



17 Stories

TRAINING MANUAL

ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Thank you for facilitating a 17 Stories training. This manual will walk you through each step to plan and carry out a training event. In doing so, you will equip children's ministry workers with the information and experience they need to teach through this impactful program.



ABOUT 17 STORIES:

17 Stories has been created based on OneHope's research into the heartfelt needs of the children and youth specifically in your region of the world. This program was developed in response to the need for a curriculum that engages children with God's Word, even if they can't read or write. The program includes 17 stories. The first 16 stories are individual stories from the Bible told chronologically. Each of these stories includes a picture card that the children can take home with them. When all of these cards are arranged in order they show the 17th story, which is God's Big Story. God's Big Story helps children see how all of the stories fit together to share the overarching theme of the Bible.



PLANNING YOUR TRAINING:

We have included a recommended schedule for a training event. If you do not have a full day for your training, you can choose to cover only the required sections. This will take a little over 3 hours, plus any needed breaks. There are activities scattered throughout the schedule to help keep participants active and engaged with the content. Feel free to add other activities, games, or small group assignments that you think would help break up the sessions and keep people focused.



PREPARING TO PRESENT:

Review the suggested script well in advance and take the time you need to learn it well. Plan to speak directly to your audience, not read from this manual.

Before the day of the training, make sure you have gathered all the materials you will need and have planned how you will conduct the activities and group participation sections.

Pair this manual with the accompanying PowerPoint for a complete presentation resource. Note that the PowerPoint is a suggested resource, but you are not required to use it. If you do not have access to a computer in order to display the presentation, you can facilitate the training using just this manual.

All text in *italics* are instructions for the trainer. All other text is the suggested script to facilitate the training.

Contents

4	Materials List
5	Training Schedule
6	Welcome
7	About 17 Stories
7	Understanding God's Big Story
9	Teacher's Manual Overview
11	Lesson Demonstration
12	Principles of Story Telling
14	Hand Motions Activity
16	Trainee Practical Demonstrations
17	Getting Started
20	Program Quiz
21	Training Evaluation
23	Closing

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MATERIALS NEEDED FOR THE TRAINING



Supplies:

- Bible
- Presenter's Script (pages 6-18)
- 4 Story Card Sets
- 17 Stories Teacher's Manual (one for each person attending)
- Sheet of paper (one for each person attending)
- Props needed for lesson demonstration



Technical Needs (optional):

- Computer with PowerPoint installed (optional)
- Screen and projector to show PowerPoint (optional)






Other (optional):

- Pencils or pens and paper for notes
- White board, chalk-board or large piece of paper
- White board markers, chalk or permanent markers
- Name tags for participants
- Program Quiz (one for each person attending)
- Training Survey (one for each person attending)

TRAINING SCHEDULE

If you do not have a full day for your training, plan to cover only the required sections. This will take 3 hours, plus time for any needed breaks. Schedule breaks as makes sense to you throughout the day. If you are not covering all the sections in your training, you can delete those slides from the PowerPoint presentation or just skip over them.

 SECTION	 TIME NEEDED	 REQUIRED
Welcome	20 minutes	
Opening Activity	15 minutes	
About 17 Stories	10 minutes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Understanding God's Big Story	60 minutes	
Teaching Manual Overview	30 minutes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lesson Demonstration	35 minutes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Principles of Story Telling	40 minutes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hand Motions Activity	15 minutes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trainee Practical Demonstrations	90 minutes	
Getting Started	45 minutes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Program Quiz and Training Evaluation	15 minutes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Closing	15 minutes	

NOTES:



The slide icon indicates which PowerPoint slide to use for each section of content.



The clock icon indicates how much time is needed to teach each section.



WELCOME



20 minutes

- 1 Thank you so much for coming today! My name is_____!

Directions: Take this time to introduce yourself, and if appropriate share your connection to OneHope and the reason you are leading this training event.

