



Teaching *for*  
**TRANSFORMATION**

# God's Image Bearers

## Bible 7 Old Testament Overview

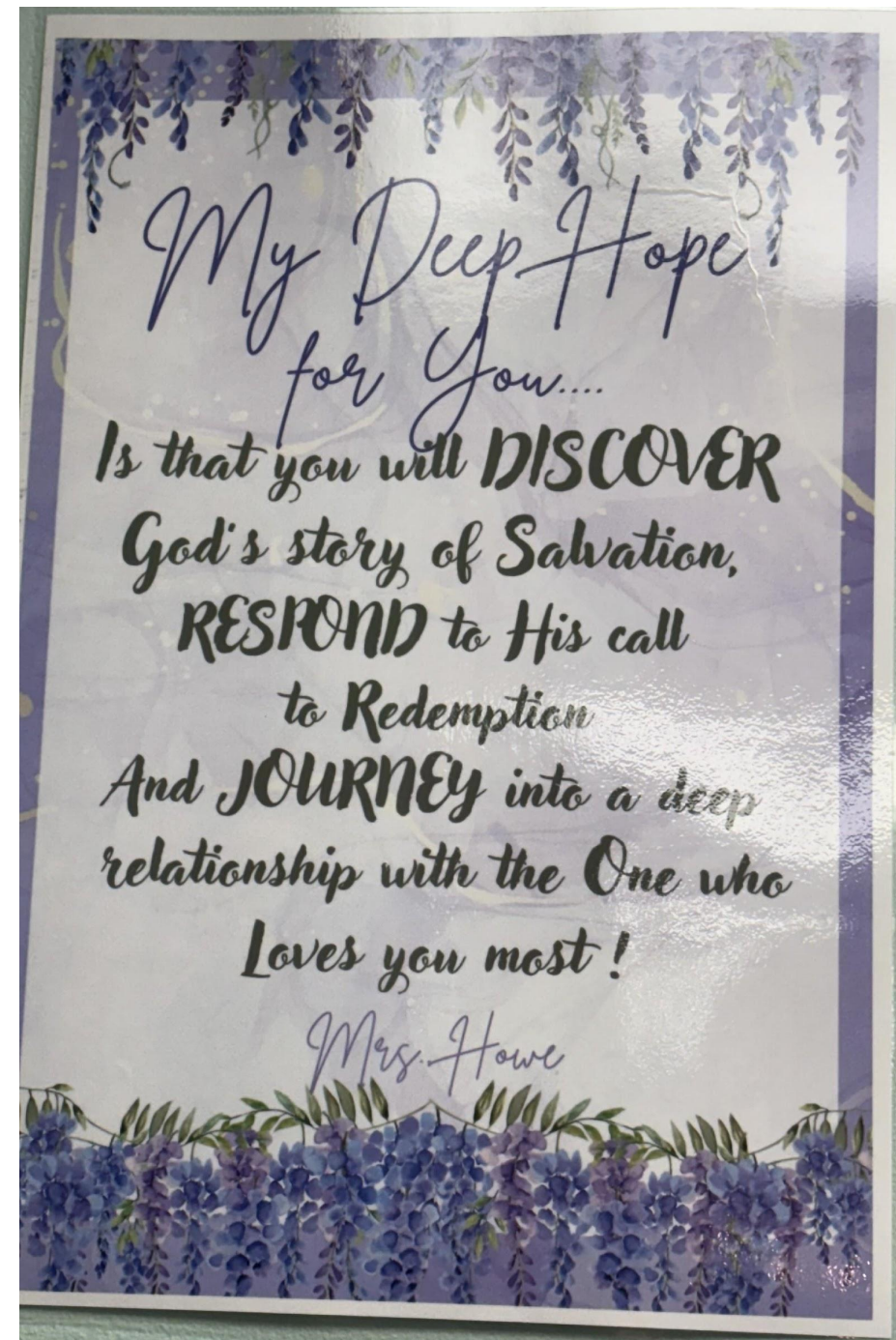
Dawn Howe  
Park Christian  
School



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## Deep Hope:

My deep hope is that you will **discover** God's story of salvation, **respond** to His call to redemption and **journey** into a deep relationship with the one who loves you most!





