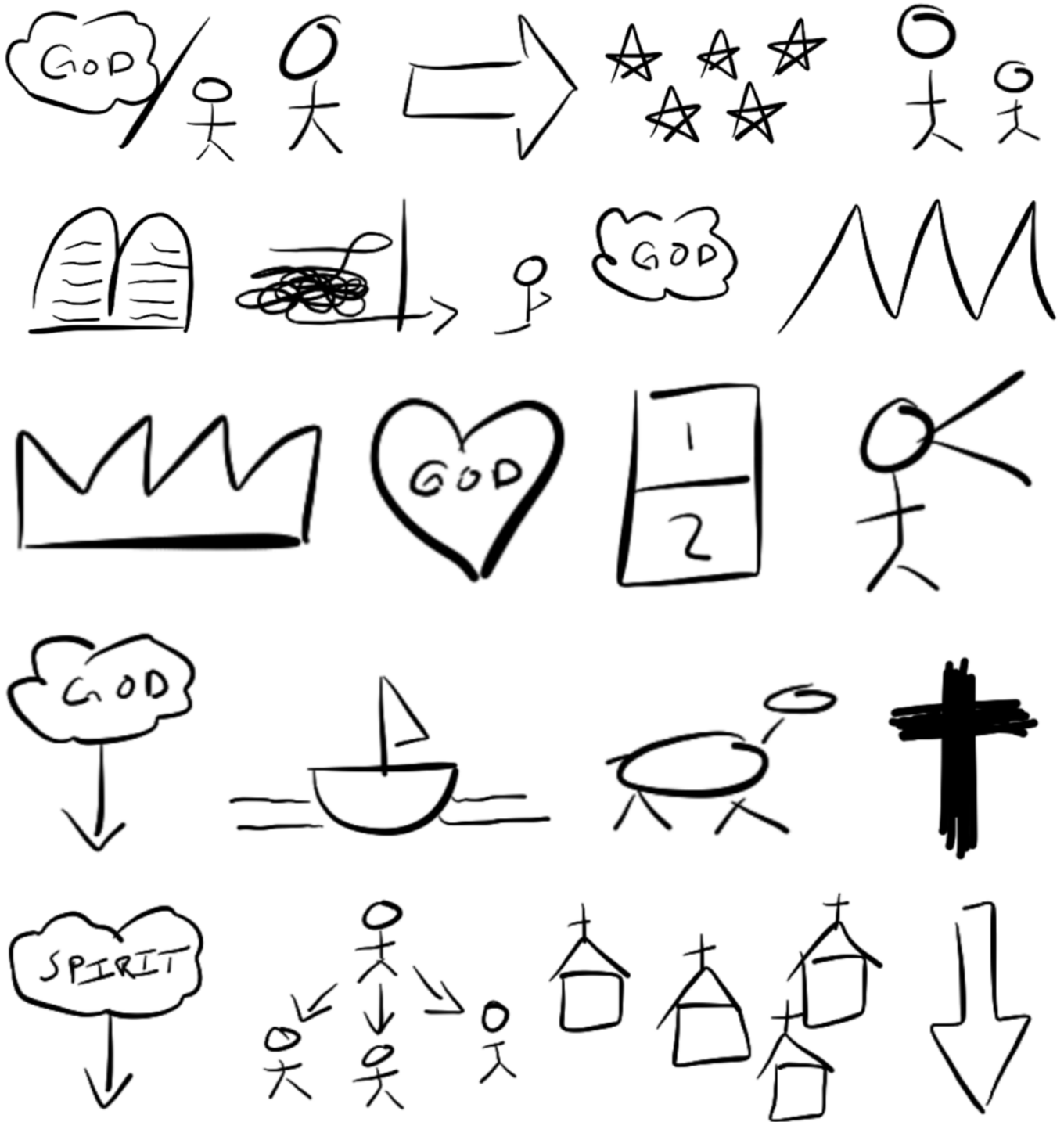


FOUNDATIONS



Welcome to the Foundations Course

What is the Foundations Course?