If you would like to include a short devotional or a time of worship, feel free to do so, but remember to stay on schedule. The entire introduction segment should not exceed 20 minutes.



OPENING ACTIVITY



15 minutes

- 2 **Activity: What's Your Favorite Bible Story?**



10 minutes

Directions: Invite everyone to stand and think about the month in which they were born. On the count of three, people are to find others that were born in the same month and form a group. If your group is small, encourage people to find people who were born in the same season of the year – winter, spring, summer, etc. After groups form, instruct people to share three things: Their name, their favorite Bible story, and why that story is their favorite. After ten minutes, invite participants to find their seats. Once they are seated, share your favorite Bible story and why it is your favorite.

- 3 **Why Stories?**



5 minutes

We love stories. Not only are they a source of entertainment, but they also provide us with information, communicate beliefs and teach important values.

It is interesting to notice that many times in the Bible, God instructs His people to tell stories to their children. He knew that stories were a wonderful way to communicate His truth and His character to children.

- 4 *Directions: Have a volunteer read **Hebrews 4:12**. "For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires." (NLT)*

This verse says the Word of God is alive and has the power to change our lives. That includes the stories of the Bible.

Today in our training, we are going to learn how to use the 17 Stories program to help children learn life-changing stories from the Word of God.



ABOUT 17 STORIES



10 minutes

- 5 Studies have shown that 80% of the world's population prefer to communicate through oral means rather than reading or writing.¹ The 17 Stories program is a unique tool created by OneHope to reach children that are primarily oral learners in storytelling cultures.
- 6 The program includes 17 stories. The first 16 stories are individual stories from the Bible told chronologically. Each of these stories includes a picture card that the children can take home with them. *Directions: Display the picture cards.* When all of these cards are arranged in order you can flip them over to create a large picture showing the 17th story, which is “The Big Story.” The Big Story – or God’s Big Story – helps children see how all of the stories fit together to share the overarching theme of the Bible.
- 7 The program is designed for children 6-12 years old and has four program outcomes:
 1. To share the Gospel
 2. To promote consistent attendance by children in a discipling group
 3. To explain the overarching theme of the Bible through chronological Bible storytelling
 4. To teach and encourage children to retell Bible stories


Since one of the program outcomes is explaining to children the overarching theme of the Bible, we, too, need to understand this theme and why it’s so important.



UNDERSTANDING GOD’S BIG STORY



60 minutes

- 8 **How many stories does the Bible tell?** *Hear responses.* This is actually a trick question! The Bible does tell many, many individual stories. But these individual stories also all work together to tell one story with an overarching theme: the story of God’s great love for us through Jesus. We can trace this theme from the very beginning of Genesis to the very end of Revelation. It’s God’s Big Story.
- 9 God’s Big Story can be divided into four sections: Jesus Needed, Jesus Promised, Jesus Saves and Jesus Invites.
- 10 **Activity: Drawing God’s Big Story**  **20 minutes**
Directions: Give each participant a sheet of paper. Have them divide it into four parts and label each part with one of the section titles. Discuss each section below. Stop after each section and give participants 2-3 minutes to draw a picture representing the content for that section. Pictures can be simple sketches.
- 11 **Jesus Needed:** God created the world and everything in it in perfect harmony. He loved people the most and made us to be in perfect relationship with Him. But the first two people He made – Adam and Eve – chose to disobey God and brought sin into the world. Because of sin,

¹ <https://orality.net/about/who-are-oral-communicators>

every person is now born into a broken relationship with God and with the world around them. Creation also feels the effects of sin through death, sickness, and destruction. People are no longer living in the perfect harmony God intended, and we can do nothing on our own to take away our guilt and shame. We need a Savior, a Rescuer.

