



Biblical Foundations

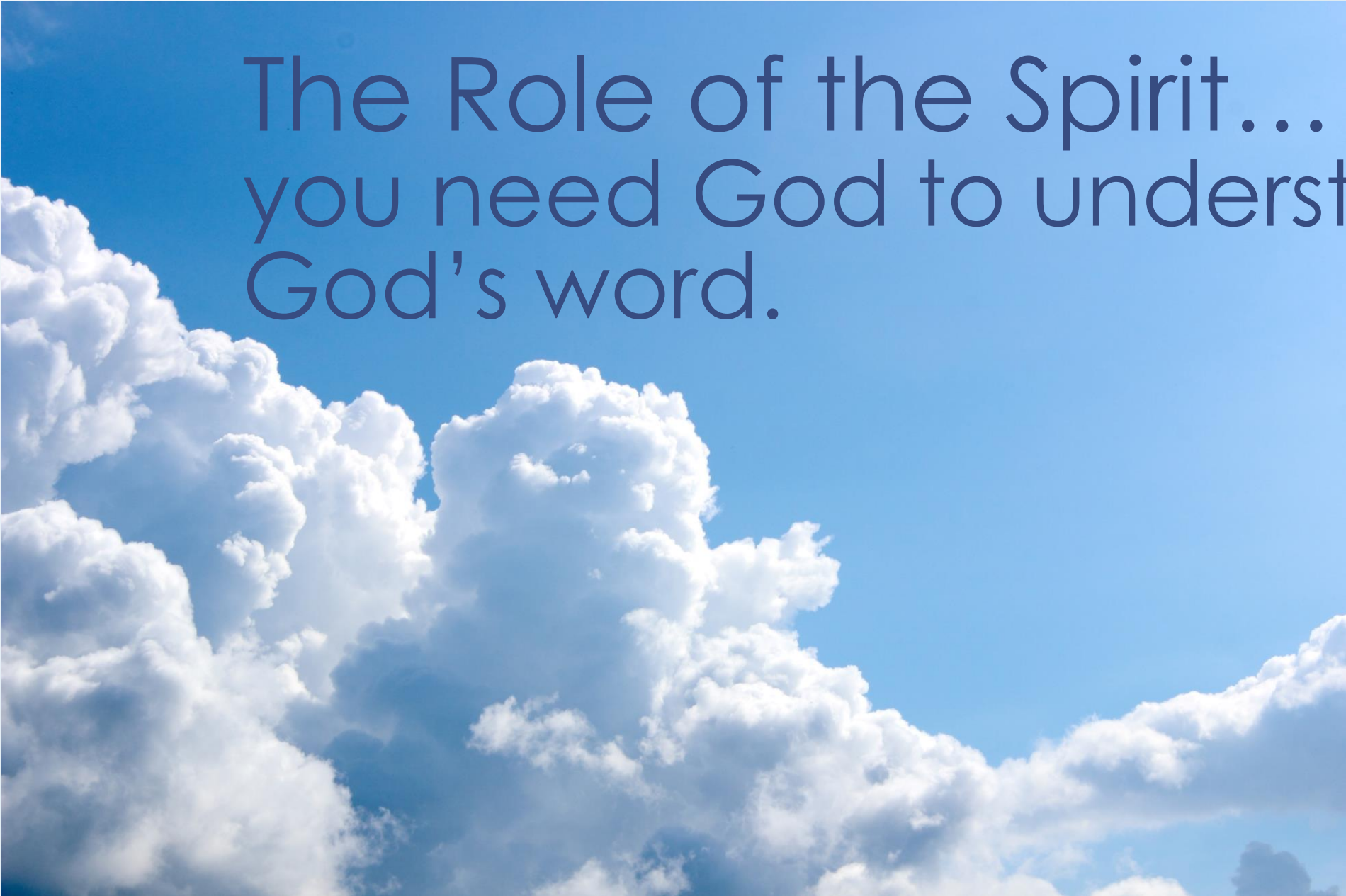
Course I - Bible Basics

From History to Daily Use

Week 5 One Story

Objective:

- Understand that the Bible tells one story
- Understand that all its parts tell the same story
- Understand and become comfortable using the term: ***Metanarrative***

A photograph of a bright blue sky filled with large, white, fluffy cumulus clouds. The clouds are scattered across the lower and middle portions of the frame, with some appearing more dense and others more wispy. The sky is a clear, vibrant blue, providing a high-contrast background for the white clouds.

