



## **BIBLE TRUTH 1 OVERVIEW**

### **UNIT 1: The God Who Reveals Himself**

**Big Question and Answer:** "How Can I Know What God Is Like? He Shows Me What He's Like!"

**Bible Verse:** "The LORD reveals His thoughts to man." Amos 4:13, NIV 1984

### **Bible Truth 1 Concept: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him**

When God created people, He made them with a special heart so they could know and love Him. This isn't the heart that pumps blood through our body. This is something very different. We can't feel this heart inside of us in the same way as we feel the heart that beats in our chest. This heart is even more amazing! THIS heart will never die--it lives forever!

The Bible also calls this heart, a spirit or a soul. And it's in this very special heart that God reveals Himself to us. God's Holy Spirit works in our heart, helping us to believe in God, turn away from our sins and to trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God will work in our heart even more, making it brand new, and filling it with knowledge of Him and with more love for Him and others.

### **Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse**

**Meditation Version: Psalm 42:1-2 NIV 1984**

"As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?"

**Alternate Memory Version: Psalm 42:2 NIV 1984**

"My soul thirsts for God, for the living God."

### **Bible Truth 1 ACTS Prayer**

- A** God, we praise You for being a God we can know. We praise You for being our Maker who wants us to know and love You.
- C** God, we confess that we don't seek You as we should, even though You made us to know You. We're sinners! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God for making us to know and love You. Thank You for helping us to know and love You--even when we don't seek You! Thank You for sending You Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and for sending Jesus to save us.
- S** God, help us to know You better and help others to know You better, too. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in our heart that we might know, love and obey You, more and more.

### **Bible Truth 1 Stories**

**Lesson 1: The Case of the Stone and the Seekers (New Testament)**

Acts 17

**Lesson 2: The Case of the Prayerless Man (Story of the Saints)**

**Lesson 3: The Case of the Man After God's Heart (Old Testament)**

Psalm 19, 23, 24, 62; 1 Chronicles 29; 2 Samuel 5-6, 15

**LESSON PLAN: BIBLE TRUTH 1** (1 Lesson Plan for ALL 3 Lessons) **P.1**

**1. GETTING STARTED: Welcome and Opening Songs** (*introduce unit and get kids moving with these songs*)

<p><b>Welcome</b></p>	<p>“Welcome to Praise Factory. We’re so glad you’ve joined us! Here at the PFI, we’re investigators. (That’s what the “I” stands for!) Investigators look for answers to questions. In PFI, we look for answers to big questions about God. We dig deep down in the truths of God’s Word to find them.”</p>
<p><b>Praise Factory Theme Song</b></p>	<p>“Let’s sing our Praise Factory Investigator’s theme song.”</p> <p><b>PFI: Praise Factory Investigators</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 1</i></span></p> <p>We’re PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word,          That’s PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word,          We’re looking for answers to very big questions,          Big questions about God,          If you’re looking for answers to very big questions ‘bout God, come along,          Join PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word,          That’s PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word.          Deep down, diggin’ down, Let’s go diggin’ down,          Deep down, diggin’ down,          ‘Til answers to all our Big Questions we’ve found.          We’re PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word,          That’s PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word.</p>
<p><b>Classroom Rules Song</b></p>	<p>An important part of Praise Factory is helping us worship God and love one another. Our WoGoLOA song reminds us how we should act. Let’s sing it.”</p> <p><b>WoGoLOA Rules Song</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 2</i></span></p> <p>Refrain:          WoGoLOA means “Worship God and love one another,”          WoGoLOA means “Worship God and love one another.”</p> <p>WoGo means “Worship God.”          Sound off, 1,2,3,          Joyfully take part,          Listen to others,          Obey your teachers. (<i>Refrain</i>)</p> <p>LOA means “Love One Another.”          Sound off, 1,2,3,          Be kind,          Be encouraging,          Help others, help others. (<i>Refrain twice</i>)</p>