- 12 Jesus Promised:** As soon as sin entered the world, God saw our great need and promised to send someone who would destroy sin forever. God continued to make this promise throughout the Old Testament and showed His people glimpses of this redemption. From providing a ram for Abraham's sacrifice instead of his son Isaac, to freeing His people from slavery in Egypt, to placing the Son of Man in the fiery furnace – story after story points forward to Jesus and the salvation He would bring.
- 13 Jesus Saves:** Out of His great love for us, God kept His promise. He sent a Savior, His own Son, Jesus, into the world to bring healing and restoration. Jesus was born as a baby, grew to be a man, and lived a life of perfect love. He demonstrated His mission through His miracles and teachings. And because Jesus was God's perfect Son, He did what no one else could do: He restored our broken relationship with God. Jesus died on a cross and took the punishment not only for our sin, but for the sin of the entire world. He then came back to life, conquering sin and death forever!
- 14 Jesus Invites:** One day Jesus will come again and make all things new. Sin and death will be no more, and God's perfect world will be restored. But until then, God has a place for us in His big story. He invites us into a relationship with Him if we choose to trust Jesus as our Savior. When we trust in Jesus, we begin a relationship with God which starts today and lasts forever. God also invites us as His children to share the love and message of Jesus to those around us who are still in their brokenness. We get to be a part of bringing His restoration to the world!

15 Group Discussion



5 minutes

Directions: Have participants turn to a neighbor and share their drawings. Encourage them to each take a turn sharing God's Big Story in their own words using their drawings to help them remember the main points.

All of the stories of the Bible fit within the framework of these sections and work together to tell the story of God's redemptive plan. Let's take a look at the individual stories in the 17 Stories program and see where they fit within God's Big Story.

16 Activity: Where do the stories go?



15 minutes

Directions: Before the sessions begins, make sure you have 3-4 card sets from 17 Stories for the participants. Divide participants into 3 or 4 groups and give each group a set of cards. Working together, they must try to put the cards in the correct chronological order in 5 minutes or less. After 5 minutes, provide the correct order so groups can check their work.

- 17** *Once the stories are in the correct order, invite groups to separate the cards by section. Which stories go in Jesus Needed, Jesus Promised, etc.? After 5 minutes debrief the answers together.*

18 Answers:

Jesus Needed: Card 1

Jesus Promised: Cards 2-9

Jesus Saves: Cards 10-16

Jesus Invites: This last section is tricky. Did anyone figure it out? There is not an individual card in 17 Stories which represents “Jesus Invites.” But remember when I told you about the 17th story? If you turn the cards over, they create one final picture which shares how God invites us into His story.

19 **Group Discussion**



10 minutes

Directions: Invite participants to come back to their seats. Ask them to discuss the following questions in groups of 2-3. If time allows, hear a few responses from the whole group.

- What do you love most about God’s Big Story?
- Why is it important to understand God’s Big Story?

20 It is possible to know the stories of the Bible, but never see how they fit together. God’s Big Story puts Jesus at the center. It gives us and the children we are teaching a deeper understanding of God’s character and His great love for us. It reminds us that the world as we know it is not the perfect world God intended, but that He will make all things right again. And it gives us a purpose for our lives right now – we have a part to play in God’s story, helping to make His love known to the world.

21 **Question and Answer**



5 minutes

Does anyone have any questions regarding God’s Big Story and the material we covered?

Prayer



5 minutes

In groups of 2-3, let’s take a moment to thank God for this great story of His love and for inviting us to be a part of it. Then I will close this section in prayer.



TEACHER’S MANUAL OVERVIEW



30 minutes

22 In this session we will explore the 17 Stories Teacher’s Manual. This manual was designed just for you to provide all the information you need to teach this program effectively!

Directions: Distribute the 17 Stories Teacher’s Manual.

About the Teacher’s Manual



5 minutes

Let’s look together at some of the key sections of the manual. *Directions: display each section in the manual while describing it. Invite trainees to locate the section in their own manual.*

- Lessons are in chronological order – with the story of creation coming first and the story of Jesus appearing to His disciples after His resurrection coming last.

