

STORY-FORMED LIFE

Tips on getting the most out of Story Formed Life...

1. **Drink from the fire hydrant** - Even though we “only” read scripture, God will reveal so much to you at times it will feel like you are drinking from a fire hydrant. We are also reviewing the entire story of the Bible in 10 weeks. That is a lot! Be a sponge, soak it up, take notes, then take your thoughts home and talk them over with a friend or spouse and God.
2. **Feel free to disagree** - SFL is a belief-based training tool. Which means your beliefs may be challenged or beliefs will be created that were not there previously. If you feel the spirit pushing on you it might mean there is something you need to dig into.
3. **Connect** - The SFL method is meant to be in community. We need each other to fully understand the truth in God's word. The Bible is full of stories about families that chose to engage in God's story. We are all a part of God's story, therefore it is going to take a team (spouse, children, family, community) to fully engage in the story.
4. **Be intentional** – Most importantly, use this time to connect with God because He really wants to meet you. You might consider fasting something for the next 10 weeks (TV/social media, wake up early, or put down your phone 15 minutes before bedtime) and instead use that time to review the weekly training questions or talk to God about what He is saying to you. Being intentional is going to be challenging, but God wants to meet you in the story. He has an important role for you to play!
5. **Train** - In order to believe a new story you will have to intentionally train in the new story. The way to train in a new story is to: 1) Learn a new story and understand it, 2) Contrast the new story with the old one, 3) Train in the new story or deepen your faith in the story... not "do you" believe it, but "how deeply" do you believe it.
6. **You will face resistance** – When/if you begin to live a difference story, you will encounter relational resistance. This may come from spouses, friends, co-workers, even enemies. Many people shut down their stories at the first bit of resistance, but can you name a single world-changer who did not face serious resistance? Count on it; it will happen. Our attitude towards resistance must be kindness. Unkindness often comes from insecurities. Make sure your story is good for the world. Make sure you aren't compromising a Biblical, Jesus-oriented attitude in your good work. And then move forward. Your story must engage and endure conflict.
7. **Remember the stakes are high.** If you've aiming to live a great story, the stakes are high. Many generations may have their moral compasses set by the story you live. Many lives may be saved by your ambition.

“Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls...” Jeremiah 6:16