) and all sorts of things that would help him grow up to be a fine, young man one day.

Do you have a mother or a grandmother? What kinds of things do they do for you because they love you?

But most of all, because Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice loved Timothy so much, they wanted him to know and love God. And oh, how they wanted Timothy to turn away from his sins and trust in (SB10) Jesus as his Savior!

So, Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice taught Timothy every day from the only book in the whole, wide world where the truths about God are written down just right. Can you guess what that book is?

Can you guess what that book is called? (I bet you can!) Let’s say its name all together—The Bible!

The Bible, yes, the Bible (SB11) was that one, special book. It alone is God’s Word and Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice knew it.

The Bible is a very BIG book filled with so many good stories and so many important truths about God. There was so, so much to teach Timothy!

Hold up your Bible and show the children how big it is. Open it up and show them all the words on the pages.

But of everything in the whole Bible, Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice most wanted Timothy to know one thing.

Can you guess what it is?

They wanted him to know the gospel—the good news of Jesus. They wanted him to know how he could become one of God’s people.

“Long ago, God created the whole world, Timothy,” they told him. “He gave us His good laws to live by, but we all choose to disobey them, Timothy.” (point to BG3) We need a Savior to save us from our sins and God sent that Savior to us! It’s Jesus!” Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice taught Timothy. “We hope one day you will ask Jesus to forgive your sins and trust in Him as your Savior like we have, Timothy,” they told him. “There’s nothing better than knowing God and living for Him.”

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

At first, Timothy just listened and learned as Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice taught him from the Bible. But after a while, something wonderful happened: God's Word began to work powerfully in Timothy's heart and mind, helping him to believe the gospel.

(SB12) "God, I believe what is written in Your Word, the Bible. I believe in Your Son, Jesus, and trust in Him as my Savior. Please forgive me for disobeying You. I want to live my life for You. Please save me!" Timothy prayed.

God was happy to answer Timothy's prayers. And Timothy was happy to be one of God's people!

Did you know that we can become God's people, too, when we pray like Timothy did, for God to forgive our sins and help us to trust in Jesus as our Savior? It's true!

But that was only the beginning. Now (SB13) Timothy wanted to learn from the Bible (SB14) more than ever! He wanted to know more about God and love Him more, too. He wanted God's Word to go on working inside his heart, changing him more and more, too.

And that's just what happened! As Timothy kept learning from the Bible, God's Word, it kept on working inside him. And Timothy, the little boy, grew up and up and up to be Timothy, the man (SB15) with a heart full of love for God, His Word, and His people.

A grown-up man needs a grown up man's job. And what job do you think God gave Timothy to do?

What job do you think Timothy did?

God called Timothy to be a pastor—a man who teaches God's Word to God's people and (SB16) loves them as they gather together as a church.

(Remove BG4 to reveal Timothy in BG5) Now others gathered around Timothy (SB17) as he preached to them the same truths from the God's Word that Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice had taught him long ago as a little boy!

How happy Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice (SB18) must have been! What a great work God had done in Timothy through His Word, the Bible! And now God was even using Timothy to do a great work in the hearts of others, too!

Let's clap and say, "Yay!" for all the good things God did in Timothy through His Word, the Bible!

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:

1. Who are the women in our story? Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice.

2. What was their best gift and who did they give it to? Their best gift was teaching God's Word and the good news of Jesus. They taught it to Timothy, Mother Eunice's son.

For You and Me:

Timothy learned God's truths in the Bible and so are you... right now! God used His Word, the Bible, to work in Timothy's heart and help him trust in Jesus as His Savior. God can use His Word to work inside of us, too.

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found four clues, but one of them is NOT in the story. They are: Food, a zebra, God's Word (on a scroll, like in Bible times) and some clothes.

1. Which of these things did Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice NOT give to Timothy? The zebra.

2. Which of these things did they think was most important of all? God's Word, the Bible.

For You and Me:

Like Timothy, we have people who love us and who give us many good things. But of everything we can ever have, learning God's Word, the Bible is the most important of all. Ask them to help you learn God's Word.

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible verse is Psalm 18:30,46:

"This God--His ways are perfect. The word of the LORD proves true. The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation."

1. Who in our story knew that God and His Word were perfect? Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice.

2. Who did they teach God's Word to? Timothy.

For You and Me:

God is the living God! He and His Word, the Bible, are still perfect! God's Word will always prove true. We can trust in God and His Word, just like Grandma Lois, Mother Eunice and Timothy did!

Detective Dan's Lesson #4 Listening Assignment:

1. Who did Grandma Lois and Mother Eunice want Timothy to know and love most of all? God.

2. What book did they thank God for giving to them?

The Bible, God's Word.

For You and Me:

God is the best person we can know and love, too. God can use His Word to do wonderful things in our hearts, too. Grandma Lois, Mother Eunice and Timothy knew this. Let's thank God for His Word, the Bible. Let's ask Him to use it to do wonderful things in our hearts, too.

Detective Dan's Lesson #5 Listening Assignment:

1. What happened in Timothy's heart as he listened to God's Word, the Bible? God worked in his heart. He turned away from his sins and trust in Jesus as his Savior. Then God kept working in his heart, changing him in wonderful ways, more and more.

2. What good news from the Bible did Timothy preach about when he grew up? God will forgive us our sins and make us His people when we repent of our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

For You and Me:

God can use His perfect Word, the Bible, to help us know Him and to change us in wonderful ways. Jesus can save us from our sins and make us God's people, too, when we repent of our sins and trust in Him as our Savior.

The Gospel (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)

Our Bible Truth is:
What's So Special about the Bible?
It Alone Is God's Word!

God used His Word, the Bible, to work inside Timothy in wonderful ways. He can work in our hearts, too. We can ask Him to work in our hearts and help us to turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God will forgive our sins and save us! He will live in our heart, helping us to know Him right now. He will satisfy our heart, giving us a special kind of happiness that comes only from knowing Him. And one day, we will go to live with Him in heaven forever. That will be best of all!

Close in prayer.

Closing Unit 2 ACTS Prayer

A=Adoration C=Confession T=Thanksgiving S=Supplication

- A** We praise You, God. You are perfect, and everything You tell us always proves true.
- C** God, we know You are perfect and everything You say is true, but too many times we still don't trust You or obey Your Word. Please forgive us! We need Jesus to be our Savior!
- T** Thank You for giving us Your words, written down perfectly in the Bible. Thank You that we can always know what is right and true when we read Your Word, the Bible. And thank You for all the wonderful things You tell us in the Bible, especially the stories about Jesus.
- S** Work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to want to read Your Word. Help us to know You better as we learn. Help us to go and tell others how they can learn about You in Your wonderful Word, the Bible.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.