

## **BIBLE TRUTH 2, LESSON 1: PLANNER/OVERVIEW**

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

**Welcome to Praise Factory:** PFI: Praise Factory Investigators Theme Song *PFI Songs ESV 1, Track 1*

**Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another:** WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song

*PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 2*

**Big Question Under Investigation:** Big Question 1 Songs *PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 3,4*

**Big Question Bible Verse:** Amos 4:13 Song: The LORD Declares *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 5*

*Extra Song: He Who Declares His Thought PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 6*

*Extra Song: He Who Forms the Mountains PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 7*

*Extra Song: For Behold PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 8*

*Extra Song: For Behold PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 9*

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

**Bible Truth 2:** God's Creations Tell Us about Him

**Bible Truth Hymn:** O Worship the King, v.3 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 15*

**Bible Verse:** Psalm 8:1,3-4

**Bible Verse Song:** O LORD, Our Lord *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 16*

*(Extra Bible Verse Song: The Heavens Declare PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 17)*

**Lesson 1 Old Testament Story:** The Case of the Speaking Rain

1 Kings 17:1-18:46

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

**Snack and Discussion Planner:** Altars of the Contest

**ACTS Prayer:** Prayer Sheet

**Bible Truth Review:** Discussion Questions and Game: Menagerie

**Bible Truth Hymn:** O Worship the King, v.3 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 14*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice **PFI ESV Songs 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

**Bible Verse Review:** Ephesians 1:4-6 Discussion Sheet and Game: Balancing Act

**Bible Verse Song:** The Heavens Declare: Psalm 8:1,3-4 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 15*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean? **PFI ESV Songs 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

**Story Review:** Discussion Questions and Game: Go Fish

**Case RePlay, Jr: Drama Activity for Youngest Children** (children do same story actions together)

**Case RePlay, Sr: Drama Activity for Most Children** (children re-tell story with individual parts)

**Craft:** Withered Land of Mount Carmel

**VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time:** Coloring Sheets (back of book) and Game: Hit the Wall

### **TAKING IT HOME: Take Home Sheet for Review and Family Devotions**

**PFI Pronto:** Bible Truth 2, Lesson 1 **PFI ESV Prontos 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

**The Case of the Speaking Rain** 1 Kings 17:1-18:46

by Connie Dever

**Our story is called:****The Case of the Speaking Rain.****As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

1. How did the rain "speak"?
2. What the rain "tell" the people of Israel?

This story is a Old Testament story that takes place in Israel, about 900 years before Jesus lived on earth.

Mount Carmel. That name might not mean much to you. It is the name of a little mountain range in Israel, 1800 feet high, sixteen miles long and four miles wide, right near the Mediterranean Sea. No, that name might not mean much to you, but to the people of Israel, it was about the closest thing they had to paradise.

Unlike the rest of Israel, which was fairly dry and rainless except during the short rainy season, Mount Carmel stayed green all year round. Men took advantage of Mount Carmel's richness and planted vineyards all over its slopes. They named these mountains "Mount Carmel," meaning "Vineyards of God," because God certainly had blessed them with so much fruitfulness.

But, at the time of this story, Mount Carmel was brown and liveless. Its slopes had lost their greenness. the trees were leafless, the grass was dead. The grapevines were bare and dry. What had happened?! The prophet Elijah knew. It had to do with King Ahab's sin.

"King Ahab," Elijah said, "the LORD made you king over Israel. You should worship Him, but you have led the people to worship the fake god, Baal, instead! You worship him as the god of rain and lightning. You've built altars to him on the hilltops and even on Mount Carmel. You think he's the one who brings the rain that grows all your crops and makes your families and animals happy and healthy. But you're wrong! The LORD is the creator of all things and now He will prove it to you," Elijah told Ahab. "He is going to withhold rain from Israel for a few years. It will not come back until he says so. Then you will see that He, not Baal, is the one, true God."

Everything happened, just as Elijah said. No rain fell for the next two years. Plants didn't grow. Wells dried up. Some people and animals even died!

"Bring us rain, oh great Baal!" the prophets of Baal, King Ahab and the people prayed. They offered

sacrifices, too. But no matter how much they prayed or how many sacrifices they made on the altars, no rain came. The LORD was sending a message loud and clear through the rain – or lack of it. He, not Baal, was the one, true God. King Ahab and the people should turn back and worship Him alone. When they did, the rain would come.

At last the LORD spoke to Elijah: "It's time. The people are ready to repent. Go to Ahab. I'm going to make it rain."

King Ahab was far from happy to see Elijah. The king blamed all this trouble on him. "Why have you come here, you troublemaker?" he said to Elijah, when he appeared before him.

"I'm not the troublemaker. You are," Elijah replied. "You and your father's family turned away from the LORD and worshiped Baal instead. But now it's time for you to see that the LORD is the one, true God. Have all of the people of Israel and all the 450 prophets of Baal meet me up on top of Mount Carmel. There's going to be a showdown between Baal and the LORD up there."

