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The Storyteller

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THANK YOU, GODLY PLAY®

It is Sunday morning, the day after my 2-3 days of immersion in Godly Play. My kids woke up early because they know I am supposed to be home now. Kate is the first one to ask; "Mom, did you bring us anything?" It's a hard habit to break after Dad's routine of bringing a gift home from his business trips.

I say, "Yes, Kate, I did, but I don't want you to be disappointed because it isn't a toy. Remember I told you I was going to this school to learn to be a good storyteller to make your Sunday school lessons more fun? Well, what I brought back for you is a box of stories and mysteries." We all got up and went to the family room where I had dropped my luggage the night before. I pulled out the little gold box the Godly Play trainers had given us at the end of our training. Now I hadn't really planned this out but felt very compelled to use some of what I had learned. It went something like this....

"You see this box; it's the color of gold. Valuable things are kept in gold boxes. It has a lid, which might make it difficult to get inside but let's see if we can open it.

Look, there are many things inside. Here is a little box of sand. It's like the desert. Not all the desert, the desert is very big, but a little piece of the desert. The desert is a very dangerous place. No one goes into the desert unless they have to. (This is where I noticed their eyes got big, and they grew very quiet.) In the daytime the sun is so hot it can burn your skin. And at night it is 'sooooo' cold that you need lots of clothes to keep you warm. There is almost no water and no food in the desert so you are always thirsty. And when the wind blows, it blows the sand across your skin and stings. Many stories from the Bible happen in the desert.

Oh, this is interesting. It's a lamb. I wonder if it's the Lamb of God?

There was once a man who said such wonderful things and did such amazing things that the people wanted to follow him. Once when the people asked this man who he was, he said, "I am the light". This candle represents the story of his light. He spoke about a kingdom such that they had never heard of or seen or visited. When the people asked him about the kingdom he said the kingdom of heaven is like when a merchant of pearls finds one of such amazing beauty he will trade everything he has in the world to possess that pearl; this pearl represents the kingdom of heaven.

Here is a dove. A dove flies like a free spirit on the wind. I wonder what this dove might represent?

Hmmm, is there anything else left in the box? Yes, look! This is a child, a child of God. Do you know how I know this? Because there is

a little spark of shiny gold on this child, God's spark that every child has inside them. You have one and Broaden has one and Mommy has one. And this child represents my promise to you to share all of these stories of God that I have learned so that our sparks can grow and we can come to know God".

I kissed them each on the head and went to get a cup of coffee. I thought, "Well, that went fairly well. And it really came from my heart". I took a sip of coffee and began my day.

Three hours later, my daughter Kate brought me a tablet. "Mommy, do you want to see my art work?" Now my daughter is a bit of an artistic entrepreneur. She has her own gallery in our house and you can pretty much bet that if she is showing you some art she will then ask if you would like to buy it from her gallery for your collection. "Sure, Kate, what have you drawn?" Kate gives it to me, and I struggle to temper my response. "Wow, Kate, tell me about this!" She begins, "This is heaven and down here are the people going to heaven. The little one is a spider and the big one is a child. This boy has God's spark and he's holding a candle and the spirit is above it".

"Kate, thank you for sharing this with me".
"Mommy, can you tell me one of those desert stories now?"

Thank you God and Thank you Godly Play.

Sincerely,
Kim Murray, Newly Accredited Godly Play teacher



How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.

-[Anne Frank](#)