

SUGGESTED BIBLE STORIES FOR DIFFERENT NUMBER OF ENCOUNTERS

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Storytellers can be limited to the number of stories they can tell by the number of times they meet with their listeners. A storyteller going on a week long mission trip may only be able to tell six stories. A storyteller who meets weekly with college students would have about thirty encounters during the school year.

The storyteller needs to consider the needs and worldview of his listeners. For example, a storyteller who goes weekly to a county jail will prepare eight to nine stories for prisoners who are normally in the jail for less than nine weeks. The story of King Manasseh is a powerful story for prisoners, and he will include it as one of the stories he tells to every group of prisoners. Someone telling stories to a people group who fears evil spirits would need to include stories about people who were freed from demon-possession. The storyteller should choose different stories for recovering drug addicts than for a group of abused women and children.

Sometimes it is helpful to tell a cluster of Bible stories in one telling. The teller could tell a cluster of stories in chronological order such as: Four Fishermen Called to Follow Jesus; Paralytic Man Lowered Through Roof; and Jesus Called Matthew (Levi). Or the teller could tell a cluster of stories that relate to the same theme; such as, stories of Jesus healing people on the Sabbath. Sometimes, for the primary story to be most effective, the storyteller needs to tell a cluster of introductory stories; and he may need to tell a cluster of follow-through stories after the primary story. Sometimes the storyteller only needs to tell one story, other times he needs a story cluster.

The following stories are found in my book, KEY BIBLE STORIES. The table was prepared to help the storyteller select stories for a limited number of encounters. With so many great stories, it can be hard to select the best ones for a specific group of listeners. More stories are checked in each column than the number of encounters listed. But this table can give the storyteller a shorter list of stories to consider.

OLD TESTAMENT STORIES

- 1 Creation
- 2 Creation of the Home
- 3 First Sin
- 4 Cain and Abel
- 5 Noah and the Flood
- 6 Tower of Babel
- 7 Abram, Before He Became Abraham
- 8 God's Covenant with Abraham
- 9 Abraham, Lot and Sodom
- 10 Abraham and Isaac
- 11 Jacob and His Parents
- 12 Jacob Fled from Home and Encountered God
- 13 Jacob with Laban
- 14 Jacob Returned to Canaan
- 15 Joseph in His Father's Home
- 16 Joseph, a Slave in Potiphar's House
- 17 Joseph Suffering and Thriving in Egypt
- 18 Israelites Oppressed in Egypt

| Number of Encounters | | | | | |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| 6 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 50 | 75 |
| | | | | | |
| X | X | X | X | X | X |
| | | | | | |
| X | X | X | X | X | X |
| | | | | | |
| | | X | X | X | X |
| | | | | | |
| | X | X | X | X | X |
| | | | X | X | X |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | X | X | X |
| | | | | X | X |
| | | X | X | X | X |
| | | X | X | X | X |

| | 6 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 50 | 75 |
|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 19 | | | | | X | X |
| 20 | | | | X | X | X |
| 21 | | | | | | |
| 22 | | X | X | X | X | X |
| 23 | | | | | | X |
| 24 | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 25 | | | | | | X |
| 26 | | | | | X | X |
| 27 | | | | | | |
| 28 | | | | | | |
| 29 | | | | | | |
| 30 | | | | | | |
| 31 | | | | | | |
| 32 | | | | | | |
| 33 | | | | | | |
| 34 | | | | | | |
| 35 | | | | | | X |
| 36 | | | | | | |
| 37 | | | | | | |
| 38 | | | | | | X |
| 39 | | | | | | |
| 40 | | | | | | |
| 41 | | | X | X | X | X |
| 42 | | | | | | |
| 43 | | | | | | |
| 44 | | | | X | X | X |
| 45 | | | | | | |
| 46 | | | | | | |
| 47 | | | | | | |
| 48 | | | | | | |
| 49 | | | | | | |
| 50 | | | | | | |
| 51 | | | | | X | X |
| 52 | | | | | | |
| 53 | | | | | | X |
| 54 | | | | | | X |
| 55 | | | | | | |
| 56 | | | | | | |
| 57 | | | | | | |
| 58 | | | | | | |
| 59 | | | | | X | X |
| 60 | | | | | | |
| 61 | | | | | | |
| 62 | | | | | X | X |