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## Long Term Learning Targets:

- 🎯 I can...prayerfully consider our class **throughlines** and how they apply to the giftings God has given to each of my classmates.
- 🎯 I can...**graciously communicate** encouraging words to my classmates.
- 🎯 I can reflect on our throughline of being an **image reflector** of God to formulate and write uplifting words to my classmates with the hope they will *reflect on those words in the years to come* and it will cause them to consider their walk with the one who **loves them most** and remember they have been **redeemed**.



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## Curricular Outcomes:

Student Instructional Objective:

Each student will apply Biblical principles that will enrich their lives and the lives of others. (BI 700 Course Instructional Objective 6 of 9)



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## Habit(s) of Learning:

(For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.)

### GRACIOUS COMMUNICATION

Students can prayerfully consider their classmates in light of Psalm 139:13-14 as well as our Storyline, my Deep Hope, and the throughline of Image Reflecting. Once this was concluded, the students were given a sheet with the name of each of their classmates and were asked to write gracious words of encouragement for each classmate while keeping the Storyline, Deep Hope, and Throughlines in mind. Once this was completed, they were turned in and the Gracious Communications were compiled onto a sheet for each student in the class. In order to protect anonymity, encourage honesty, and prevent comparison, the sheets were mailed to each student at their homes.



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## **See God's Story: Creation, Fall, Redemption, Renewal**

The student will see the Creation/Image Reflecting part of God's story in each of their classmates. There is an undercurrent of conflict and negative interactions between the student of this grade/class rather than seeing one another as being "fearfully and wonderfully created" by God.

God meant us to see each other through his eyes as amazing creations wholly loved and wonderfully made by Him. In the fall, however, man's tendency is to elevate our perception of ourselves by trying to discredit and lower how others are perceived. Through Christ's redemption they can look at others and see them as loved, redeemed and in the process of being renewed...not perfect, but being renewed.

