

## Overview

### Learning Objectives:

The following should be accomplished by the end of the training:

After three and one-half days of training, each TRAINEE should be able to

1. Draw and explain the **Four Fields**. The Four Fields is a tool which begins with Luke 10 and the story of Jesus sending out the seventy. There is the empty field (unreached field), the sown field (the Gospel seed sown in the empty field), the maturing field (growing disciples), and the harvest field (disciples in fellowship coming together as newly planted churches). Four Fields was developed by one of the IMB personnel in India, Nate Shank.
2. Tell accurately the **Story of Creation** including the creation of spirits, the six days of creation, and God's five gifts (illustrated with five fingers) to Adam.
3. Tell accurately the **Story of Adam and Eve's Temptation** and the **Story of Cain and Able**.
4. Draw and explain the six themes to be emphasized in telling the stories and the Scarlet Thread. (God, Spirits, Man, Sin, Judgment, Salvation and Scarlet Thread: Blood Sacrifices of OT to the Cross) Words are never written on a board or flip chart. Symbols are drawn that help the non-reader to remember.
5. Tell accurately the **Story of Noah** and the **Story of Babel**.
6. Tell accurately **Abraham's Journey to Canaan, God's Covenant to Abraham, the Miracle Birth of Isaac, the Sacrifice of Isaac**, and a brief **transition** from Isaac to Jacob to 12 sons, to the migration to Egypt, and 400 years becoming a nation.
7. Tell accurately the **Story of Moses and the Flaming Bush**, the **Ten Plagues**, the **Passover**, the **Exodus**, the **Wilderness Days of Learning** including the **Ten Commandments**. A **transition** should be shared covering briefly the return to the Promised Land, the Kings, and the Prophets who foretold the coming of a Deliverer.
8. Explain the six parts of the **Gospel**: Jesus came, Jesus lived, Jesus died, Jesus was raised from the dead, Jesus ascended into heaven, and Jesus is coming back some day.
9. Tell accurately the **Story of Jesus' Baptism** and **Jesus' Temptation in the Wilderness**.
10. Tell accurately a summary of what Jesus' ministry was like, the **Story of the Feeding of Five Thousand** to demonstrate Jesus power, the **Story of the Gadarene Demonic** to demonstrate Jesus' power over demons, the **Story of the Prodigal Son** to encourage repentance, and the **Story of the Man Carried by Four** to demonstrate Jesus' power to forgive sins.
11. Tell accurately the Story of the **Betrayal**, the **Arrest and Trial of Jesus**, the **Crucifixion, and the Burial**.
12. Tell accurately the **Story of the Resurrection and Ascension**
13. Tell accurately the **Story of Zacchaeus**.
14. Tell **My Story**, a personal testimony.
15. Give a clear invitation to follow Jesus using Peter's "Believe," "Repent," and "Receive" and be able to compose a sinner's prayer from these three steps to Salvation.
16. Draw and explain each dynamic of the Growing Disciple.

## *Suggested Schedule*

### **Day One**

#### **Morning Session**

4 hours long (9:00-1:00 suggested schedule)

1. 10 minutes (9:00): **Worship**- Sing a Praise Song
2. 20 minutes (9:10): **Get Acquainted**
3. 30 minutes (9:30): **Preview and Expectations**
4. 30 minutes (10:00): **Four Fields Overview**
5. 15 minutes (10:30): **Break Time**
6. 30 minutes (10:45): **Why Storying?**
7. 60 minutes (11:15): **Creation**
8. 45 minutes (12:15): **Sin Enters the World**
9. 2 hours (1:00): **Afternoon Break**

#### **Evening Session**

3 hours long (3:00-6:00 suggested schedule)

1. 45 minutes (3:00): **Cain and Able**
2. 45 minutes (3:45): **Noah and Babel**
3. 15 minutes (4:30): **Break**
4. 30 minutes (4:45): **Old Testament Themes**
5. 45 minutes (5:15): **Abraham, Part 1**
6. (6:00): **End of Day One**

### **Day Two**

#### **Morning Session**

4 hours long (9:00-1:00 suggested schedule)

