

Vermeer Workshop – Session 1
Helping Students Rediscover the Narrative of Scripture
By Jason Lief – Dordt College

I. How we tend to view / teach the Bible - What is the Bible?

A. God's Word – What does this mean?

B. Is the Bible primarily divinely inspired or authored by humans?

C. Reclaiming the humanity...

D. Discovering meaning in the story

II. Here we come to understand the importance of teaching the Bible to young people

A. Identity... helping them understand:

1. Who God is
2. Who we are
3. What God is doing

B. Enfolding young people into the Christian community...

C. Christian education – “indoctrination” vs. “invitation”

Vermeer Workshop - Presentation 2

Claiming the story: Helping Students Find their identity in the Biblical Narrative

I. "Harry and our Christian Identity"

- A. "I'm just Harry"

- B. Which voices do our young people listen to?

II. The Bible and story competition

- A. Story competition for Israel...

- B. How the gospel engages in story competition

III. Story Competition

- A. What narratives are competing for the allegiance of our young people?

- B. How does the Bible engage in story competition in the lives of our young people?

- C. Our responsibilities as teachers...
 - 1. *Are we willing to ask the tough questions?*

 - 2. *Do we baptize the "narratives" of the status quo - making the Biblical story fit into them instead of prophetically challenging them...*

 - 3. *Are we willing to embrace the messiness of life - and the messiness of the Christian life*

 - 4. *More importantly are we willing to prophetically challenge the narratives at work in our world?*

 - 5. *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe - "Kings and Queens of Narnia"*