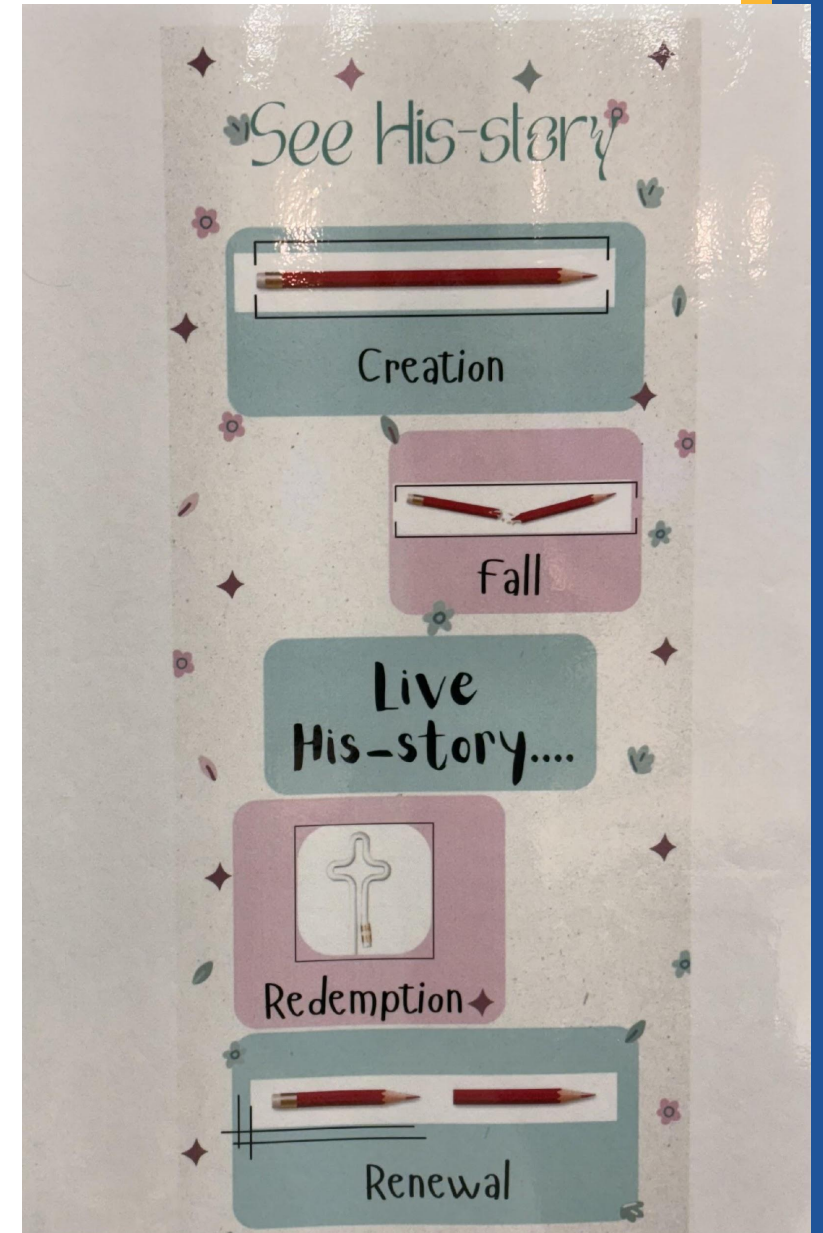




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## Storyline: “See HIStory, Live HIStory”

God meant us to see each other through his eyes as amazing creations, wholly loved and wonderfully made by Him. In the fall, however, our perception of ourselves and others was broken giving way to man’s tendency to elevate our perception of self by trying to discredit and lower how others are perceived. Through Christ’s redemption students can look at others and see them as loved, redeemed and in the process of being renewed...not perfect, but being renewed.



## Throughlines: Image Reflectors

- After prayerful consideration of Psalm 139:13-14, Students can mirror God's goodness to their classmates by graciously communicating, in written form, how they delight in that student and how that student is made in the image of God.





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## **Formational Learning Experience (FLEx):**

**Real needs:** Encouragement rather than discouragement and bullying from classmates. To see one another as God's creation, fallen and redeemed by Christ and in the same process of renewal as they are.

**Real people:**

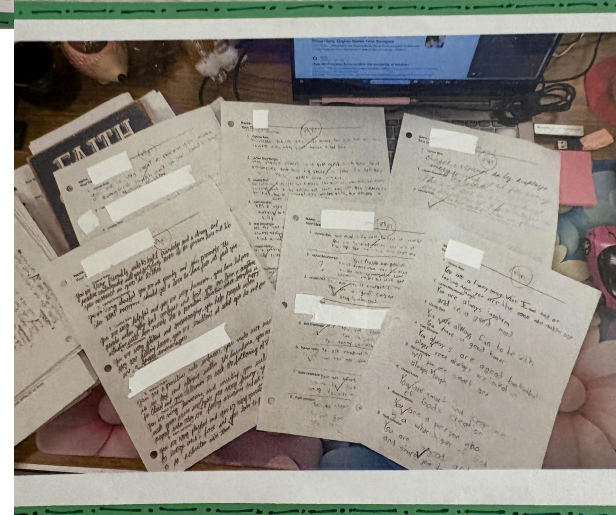
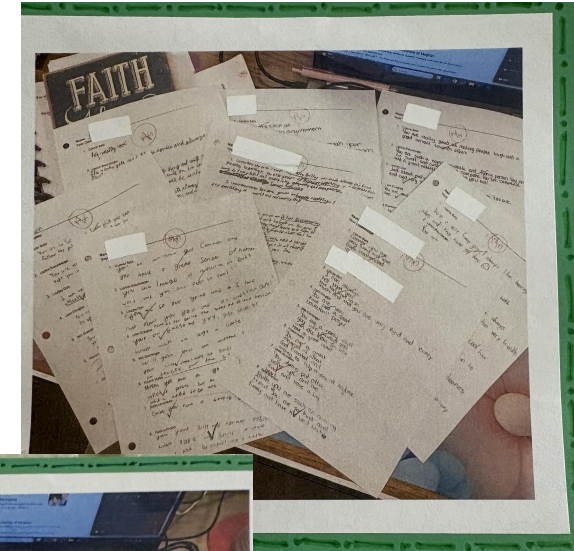
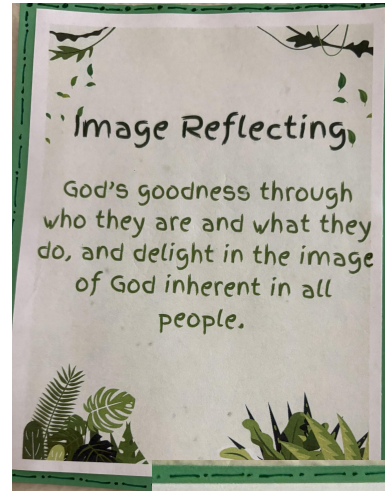
7<sup>th</sup> Grade students in Bible 7