1. 15 minutes (9:00): **Worship**- Sing a Praise Song
2. 45 minutes (9:15): **Abraham, Part 2**
3. 30 minutes (10:00): **Transition to Moses**
4. 15 minutes (10:30): **Break**
5. 45 minutes (10:45): **Moses, Part 1**
6. 45 minutes (10:30): **Moses, Part 2**
7. 30 minutes (11:15): **Moses, Part 3**
8. 45 minutes (11:45): **Moses, Part 4**
9. 30 minutes (12:30): **Transition to New Testament**
3. 2 hours (1:00): **Afternoon Break**

#### **Evening Session**

3 hours long (3:00-6:00 suggested schedule)

1. 15 minutes (3:00): **Worship**- Sing a Praise Song
2. 30 minutes (3:15): **Birth of John**
3. 45 minutes (3:45): **Birth of Jesus**
4. 15 minutes (4:30): **Break**
5. 30 minutes (4:45): **Baptism of Jesus**

6. 45 minutes (5:15): **The Temptation of Jesus**

7. (6:00): **End of Day Two**

### **Day Three**

#### **Morning Session**

4 hours long (9:00-1:00 suggested schedule)

1. 5 minutes (9:00): **Worship**- Sing a Praise Song
2. 15 minutes (9:05): **Life and Ministry of Jesus**
3. 20 minutes (9:20): **Five Loaves and Two Fish**
4. 20 minutes (9:40): **Man Possessed with Demons**
5. 20 minutes (10:00): **A Man with Four Friends**
6. 15 minutes (10:20): **Break**
7. 40 minutes (10:35): **A Rebellious Son**
8. 50 minutes (11:15): **Arrest and Death of Jesus**
9. 55 minutes (12:05): **Resurrection of Jesus**
10. 2 hours(1:00): **Afternoon Break**

#### **Evening Session**

3 hours long (3:00-6:00 suggested schedule)

1. 15 minutes (3:00): **Worship**- Sing a Praise Song
2. 45 minutes (3:15): **How to Follow Jesus**
3. 15 minutes (4:00): **Break**
4. 45 minutes (4:15): **The Story of Zaccheus**
5. 15 minutes (5:00): **My Story**
6. 45 minutes (5:15): **Wrap-up and Prayer**
7. (6:00): **End of Day Three**

### **Day Four**

#### **Morning Session**

4 hours long (9:00-1:00 suggested schedule)

1. 15 minutes (9:00): **Worship**- Sing a Praise Song
2. 15 minutes (9:15): **Intro to Growing Disciple**
3. 60 minutes (9:30): **Dynamics of Growing Disciple**
4. 15 minutes (10:30): **Break**
5. 60 minutes(10:45): **How to Study Discipleship Stories**
6. 60 minutes (11:45): **Goals to Reach the Unreached**
7. 15 minutes (12:45): **Wrap up**
8. (1:00): **End of Seminar**

# Sample One from the Old Testament

## Day One

### Morning Session

4 hours long (9:00-1:00 suggested schedule)

1. 10 minutes (9:00): **Worship**- Sing a Praise Song
2. 20 minutes (9:10): **Get Acquainted**
3. 30 minutes (9:30): **Preview and Expectations**
  - **Results Where this Course was Implemented**  
*India and West Africa Testimonies*
  - **Commitments**  
*Learn the Stories and be able to tell them with accuracy*  
*Take the Stories to Unreached Villages and People*  
*Train others to tell the Stories*
4. 30 minutes (10:00): **Four Fields Overview** - Luke 10
5. 15 minutes (10:30): **Break Time**
6. 30 minutes (10:45): **Why Storying?**
  - *Storying is the natural way to learn and remember.*
  - *Storying is the most effective way of communicating truth to oral learners.*
  - *The Bible contains nearly 800 stories which oral learners can remember.*
  - *Stories are vehicles to communicate a Biblical world view.*
  - *We can evangelize, disciple new believers, plant churches, and develop healthy leadership and churches with stories from Scripture.*
7. 60 minutes (11:15): **Story Set One - Creation** - Genesis 1 and 2, Isaiah 14:12-15, Ezekiel 28:11-19, Luke 10:18, Revelation 12:4,7-9
  - *There will be **ten story sets**, five from the Old Testament and five from the New Testament. The story sets in the Old Testament are Creation, Sin, Noah, Abraham, and Moses.*
  - *The Creation story will be modeled by the instructor. Special mnemonics have been designed to help a person easily remember and tell the six days of creation using hand gestures.*

Before there was anything, there was the Almighty God. He was so powerful that He would speak and things would come into existence. He spoke and created the heavens and the earth.

