

The Unspoken Lesson –

An Introduction to the Godly Play® Teacher Accreditation Plenaries

What is the unspoken lesson?

Everything in the Room:

- ◆ the materials
- ◆ the organization of the materials
- ◆ the care of the materials
- ◆ the care of the space

Everything that takes place in the space:

- ◆ how the time is used
- ◆ every interaction that takes place between the adults and between the adults and children

What is the unspoken lesson we want to teach children?

- ❖ They are welcome.
- ❖ They have value.
- ❖ They are loved.
- ❖ They are respected.
- ❖ They are accepted just the way they are.
- ❖ They are capable.
- ❖ They are our primary concern during this time.
- ❖ We trust them to make good choices.
- ❖ This is a safe place to wonder and find meaning.
- ❖ The community is important and will be supported.
- ❖ There are limits and expectations in this place.
- ❖ This is a place of imagining.
- ❖ A different language is spoken here.
- ❖ Relationships are attended to in a careful and intentional way to promote the learning and use of the language to know God.
- ❖ The stories have value.
- ❖ We love the stories.
- ❖ We can use the stories to make meaning.
- ❖ We love God
- ❖ God is present in this place.

We organize our discussions/learning about the unspoken lesson into three sessions:

- I. The Theology of Childhood / The Spirituality of the Child
- II. Classroom Management: Creating a safe space for children to come close to God and to one another
- III. The Classroom Environment