| | 6 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 50 | 75 |
|--|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 63 Daniel Interpreted Nebuchadnezzar's Dream | | | | | | |
| 64 Gold Statue and Fiery Furnace | | | | | X | X |
| 65 Handwriting on the Wall | | | | | | X |
| 66 Daniel in Lions' Den | | | | | | X |
| 67 Rebuilding the Temple. | | | | | | X |
| 68 Ezra | | | | | | |
| 69 Nehemiah | | | | | | |
| NEW TESTAMENT STORIES | | | | | | |
| 70 Before Baby Jesus' Birth | | | X | X | X | X |
| 71 Baby Jesus | | X | X | X | X | X |
| 72 Scholars Visited Baby Jesus | | | | | | X |
| 73 John the Baptist Prepared the Way | | | | | X | X |
| 74 John Baptized Jesus | | | X | X | X | X |
| 75 Jesus' Temptations | | | X | X | X | X |
| 76 Jesus' First Followers | | | | | | X |
| 77 Water Changed to Wine | | | | | | X |
| 78 Jesus and Nicodemus | X | | X | X | X | X |
| 79 Jesus and the Samaritan Woman | | | | X | X | X |
| 80 John the Baptist Imprisoned | | | | | X | X |
| 81 Lame Man Healed by Jesus on the Sabbath | | | | | | X |
| 82 Man with a Withered Hand Healed on the Sabbath | | | | | | |
| 83 Four Fishermen Called to Follow Jesus | | | | | X | X |
| 84 Paralytic Man Lowered Through Roof | X | | | X | X | X |
| 85 Jesus Called Matthew (Levi) | | X | X | X | X | X |
| 86 Parables: Two Doors; Two Roads; Two Foundations | X | | | X | X | X |
| 87 Centurion's Servant Healed. | | | | | | |
| 88 Resurrection of Widow's Son at Nain | | | | | | X |
| 89 John the Baptist Doubted Jesus | | | | | | |
| 90 Jesus at the Home of Simon the Pharisee | | | X | X | X | X |
| 91 Blasphemous Accusation Against Jesus | | | | | X | X |
| 92 Parable: Sower. | | | | X | X | X |
| 93 Parable: Weeds in the Wheat Field. | | | | | | X |
| 94 Demon-possessed Man Healed at Gerasa. | | | X | X | X | X |
| 95 John the Baptist's Death | | | | | | X |
| 96 Five Thousand Men Fed | | | | X | X | X |
| 97 Jesus Walked on Water | | | | | | X |
| 98 Jesus, the Bread of Life. | | | | | X | X |
| 99 Peter's Confession; Peter Reprimanded | | | | | X | X |
| 100 Jesus' Transfiguration | | X | X | X | X | X |
| 101 Demon-possessed Son Healed. | | | | | X | X |
| 102 Parable: The Unmerciful Debtor. | | | | | | |
| 103 Jesus at the Feast of the Tabernacles | | | | | | |
| 104 Woman Caught in Adultery. | | X | | | X | X |
| 105 Jesus Healed Man Blind from Birth. | | | | | | |

