

NARRATIVE ANALYSIS OF AN EPISODE: MARK 5:21-43

(See *Mark as Story*, pages 154-59 for full description)

1. Getting to know the episode (1-2 minutes)

Directions: Read Mk 6:32-43 silently or together.

2. Noticing the Narrator (10 minutes)

Directions: Answer to questions under heading # 2 on pg. 155 in *Mark as Story*.

3. The points of view of different characters (15 minutes)

Skip

4. Identifying stylistic features (10 minutes)

First directions: Identify rhetorical features you see in the episode.

Second directions: Respond to the following:

- How does awareness of rhetorical features help you to understand the episode?
- How do particular rhetorical features impact the reader?

5. Questions about settings

Skip

6. Tracing the story

Skip

7. Analysis of conflicts (10 minutes)

First direction: Identify some of the conflicts in this episode:

- Inner (within a person)
- Between people
- Within nature
- With society or authorities
- With supernatural beings

Second direction: Trace one of the conflicts in the episode:

- What is the source of the conflict?
- Who initiates it?

- How does it escalate?
- Is it resolved? How? Is anything left unresolved?

Third direction: Assess the conflict:

- State in one sentence what is at stake in the conflict

8. Analysis of characters

Directions:

1. Select a character in the episode
2. With as much detail as possible, note
 - What the character *says*
 - What the character *does*
 - What *others say* (including the narrator) about the character
 - How *the character interacts with other characters*
3. Based on step two, identify the traits of the character
4. Answer questions:
 - What drives or motivates the character? What is the characters' desire or purpose? What are the belief and values of the character?
 - What is the place of the character in the social order? How does that illuminate the story?
 - Does the character change or develop?
 - How is the character illuminated by comparison or contrast with other characters?

9. Identifying standards of judgment

Directions: Respond to questions under heading # 9 on pg. 158 in *Mark as Story*.

10. The rhetorical Impact: Then and now

Directions: Respond to questions under heading # 10 on pg. 158 in *Mark as Story*.

11. Questions on the ethics of reading

Directions: Respond to questions under heading # 11 on pgs. 158-59 in *Mark as Story*.