- Each lesson includes the same picture the children will receive on their story card so you can display it while teaching and using the lesson outline.
- The inside cover includes an explanation of the course, how to use the manual, and lesson format descriptions. This information is great to review after the training and before you begin teaching students.
- The back cover provides you with the correct chronological order of the 16-card set.
- It is important to prayerfully prepare for each lesson before sharing it with the children. The Teacher Background Section – found in the right-hand corner of each lesson – provides you with important information as you prepare. This section includes the full Scripture passage the lesson covers and the theme addressed in the lesson.

23 Lesson Plan Format



5 minutes

Each lesson you will teach the children follows the same format and includes 8 elements.

Directions: Invite trainees to turn to Story 2 of their manual. After explaining each step, ask, “Which step comes next?” Trainees can find the next step by following the dotted lines on the lesson page. Note that page numbers in your program materials may be different and should be updated as needed. Be sure to check and adjust before the training.

Step 1: Review – The first thing you’ll do in almost every lesson is review the previous lesson in a fun, engaging way. Options for review activities are provided in the manual on page 40.

Step 2: Read Aloud – Read the Scripture passage listed which contains the story for the day.

Step 3: Storytelling – Hand out the cards to the children before telling the story. Use the picture to emphasize aspects of the story. Share the story in your own words. It is not necessary to read every point in the lesson manual word for word, but it can be used as a guide.

Step 4: Discussion Questions – The discussion questions help review, clarify, and emphasize the theme of the story. They will help children think about the facts of the story, what it means and how applies to their lives.

Step 5: Memory Verse – You will help the children memorize a verse that pertains to the lesson by using a fun activity. Ideas for memory verse activities can be found on page 41 in the manual.

Step 6: Activity – The activity time is a time to use play and games to connect children to the story and the lesson theme. Games are designed for large group settings without a lot of space to move around. Other optional games requiring space are listed on page 42.

Step 7: Learning Point – The learning point connects the activity and the theme to the Bible story. Children can take this point of the lesson and apply to their lives.

Step 8: Review Card Set – Review and repetition are critical parts of the 17 Stories course. At the end of each lesson, you will review previous stories with the children, encouraging them to put the story cards in order and retell the stories. You will also teach children the hand motions which go with each story. Hand motions can be found on pages 36-39.

24 *Directions: Ask trainees to close their books. Call on volunteers to provide the name of one lesson step until all 8 have been correctly identified in order.*

25 The Pacing Guide



5 minutes

Toward the back of the Teacher's Manual, you will find the Pacing Guide. The Pacing Guide can be used to extend the length of the program from 17 weeks to 51 weeks. Rather than spending just one week on each story, the Pacing Guide provides you with additional themes, story-telling points and discussion questions so that each story can be used for three weeks.

Let's look at Card 1 for example. Card 1 is the story of Adam and Eve. The first time you teach from this lesson, you can use the exact format as shown on page 3. What is the theme for this story? *Hear responses.* The theme for this story is, "The consequences of sin." This is the theme you would use the first week.

However, if you choose to use the story for more than one week, you would use a different theme the second week. What other themes are listed for Card 1 in the Pacing Guide? *Hear responses. God is loving and just; value and self-worth.*

What else would you need to change if you told the same story multiple weeks? *Responses may include: different story points; new questions related to the theme; using new games and review activities.*

26 Question and Answer Regarding the Manual



5 minutes

We've covered a lot of material regarding the Teacher's Manual. Does anyone have any questions?