This course is a six-session Bible study course. Foundations incorporates orality learning strategy methods including storying, discussion, art, drama, and song. The purpose of Foundations is to make sharing the Bible's story from Genesis to Revelation easy for all disciples of Jesus Christ.

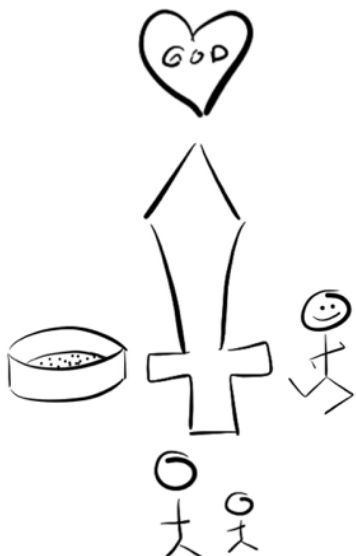
How do I teach Foundations?

This course is very easy to teach. Your disciples need to commit to six training gatherings. In each gathering, you will use all of these learning elements of leadership training for competence to teach and confidence in their leadership as the Holy Spirit leads:

- Praise + Prayer
- Tell + Draw the story twice
- Practice telling the story
- Practice drawing the story pictures
- Act out a drama of the story
- Write and sing a song about the story
- Make a list of people far from God
- Make a plan to share

Using the Discovery Method.

After telling and re-telling the story at each gathering, break into small groups to discuss the story and discern spiritual truth using the following questions:



- 1) What does this story teach about God?
- 2) What does this story teach about people?
- 3) How do I obey this story?
- 4) Who will hear this story from me?

Foundations Course (Six Sessions)
Orality Bible Storying Leader Training

Session 1: Beginnings (Genesis)



Session 2: Deliverance (Exodus to Ruth)



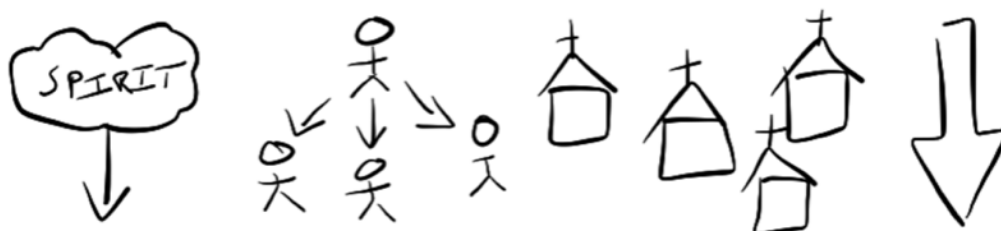
Session 3: Kings + Prophets (First Samuel to Malachi)



Session 4: Messiah (Gospels)



Session 5: Mission (Acts to Revelation)



Session 6: Review

Session 1: Beginnings (Genesis)



The Bible teaches that in the beginning, there was nothing but God. God created everything in the world. He created the sun, moon, and stars, plants, animals, and lastly He created man. He created man different than all the other things. He made the man to have relationship with Him.

The first man was named Adam and his wife was named Eve. God placed Adam and Eve in a special garden and had them oversee everything that happened in it. He gave Adam and Eve freedom in the garden and often spent time with him there.

The Bible teaches that one of God's angels in heaven rebelled against God and tempted Adam and Eve to disobey as well. Adam and Eve disobeyed what God had said and sinned for first time. This sin had to be punished. God had to send them away from His presence and put them outside of the garden. Adam and Eve had sons and their sons had sons and their sons had sons until the whole world was filled with people.

Some years later, God spoke to a man named Abraham. He said, "Leave your native country, your relatives, and go to the land that I will show you. I will make a huge nation of people from your descendants I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. All the families on earth will be blessed through you." So Abraham left as God had instructed. And Abraham worshipped God.

When Abraham was old, God promised to give him a son. And Abraham believed God, and because of that, God considered him to be in right relationship with Him.