He created something else. He created spirit beings. They were made to worship and serve God. One powerful spirit, very intelligent and a strong leader, had one-third of the spirits following him in worship and service to God. His name was Lucifer. Lucifer became proud and wanted **all** the spirits to follow him. He greatly desired authority. He actually wanted authority over God and when God saw his rebellion, He threw Lucifer and one-third of the spirits out of heaven. Lucifer became Satan and the fallen spirits became demons, devils, or evil spirits. Satan wanted revenge and he was willing to do everything in his power to get even with God. But, he underestimated the power of Almighty God.

Yes, as previously mentioned, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was not like it is today. It was in total darkness and completely covered with water. The Spirit of God moved on the surface of the waters and said, "Let there be light." Light illuminated the earth. And, God was pleased. He saw that the light was good.

Then, God spoke again causing the waters of the earth to divide. Some water went up into the sky to form clouds and water vapor and the rest remained on the earth.

God spoke again. Suddenly dry land pushed up through the waters forming mountains, plains, and valleys. The waters rushed into basins caused by the shifting of land to form oceans, seas, and lakes. And, God saw that it was good.

Immediately, God spoke again and vegetation appeared all over the earth; grass, trees, flowers, bushes, vegetables and other green growth all capable of making seeds to reproduce themselves. And, God saw that it was good.

When God spoke again, the sun, moon and stars appeared. Not only were there days and nights but weeks, months, and seasons. God was pleased and saw that it was good.

God spoke once more and the seas were filled with fish and all kinds of aquatic life. The skies were filled birds and other flying creatures. And, God saw that it was good.

God was not done. He spoke again and the earth became populated with animals, big, small, and creeping little creatures. All the animals were capable of reproducing themselves. And, God saw that it was good.

Then, God spoke to Himself and said, "Let's make a man, a man in Our likeness." So, He took the dust of the earth and molded it into the form of a man. He breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and the man became a living soul. God called the first man Adam. God gave to the man Adam **five things**.

First, God gave man **rulership** over all the earth and everything that lived on it.

Second, God gave man **work** to do. He assigned man the task of naming all the animals.

Third, God gave a **home** to Adam. It was a garden, a huge beautiful garden, so big that four rivers ran through it. It was abundant with fruit, vegetables, nuts, and all kinds of things to eat. The weather was perfect and Adam was very happy with his home. Now, God planted two special trees in the middle of the garden. One was the Tree of Life and the other was the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. He told Adam not to eat of the second tree. He could eat from every tree in the garden but if he ate of that second tree he would die.

Fourth, God gave man a **woman**. God said, "It is not good for man to be alone, I will make a companion for him, a helper." God caused Adam to go into a deep sleep and while he was sleeping, He reached into his chest and took out a rib, bone of his bone and flesh of his flesh. From that rib, God made a woman. When Adam awoke there stood this beautiful creature. He loved her and they had the perfect marriage. Adam named her Eve.

The fifth thing God gave to man was His **friendship**. In the cool of the evening, God would come to the garden, the Garden of Eden, and together He, Adam, and Eve, walked together and talked. They had a wonderful friendship with the Almighty God and that was the highest privilege they could ever enjoy.

When God finished creating everything, including man and woman, He saw that everything was **very** good. And, then, He rested.

This is the end of my story, but, I have another story to tell you. **Hook:** You may have wondered what kind of clothes Adam and Eve wore. In our next story, I will tell

you. And, in our next story I will tell you why Adam and Eve moved from their first home and what Satan did to get revenge with God.

- *A “walk-through” through the story, step by step, event by event will be led by the instructor, asking questions.*
- *The instructor will help participants to remember the story, go through the motions for each day of creation until they can do the motions and recite the days. Go through the five things God gave Adam until everyone can recite them.*
- *Ask the participants to pair off and each tell the story to each other. Don’t forget the creation of spirits because one of the spirits will appear in the next story.*
- *Time permitting, ask someone to tell the entire story to everyone.*

8. 45 minutes (12:15): **Story Set Two - Sin Enters the World**

- *The instructor will model Part 1 of Story Set Two. Part 1 is the Temptation of Eve and Part 2 will be about Cain and Able.*

Satan is looking for revenge and seeking for the right moment to get even with God. One day, he saw his opportunity. He saw the woman, Eve, and had a plan.

