CHRISTIAN STORY-TELLING

The objective of story-telling to teach how good produces good and how evil produces evil, in the end that our listeners may be guided in their own conduct life.

A story is a creative talk given about someone’s experience or a creative talk to give a moral lesson to the listener.

A parable is a story which teaches a moral lesson.

The difference between a parable and a story is that a story requires the title, time facts, name and place while a parable does not. People have put titles to the parables of Jesus for easy finding.

A person who tells both the story and the parable is called a story-teller.

Characteristics of a Story-Teller

1. Must be Creative-must be creative in narrating his story so that listeners can learn new things
2. Must be Active-must present the story with vigour and gestures to cause the audience to understand
3. Must be Resourceful-must be able to provide materials, e.g. diagrams, pictures, etc.
4. Must enjoy telling stories
5. Must have a good name in society-one who tells story with his life
6. Must be neatly dressed
7. His eyes must reach the audience-must maintain eye contact in order for the audience to know the depth of the story
8. Must be fluent in language-must speak fluently as a disturbed language will derail the story

The Purpose of Telling Stories

1. To educate-some stories a based on what really happened and should there for educate the listener
2. To entertain or inform-some stories are their just to entertain the listener while others will inform them.

Sources of Stories

1. The Bible-the Bible has been called the story-teller paradise. What people most is interested in is people and the Bibles is full of people
2. Life-from one’s experience
3. Church History and Sacred books
4. Story books
5. Magazines and newspapers

Parts of a Story

1. Title-every story must have a title
2. Introduction
3. Main body
4. Climax
5. Conclusion

The Essential of Story-Telling

1. Select you story-when selecting your story keep in mind the different age groups and the occasion on which it will be told
2. Know your story-no matter how experienced a story-teller you are, always prepare. Don’t memorise your story because there is a risk of forgetting
3. Feel your story-one must be able to hear the tones of voices in imagination, see the scenes happen in imagination and feel the event happen around one in imagination
4. Modifying your story as necessary-
5. Analyse and outline your story-one must be able to tell what part comes after the other
6. Tell your story simply, directly and expressively-three things to remember when telling a story, speak distinctly, give the sense and cause the people to understand.
* Simply-have a simple style, simple plot and simple vocabulary
* Directly-tell the story in a smooth, straight-forward looking way without wondering about or back-heading from time to time
* Expressively-use your lips, eyes, sometimes hands and the entire body to convey the shades of meaning, purpose and force that the story carries.