God kept His promise to Abraham and gave him a son. And his son had sons and their sons had sons until Abraham's descendants were very numerous. These people became known as the Hebrews or the children of Israel. **And this is a story from God's Word.**

Session 2: Deliverance (Exodus to Ruth)



The Bible teaches that many generations after Abraham, the Israelites became slaves in Egypt. In their slavery, the people cried out to God for deliverance. God heard their cry and sent a man to deliver them. God told Moses to lead His people to the Promised Land. Moses performed many miraculous signs to prove that God had spoken to him. Finally, after many signs, the Egyptians let the Hebrew people go.

God led His people out of Egypt and He gave His law to the people. These laws included the Ten Commandments. God wanted His people to be holy and fellowship with him, unlike other nations

After the people received God's law, they continued on their journey to the land that been promised to Abraham. They disobeyed God in His instructions to enter the Promised Land. Because of their disobedience, God caused the Israelites to wander the desert until those who had disobeyed died. Even Moses died because of his disobedience, so Joshua began leading the Israelites.

Joshua led the people across the Jordan River and into the Promised Land. During the next years, Joshua and the people drove the inhabitants from the land and settled it for themselves. Each family was given part of the land as their inheritance of Abraham's promise.

After a long time Joshua prepared for his own death. He called all of the other leaders of the Israelites together and challenged them. He said, "Worship the Lord your God only. Throw away any other gods that you have. Choose today who you will serve, but as for me and my house we will serve the Lord." The other leaders agreed with Joshua and committed to following only God the creator.

For two generations, the Israelites kept their word and followed God alone. After that each Israelite forsook the Lord and followed other false gods. God's anger burned against His people and He allowed them to become slaves to other nations.

Time and again the people would follow a good ruler. After the rulers died, the people would again turn to other gods. This cycle was repeated over and over. **And this is a story from God's Word.**

Session 3: Kings + Prophets (First Samuel to Malachi)



The Bible teaches that after some time, the Israelite people cried out to God's spokesman, Samuel, and they said, "Every other nation around has a king. Appoint a king over us so we will be like those other nations." And God heard what His people asked and He said to Samuel, "The people have again rejected me as their God. Give the people what they want, but warn them, "The king will take your sons and daughters and make them work for him. He will take the best from the land. When that happens, you will cry out for relief from your king but I will not answer you." But the people demanded a king.

God had Samuel anoint Israel's first king. King Saul. Initially, Saul was a good king who led the people to many great victories, but one day he became impatient with God. Samuel had told Saul to wait for him to give the sacrifice to the Lord, but Saul gave the sacrifice himself. When Samuel arrived, he told Saul, "To obey is better than sacrifice. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has rejected you as king."

God sent Samuel to anoint another man, David, as king. David was called a man after God's own heart. While he was not perfect, he did try to lead God's people in the right way. After David, others became king. These others split the nation into two parts, Israel and Judah

Some of the kings in both Israel and Judah were good kings who lead God's people to a closer relationship with Him. Some of the kings were bad kings who lead the people away from God. During these times, God sent many messengers called prophets who repeated what God had told them. Sometimes they spoke about future events that would happen if the people didn't change their ways and about God's judgment for past actions. They also predicted the future virgin birth of the messiah and that He would die on the cross to pay for the sins of all mankind.

Eventually, God allowed both Israel and Judah to be conquered by other nations and His temple to be destroyed. Finally, after many years in exile, all of the children of Israel were allowed to return. Through it all, they were always waiting for God to send His savior. **And this is a story from God's Word.**

Session 4: Messiah (Gospels)



The Bible teaches that, after many years of silence, the angel of the Lord appeared to a poor virgin girl named Mary. Mary was a descendent of Abraham and King David. The angel told Mary that though she had never been with a man, she would have a son by the Spirit of God. The angel told Mary the son would be the long awaited Savior. His mission would be to save the people from their sins.