The Role of the Spirit...
you need God to understand
God's word.

The Role of the Spirit

Unbeliever

- Does not have the Spirit of God
- Does not accept the things that come from God's Spirit (the Word)
- Cannot understand them



The unbeliever can **comprehend** but cannot **apprehend**.

Believer

- Has the Spirit of God
- The Spirit reveals (teaches, reminds, guides, tells, makes know) the thoughts of God
- Can understand what He has freely given us

Our Role

The Spirit is necessary but is not **all** that is necessary.

- Our mind
- Our will (submission)
- Our effort



DAILY BIBLE READING...

Just do it!

First Principle for Reading the Bible:

It's not about you!

...but it is **for** you.

3 Components Behind Every Text



Author – Middle Eastern

Audience – Middle Eastern

Context / Events – Middle Eastern

A text can't mean
what it never meant.



The story has the same meaning and message

HERE AND NOW
that it had
THERE AND THEN.



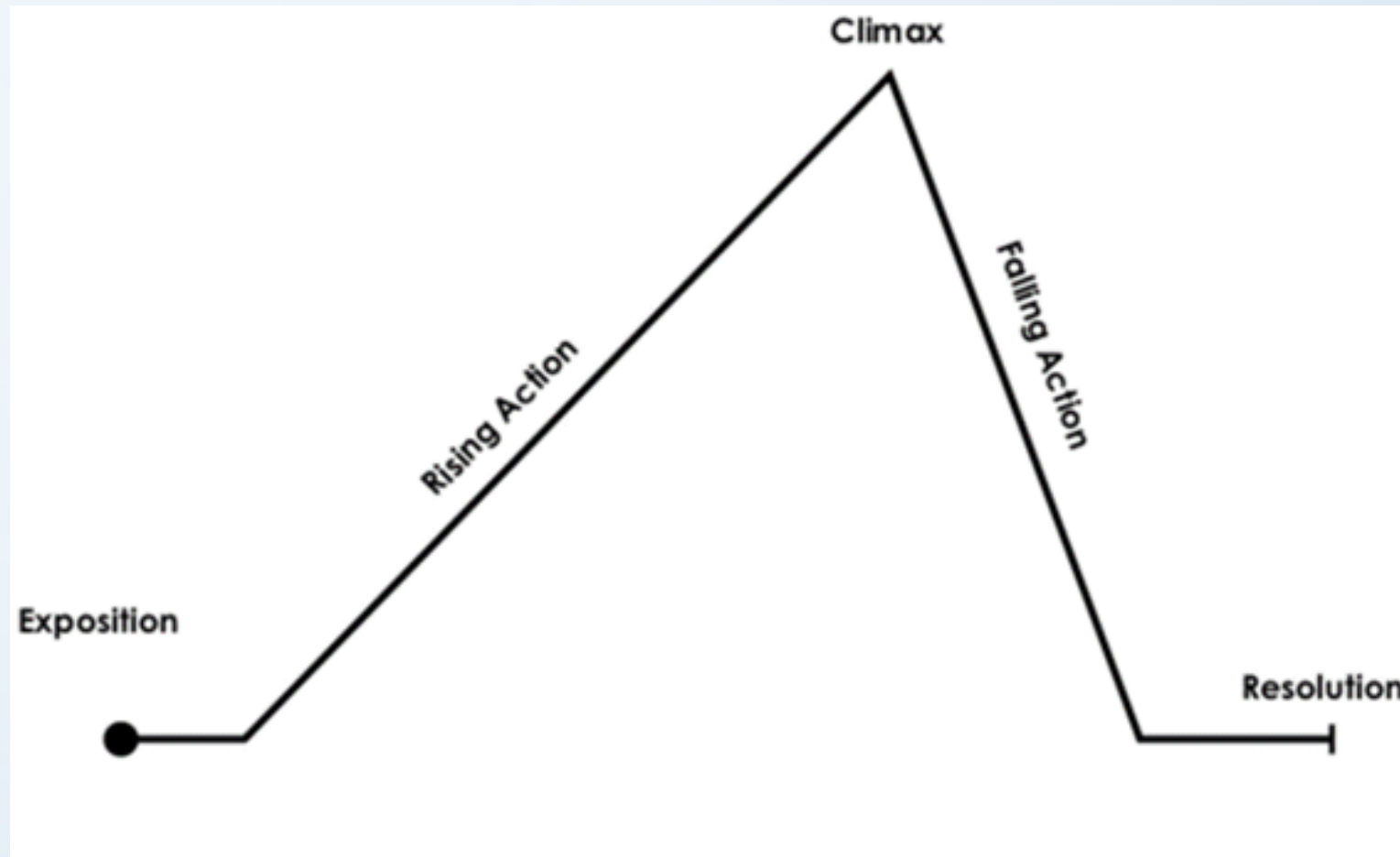
God is the hero and point of the text!