**Real work:** Prayerful, individual and group consideration Ps 139:13-14 as well as the throughline of being an Image Bearer. Having done this, students prayerfully created words of encouragement regarding each classmate that reflect them as an image bearer of God. Then the compiled lists were mailed home to each child.

## INVITE

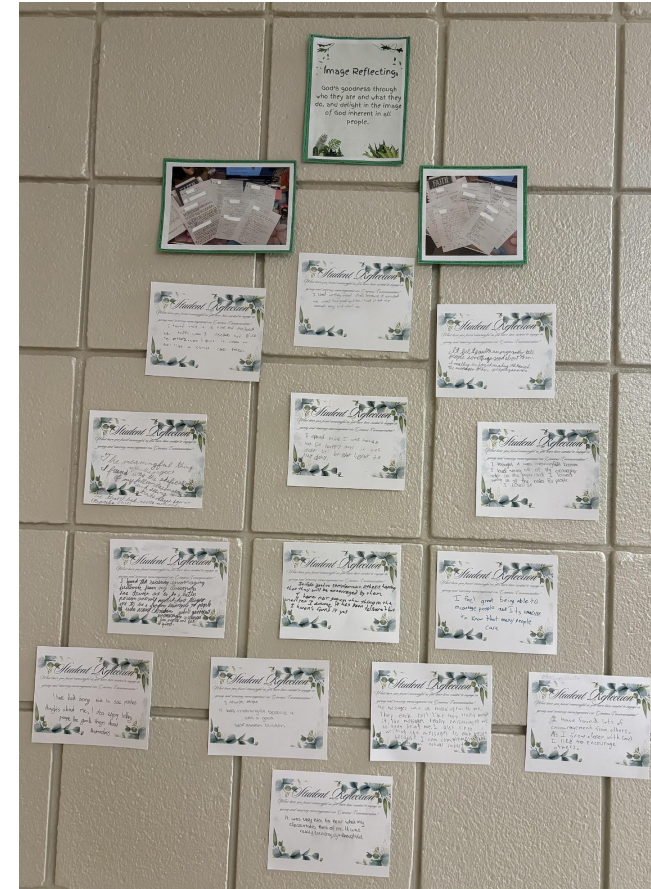
- I asked my students to reflect on Ps 139:13-14 and as a class list what we thought the verses meant, what this passage says about us and about others. Then they revisited the throughline of being an Image Reflector and what that looks like in their classmates.

Then we began to  
write....words that reflected  
one another's amazing value  
to God



## NURTURE

These students were asked to build one another up and in their student reflections they said that it was wonderful to hear uplifting word **graciously communicated** to them.







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## EMPOWER

Each student was guaranteed anonymity and thus was released from social constraints to be able to write what God laid on their hearts for their classmates. They also knew that the final summary of encouragements would be mailed home so that there wouldn't be any competition or detective work to figure out who wrote what.

- Levi, you are a good friend even though you are new you already have good friends
- You are so expressive and smart. You are good at drums and other instruments. Keep up the good work.
- You are very compassionate. You care about other people and you make sure they are okay. You always have a smile on.
- Gentle and Friendly: You are clam and willing to be friends with others.
- He's a person that understands me and is accepting to ideas and thoughts
- You are an awesome and funny friend. You do what is right when others don't.
- I have not gotten to know you that well but the little bit I know is you are kind and have a loving heart!
- You are such an amazing friend and I want to learn more about you. Thanks for being the best of friends to me!
- You are smart. You love figuring out puzzles and figuring things out. You are kind and are always willing to help out a friend. You are **Servant Working**: you are selfless and show that through your actions.
- You are very kind and I am glad you encourage others to follow God
- You are really nice and funny
- You are the best at finding joy in the moment
- He's a very good listener