LESSON DEMONSTRATION



35 minutes

27 Now that we are familiar with the 17 Stories program and have explored the manual, I am going to demonstrate one of the lessons for you. The lesson demonstration is an important part of the training because you will get to experience the 17 Stories program for yourself. Are you ready? *Directions: Here are a few tips to get you ready to present the lesson:*

- *Be prepared. You can use your book as a reference, but try not to rely on the Teacher Manual. Remember the trainees will copy what you do!*
- *Choose any lesson from Cards 2-16 to present.*
- *Use props, voices and volunteers from the audience as you tell the story.*
- *Keep the timing of the lesson limited to 30 minutes without skipping any of the lesson elements.*
- *Have fun!*

28 Group Discussion



5 minutes

After the lesson demonstration, discuss the following with the group:

- What was the most interesting part of the lesson? Why was it engaging?
- What is one thing you learned from the demonstration?



PRINCIPLES OF STORYTELLING



40 minutes

- 29 One thing you noticed is how I told the Bible story – I didn't simply read it, but I told it in an engaging way. **So, what makes a good story?** Hear responses.

Let's discover more in this next session.

Directions: Divide participants into groups of 2-3. Assign each group one of the cards from Card 2-Card 16. The groups should use the Bible story on their assigned card for the following activities.

- 30 First, a good story-teller considers the audience. Before planning your story, think about the children in your class and ask yourself these questions:

- What is my audience's average age?
- How long is their attention span?
- How does my audience learn?

If the children you are teaching are young, with a very short attention span, think about what you are going to do to keep them engaged and paying attention. Or, if the children in your class enjoy drama, consider using drama to help you tell the Bible story.

- 31 Second, a good story has a beginning, a middle and an end:

Beginning – The introduction. The introduction is a way to catch the attention of the children and get them interested to listen more. (Examples: ask a question, say something surprising, relate it to the child's life.)

Middle – The main part of the story. This is where you will dig deeper into the characters in the story and the problem they are facing. The middle part of the story is where all of the action takes place!

Ending – The conclusion and application. The conclusion brings a solution to the problem or issue in the story. But we also want our children to think of what God is saying to them in the story, so we include the theme or application to help them relate the truth of the story to their own life.

32 Activity: Identify the Parts of a Story



10 minutes

In your groups, take five minutes to:

- Identify the beginning, the middle and the end of your assigned story.
- Decide on a creative way to begin your story.
- Consider how to help students apply the story theme to their lives.

33 Not only does a good story need a beginning, a middle and an end, but a good story is told in an engaging way.

34 Group Discussion



5 minutes

What methods or skills would a good story-teller use to tell the story in an interesting way? *Hear responses. Share the following points if they are not shared by the group. Good story-tellers:*

- Know the story
- Are excited and enthusiastic
- Use eye contact
- Use facial expressions for emotions
- Use gestures or body movements
- Use different pitches and volumes and speed in speaking
- Effectively use silence

35 Finally, a good story activates students' imaginations by involving them in the story.

36 Group Discussion



10 minutes

How can you involve children in the story you are telling? Think about all the parts of the body God has given us. How could your students use their bodies to participate in the story without even leaving their seats? (*Brainstorm ideas for each body part.*)

- **Mouth/voice** – sound effects, whisper, shout, call/answer, repeated phrases
- **Face** – sad, happy, angry, surprised
- **Eyes** – close, blink, search
- **Hands/fingers** – clap, touch, wave, pat, count, wiggle
- **Feet/toes** – step, tap, wiggle, walk in place
- **Knees/legs** – bend, knock, stand

If you have enough room in your classroom, you can use your classroom space as you tell the story and allow children to move around. You could:

- Huddle in a corner. Talk about David hiding from Saul in a cave.
- Climb a tree like Zacchaeus
- March around Jericho
- Walk through the Red Sea

37 What are some other ways you can engage children with the story? (Hear responses.)

- Use ordinary objects and items you can easily find to illustrate the story. Let children: count coins, touch cloth, break bread

- Use a child’s imagination. Ask them questions
- Use drama (act it out)

38 Activity: Involving Children in the Story



5 minutes

In your groups, come up with 5-6 specific ideas for involving children in your story. For example, if your story is Noah’s Ark, you may want to have children pretend to build the ark (saw, hammer nails, etc.). Or if your story is the resurrection, you may want to bring in cloth to represent the clothes in the empty tomb. *If time allows, invite each group to share one of their ideas with the whole group.*

39 Question and Answer



5 minutes

Does anyone have any questions regarding the principles of good story-telling?

