

The 5 Stages Blog Guidelines

<http://www.the5stages.com/blog/>

Please send your post by the due date below to Dan Vander Plaats (dvanderplaats@elimcs.org)

Guest Blogger:			
Topic:			
DUE DATE:		POST DATE:	

PURPOSE: To share and spread the 5 Stages message, including:

- How attitudes affect efforts to include people with disabilities
- What you have done or participated in that has changed attitudes
- Biblical reflections on efforts to include people who live with disabilities
- Theological reflections on the case for inclusion

Other suggestions for blog entries are welcome. Our goal with The 5 Stages is to:

1. Disseminate the message that all people have value and purpose in God’s Kingdom
2. Grow the inclusion of people who live with disabilities, especially into churches
3. Equip others to share this message

Any writing or ideas that help us accomplish these goals will be welcome on The 5 Stages blog.

AUDIENCE: As The 5 Stages is written from a Christ-based perspective, it is most likely that readers will be Christians with a heart for ministering to and with people who have disabilities. However, secondary audiences need to be considered, including:

- Families of people who live with disabilities
- People with no or different faith backgrounds
- Special needs professionals

LENGTH: up to 400 words

PLEASE:

- Link statistics and research to their original source. If applicable, include a “works cited” at the end of the post in italics.
- Ask your readers questions about their opinion or experiences and encourage them to respond by commenting on the post.
- Use real examples and (as often as possible) personal stories to connect with the reader and further support your point.
- Include a short (2-3 sentences) biography at the end of the post, including your name, certification/degrees, place of work, and hobbies. We will include a photo of you with the post. If you have a photo you’d like to use, please send it to us. If not, we will provide one for you.
- Share your post on your Facebook or Twitter feeds, and on other social media resources to drive more traffic to your post and to the message of The 5 Stages.
- Use person-first language in all cases. A person or their name is always referenced first, with their level of ability or diagnosis referenced secondarily or not at all.

PHOTOS: We will provide stock photos to accompany your article unless you have photos you would like to use.