Now the snake was the craftiest of all the animals God created and Satan entered a snake and made his way up to Eve. She had no fear of the snake nor any of the animals in her perfect environment.

“Did God really say you can’t eat of every of fruit in the garden?” Satan said through the snake.

Eve said, “Oh, we can eat any of the fruit in the entire garden except the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden, the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. If we eat any of it, we will die, even if we touch it!”

“You won’t die,” said the snake, “God knows that if you eat of it, you will become like him, wise and your eyes will be opened to knowing the difference between good and evil.” Then, the snake went away.

The woman looked at the fruit on the forbidden tree. It appeared to be very delicious and she thought to herself that if she ate it, she would be wise like God. So, she reached up and plucked the fruit, but she didn’t die. She took a mouth-watering bite out of it, but she didn’t die. So, she went to Adam, her husband, and persuaded him to eat some of it and he did, but he didn’t die. Suddenly, they realized they were naked and a feeling of great shame came over them. They found fig leaves and sewed them together to make aprons to hide their nakedness.

That evening, God came to the garden to fellowship with Adam and Eve but when they heard His voice they hid themselves. God said, “Adam, where are you?” Adam was very slow to come out of hiding but when he revealed himself, he said, “We were afraid and hid ourselves because we were naked.” “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat of the tree I told you not to eat of?” Adam said, “The woman you gave me, she persuaded me and I ate the fruit.” “What have you done,” God said to Eve. “Well, the snake tricked me into eating it,” she said.

God said to the snake, “You are cursed. You will slither on your belly in the dust all your life. There will be hatred between you, your offspring, and the woman and her offspring. You will strike at the heel of her offspring, but her offspring will strike your head.

God said to the woman, “You will bear children with great pain. Your desire shall be to your husband and he will rule over you.”

God said to the man, “I have cursed the soil for your sake and you will struggle to survive. The ground will have thorns and thistles and be difficult to cultivate so that you will work by the sweat of your brow all the days of your life. Then you will die and not live forever. You will return to the dust of the earth where you came from.

Then God killed some animals and took their skins to make clothes for Adam and Eve. This was the first time that innocent animals were killed to cover the shame of humans.

Then, God banished Adam and Eve from their home, the Garden of Eden, and placed mighty angels to guard the entrance so no one could enter and eat of the Tree of Life. Adam and Eve left the Garden and began a life of struggle and difficulty, cultivating the land to survive.

End of Part 1 of Story Set Two, **Sin Enters the World.**

- A “walk-through” through the story, step by step, event by event by the instructor, asking questions. The conversations are the most difficult part of the story. Make sure they have these conversations committed to memory with accuracy.
- Ask the participants to pair off and each tell the story to each other.
- Time permitting, ask someone to tell the entire story to everyone.

9. 2 hours (1:00): **Afternoon Break**

## **Day One** **Evening Session**

3 hours long (3:00-6:00 suggested schedule)

1. 45 minutes (3:00): **Story Set Two, Part 2 - Cain and Able**

- The instructor will model the second story of Story Set Two.

Eve gave birth to a baby boy and they named him Cain. Then another boy was born and they named him Able. It is certain that Adam and Eve told them stories about the Garden of Eden and their disobedience to God. These stories would be passed down from generation to generation. They also knew that it was important to offer blood sacrifices.

One day, Cain and Able presented their offerings to God. Able was a keeper of animals and he presented to God a lamb as a blood sacrifice. Cain was a farmer and he decided to do something creative by taking some of his produce from farming and presenting it to God as a sacrifice. Now, God accepted Able’s sacrifice but He rejected Cain’s. Cain thought what he did was a great idea but it was not what God required.

Cain was very angry and his face was darkened with rage. God said, “Why is your face so angry looking? If you do what is right, you will look joyful. But, if you refuse to obey, watch out. Sin is crouching at your door longing to destroy you. But, you can overcome that sin if you choose.”

One day, Cain took Able for a walk. The sin that was crouching at his door overtook Cain and Cain struck his brother Able, killing him.

Later the Lord asked Cain, “Where is your brother? Where is Able?” “How should I know, am I my brother’s keeper?”

God said, “His blood cries out to me from the ground. Therefore, this very ground is now cursed and you won’t be able to grow anything on it again. From now on you will be a fugitive, wandering from place to place.”

Cain said, “Oh, my punishment is too great to bear. You have banished me from my farm and from you, and made me a fugitive and anyone who sees me will kill me.”