God’s Word is living and active. We want to share it well with our children. Before we break for lunch, let’s close in prayer, asking God to help us be excellent story tellers as we share stories from His Word. *Close this section in prayer.*

 **HAND MOTION ACTIVITY**  **15 minutes**

40 Hand motions are used in 17 Stories to help children remember the Bible stories. They should be introduced to children during Step 8 – the final review – in the lesson plan. Students can use the hand motions each week as they retell the stories they have already learned.

A Hand Motion instructional video can be found on [the OneHope Trainer YouTube page](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpkW-KRMhnl). (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpkW-KRMhnl>) Instructions are also available in the Teacher Manual.

Directions: Demonstrate each set of hand motions first. Then ask trainees to do the motions with you.

17 STORIES HAND MOTIONS

1. God created (*Shaping*)
Sin separated (*Linked fingers pull apart*)
God's promised hope (*Hands clasped together*)
2. Noah (*Shaping boat*)
Flood (*Rain falling*)
3. Abraham is promised (*Making stars*)
Isaac saved (*Touch stomach with hands*)
4. Jacob wrestles with God (*Wrestling motions*)
12 Tribes of Israel (*Flash 12 fingers*)
5. Joseph (*Put on coat*)
Egypt (*Cross hands at wrist*)
Feeds (*Feeding motion*)
Forgives (*Arms forward, showing hands*)
6. Moses (*Finger flames*)
Let my people go! (*Shout it with hands at mouth*)
Red Sea (*Spread hands from middle out palms together*)
7. 10 Commandments (*10 fingers together facing outward, like a tablet*)
8. David and Goliath (*Swinging a slingshot*)
9. Elijah believes (*One hand up, falls down*)
The Lord is God (*Look up, arms raised to heaven*)
10. God's promised hope (*Hands clasped together*)
Jesus born (*Rocking baby with hands*)
11. Jesus called (*Both hands at mouth*)
12 Disciples (*Flash 12 fingers*)
12. Casting out (*Point away*)
13. Jesus feeds 5000 (*Breaking bread*)
14. Jesus crucified (*Spread arms*)
15. Jesus alive! (*Raise arms. Look up*)
16. Jesus appears (*Touch middle finger to opposite palms*)
Giving hope (*Link fingers together*)



41 Now that you have learned about the 17 Stories program and have seen a lesson demonstrated, you will have the opportunity to teach a lesson on your own!

42 Lesson Preparation



30 minutes

Directions: Put trainees in the same groups they were in during the Principles of Storytelling session. The groups will use the same card from that session for their lesson demonstration. Each group will decide who will be responsible for teaching which portions of the lessons. Everyone must be involved! Have them prepare the lesson and practice the activities.

43 Lesson Demonstration



60 minutes

Directions: There are several ways to set up the lesson demonstrations. Choose which option you think will work best for your group in the time that you have:

Option 1: Have each group demonstrate a portion of the lesson to the entire group. For example, they could demonstrate the Storytelling, or you could ask them to demonstrate the Memory Verse or the Activity. More than likely, there will not be enough time for each group to demonstrate an entire lesson.

Option 2: Pair each group with another group. Have each group demonstrate a portion of the lesson to the other group.

Option 3: If you have enough people, you can divide into 8 groups, and have each demonstrate a different section of the lesson. It would be a good idea to work on the same lesson for this so the demonstration at the end is cohesive. As some groups may have shorter sections than others (for example the Discussion Questions or the Closing) have each group prepare the Bible story as well for practice—even if they are not the group that ends up demonstrating the Bible story.