**1. GETTING STARTED, continued**

<b>Opening Prayer</b>	"Let's ask God to help us obey these rules, and to help us worship Him and love one another as we learn more about Him today. Let's pray." <i>Pray.</i>	
<b>Big Question Under Investigation:</b>	<p>"Now it's time to turn to today's <b>Big Question Under Investigation</b>.</p> <p>It's: <b>How Can I Know What God Is Like?</b></p> <p>"God made us. He wants us to know what He's like so we can know Him, enjoy Him, love Him and glorify Him. We don't have to figure out what God is like by ourselves. We couldn't do that. So God shows us what He's like.</p> <p>So the answer to our Big Question, '<b>How Can I Know What God Is Like?</b>' is: <b>God Shows Me What He's Like!</b></p>	
<b>Big Question 1 and Songs</b>	<p>"Let's sing our Big Question Song(s):</p> <p><b>Big Q &amp; A 1 Song</b> <i>(adapted version of "This Is the Way We Wash Our Clothes")</i> How can I know what God is like, God is like, God is like? How can I know what God is like? He shows me what He's like!</p> <p><b>Big Question 1 Song:</b> <b>How Can I Know What God Is Like?</b> I have a very big question, A big question 'bout God. I have a very big question, It's Big Question Number One, I wanna know...</p> <p><i>Refrain:</i> How can I know what God is like? How can I know what God is like? How can I know what God is like? He shows me what He's like!</p> <p>Verse 1: He gave me a heart to know God, He made everything I see. Big tall mountains, galloping horses, Every little bird and bee. Everybody sing... <i>(Refrain)</i></p> <p>Verse 2: He gave us the Bible, His Word, To learn of His mighty deeds, But most of all, through Jesus, His Son, God shows Himself to me. Everybody sing.... <i>(Refrain)</i></p>	<p><i>choose one or both</i></p> <p><i>PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 3</i></p> <p><i>PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 4</i></p>

**1. GETTING STARTED, continued**

**Unit 1  
Bible Verse**

“How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

Amos 4:13 tells us: “The LORD reveals His thoughts to man.”

**Big Question 1 Bible Verse Song**

*PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 5*

**The LORD Reveals His Thoughts to Man: Amos 4:13**

The LORD reveals His thoughts to man,  
The LORD reveals His thoughts to man,  
The LORD reveals His thoughts to man,  
Amos Four, thirteen.

“The LORD reveals His thoughts to man--to all people. That means He shows us what He’s like.”

**2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN: Key Concept and Story** *(introduce the Bible Truth and tell the related story)*

**Bible Truth 1**

“It’s time for us to dig down deeper for answers to our Big Question. We’re learning **FIVE** Bible Truths that all tell us something about how God shows Himself to us.

The Bible Truth we are going to be thinking about today is:  
**God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.**

When God created people, He made them with a special heart so they could know and love Him. This isn’t the heart that pumps blood through our body. This is something very different. We can’t feel this heart inside of us in the same way as we feel the heart that beats in our chest. This heart is even more amazing! **THIS** heart will never die--it lives forever!

The Bible also calls this heart, a spirit or a soul. And it’s in this very special heart that God reveals Himself to us. God’s Holy Spirit works in our heart, helping us to believe in God, turn away from our sins and to trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God will work in our heart even more, making it brand new, and filling it with knowledge of Him and with more love for Him and others.

**2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued**

<b>Bible Truth 1 Hymn</b>	<p>“Long ago, a woman named Mary Byrne was thinking about this Bible truth, too. She translated from Irish into English a hymn called “Be Thou My Vision.” We’re going to learn two verses from it.”</p>		
	<p><b>Be Thou My Vision</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI NIV Songs 1, Tracks 6,7</i></span></p>		
	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Verse 1</b> Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art: Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Verse 2</b> Be Thou my Wisdom, And Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee And Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I, Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, And I with Thee one.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>Verse 1</b> Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art: Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.</p>	<p><b>Verse 2</b> Be Thou my Wisdom, And Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee And Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I, Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, And I with Thee one.</p>
<p><b>Verse 1</b> Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art: Thou my best thought, by day or by night, Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.</p>	<p><b>Verse 2</b> Be Thou my Wisdom, And Thou my true Word; I ever with Thee And Thou with me, Lord; Thou my great Father, I, Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, And I with Thee one.</p>		
	<p>“God’s people want God to be their vision—the one they think about most of all, the one who is the best thing they can think of. They keep thinking about Him, both in a special time of praying and reading...and all through the rest of the day and night. They think about Him and know He is with them. His presence guides them, like a light in darkness. He lives inside their heart, giving them wisdom and showing them what He’s like.”</p>		
<b>Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse and Song</b>	<p>“The Bible verse we are going to be digging down into for this Bible Truth is:</p> <p><b>Psalm 42:1-2</b> “As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?”</p> <p>A thirsty deer searches for a stream of water to satisfy his thirst. He must have it if he is to live. That’s how God made his body. In the same way, our heart (or soul) longs for God because He made us to need Him. We may try to satisfy ourselves with other things, but until we know God, we will still long for something more. That’s how He made us. He is the living God and there’s nothing in the whole world that we need or want more than Him.</p> <p>We’ve said our Bible verse, now let’s sing it!</p> <p><b>As the Deer: Psalm 42:1-2</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 8</i></span></p> <p>As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God. My soul thirsts for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? Psalm Forty-two, one and two.</p>		