| | 6 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 50 | 75 |
|--|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 106 Good Shepherd | | | | | | |
| 107 Jesus Rejected by Would-be Followers | | | | | | |
| 108 Jesus at the Feast of Dedication | | | | | | |
| 109 Parable: Good Samaritan | | | | | X | X |
| 110 Jesus Visited Martha and Mary | | | | | | |
| 111 Parable: Rich Fool. | | | | | | |
| 112 Jesus Healed the Crippled Woman on the Sabbath. | | | | X | X | X |
| 113 Parable: Prodigal Son | | X | X | X | X | X |
| 114 Ten Lepers Healed; Only One Grateful | | | | | | X |
| 115 Parable: Rich Man and Lazarus. | | | | | | |
| 116 Resurrection of Lazarus | | X | | | X | X |
| 117 Parable: a Pharisee and a Tax Collector Went to Pray. | | | X | | X | X |
| 118 Rich Young Ruler. | | | | | | |
| 119 Parable: Workers in the Vineyard. | | | | | | |
| 120 Two Brothers' Request | | | | | | |
| 121 Blind Men of Jericho Received Sight. | | | | | | |
| 122 Jesus and Zacchaeus. | X | | X | | | X |
| 123 Jesus' Triumphal Entry | | | | | | X |
| 124 Jesus Cleansed the Temple. | | | | | X | X |
| 125 Jesus' Authority Challenged. | | | | | | |
| 126 Prophecies of Jesus' Second Coming. | | | | | | |
| 127 Parable: Ten Bridesmaids. | | | | | | |
| 128 Parable: Talents. | | | | | | X |
| 129 Parable: Sheep and Goats. | | | | | X | X |
| 130 Mary Anointed Jesus with Perfume. | | | | | X | X |
| 131 Jesus Washed Disciples' Feet | | | | | X | X |
| 132 Passover Meal and the Lord's Supper | | | | | X | X |
| 133 Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane | | | X | X | X | X |
| 134 Jesus' Judgments | | | X | X | X | X |
| 135 Jesus' Crucifixion | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 136 Jesus' Resurrection | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| 137 Jesus' Appearances in Galilee | | | | | | X |
| 138 Jesus' Ascension | | X | X | X | X | X |
| 139 Holy Spirit Came at Pentecost. | | | X | X | X | X |
| 140 Peter Spoke at Pentecost. | | | X | X | X | X |
| 141 Crippled Beggar Healed. | | | | | | X |
| 142 Peter and John Ordered Not to Talk about Jesus. | | | | | X | X |
| 143 Barnabas – Generous; Ananias and Sapphira – Deceptive. | | | | | | |
| 144 Seven Chosen as Helpers. | | | | | | X |
| 145 Stephen, the First Martyr. | | | | | | X |
| 146 Philip in Samaria. | | | | | | X |
| 147 Philip and the Ethiopian. | | | | | | |
| 148 Saul's Conversion. | | | | X | X | X |
| 149 Dorcas Brought Back to Life. | | | | | | |

| | 6 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 50 | 75 |
|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 150 Peter at Cornelius' House..... | | | | | | X |
| 151 Church Plant in Antioch..... | | | | | | X |
| 152 Paul Opposed Peter in Antioch..... | | | | | | |
| 153 Peter Rescued from Prison..... | | | | | | |
| 154 King Herod's Death..... | | | | | | |
| 155 First Missionaries..... | | | | | X | X |
| 156 Paul and Barnabas in Lystra..... | | | | | | |
| 157 Church Council at Jerusalem..... | | | | | X | X |
| 158 Paul and Barnabas Separated..... | | | | | | X |
| 159 Timothy Joined Paul..... | | | | | | X |
| 160 Macedonian Call..... | | | | | | X |
| 161 Paul and Silas in Philippi..... | | | | | X | X |
| 162 Paul in Athens..... | | | | | | |
| 163 Paul in Corinth..... | | | | | | X |
| 164 Apollos..... | | | | | | |
| 165 Paul in Ephesus..... | | | | | | X |
| 166 Riot in Ephesus..... | | | | | | X |
| 167 Paul's Arrest in Jerusalem..... | | | | | | X |
| 168 Paul's Defense to the Crowd..... | | | | | | X |
| 169 Paul's Defense to the Sanhedrin..... | | | | | | |
| 170 Paul's Trial Before Felix..... | | | | | | |
| 171 Paul's Trial Before Festus and Agrippa..... | | | | | | X |
| 172 Paul Shipwrecked..... | | | | | | |
| 173 Paul in Rome..... | | | | | | |