Regardless of which option you choose, take time after each demonstration to provide feedback. Be sure to affirm something they did well in addition to making suggestions for improvement. You can invite the audience to provide feedback as well. If groups are demonstrating to another group, be sure to give instructions for groups to provide affirming feedback and one suggestion for improvement.





44 We have learned so much about the 17 Stories program today! You’ve done a great job, and I hope you are encouraged and excited about teaching this course. Now, I want to give you some practical tips as you prepare to implement the program in your church or community.

45 **Pray:** Before doing anything else build your program on a foundation of prayer. Pray for the program, the children, the community and the teachers. Recruit prayer partners dedicated to praying for you and the program. Pray that God will guide you through the planning process.

Plan: Next, you need to plan. There are many important things to consider as you plan your 17 Stories program.

Decide on a program model: 17 stories can be used as a 17-week model, with each lesson being one hour. You can also use the Pacing Guide to extend the program or you could shorten the program and use it as a Vacation Bible School (VBS) model.

In the VBS model, you will want to choose 5 stories – one for each day of the week. It is recommended that you choose stories which will help children see God’s Big Story in the Bible: His love for them through Jesus. You will need to decide which model works best for your situation.

 EXAMPLE #1	 EXAMPLE #2
Day 1: Card 1, Adam and Eve	Day 1: Card 1 Adam and Eve
Day 2: Card 2, The Flood	Day 2: Card 10, Birth of Jesus
Day 3: Card 3, Abraham Tested	Day 3: Card 12, Jesus Heals
Day 4: Card 14, The Crucifixion	Day 4: Card 14, The Crucifixion
Day 5: Card 15, The Resurrection	Day 5: Card 15, The Resurrection

46 **Recruit teachers:** The ideal ratio for the 17 Stories program is 1 teacher for 30 students. If you have more than 30 children, you will want to recruit additional teachers. **What kind of people should you recruit?** *Hear responses.* Teachers should be faithful, available, and teachable. They should be safe to work with children. Most importantly, they should love Jesus and have a heart for children.

Choose a time and location: The program is best used in Sunday school classrooms or weekly Bible clubs or meetings. As you consider the location ask, “Is there enough space for the children during the lesson and the activity?” “Is this a location easily accessible to children in my community?”

Promote Your Program: Once you've decided on a time and location, you'll want to get the word out about your new and exciting program! Promotion will be important in finding those first few students to come join you. **What are some ways you could promote the program?** Hear responses. Answers should include:

- Share about the program with your church
- Ask students to spread the word and invite their friends
- Come up with a number of students you want in the program, and make it a community challenge to meet the goal!
- Share about the program in schools (where possible)
- Put up flyers in the community announcing the opportunity and that is a free program for children. (Don't forget to include where to meet, and when the program will be starting.)

47 Materials: Before beginning your program, you will want to have story cards ready to hand out to the children each week. You may be wondering how you can receive your materials and how to determine how many story cards you'll need. *Note: Consult your OneHope representative to find out what this process looks like in your area.*

Reporting: It's important for you to report to your OneHope representative regarding your 17 Stories program.

Report Form: Use the Reporting Form to report the appropriate information. *Note: Your country may not use the reporting form. Defer to your OneHope representative for the best way to report.*

Testimonies: Gather testimonies from your students and communities where the course is taking place. Share these stories with your OneHope National Coordinator. *Note: Each country may have a different process for collecting testimonies; defer to the expertise of the OneHope representative.*

48 Connect with Others: 17 Stories is being used around the world. There are several ways you can connect with others who are also using the program.

- Facebook – [17 Stories Community](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SeventeenStories/)
(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SeventeenStories/>)
 - Ask questions
 - Post comments and receive teaching tips
 - Announce upcoming trainings
 - Download resources
 - Share testimonies
 - Connect with a global 17 Stories network
- YouTube – [17 Stories Training Video Series](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ML4NrelbfA&list=PLyWYIVq9D_CKCl5Fi7WClyO61igvxys8)
(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ML4NrelbfA&list=PLyWYIVq9D_CKCl5Fi7WClyO61igvxys8)



49 Program Quiz

The program quiz will evaluate knowledge and understanding of the 17 Stories program and how the program should be implemented.