- She's fun to be around
- You show the heart of Jesus in your actions. I use you as a role model for kindness. You are the first to notice if I am feeling down. You are the easiest person to talk to when I am sad. You are also the most trustworthy person I know.
- You are thoughtful and considerate and you help bring people to the joy of being friends
- You are Creation Enjoying: You delight in all that God has done.
- You are a kind and funny person
- To me your sense of silliness and humor mix together and is really fun. I see when you talk to your friends, and I see their faces really light up.
- Anna Kate, you are the sweetest friend. You are so kind and loving and put others before you. Thank You!
- You are a faithful follower of Jesus. You do what is right when others don't.
- She's very mature and hardworking. I never see her slacking off on her work and takes things very seriously.
- You are a kind and gentle person. Keep up the good work.
- You are very calm. You do not let anything trouble you even in the worst of accidents. You are also very welcoming and kind.
- You are good at drawing and other creative things you can think of. You are also smart and quick to answer a question.
- You always include people.

- You are a **Justice Seeker**
- She's a very smart individual but also has an amazing sense of humor and finds a time to joke about everything.
- **Beauty Creating**: You engage in beautiful works that enrich the world and reflects God's heart for diversity, complexity, and creativity.
- You are very resourceful. You are also very helpful whenever people need help or resources from you, you have them. You are always ready to serve other people.
- You are very smart every time a question is asked. It is like 'boom' and you have the answer. You are also really good at scavenger hunts.
- Hey Girl! You are so kind, loving and funny. You also have a great heart. Thank You for being my friend!
- I never really talk to you but by the looks of it you are the sunshine in someone's dark day and that makes me smile!
- You are a nice person to be around, you are also great at drawing. (Bob the Pineapple rocks)
- You are very out-going and when you set your mind to something you get it done. You have big ambitions. You are a **Beauty Creator**: You make great art showing how God gave us this amazing world where we can enjoy these things. You are kind and always willing to make a friend.
- You are listening and you are pursuing the purpose of spreading the Bible
- You are a very skilled artist and super funny. You are really smart and super kind.
- You always bring joy to every situation. You always understand what I am feeling. You know how to cheer me up when I am sad.
- She is super creative. Whenever she has free time, she is drawing something.

- He never just accepts something. If something new presents itself, he has to fact check it. It's pretty impressive. He's persistent, and won't give up on what he thinks is true.
- You have a good ear for the scriptures. You show God's Word through your actions everyday.
- You are really smart and nice
- You are a cool dude with interesting theories.
- You are kind, trustworthy and creative. The poster you make fit your verse perfectly. You are **Order Discovering** and you find God's goodness even when it's hard.
- Mason, you are a go-getter type of person but formal when you need to be and that's what makes you an awesome friend.
- You are a great steward of what God Created and willing to help anyone at anytime
- You are a faithful person. You have no idols. You delight yourself in the Bible Ps 53:2
- You are imaginative and really smart. It is really cool how you think of stuff really quickly.
- You are a positive rule enforcer. You make sure everyone is in line and staying within the boundaries. You are a servant for Christ and you determine to seek the following of God's law.
- Chill guy: you are always calm and positive. Keep being the level-headed person you are
- He's a pretty Creation Enjoying person and loves nature. He can be a good friend when you get to know him.
- You are smart and keep care of God's Creation.