Metanarrative:

- an overarching account or interpretation of events and circumstances that provides a pattern or structure for people's beliefs and gives meaning to their experiences. (OED)
- The **Big Story**

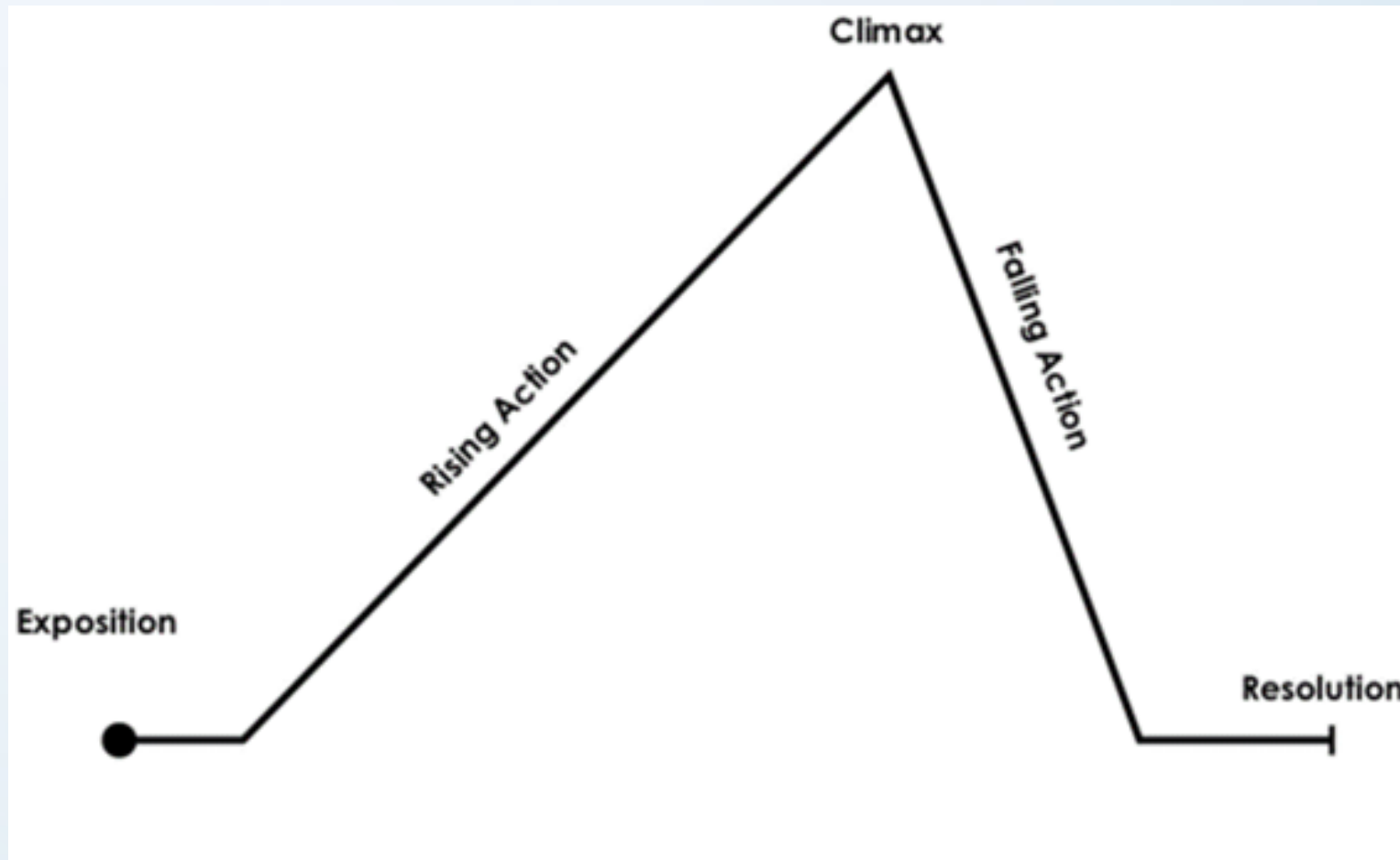


Plot Arc



...a device that determines the path for the story to follow.

