

Tell a story about an outdoor summer adventure.

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Tell a story about your first time traveling away from home in the summer.

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Tell a story about a summer church experience: VBS, church camp, choir tour.

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Tell a story about
a disappointing summer.

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Tell a story about playing sports in the summer.

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Tell a story about a favorite or least favorite summer activity.

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Tell a story about your worst or best summer ever.

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Tell a story about
a summer that
changed everything.

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Tell a story about
a summer tradition.

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Tell a story about a favorite summer food or meal.

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3 Ways to Use Your Summer Story Cards

- 1. Have a story feast. Let everyone choose from one of twenty topics to write or outline a story in advance. Then get together to share good food and good stories.
- 2. Use them at a family or friend gathering. Let everyone choose a card and tell a story about that topic.
- 3. Choose one card a day to write about in a journal. Set a goal to do a certain number: five, ten, all twenty, before the summer ends.











How to Have a Summer Story Feast



Food for the Feast:

Bring an appetizer or a dessert. It does not have to be home made, but it can be. Consider a favorite recipe or a favorite food you like to buy and share. It's always fun to hear a story related to the food:-)!

Story Topics:

Choose one of the topics from the story prompt cards and write or outline your story.

Preparing for the Feast:

Write Your Story:

Remember, no one will read this but you. This is to help you organize and think through your story, because you'll have about five-seven minutes to share. No one is going to check your grammar;-)!

- 1. Set aside fifteen minutes. Brainstorm by writing down topics/titles that come to mind.
- 2. Set aside fifteen minutes. Choose a topic, and answer a few questions about it. Here are some questions to consider:

Describe the senses—what you heard, tasted, felt, saw, smelled... .

Who were the people involved?

What happened? Was there a conflict? Was there a resolution?

Does the story reveal something about God to you?

Is there any redemption or revelation in the story?

3. Set aside fifteen minutes again. Using the questions above, write out the story. Try to keep it rather short—one to two pages.

The Actual Story Feast

- Allot a certain amount of time for eating, then gather to share stories.
- Give an allotted time usually around 10–15 minutes works well. (Tell your guests ahead of time, so they will know they won't have time to share every detail).
- Begin with a brief gospel-centered devotional or by reading a Scripture related to the topic.
- Remind everyone that they aren't "required" to tell a story (tell them this when you invite them, too more people will come:-)! Then remind them it will be fairly dull if no one does. Usually one brave soul begins, and often others decide to tell their story or remember one to tell if they haven't before.
- Share stories. Tell people they can read what they wrote or tell their story.
- Provide a little time for feedback or observations. Remind people that they don't need to try to fix anyone's problem, just listen carefully, especially for hope and redemption.
- After the feast, within a day or so, return to the story and jot down a few new things you noticed after telling your story.