

## Concept Definition Map

This organizer helps people understand an abstract concept by linking it to concrete examples. For example, if a group is discussing the concept of freedom, it is important to first share examples of what they perceive to be freedom. Then look for patterns of behavior in each of those examples. Based on that discussion, the group can then determine what components must be present for freedom to exist.

### Benefits of Using a Concept Definition Map

- Facilitates brainstorming and generation of ideas
- Organizes thoughts and ideas
- Links existing knowledge to new learning
- Makes the abstract visible or concrete
- Communicates complex ideas
- Reveals gaps in understanding

### Types of Stories for the Concept Definition Map

- Stories containing a concept that you want to explore: faith, obedience, hope, loyalty. etc.
- Look for conflict between a character's wants and God's commands.
  - God commands Abraham to sacrifice his son. How does this conflict demonstrate obedience? Trust? Faith? (Story # 16)
  - God wants Gideon to defeat the Midianites but Gideon asks for a sign. Does this conflict demonstrate doubt? Fear? Patience? (Story #64)
- Look for stories that have strong characters.
  - David fights Goliath. How does this demonstrate courage? Faith? Trust? (Story #87)
  - Daniel interprets the king's dreams. Humility? Discernment? Reliance on God? (Story #167)

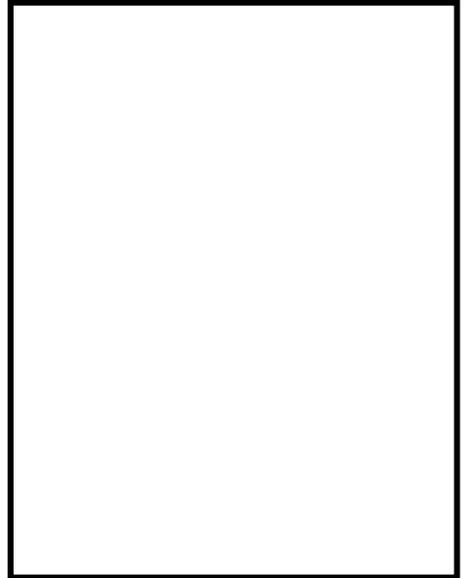
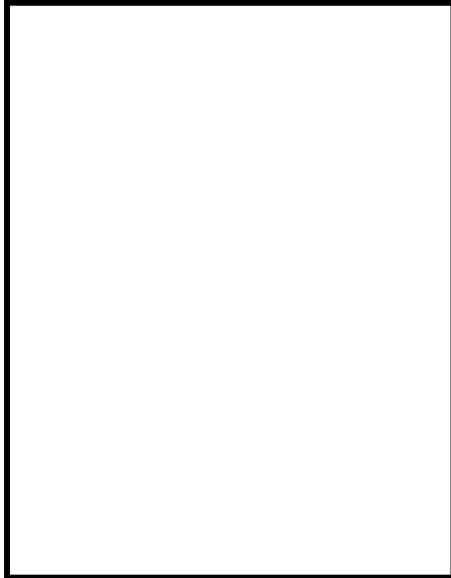
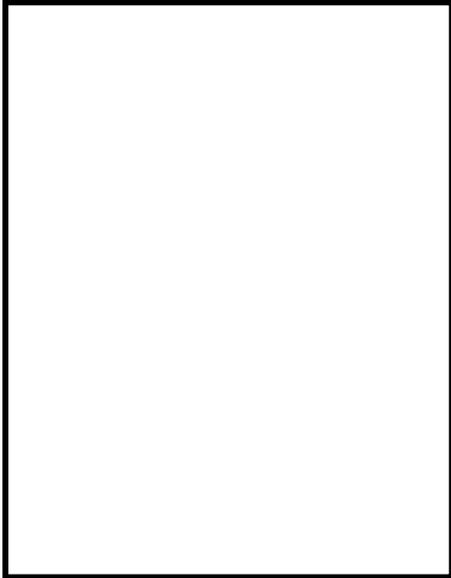
Some Examples of Abstract Concepts		
anger	friendship	mercy
beauty	generosity	patience
charity	hate	peace
compassion	hope	persistence
confidence	hospitality	power
courage	integrity	pride
creativity	joy	sacrifice
deceit	justice	success
discernment	law	trust
faith	love	truth
freedom	loyalty	wisdom