## Student Reflections:

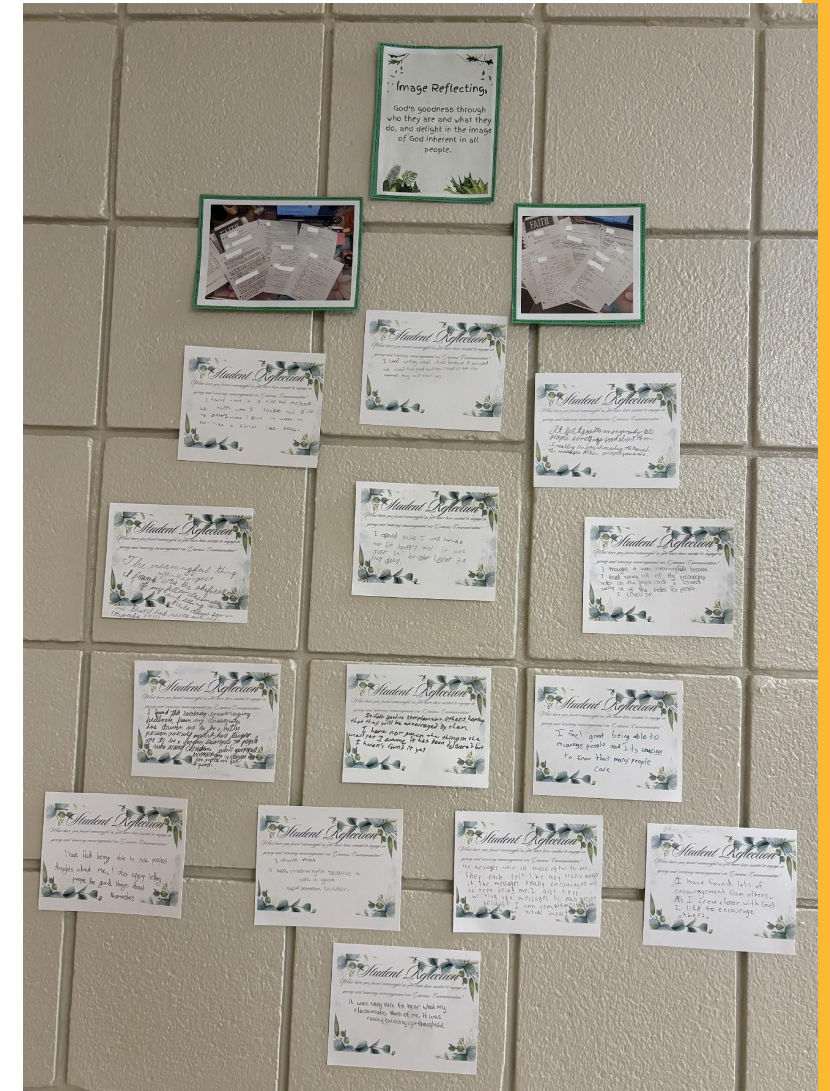
“I found that receiving encouraging feedback from my classmates has driven me to be a better person overall, and it has taught me to be a leading example to people who aren’t Christians. Giving encouraging messages has made me feel good.”

“I found that it is nice and makes me happy when I receive and give to others. When I give it makes me feel like a Christlike person.”

“It felt good to anonymously tell people something good about them. I really enjoyed reading through the messages others gave me.”

“I liked writing about others because it reminded me about their good qualities.”

Each student also reflected that it was very meaningful to them to be able to graciously share encouraging words with each of their classmates.





## Teacher Reflections:

This FLEx project has made it possible to return to My Deep Hope and remind the students that there is a journey involved in discovering God's story for themselves and seeing where others are on their journey into a deep relationship with the One who Loves them most. To see that once they respond to His call to salvation, part of their deep relationship with Him is not only renewing their own minds and lives but seeing others through the lens of what God's is working out in the lives of others. Gracious Communication was accomplished and uplifting words of encouragement were successfully shared.



## Additional Information to tell the story:

- Newspaper articles?
- Parent info letters?
- Thank you cards?
- Tips for other teachers?
- Etc.



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# Checklist for website publication

As part of our ongoing curation of TfT stories, we invite you to prepare your TfT story for inclusion on our website! Please complete the checklist (right) and email your PowerPoint to your school designer. Please include your information below so we can reach out to you with questions, should they arise.

Name:

Email:

School:

## Overall:

- ☐ Story is easily understood by someone not familiar with it.
- ☐ Permission for student names/photos to be shared throughout TfT network
- ☐ Spelling/grammar/sentence structure
- ☐ Links are active (and are linked to items that can be shared throughout TfT network)
- ☐ Photos & artifacts included and plentiful; photos and student reflections are used to tell the story

## Slides include:

- ☐ Deep Hope
- ☐ Long Term Targets
- ☐ Curricular Outcomes
- ☐ Habits of Learning
- ☐ See God's Story
- ☐ Storyline
- ☐ Throughlines
- ☐ FLEx
  - ☐ Includes real work, real needs, real people
  - ☐ Involves "top 3 tier" real people
  - ☐ Tied to curricular outcomes
- ☐ Invite
- ☐ Nurture
- ☐ Empower
- ☐ Student Reflection
- ☐ Teacher Reflection