**The Slavic Village with no Divorce**

1. Choose your story: Small Slavic Village with no Divorce

2. Decide what point you want to make or stress: God centered marriages and families open communication and love and make strong families

3. Make it relatable, and speak in terms children can understand, use their language: When moms and dads get married…etc

4. Choose your details. Make sure you pick ones that are relatable, and leave out those which are not. Dates are usually note necessary and can crowd your story. Keep characters to a minimum and simple. Stress the main character and the relatable points: FOCUS on one family, how it can create communication. How they all love God first.

5. Stress the main point and/or upstanding character of the Saint or character

6. Leave the audience with a challenge, point or question: This year we want to concentrate on making God the center of our families and in our homes.

Example:

There is a small village in eastern Europe where no one gets divorced. No one has even heard of a divorce for generations. Yet there are no bad marriages or abusive families. This is incredible when thinking how many people are affected by divorce. Many of us have felt the pain of divorce ourselves or from those we know and love. How do they do this?

It starts when a man and woman get engaged. They don’t prepare for the wedding like we do here. They don’t find the perfect dress, or the perfect photographer, or the perfect decorations. Instead they spend many months shopping for the perfect crucifix.

Then, on their wedding day, they walk down the aisle with this crucifix. When they say their vows they kiss the crucifix. Then they kiss each other.

Then, when they go home, they put the crucifix up in their home and build an altar or prayer space around it. They put some maybe candles, holy cards, holy water, a Bible, and statues of Mary and the Saints.

Every day, they pray together at the crucifix. Sometimes the man will see the woman praying there at an unusual time. He then will know she is upset and can comfort and talk to her. Every time they have an argument, they always have the argument in front of their crucifix. And when they have kids, they all pray together at the crucifix. When they see their teenage son at an unusual time at the crucifix, they know he had a bad day at school or something upset him, and they can comfort him and talk about it.

Everyone in this village lives centered around their crucifix. And everyone always expects it.

This is how they have no divorce. Jesus is always at the center of everything. So he can always heal all the hurts and teach us to love others better. And if God is love, then when we fall in love with someone, we are falling into God with them. How beautiful! Let’s talk about how God and Jesus can be the center of our families more.