

Apprenticeships



Do you want to be coached in Biblical Storytelling?
Would you like to be involved the Backyard Bard?
Then this is the program for you!

We're pleased to announce the creation of *the Backyard Bard Apprenticeship Program*. Not only will you receive basic training in Biblical Storytelling but you will also be coached and mentored by an experienced storyteller so you have the skills and experience to continue doing storytelling for yourself.

Your Mentor

Once part of the program, you will be given an experienced storyteller from The Backyard Bard as a mentor. This mentor will work together with you throughout your time as an apprentice to train you in storytelling, to help you prepare individual storytellings and to give you feedback after you've performed them.

Goals to achieve

At the beginning of your apprenticeship, you and your mentor will draw up a blueprint for your training, made up of goals for you to achieve.

You may be interested in:

- Performing a short story as the Bible reading at your church;
- Performing the Easter or Christmas story;
- Creating an extended Storytelling Presentation (between 10 - 30 min) and performing it at a number of churches;
- Helping run Biblical Storytelling crash courses;
- Being part of a Backyard Bard storytelling production.



Rachel
Our first apprentice

Apprenticeships

Application

To apply to the program, you must first express your interest to us at the Backyard Bard and then attend a full-day Biblical Storytelling crash course. This will provide you with the basic skills of storytelling. Then we will ask you to submit an application so we can find out how you hope to use the training we will be providing. There is a high demand for this kind of coaching and we only have a small number of places so that we will not be able to offer as many apprenticeships as we would like. God-willing, in the future, we hope to expand this program so that we can accommodate more aspiring storytellers over time.

FAQs

Is there a cost to be part of the program?

The cost of being an apprentice is only \$120 a quarter! It is a requirement that at least 50% of this amount is not paid for by you but by a supportive community such as your church or other Christian group. This payment must be accompanied by a brief letter by this group commending you to the program. This requirement is to make sure that the Christian community around you see it as their role to encourage you in this training. Also, your mentor will receive 40% of any income you receive whilst doing storytelling to pay for the coaching you will receive.

Can I be an apprentice even if I'm not living in Melbourne?

So long as it is possible for you to attend a Crash Course - we are willing to accept a limited number of interstate candidates. You will need a regular internet connection because you will need to communicate to your mentor through video conferencing and be able to upload videos of your performances online for them to give feedback.

How long does the program go for?

A typical apprenticeship will go for about one semester (i.e. six months). There is the possibility of extending adding a second semester if the training is going well. It is possible for you to withdraw from the program at any stage.



As a management team, we are always talking about ways to help people to keep making the next step in doing Biblical Storytelling for themselves. We believe this is a fantastic initiative that will help many.

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