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PR 703 Storytelling and Preaching

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Warning! Preliminary Syllabus

Dear Storytelling Pilgrims:

Welcome to one of the most exciting classes you will ever take. Not because I am teaching but because of the nature of the genre itself. In preparation for the class you will be asked to do the following:

1. Bring three discardable magazines with you on the first class session.
2. You will read 1200 pages of collateral, centering around storytelling, narrative preaching; even a novel or a play, watch some videos, movies.
3. Write a three-page fairy tale (to be duplicated and read in class).
4. Be prepared to do a children's sermon (in class).
5. Collect at least three of your favorite stories (to be Xeroxed and distributed to each class member).
6. Be prepared to tell one of your favorite stories.
7. You will write a 3-5 page paper on your 'theology of storytelling'.

PR703, SOTRYTELLING

PR703, Storytelling

TUESDAY

Session #1

Orientation
Collage

Session #2

Dyads
Looking for the stories
Journaling about it
 What storytelling principles have emerged?
 Journaling about stories
 ---in the discovery of your inner self
 ---in the skills observed
 ---in the telling

Session #3

Drawing, 'What is going on in my life right now?'
Dyads
Reflections/journaling

Session #4

Deciphering (collage and drawing)
Killian's story, collage
'Everyone's story is in part the story of us all.'

Session #5

Finding Stories
 Movie with reflection
 ---looking for the illustration/story
 ---how will it show up in the sermon
 ---a one-page reflection (dyad)

WEDNESDAY

Session #6

Telling Stories

Be prepared to tell a favorite story (7 mins. Max.)

Tell a children's story (from Kemp's book)

Your favorite Bible story/parable/miracle

Draw a picture of it

Put in your best narrative form

Think through the telling from 3 perspectives

---as a reporter

---as a participant in the story

---as an inanimate object in the story

Wednesday evening at a church in Orlando

THURSDAY

Session #8

'Once upon a time' stories (to be read in class)

What dynamics were at work in the writing?

Where is the 'hook; in the story for you?

Session #9

Write and deliver your own children's story

Session #10

A drawing: 'what happened to me this week?'

(to be told in class)

An evening out as a group

To be handed in on the Friday following the last class:

1. a detailed report on your readings with its 1-2 pg. Reflection
2. your movie reflection and its adaptation for the sermon
3. your final reflection paper, including:
 - a. your summary of story telling principles gleaned in the class
 - b. a 'theology of storytelling'
 - c. a statement concerning: Having had the class, so what?

FOR EXTRA CREDIT

4. Take an old sermon, reshape it, given the insights from class