

SESSION 1 — Discovering Our Gift & How to Use It

We use it for His glory

Habakkuk 2:2 Then the LORD said to me, “Write my answer plainly on tablets, so that the runner can carry the correct message to others.” NLT

Psalms 26:7 That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works. KJV

Psalms 96:3 Publish his glorious deeds among the nations. Tell everyone about the amazing things he does. NLT Same verse as I Chronicles 16:24.

What “ministry” means

Webster’s: The act of ministering, serving

Essential Resources

2018 Christian Writers’ Market Guide — Steve Laube

Proofreading Secrets of Best-Selling Authors — Kathy Ide

Mining for Stories: Discovering Their Worth

How do you know if your story is worth telling? Fiction or non-fiction Simple Formula: O2EU

O2-1 Obscure

O2-2 Opposite

E - Extreme

U - Unusual

Examples:

Ben—Hur

Ivanhoe

Wordsmith

Find the right word

Have a dictionary handy

Use the Synonym Feature of Microsoft Word

Types of Publications

Newspapers: Online or Print

Magazines: Online or Print. News mags, Features, Christian Living, Special Interest.

Websites: Websites for Writers. www.almostanauthor.com

Blogs: your own

Books: devotional books, novels, non-fiction teaching books, memoirs

Gift Books: coffee table type photo books, poetry

Children's Picture Books: specifically, for preschoolers or those just beginning to read

Pamphlets, Newsletters, Promotional & Marketing Materials: educational and/or promotional

Nonfiction

Devotional: Scripture, Exposition, Thought for the Day, Prayer Focus

Take-home Papers: sidebars, main story of theme

Letters to the Editor: persuasive speeches, poetry, praise and encouragement, opinion

Personal Experience/Essay/Memoir: Chicken Soup. It happened to you, or someone close to you.

Journaling: I highly recommend this. If you don't do it, start. It will teach you how to get your feelings, impressions, etc. on paper. Best training there is for writers there is.

Bible Studies/Curriculums: A book, workbook, take-home paper, for adults and/or Sunday school

What's Your Passion?

Is it stories about miracles? Angels?

Do you have a passion for Bible studies? Teaching?

What part of the Christian life could you write or speak about with experience and spiritual authority?

Do you want to write a novel? Short stories?

Additional Training

Jerry's Guild — www.jerrysguild.com

Almost an Author/Serious Writer Academy — www.almostanauthor.com
www.seriouswriteracademy.com

ACFW — www.acfw.com

Local Writer's Groups

Your Novel Blueprint www.yournovelblueprint.com