The Lord said, “No, I will place a mark on you so that no one kill you but if they do, they shall be punished seven times the punishment you have received.”

So Cain went out from the presence of the Lord.

**Hook:** In our next story, Adam and Eve have other children and their children have children. Over the years people thought more and more about themselves and less and less about God. Selfishness grew into immorality, thievery, corruption, and violence. The world became very hostile and God regretted that he had created man. In our next story we will see how God dealt with the ever-growing wickedness of humanity.

*End of Part 2 of Story Set Two, **Cain and Able***

- A “walk-through” through the story, step by step, event by event, will be led by the instructor, asking questions. The conversations are the most difficult part of a story. Make sure they have these conversations committed to memory with accuracy.
- Ask the participants to pair off and each tell the story to each other.
- Time permitting, ask someone to tell the entire story to everyone.

2. 45 minutes (3:45): **Story Set Three, Noah**

- The instructor will model two stories in Story Set Three, *The Flood and Babel*.

*(After the story of Noah, the stories of Abraham and Moses are told before closing out the Old Testament stories)*

# Sample Two from the New Testament

## Day Two Evening Session

3 hours long (3:00-6:00 suggested schedule)

1. 15 minutes (3:00): **Worship**- Sing a Praise Song
2. 30 minutes (3:15): **Story Set Six, Birth of John**
  - *The instructor will model Story Set Six, Birth of John*

God had not spoken through His prophets for 400 years. But, He broke the silence one day in the temple where a priest by the name of Zacharias was ministering to the Lord at the altar of incense. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared to him on the right side of the altar. Zacharias was troubled when he saw him and he was afraid.

“Do not be afraid, Zacharias. I am here to tell you that God has heard your prayers. You and your wife Elizabeth will have a son. You will call him John. He will be great, a godly man, and will turn the hearts of people back to God. He will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord.”

Zacharias said, “How can I know for certain this will happen? I and my wife are very old to have a child.”

The angel said, “I am Gabriel who stands in the presence of God and I was sent to tell you this good news. But, because you don’t believe me, you will be not be able to speak until the day I’m telling you about happens.”

When Zacharias left the temple, he could not speak. In a few days, when his duties at the temple ended, he went home. Days later, it was discovered that Elizabeth was going to have a baby.

The time came when the baby was born. They asked Elizabeth what she named the little boy. She said, “John.” They said, “What? You don’t have any relatives with that name.” She said, “Go and ask Zacharias.” Of course, Zacharias could not speak and so he asked for a tablet on which he wrote the words, “His name is John.” Immediately, he could speak again.

Everyone sensed that there was something great about the baby. And, being filled with the Holy Spirit, Zacharias told everyone that John would be the prophet to prepare the way for the coming of the LORD, the Deliverer.

Who is this LORD or Deliverer that would be coming? We will find out in our next story.

- *A “walk-through” through the story, step by step, event by event, will be led by the instructor, asking questions.*
- *Ask the participants to pair off and each tell the story to each other.*
- *Time permitting, ask someone to tell the entire story to everyone.*



3. 45 minutes 3:45): **Story Set Six, Birth of Jesus**

### **Angel Appearance One**

In a small town, Nazareth in Galilee, Gabriel, the angel of the Lord, made a second appearance. The first time he appeared to Zacharias, but, six months later he appeared to a young lady named Mary.

Mary was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph. Both were descendants of the great King David.

Suddenly Gabriel appeared to Mary and said, “Highly favored one, the Lord is with you.” She was startled at the sight of the angel.

Gabriel said, “Don’t be afraid, Mary. You have found favor with God. You will conceive and bear a son. You will name Him Jesus. He will be great and called the Son of the Most High and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of King David. His kingdom will be eternal.”

Mary said, “How can this be? I’ve never had relations with a man.”

Gabriel said, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you and His power will overshadow you and the offspring shall be called the Son of God. Elizabeth, your relative, conceived in her old age. Nothing will be impossible with God.”

Mary replied, “I am the servant of the Lord. May it happen to me as you have said.”

### **Angel Appearance Two**

Later, it became apparent that Mary was pregnant. Joseph, the man to whom she was engaged was greatly disturbed and finally decided to break their engagement privately.

One night, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. That which has happened to her was of the Holy Spirit. She will have a son and you will name Him Jesus for He shall save His people from their sins.”