**2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued****LESSON 1 STORY****New Testament Story:****The Case of the Stone and the Seekers**

Acts 17

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Stone and the Seekers.**

**As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

- 1. Who first laid down this stone and who did they seek?**
- 2. How did Paul use the stone? What did he tell the people of Athens about their hearts?**

*(If desired, write these questions on a sheet of paper to refer to when the story is finished.)*

*Read story.*

*After reading story, ask for the children's answers to the questions.*

**1. Who first laid down this stone and who did they seek?** The people of Athens sought an Unknown God. They wanted Him to stop the plague. They laid down this stone (and many others) as altars on which to sacrifice sheep as worship offerings to this Unknown God.

**2. How did Paul use the stone? What did he tell the people of Athens about their hearts?** Paul used the stone many years later to tell the people of Athens about the Lord, the one, true God, they had long ago worshiped as the Unknown God. He told them that the Lord made their hearts to worship and know Him.

*Close in prayer. (prayer suggestions included at end of story)*

**LESSON 2 STORY****Story of the Saints:****The Case of the Prayerless Man**

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Prayerless Man.**

**As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

- 1. Who was the man who wouldn't pray and who wanted him to pray?**
- 2. How did he change and why?**

*(If desired, write these questions on a sheet of paper to refer to when the story is finished.)*

*Read story.*

*After reading story, ask for the children's answers to the questions.*

**1. Who was the man who wouldn't pray and who wanted him to pray?** The Streetlayer wouldn't pray to God. His family, Mr. Spurgeon (and God!) wanted him to pray.

**2. How did he change and why?** The Streetlayer became a praying man. His family and Mr. Spurgeon prayed for him and encouraged him to pray. God worked in his heart, helping him to turn to Him and pray.

*Close in prayer. (prayer suggestions included at end of story)*

**2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued****LESSON 3****Old Testament Story:****The Case of the Man After God's Heart**

Psalm 19, 23, 24, 62;  
1 Chronicles 29; 2  
Samuel 5-6, 15

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Man After God's Heart.**

**As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

- 1. Who was the man after God's own heart? What does that mean?**
- 2. How did God reveal himself to this man and help him?**

*(If desired, write these questions on a sheet of paper to refer to when the story is finished.)*

*Read story.*

*After reading story, ask for the children's answers to the questions.*

**1. Who was the man after God's own heart? What does that mean?** David. It meant that David loved God and trusted Him to be who He was--the one, true God!

**2. How did God reveal himself to this man in his heart and help him?** God's Holy Spirit whispered into David's heart the truths he had learned from the Bible. He reminded David that God could be trusted to be who He said He was. He would always take care of David. This helped David step out in faith and do courageous things to the glory of God.

*Close in prayer. (prayer suggestions included at end of story)*

**3. TAKING ACTION: Response Activities** *(choose from among these activities)***Response Activities**

- **ACTS Prayer Activity:** Add your own prayer requests to the ACTS prayer
- **Sneaky Snack:** Story-related snack
- **Bible Truth Review Activity:** Game with questions related to the Bible Truth
- **Bible Truth Hymn:** Music activities to learn a portion of a Bible Truth-related hymn
- **Bible Verse Review Activity:** Game with questions related to Bible Truth Bible verse
- **Bible Verse Song:** Music activities to learn the Bible Verse song
- **Story Review Activity:** Game with questions related to the Bible Truth and Case
- **Case RePlay, Jr. and Sr.:** Two drama activities that review the story: one for younger children, one for older children.
- **Craft:** Story-related craft
- **VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person):** Game and a coloring activity to help children learn about people in your church and how to pray for them.

*(VIP resources: found online or at back of this book)*

**4. TAKING IT TO OTHERS** *Optional presentations for the last few minutes of class***Presenting to Other Children**

*If you split the children into different response activities, you can gather the children together again and have each small group make presentations to show the other children what they learned. Presentation ideas are included in the resources for each activity.*

**Presenting to Parents**

*If you keep your children together for response activities, you can have them make a presentation of something they have learned to their parents when they come to pick them up from class. Presentation ideas are included in the resources for each activity.*

**5. TAKING IT HOME** *(Take Home Sheet)***PFI Pronto**

*Give out the PFI Pronto for the case story as well as any other materials as the children are dismissed.*