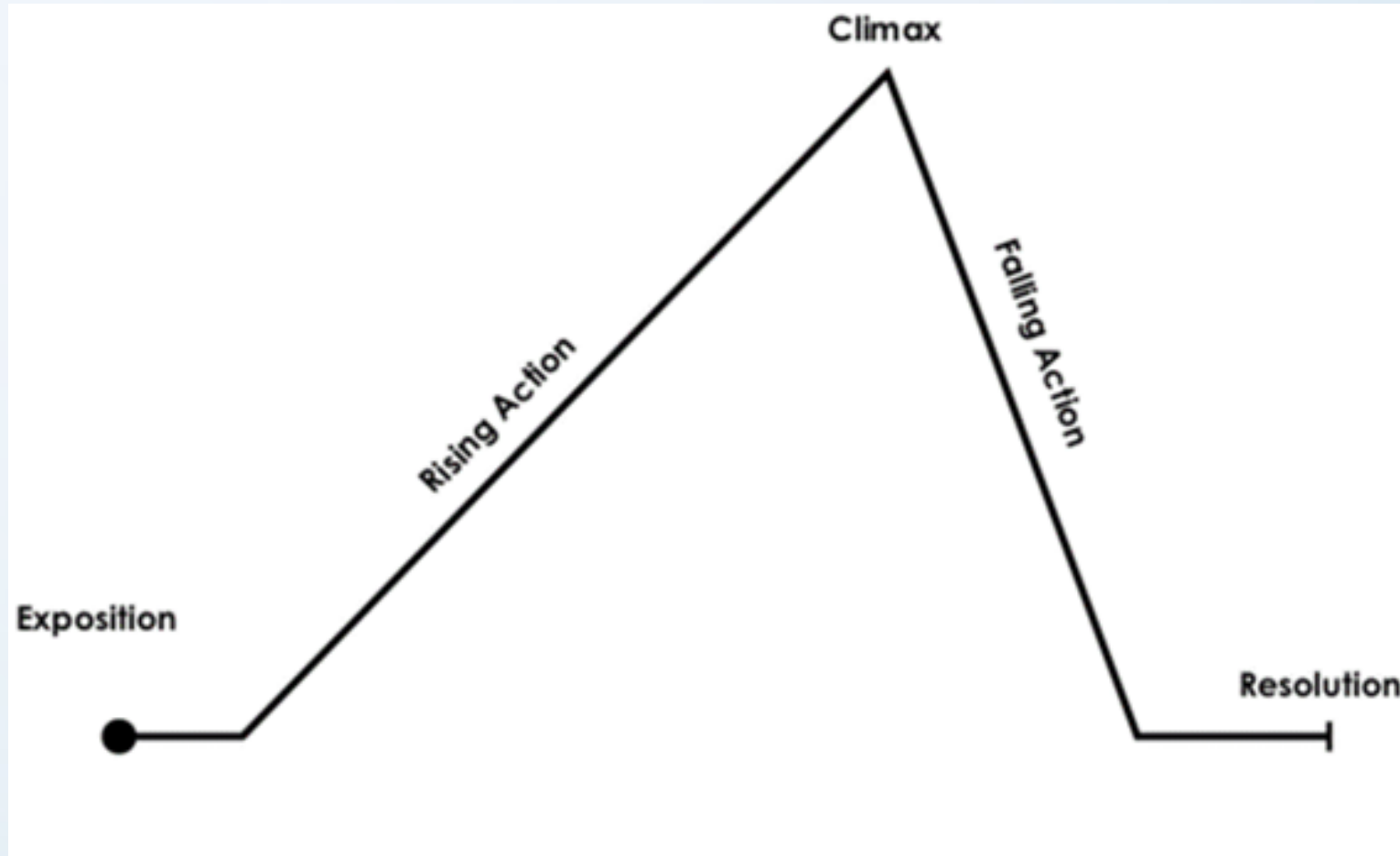
Plot Arc Genesis 1-3



Exposition: The beginning, “Once Upon a Time”

In the beginning, God created...

