

ourStory

Junior High and High School Sunday School 2016-2017

Theme	Our Story in 100 Words	Narrative
Origin	God Made All Good Humans Ate Earth Ached	- God created love and created us to be in right relationships with God, others, ourselves, and all creation. - God called everything good. - God also gave humans the ability to choose, and when we don't choose to live in right relationships, the world does not function as God intended.
Calling	Abraham Followed Blessings Flowing Joseph Ruled Pharaoh Forgot Moses Led Egypt Bled God Delivered	- God called Abraham and Sarah to follow God wherever he might lead so that they could be a blessing to everyone around them. Abraham, Sarah, and their descendants began to show the world how God wants the world to function. - Abraham and Sarah's descendants become slaves in Egypt, so God called Moses to lead the people out of slavery and into the land that God promised to them. God's power was seen in many ways and the slaves left Egypt, walked through the middle of the Red Sea, and into the wilderness.
Covenant People	Manna Fell Commandments Guided God Taught People Balked	- Once God was alone with the people, God taught them how to follow God instead of their Egyptian slave masters. - God also made a covenant with these people. Because of what God had done for them, God expected them to live a certain way so that everyone could see the world as God intended it to be.(10 commandments)
Triumphs and Failures	Joshua's Band Promised Land People Forgot Judges Retaught David United God Replaced	- When the people got to the land God promised them, they realized that following God was not as easy as they had hoped. Sometimes they trusted God to take care of them like when they marched around Jericho or when David trusted God to defeat Goliath. But other times they chose not to follow God and worshipped other things like when they asked for a king and began worshipping other gods.
Resets	Prophets Spoke Exile Broke Nehemiah Returned People Relearned	- God used the prophets to remind the people of how God wanted them to live in right relationship with God, others, ourselves, and all creation. But the people did not always listen to the prophets and follow God. So God allowed them to be taken away from their land so that they could be reminded of how God taught them to live as a covenant people. - When the people returned home, they did a little better at following God, but they still did not get it completely right.

THE EXAMPLE	Baby Came Beloved Named Love Proclaimed Miracles Made Outcasts Followed Leader Wallowed Thrice Denied Crucified	- So God sent Jesus to us to be a perfect example of how to be God's people and live in right relationships with God, others, ourselves, and all creation. But Jesus did not do what we expected God to do. Instead of being a king, he was a carpenter. Instead of leading an army, he told us to love our enemies. Instead of spending his time with the religious leaders, he spent time with the sick and homeless. Instead of expecting people to serve him, he looked for ways to serve others. People were so surprised, disappointed, and frustrated by him that they hated him and killed him.
Hope	Jesus Lives Death Defeated Spirit Flamed All Invited	- God is more powerful than death, and after 3 days God raised Jesus from the dead. As God's people we have the same hope, that death is not something to be feared because God is always with us.
New People	Peter Preached Millions Reached Gifts Shared Shalom Prepared Persecution Scattered Hatred Clattered	- Jesus showed us that the blessing that God gave to Abraham and Sarah is for everyone! We can all be God's people and know the love and liberating power of God. - Jesus's followers began telling everyone this good news even when people told them to stop and killed them for telling about Jesus. - But God is more powerful than death and that was not enough to stop the Gospel from spreading around the world.
Discernment	Church Reforms Faith is Born We're Invited Spirit Guided Join the Song Story Goes On	- We are each created to be in right relationships with God, others, ourselves and all creation, and God gave us each unique gifts and abilities to do that. - Through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, we can know how to follow God and show and tell others how to be God's people. - But we cannot do this alone. God gave us the church, a group of people that worship God, learn together how to follow God, and together use our gifts and abilities to share God's love with our community and the world.