

## How to present a Bible story to children

### 1. Get the children ready to listen

Revise the rules – eyes are watching, ears are listening, voices quiet, body is calm



## **2. Don't read from your notes.**

Keep eye contact... especially with 4-year-olds.

## **3. Use voices and gestures (actions and hand movements)**

Example: Hand movements to represent different words in the story (LOVE = hug yourself, GOD = point up, etc.).

Use expression in your voice. Change the tone of your voice for different people in the story.

## **4. Show pictures**

Use pictures, especially for things the children have no understanding of – the temple, sheep & shepherds, etc.

Teach the children that the Bible stories happened in a real place in the land of Israel, where people wore different clothes and lived in different houses to what we are used to. Point out the cultural aspects in the pictures – dress, animals, houses, plants, desert etc.

## 5. Act it out or use puppets

You could get someone to help you act out a story. If you don't have anyone to act it out, you could try to act out parts of the story yourself, e.g. kneel and wash a child's foot while teaching about Jesus washing the disciple's feet.

Once the children know the story, they can act it out.

You can also make stick puppets for different characters in the story.



## 6. Change the way you tell the story from session to session.

One session, tell the story in your own words and show pictures. Another time, draw while you teach. Another time act it out.