The angel continued to say, “ This is in fulfillment of what the prophet Isaiah said when he wrote that a virgin would conceive and bear a son and shall be called Immanuel, meaning ‘God with us.’”

Joseph rose up from his sleep and did as the angel said and took Mary to be his wife.

### **Jesus’ Birth**

A decree from the government was issued that everyone had to go to the town of their fathers and register for taxation purposes.

Since Joseph and Mary were both descendants of King David, they went to his hometown, Bethlehem. It was a long journey and Mary was near to the time for her to deliver. They arrived in Bethlehem to discover that all guest rooms were full and there was no place for them to stay. They finally found a stable in which to bed down and in the night the baby was born. Mary wrapped him in soft cloths and laid him in a feeding trough.

### **Angel Appearance Three**

That night outside of Bethlehem were shepherds on the hillside taking care of their sheep. Suddenly, the sky lit up with a glorious light! The shepherds were greatly afraid when an angel appeared.

The angel said, “Don’t be afraid. I have good news of great joy for all people. In Bethlehem was born this day the Savior, Christ the Lord. You can find him if you look for the baby who is lying in a feeding trough wrapped in soft cloths.”

Suddenly, the sky was filled with angels praising God. “Glory to God in the Highest, peace on earth, goodwill to men.” The angels left and the shepherds said, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see what the Lord told us.”

In Bethlehem they finally found the baby just as the angel said, in a feeding trough wrapped in soft cloths. They told everyone what the angel said and all who heard marveled at what they described.

### **A Visit by Wise Men**

After Jesus was born, some very important men came to Jerusalem and said they were looking for the King of the Jews who was recently born. They said they saw a star that indicated to them that a king was born in Israel and they came to pay him homage.

King Herod was disturbed because he did not want any contenders to his throne and after consulting with his scribes, he was informed that a great king would be born in Bethlehem. So, he sent the men to Bethlehem and when they found him, King Herod wanted them to tell him so he could also pay him homage.

These men made their way to Bethlehem but on the way the star appeared again and led them to the house where Jesus was. When they saw Jesus, they fell down and worshipped him and gave him expensive gifts of gold frankincense and myrrh.

That night the men who studied the stars were **warned by God in a dream** to go back a different way and not to return to Herod.

### **Angel Appearance Four**

An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to take Mary and the baby to Egypt and remain there until he told them to come back. That night, Joseph took Mary and Jesus to Egypt.

Herod was furious when he thought he was tricked by the men who studied the stars. He ordered all boy babies in Bethlehem two years and younger to be slaughtered. But, Jesus was already on his way to Egypt.

### **Angel Appearance Five**

In Egypt, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream again. He told him that Herod was dead and it was safe to return. When the family returned to Israel it was not safe to return to Judea where Bethlehem was. **God warned Joseph in a dream** again to go to Galilee. So they went to Nazareth where Jesus was raised. He was an obedient son. He grew in wisdom and stature. He found favor with God and others

- *A “walk-through” through the story, step by step, event by event, will be led by the instructor, asking questions.*
- *Ask the participants to pair off and each tell the story to each other.*
- *Time permitting, ask someone to tell the entire story to everyone.*

4. 15 minutes 4:30): **Break**

5. 30 minutes 4:45): **Story Set Seven, Baptism of Jesus**

- *The instructor will model Story Set Seven, Part 1, Baptism of Jesus.*

When John, the son of Zacharias and Elizabeth was about 30 years old, he began to preach the word of God. John was different. He wore clothes made of camel hair and ate locusts. He was a powerful speaker but you would not find him in the temple speaking to the crowds. Instead, you would find him in the wilderness and people flocked to hear him.

He had a message that was simple. “Turn from your sinful ways and turn to God.” This what they called a message of repentance. Many responded and if they were sincere about turning from their rebellion and turning to God, John baptized them in the river Jordan. Some religious people came to John to be baptized but he told them they were hypocrites, a bunch of snakes, and he refused to baptize them.

One day when he was preaching, he saw Jesus coming toward him. They knew each other. They were cousins. John said to everyone, “Look! The Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world.” Although John was highly respected, he said Jesus was much greater. He wasn’t even worthy to undo his sandals.

Jesus requested John to baptize Him. But, John was reluctant and said it should be the other way around, Jesus should baptize him. But Jesus insisted saying it must be done for it was the righteous thing to do.

