

How to get my students involved in a personal response to a Bible story?

Get them to respond to questions like:

1. Which character in the story would remind you most of Jesus?
2. Which character was least like Jesus? Why?
3. Which character in the story is most like you? Why?
4. Why do you think God included this story in the Bible?
5. What part/s of the story shows you how to live like a Christian?
6. What can you learn about God from this story?
7. Which part of the story did you like the most?
8. Do any of these truths written thousands of years ago apply today? If so, which ones? How do they apply?
9. Are there truths in this chapter that contradict the ideas we hear in the world? If so, what are they?
10. Is there something in this chapter that surprised you? If so, how were you surprised?
11. Are there any parts of this story which remind you of other stories or passages of the Bible?
12. What is one part of the story that challenges you to change? How does it challenge you?
13. If we were the directors of a new movie and going to shoot the story in a modern setting, where would we choose locally? How would we dress the characters? What ages would they be? Can you suggest what work they might be doing? Is there a Christian song you know which could be played at the start or end that supports the story theme?
14. If we were to design a T shirt front, which promotes the story and the film, what would we include in the layout?
15. Let's summarise the most important learning point we take from the lesson in one sentence we all agree on together.
16. Let's look at some illustrations of the story in different editions of the Bible or from the internet. Does the artist show you the key part/s of the story? What picture/s would you like to see from the story in the Bible?

17. When you look at this YouTube video clip of the story think about how close it is to the Bible story. Is anything left out? Is anything new added in?
18. Draw a series of simple cartoon frames of the story which can be cut up and then mixed so that a classmate gets to put them in the correct order from beginning to the end.