

ORAL TRADITION

TELL & SHARE DAY

Generations before us have found themselves struggling through famine and war, seeking help when sick, and rejoicing at the birth of a baby or the wedding of a loved one. We listen intently as grandparents tell us stories filled with important lessons through the cumulation of their life experiences. These stories are their lives - as they share their faith, their suffering, their beliefs, and how they found peace and comfort in these moments.

The classic bedtime story finds its origination here, in the darkness of night, long before electricity had been invented. Grandparents, parents, and relatives would tell the children about their experiences and about the lives of those who came before them, which taught the children about the family's religion, culture, and history. These stories about their lives were told over and over again until they were memorized by all. The life and experiences shared with each other were the oral tradition of the family and are still told today as well.

All of this is important to us because the Bible contains the lives of the people - their immense faith, how deeply they suffered, their beliefs, and how Christ came to save us all! It is the story of our life too as we strive to have faith in God, not be swallowed up by our sufferings, and find peace in the hope of our eternal life with God. The Bible provides guidance to our lives and reading it is a direct participation in the grace of God. It is within the framework of **Holy Tradition** that we are provided the common, collective understanding of the Church and therefore understanding of the Bible in our own life. Holy Tradition is the cumulation of life, experiences, and worship within the Church.

WHO	PREPARATION	GOAL
Each student (all ages) and teacher will be sharing one family oral tradition (life experience passed down through the generations) during class	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Listen & learn about a family experience from parents or grandparents2. Retell story to parents (check for accuracy)3. Share with classmates and teachers	To acquire a meaningful understanding of oral tradition within the context of the Gospels

Sunday School Activity - All Ages!

Learn more: <https://orthodoxbiblestudy.info/the-oral-tradition/>