After Jesus was born, He grew in favor with both God and man. At about 30 years of age, He began to teach and do great miracles among the people.

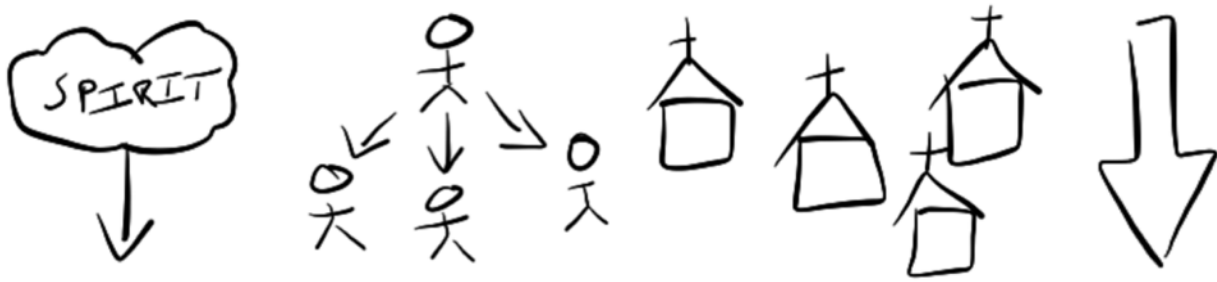
One time as Jesus and His followers were crossing a lake, Jesus fell asleep and a storm came up. His followers were afraid and woke Jesus. Speaking to the wind and the waves, Jesus commanded them to stop and they stopped. His followers were amazed that even nature obeyed Him.

Another time Jesus taught saying, "The miracles that I do in my father's name speak for me... I know my sheep and they follow me. I give them eternal life and will never perish. No one can snatch them out of my hand." These miracles and teachings reveal that Jesus is God!

When Jesus claimed to be God, the teachers of the law became angry and decided to kill Him. Jesus is the only person who has ever lived without sin and therefore did not deserve death. God's plan was that Jesus' death would be the final sacrifice for the sins of the world. Jesus who was sinless died to pay for our sins!

The story does not end there. After three days God raised Jesus back to life! This proved the power of God was greater than the power of sin and death. Just as Jesus taught, the Bible tells us that if we confess our sins to God and believe that Jesus' sacrifice paid for our sins, we can be forgiven. Once we are forgiven, we can have the relationship with God the creator restored like it was before Adam sinned. **And this is a story from God's Word.**

Session 5: Mission (Acts to Revelation)



The Bible teaches that those who followed Jesus witnessed His death and resurrection. Their lives were changed forever. Jesus gathered them together and told them His work on earth was finished. Now it was time for them to go to work! Jesus told them He would send the Spirit of God from heaven to work in and through them.

After His return to Heaven, the Spirit of God came to dwell in the hearts of His followers. Filled with power and wisdom of God, Jesus' followers began to tell people everywhere about what He had done and how they could come back to a right relationship with God. Those who believed were baptized; they gathered together and were called church.

Initially these new churches were made up of only Jews. One of Jesus' disciples named Paul began to take the good news of Jesus to all different groups. Through Paul's and others' work, God began to draw people from every nation, every tribe, every people, and every language to Himself. These churches met in homes, studied the teachings of Jesus, and worshipped God in their own ways.

This process has continued in every part of the world up until today. The church will continue to grow and expand until it will finally one day reach the ends of the earth.

In the last book of the Bible, God reveals His plans for our future. God told one of the first disciples of Jesus, a man named John, to write down the vision of the future God gave him.

Just as Jesus promised, the vision reveals God's plan that when Jesus returns, He will bring judgment to the earth. Those who have followed and believed on His sacrifice for forgiveness will be rewarded with eternity in God's presence. In the vision, we also see Satan, the enemy of God who tempted Adam and Eve and who exists in the world, is also thrown into the like of fire. Those who rebelled or not believed will face eternal separation from God as judgment. **And this is a story from God's Word.**