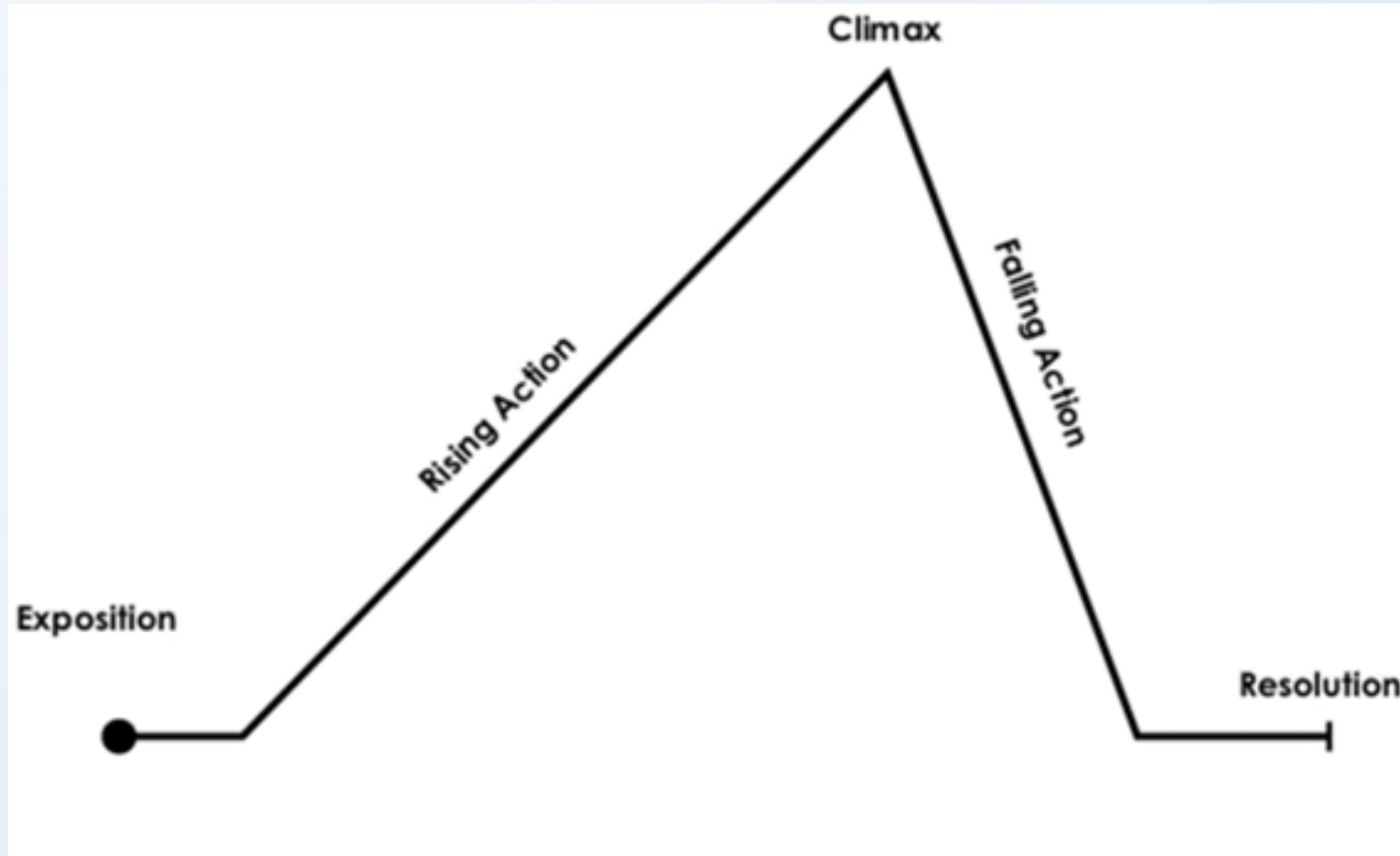
Plot Arc Genesis 1-3



Rising Action: Where a problem is presented

Man works in freedom with one restriction

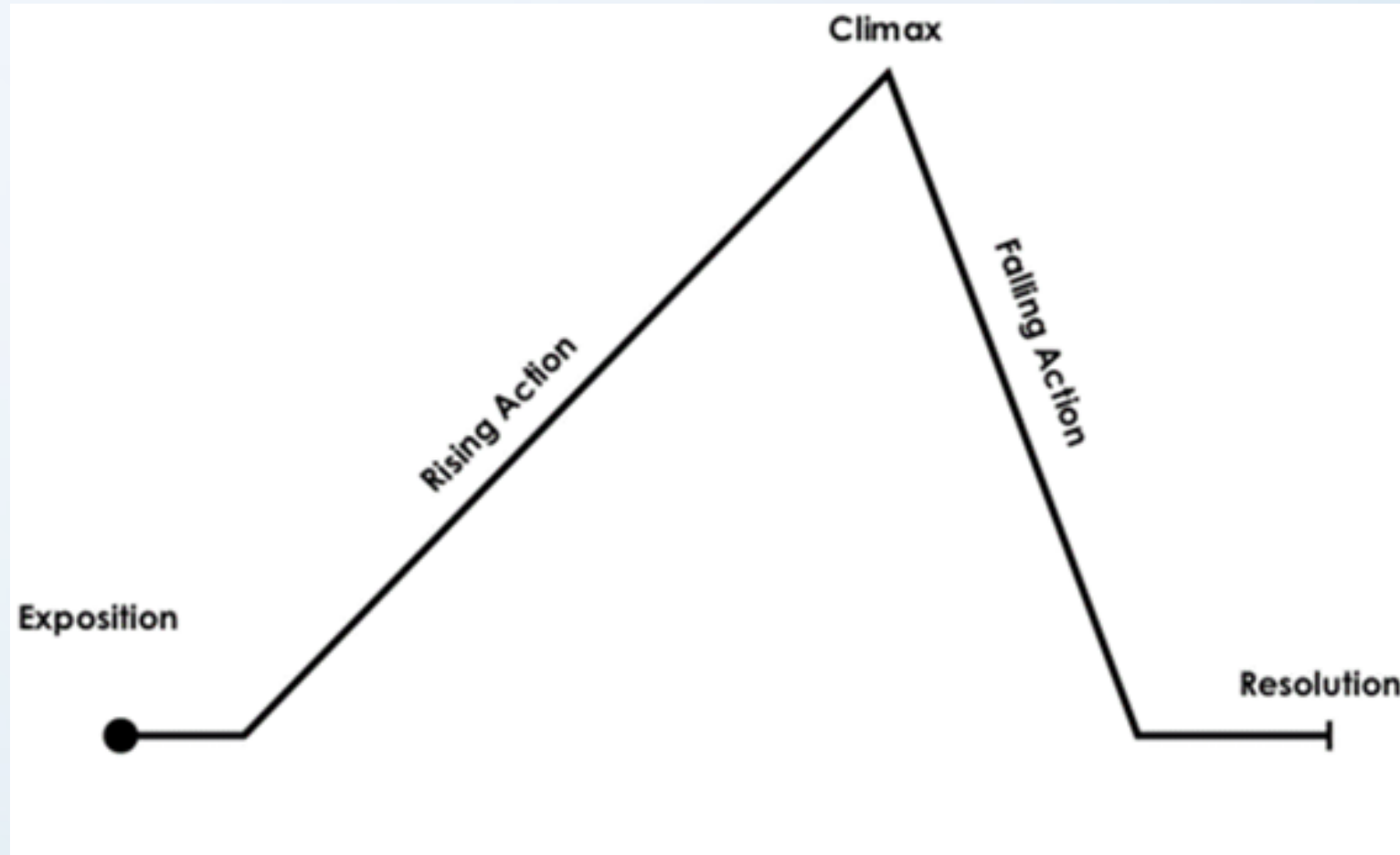
Plot Arc Genesis 1-3



Climax: The decision point for the characters

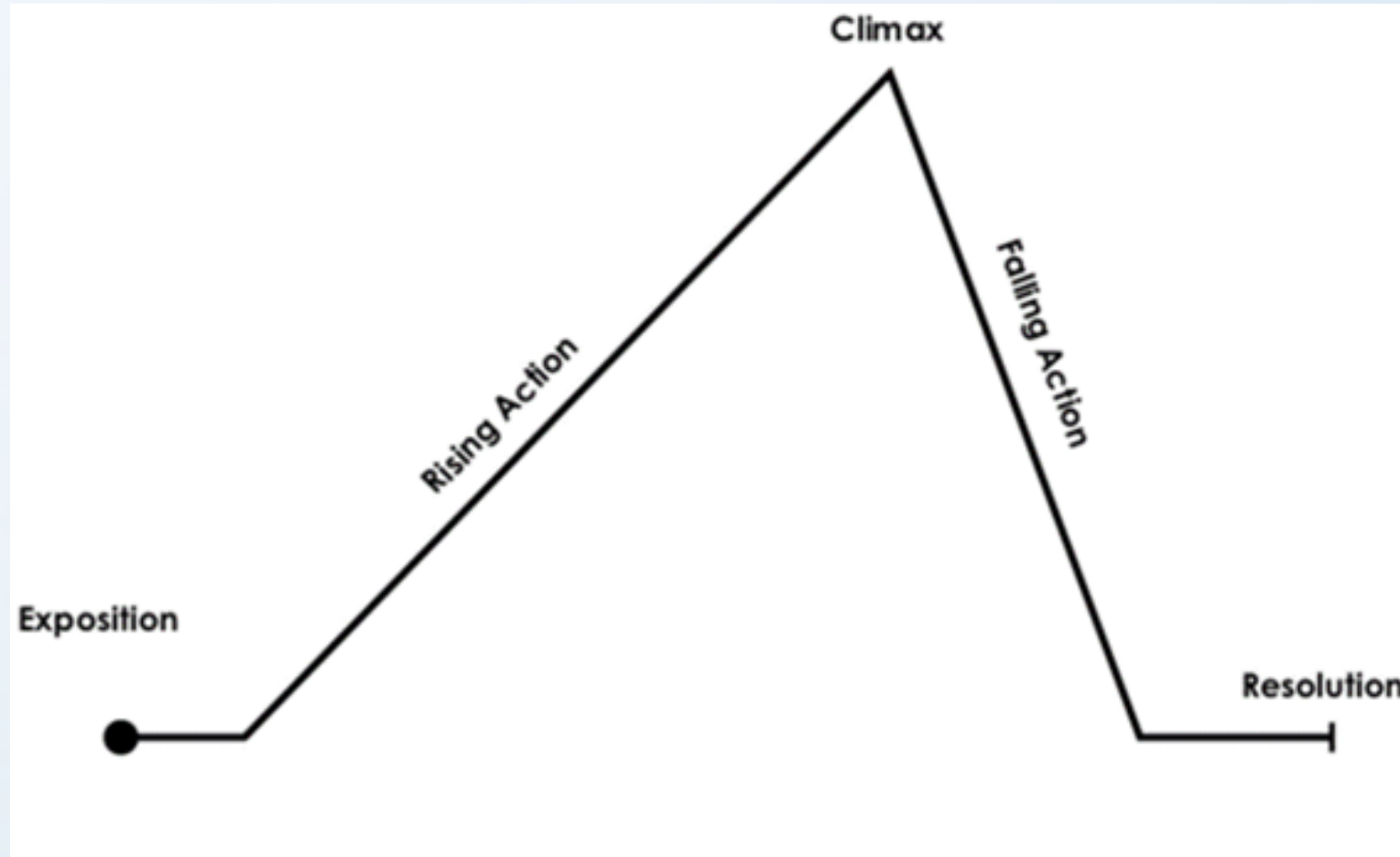
Man rebels against God's restriction

Plot Arc Genesis 1-3



Falling Action: Events following the decision
Consequences of man's rebellion

Plot Arc Genesis 1-3



Resolution: How the story concludes or continues
God's solutions to man's rebellion

Remember:

The New is in the Old concealed,
the Old is in the New revealed.

Where do Adam and Eve live, SPECIFICALLY, and what is outside its borders?

Where do Adam and Eve live, SPECIFICALLY, and what is outside its borders?

Eden a sanctuary within an uncultivated 'chaos'

Who lives with them in Eden?

Where do Adam and Eve live, SPECIFICALLY, and what is outside its borders?

Eden a sanctuary within an uncultivated 'chaos'

Who lives with them in Eden? God

Whose Image do they bear?

Where do Adam and Eve live, SPECIFICALLY, and what is outside its borders?

Eden a sanctuary within an uncultivated 'chaos'

Who lives with them in Eden? God

Whose Image do they bear? God's

What purposes were they given?