John immersed Jesus in the river Jordan and when he came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit rested on Jesus in the form of a dove. A voice came from heaven, “This is my most loved Son in Whom I am well pleased.” It was a moment to remember. It would have been an honor to be there, to see Jesus baptized, to see the dove, and to hear the awesome voice of God.

- *A “walk-through” through the story, step by step, event by event, will be led by the instructor, asking questions.*
- *Ask the participants to pair off and each tell the story to each other.*
- *Time permitting, ask someone to tell the entire story to everyone.*

6. 45 minutes 5:15): **Story Set Seven, The Temptation of Jesus**

- *The instructor will model Story Set Seven, Part 2, The Temptation of Jesus.*

After Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit rested on him and sent him to a desert area in the wilderness. He did not eat or drink anything for 40 days. He began to have new hunger pains which indicated that he was close to dying.

Well, there was someone waiting for this moment. The same one who tempted Eve in the Garden of Eden came to Jesus. He knew how hungry he was and so he tempted him saying, “If You are the Son of God You can tell these stones to become bread.” Jesus said, “Man shall not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

At the temple was a high pinnacle and Satan said, “If You are the Son of God, you can jump off that pinnacle knowing that the Scriptures say that God will send angels to guard you and with their hands they will hold you up so that your feet won’t even strike against a stone.” Jesus said, “The Scriptures you shall not tempt the Lord your God.”

So far, Satan was defeated in each attempt to deceive Him. He said to Jesus, “I have dominion over all the kingdoms and I can give it to whomever I want. If you will

worship before me, it shall all be yours.” But, Jesus said, “Go away Satan. You shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.” Then Satan left him. Then, angels came to Jesus and ministered to him.

- *A “walk-through” through the story, step by step, event by event, will be led by the instructor, asking questions.*
- *Ask the participants to pair off and each tell the story to each other.*
- *Time permitting, ask someone to tell the entire story to everyone.*

7. (6:00): **End of Day Two**

## **Day Three**

### **Morning Session**

4 hours long (9:00-1:00 suggested schedule)

1. 5 minutes (9:00): **Worship**- Sing a Praise Song
2. 15 minutes (9:05): **Introduction to Life and Ministry of Jesus**
  - *The instructor will model Story Set Eight, Introduction, Life and Ministry of Jesus*

Jesus began to go from village to village. He was a fascinating teacher and superb story teller. People followed Him everywhere He went and He taught them how to live, how to treat each other, and how to love God. He chose 12 men to follow Him. Jesus went to the house of one of his followers. The friend’s mother-in-law had a fever but Jesus took her by the hand, sat her up, and the fever went away instantly. Sick people came to Him and by simply touching them they were healed immediately. He healed lepers, blind people, and the crippled. It was amazing. He once caused a violent storm to cease and also cast demons out of tormented people. He brought back to life a little girl who died. He also raised a boy from the dead and raised to life a man called Lazarus who had been dead for four days. **He did things that only God could do.** In a few moments, I will tell you four exciting short stories that demonstrate how awesome Jesus was. Yes, and these stories are all true.

- *A “walk-through” through this introduction story will be led by the instructor, by asking questions.*
- *Ask the participants to pair off and each tell the introduction to each other.*
- *Time permitting, ask someone to tell the entire introduction to everyone.*

3. 20 minutes (9:20): **Five Loaves of Bread and Two Fish**
  - *The instructor will model Story Set Eight, Part 1, Five Loaves of Bread and Two Fish*
  -

*(Three more stories are told describing the life and ministry of Jesus. Each story is selected with purpose. The Five Loaves story demonstrates the power of God in Jesus. The story of the demoniac demonstrates that Jesus has power over demons. The story of the four men and the paralytic demonstrates that Jesus has power to forgive sins. The story of the Prodigal Son prompts remorse and repentance with the hearers. These four stories are followed by the last two stories covering the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus which will round out Day Three.)*

# Day Four

## Morning Session

4 hours long (9:00-1:00 suggested schedule)

1. 5 minutes (9:00): **Worship**- Sing a Praise Song
2. 15 minutes (9:05): **Introduction to Growing Disciple**
  - *The instructor will model Growing Disciple taken from Acts 2:36-47 and draw the mnemonic graphic*

*(After Growing Disciple, participants are taught how to study the stories for the purpose of discipleship. The morning will conclude with goal setting and sending them out. The seminar ends at 1:00 pm.)*