

*"I will open my mouth in a story; I will speak about things that were hidden, that happened a long time ago." Psalm 78:2*

## **Parental Consent Form to Videotape Your Children**

I have been enrolled in an online course of biblical storytelling with the Network of Biblical Storytellers International (NBSINT.ORG) for the past two years. As my last assignment, I am required to create an educational resource. I chose to create a Vlog (blogging using video) called *Off the Page-Into the Heart*. It will feature me telling stories – and me teaching stories, mostly to children, and children telling stories to each other. The thing that will set my vlog apart from others is that I believe that children are natural storytellers and I want to feature children learning and telling each other stories from the Bible that they will learn by heart. I will have some content that is written – but a lot of it will be video. My ultimate goal for this project is to involve the children and as they get excited to learn and tell stories and see themselves on YouTube they will in turn be teaching other children. Children love learning from other kids, and I hope this can be a resource for Sunday School teachers and parents to watch with their kids and use the video telling as a tool for teaching and ultimately for spiritual formation.

### **In order to keep kids safe on the internet I will do the following:**

- I will never share any information about the child: no name – first or last, no location, no t-shirts shown with identifying schools or churches.
- I will never use a photo of a child in the thumbnail photo that people see when they are scrolling through the public YouTube videos
- I will not use the key search words "Kids" or "Child" in the titles of my videos.
- I will start by only publishing my videos as unlisted – that means the public can't see them, only people who have the link can view and share the link with their friends. This means that my channel won't get subscribers and likes and comments.
- If some of them are very good and I want to make them public, I will notify you and ask that you sign another consent form if you haven't already checked the box below allowing me to do that. When I do publish video content as public I will never use a photo of a child in the thumbnail preview of video and I will turn off the comments section.
- I will adhere to YouTube's Child Safety Policy/Best Practices for Content with Children
- These videos will be used for educational purposes only and will only show the children in a favorable way, nothing that they would later be embarrassed about.

The spaces for you to sign are on the second page. I have already made a few videos and hope to slowly make a few more as the year progresses. This is a work in progress.

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I, \_\_\_\_\_ the parent or legal guardian of the child named below, hereby authorize Kathy Smedley to video record my child telling biblical stories. These videos will be uploaded and used for educational purposes only.

**(Please check all that apply)**

\_\_\_ I authorize Kathy Smedley to publish videos to the blog (*Off the Page – Into the Heart*) and to her private YouTube Channel with the same name.

\_\_\_ I authorize Kathy Smedley along with the above uses, to publish the videos also to her public YouTube channel of the same name.

\_\_\_ I am willing to have my child remain in Sunday School a few minutes past 10:45 on those days when it is necessary to complete the stories and shoot them.

\_\_\_ I am interested in having my child participate in a children's storytelling club at a time and place to be determined where we will have fun working on drama and telling skills and where we will tell stories to each other becoming more comfortable in front of an audience. *(If your child really takes to this and wants to do more of it, I would be thrilled to work with them.)*

Printed name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely,

*Kathy Smedley* 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Coordinator- Westminster KidsConnect  
cell 484-678-9474.....[kmed@aol.com](mailto:kmed@aol.com)