Where do Adam and Eve live, SPECIFICALLY, and what is outside its borders?

Eden a sanctuary within an uncultivated 'chaos'

Who lives with them in Eden? God

Whose Image do they bear? God's

What purposes were they given? Be fruitful, multiply and subdue the land by filling it. Work the land and care for it. (Expand the territory of God's dwelling place and fill it with God's people.)

What decision did they face?

Where do Adam and Eve live, SPECIFICALLY, and what is outside its borders?
Eden a sanctuary within an uncultivated 'chaos'

Who lives with them in Eden? God

Whose Image do they bear? God's

What purposes were they given? Be fruitful, multiply and subdue the land by filling it. Work the land and care for it. (Expand the territory of God's dwelling place and fill it with God's people.)

What decision did they face? "Who has the right to rule?"

What did they learn as a consequence of their decision?

Where do Adam and Eve live, SPECIFICALLY, and what is outside its borders?
Eden a sanctuary within an uncultivated 'chaos'

Who lives with them in Eden? God

Whose Image do they bear? God's

What purposes were they given? Be fruitful, multiply and subdue the land by filling it. Work the land and care for it. (Expand the territory of God's dwelling place and fill it with God's people.)

What decision did they face? "Who has the right to rule?"

What did they learn as a consequence of their decision? Knowledge of their own ability to sin; their difference from and vulnerability before holy God. (They held the mirror and found that they were naked!!!)

What was God's solution – the best possible solution – to that?

Where do Adam and Eve live, SPECIFICALLY, and what is outside its borders?

Eden a sanctuary within an uncultivated 'chaos'

Who lives with them in Eden? God

Whose Image do they bear? God's

What purposes were they given? Be fruitful, multiply and subdue the land by filling it. Work the land and care for it. (Expand the territory of God's dwelling place and fill it with God's people.)

What decision did they face? "Who has the right to rule?"

What did they learn as a consequence of their decision? Knowledge of their own ability to sin; their difference from and vulnerability before holy God. (They held the mirror and found that they were naked!!!)

What was God's solution – the best possible solution – to that? A temporary covering, including separation from God and the Tree of Life.

What promise does God make to sustain them in the uncultivated land outside Eden?

Where do Adam and Eve live, SPECIFICALLY, and what is outside its borders?

Eden a sanctuary within an uncultivated 'chaos'

Who lives with them in Eden? God

Whose Image do they bear? God's

What purposes were they given? Be fruitful, multiply and subdue the land by filling it. Work the land and care for it. (Expand the territory of God's dwelling place and fill it with God's people.)

What decision did they face? "Who has the right to rule?"

What did they learn as a consequence of their decision? Knowledge of their own ability to sin; their difference from and vulnerability before holy God. (They held the mirror and found that they were naked!!!)

What was God's solution – the best possible solution – to that? A temporary covering, including separation from God and the Tree of Life.

What promise does God make to sustain them in the uncultivated land outside Eden? A Seed that will destroy their enemy forever.

Did their purpose(s) change?

The Bible's Metanarrative

God, The Sovereign Ruler created a **place** where He could **dwell** with His creation. He gave man special status and purpose – that of bearing His own image and co-creating more Image Bearers to **fill the whole world**, and to **expand His kingdom**. Man's only restriction was to **choose** to let the Creator make the rules – **and obey** them. In failing that, man became aware of his imperfect image compared to the Creator's perfect image and could find **no remedy by his own attempts**. God provided the best solution – a sacrifice of **covering, and exile** from His holy and all-consuming presence and from the tree of eternal life – a protection that kept them from living forever in sin without the hope of reunion with their Creator. In their exile they clung to the promise that a **Seed** would one day come to crush their enemy forever.

When God calls Noah to build an Ark and re-creates the world...

When God calls Abram to the Promised Land ...

When God delivers the Israelites from Egypt ...

When Joshua leads the people into the Promised Land ...

When Ezra and Nehemiah return to rebuild the walls and the temple ...

When Jesus enters the world...

When Jesus leaves us in the world to go prepare a place for us...

SAME STORY!

When Jesus comes again to consummate all the promises of Eden...

SAME (but improved) **STORY!**



Biblical Theology



Recognizing from the Bible how God is acting with man in history, from creation and the fall, to ultimately bring about the final consummation and restoration of His plan through Jesus.

Assignment

Investigate a story of your choosing

