



Add Power to Your Nonfiction Using Fiction Techniques

***I. Our inspiration and example: Jesus the Storyteller, who taught in parables.
Once upon a time...***

II. Using the power of the story to reveal great truths and change lives

A. Name the books that have affected your life—how many have been fiction or biography or historical accounts?

B. Why stories have that power: Through emotion

III. Honing your storytelling technique for more effective writing

A. Developing Character

1. Know your characters as well as novelists know theirs

a. Conflict

b. Growth

c. Action

d. Motivation

2. Tools for developing character

a. Action

b. Dialog

c. Interior monolog

d. Description

3. The importance of emotion

B. Using Dialog

1. Dialog—the *illusion* of real speech
2. The many tasks of dialog
 - a. character development
 - b. story development
 - c. description
 - d. revealing relationships
 - e. revealing truth credibly

C. Descriptions of Action

1. The Parable of the Good Samaritan
2. Dramatization—what it is, and how to maintain it
3. Writing in Scenes

D. Building suspense and mystery

1. All stories are mystery stories
2. Withholding information from the reader
3. Delay
4. Long lines and short lines
5. Foreshadowing
6. The ticking clock
7. Conflict and confrontation

E. Setting—creating a storyworld

1. Need to understand context to understand character and plot
2. Setting is more than physical description
3. Importance of detail

IV. Conclusion: Go thou and do likewise