## **Directions for Concept Definition Map**

1. After telling the story, hand out the Concept Definition Map. Be sure you have designated the concept that will be discussed.
2. Ask everyone to work alone and take a few moments to think about examples of the concept. Some examples should come from the story; some examples might come from background knowledge or from the world. Everyone should jot a word or two to help them remember the examples they want to share.
3. Now have everyone work in teams of 3 or 4 to share ideas. At this point, they will complete the three boxes with specific details and ideas about the concept.
4. Next each small group will discuss the components of the concept and complete the three boxes labeled Components.
5. Bring the groups together and have a large group discussion that focuses on Examples of the concept and Components of the concept.
6. At the end, everyone will write a personal definition of the concept. Be sure to include the components in the definition.
7. Share definitions as time allows.

# CONCEPT DEFINITION MAP

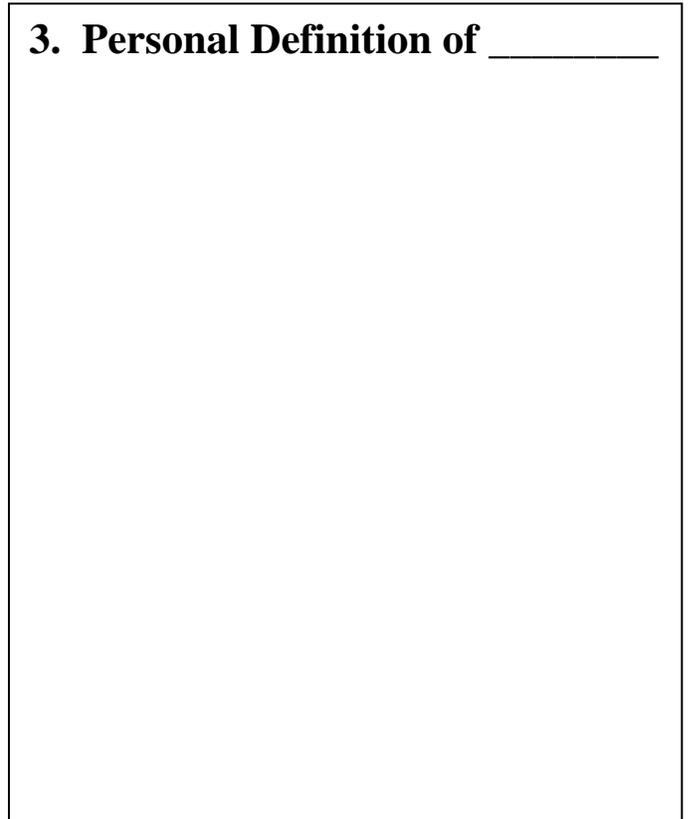
1. Examples of \_\_\_\_\_



2. Components of \_\_\_\_\_



3. Personal Definition of \_\_\_\_\_



## 1. Examples of Courage

David fights lions and bears with just a slingshot and his bare hands. He feels responsible for the sheep he is tending and is willing to face danger to protect them.

People place themselves in harm's way to rescue others from dangerous situations, ie. firefighters, police, military. Also, people who happen to come upon a situation and face danger for others are showing courage.

Many people facing a terminal illness or other problems show courage. This doesn't mean they don't cry or even complain, but they have an attitude of acceptance and take responsibility for their welfare. They don't blame others for their situation but place confidence in God's plan.

## 2. Components of Freedom

**Compassion**

**Conflict**

**Sense of Responsibility**

## 3. Personal Definition of Freedom

A person demonstrates courage by accepting danger in the face of conflict in order to help others. Courageous people have a sense of responsibility toward others which makes them want to help. They have compassion for the human condition.