Depending on the score, a trainer can determine if a trainee is ready to teach or if they need to attend another training.

The quiz may be administered orally or on a paper copy depending on group size and ability.

A passing score is 70% (7 correct questions).

50 Answers:

Question 1: False

Question 2: 16

Question 3: 6-12 years old

Question 4: 1 hour

Question 5: Tell the story in an engaging way

Question 6: 1 teacher for every 30 kids

Question 7: Inside cover of teacher's manual

Question 8: 8

Question 9: Before storytelling

Question 10: God's Big Story

51 Training Evaluation

We always look for feedback on the effectiveness of each training that is given. This is an opportunity for participants to share their feedback as an anonymous party.

Training Evaluations can be printed and distributed or read aloud as the trainees write down their feedback on a blank piece of paper.

17 Stories Program Quiz

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

1. The Bible is a collection of isolated stories that do not relate to each other and occur in no particular order.
 True False

2. How many individual Bible story cards make up the 17 Stories program?
 4 17 16 6

3. To what age group is the 17 Stories program targeted?
 6-12 years old 14-18 years old University Students Elderly

4. If teaching the program over 17 weeks, how long should each lesson take?
 35 minutes 2 days 1.5 hours 1 hour

5. When I'm teaching the Bible story to my class, I should:
 Read the story from the Teaching Manual
 Tell the storying in an engaging way
 Make the story up as I go

6. What is the ideal group size for a 17 Stories program class?
 1 teacher for every 10 kids 2 teachers for every 20 kids 1 teacher for every 30 kids

7. Where can you find an explanation of the 17 Stories program?
 Inside Cover of Teacher's Manual Page 12
 Back of Teacher's Manual Online

8. How many steps are in each lesson?
 8 5 12 3

9. When do you hand the cards out to students?
 Week 5 Beginning of class Before storytelling Never

10. What do you cover in the last session of the 17 Stories program?
 Card 1 God's Big Story Card 2 Card 16

17 Stories Training Evaluation

Thank you for participating in the 17 Stories training! Please complete this survey to help us understand your experience and find ways in which we might be able to improve this training.

Please circle and provide your honest feedback concerning the 17 Stories training.

1. I feel prepared to implement the 17 Stories program in my community.

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

2. I am equipped to explain the 17 Stories program to others.

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

3. I know how to request the books I will need to get started.

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

4. The Teacher's Manual easy to understand.

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

5. I have a good understanding of how to teach a 17 Stories lesson.

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

6. The training answered the questions I had about this program.

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

7. I found the training to be clear and engaging.

Strongly disagree Disagree Agree Strongly Agree

8. I plan to implement the 17 Stories program...

Right away Within the next few months Sometime this year

9. What part of the training was the most helpful to you?

10. What part of the training was least helpful to you?

11. What would you add to the training, if anything?

12. What would you omit from the training, if anything?

52 Before we end today, does anyone have any questions about what we have learned today?
Allow 10 minutes to answer final questions from participants.

53 As we close our time together let's read **Hebrews 1:1-3**.
Invite someone to read.

“Long ago God spoke many times and in many ways to our ancestors through the prophets. And now in these final days, he has spoken to us through his Son. God promised everything to the Son as an inheritance, and through the Son he created the universe. The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command. When he had cleansed us from our sins, he sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven.”

While God speaks in many ways, His most important word to us is Jesus. Jesus is who we want children to encounter through the stories in this program. Jesus is the one we want them to know. It's His story that can change their lives. It's His story He invites them into.

54 Let's pray that God will help us, fill us, and equip us as we share His amazing story with children who need to know His great love for them.

Close in prayer