

Tell Me A Story

May 2014 NLT Meeting
Opening Sketch

As the NLT members arrive the NET is seated around on the “story area” created by Hilda, portraying/acting out a “storytelling”.

Debra: So ladies, in our time together, we have covered many stories in the Bible, discussing how OUR story fits into GOD’S story and how He wants us to serve Him. Today we are going to review a few of them as we prepare further to serve in the various ministry roles in which God has called us to serve.

I have a sheep as a reminder of a couple of lessons that we discussed. How were sheep important in the story of God?

(Place the sheep on the green felt)

Dinita: First there were the sheep at the birth of Jesus born in a stable, the Son of God who came down to earth to die for our sins. Imagine! The Son of God born in a humble stable amongst all the animals and no one had room for this wonderful king. The King who would one day die for our sins on the cross!

Fran: Isaiah 53.6 says, *We all like sheep have gone astray each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

Dinita: And then the story of the Shepherd looking for the one lost sheep and bringing him home again. It reminds us that Jesus is our Shepherd and He cares for us in the same way that the shepherd cared for his sheep. Our Heavenly Father cares for us and loves us and wants us to call out to Him... *Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be your name.*

Fran: Isaiah 40.11 *He tends His flock like a shepherd, He gathers the lambs in his arms, and carries them close to His heart.*

Debra: When we studied the passage of Matthew 28.19-20, we learned how Jesus commissioned us to go and make disciples of

all nations...teaching them to obey everything He has commanded...and that He will be with US. (Place the dove on the blue felt)

Patty: As Great Commission Women: we are to be women who Live the Word, Do the Work and Reach the World through the power of the HS. We are called to Do the Work of Him who sent us. When we feel inadequate, He reminds us that it is He that will do it through us.

Ephesians 2.10 *For we are God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.* II Thessalonians 5.24 *The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.*

Edna: Reach the World with the good news of God’s Son, the baby in the manger and The King, who came to pay the price for our sin. God’s love reaches around the world with His truth and light. He spreads His love to the four corners of the world. Acts 1.8 *But you will receive power to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the utter most parts of the world...north, south, east and west.*

Debra: (Place the red felt with the four hearts for N, S,E, W)

Hilda: (In Spanish ☺) Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey all I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age. *Your kingdom come...your will be done...on earth as it is in heaven.*

Dinita: *Your kingdom come...your will be done...on earth as it is in heaven.*

Debra: I am reminded of these truths as I read the words penned by the hymn writer Ernest Nichol

We've a story to tell to the nations
That shall turn their hearts to the right
A story of truth and mercy
A story of peace and light
A story of peace and light
For the darkness shall turn to dawning
And the dawning to noon day bright
And Christ's great kingdom shall come to earth
The kingdom of love and light!

Debra: AAHH! The fresh delicious aroma of bread! (Place the bread on the yellow felt)

Fran: The bread reminds ME of bees!!!...AND the sweet taste of HONEY ☺ on a fresh slice of bread. ☺ But more important...it is a reminder that God loves us and wants us to have everything that we need. He DESIRES us to ask Him for our daily needs in friendship, families, homes, clothes, food and love. *Give us this day our daily bread!*

Debra: I have a rock, reminding us of forgiveness???
(Place the rock on the purple felt)

Nancy: I remember the lesson so well, when the teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought an adulterous woman to Jesus and wanted her to be stoned for her sin. But Jesus said: "whoever is without sin should cast the first stone". Jesus gave a powerful and solid lesson on forgiveness.

Merilyn: Colossians 3.13 *Bear with one another and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.*

And then there is the story of the stone that had been rolled away from the empty tomb when Jesus rose from the dead on the third day. He died for all of our sins,...for all the nations of the world. He came to earth as a baby, died on the cross, and then rose again victoriously. Truly amazing! Forgiveness like no other!

Nancy: Nehemiah 9.17b *But you are a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love.*

God loves us and knows that we will make mistakes/stumble and fall...and he offers forgiveness when we seek Him, through the blood of Jesus, His Son. *Forgive us our trespasses, debts, sins...and forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation...but deliver us from evil...*

Debra: (Place the Bible on the orange felt)

As we are engaged in an intimate relationship with God, we are able to hear His voice more clearly for His discerning heart to know how He wants to use us and our story as His vessels in HIS story as we Live the Word, Do the Work and Reach the World to the glory of God.

Hilda: (In Spanish ☺) *For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.*

Edna: *For yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever.*

ALL NET: AMEN!

SONG: Jesus Died For All The Nations
Compiled by: Debra Martin
To the tune of Jesus love the little children

***Jesus died for all the Nations
And His Love we must proclaim
By the Holy Spirit's power
We will live the Word each day
Do the work and reach the nations of the world.***

Sing song through one time and then we will ask the NLT to join us in singing as we move out to greet them and hand out the finger puppets.