The king sent the message throughout Israel. Before long, the prophets of Baal and all the people joined King Ahab and Elijah up on Mount Carmel.

"Is the LORD God or is Baal?" Elijah asked them all. "It's time for you to decide who you will worship."

The people just stood in silence.

"Get two bulls," Elijah told them. "The prophets of Baal can choose one to sacrifice to Baal. Let them cut it up and put it on the wood of Baal's altar, but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull, put it on the wood of the LORD's altar, but not set fire to it," he instructed.

**Story-telling Tips**

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Create story cue cards on index cards (or highlight text).
3. Practice telling story dramatically, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary to fit your allotted time.
4. Decorate area with story props that help bring your story alive.

During your presentation:

1. Maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story. Point to/use props at important points in the story. Include the kids in your story with a few questions about what they think will happen or words/concepts that might be new to them.
2. Watch the kids for signs that their attention span has been reached. Shorten, if necessary.

They will call on the name of Baal and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by fire is the one, true God," Elijah told them.

Everyone agreed to the contest. The prophets of Baal prepared their bull and put it on the wood of Baal's altar, just as Elijah had told them too. They cried out to Baal from morning until noon. "Oh Baal, answer us!" they shouted, as they danced around his altar. But Baal did not answer.

At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely Baal is God! Perhaps he's sleeping and must be awakened. Or maybe he's thinking or busy."

So the prophets of Baal shouted louder and louder. They even cut themselves with swords, as they sometimes did when they worshiped Baal. Surely this supposed god of rain and lightning could send down a spare lightning bolt to light the fire. But no. Nothing happened.

At last it was Elijah's turn. "Come here to me," he told the people. They gathered near and watched as Elijah repaired the LORD's altar. He built it with twelve stones, one for each of the tribes of Israel. He dug a deep trench all the way around the altar. He put wood on the altar, then cut his bull into pieces, and laid it on top.

"Fill four, large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood. Do this three times," he ordered. At last there was so much water that it ran down the altar and filled the trench. No ordinary fire would burn up this wet wood and offering!

Then Elijah prayed: "O LORD, accept this sacrifice. Answer me, Lord, so that the people will turn back and worship You, the one, true God."

Immediately, the LORD sent fire down and burned up not just the sacrifice and the wood, but the stones, the water in the trench and even the soil!

The people saw this and fell down to the ground, worshiping the LORD. "The LORD, He is God! Baal is just a fake god," they declared.

"Seize the prophets of Baal Don't let any get away!" Elijah commanded the people. The people quickly obeyed. These false prophets wouldn't get to tempt the people to turn away from the LORD anymore.

Then Elijah said to Ahab, "Go, eat and drink! Celebrate! The LORD is going to send rain now. Heavy rain!"

As Ahab headed back to his palace in Jezreel, the sky began to change. First, only a tiny, black cloud was spotted in the distance. But before long, the wind began to blow and the whole sky became dark and stormy. Then whoosh! Down came the rain!

For over two years the rainless skies had proclaimed that it was the LORD, not Baal who was God. Now, the rain proclaimed that He was God, too. It drenched the earth and quenched the thirst of the people, the animals and even the dry slopes of Mount Carmel.

### Cracking the Case:

#### It's time to answer our Case Questions.

**1. How did the rain "speak"?** It showed who was the one, true God and who was not, as the LORD first withheld the rain, then brought it back, all at His command.

**2. What the rain "tell" the people of Israel?** That the LORD was the one, true God, not Baal, who they called the God of Rain and Lightning. They learned that they should turn back and worship the LORD.

### Something For You and Me

#### Our Bible Truth is:

#### God's Creations Tell Us about Him

#### Our Bible Verse is: Psalm 8:1,3-4

"O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens... When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?"

The whole world is full of the majestic of the LORD. Everything in it was made by God and tell us something about Him. He has filled both heaven and earth with wonderful things for us to enjoy and from which we can learn about Him.

But what will we do when we see God's creations? Will we remember look for each can tell us about God and praise Him? Or, will we forget Him when we look at them? Too many times, we—like the Israelites, like all people—forget the LORD who made them all.

Let's praise the LORD now: the great God who shows us what He's like in all He's created. Let's ask Him to help us know Him better through His creations and always

remember to praise Him. Let's ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

*Close in prayer.*

### **Closing ACTS Prayer**

**A** God, we praise You for being the Creator of all things. We can see how wonderful You are in the many things You have made!

**C** God, we confess that we are sinners, just like the people of Israel. And, that even though we know about You and Your good ways, we still don't seek You as we should or could. We need Jesus to save us!

**T** God, we thank you for telling us so much about You through Your creations. Thank You for being so merciful to the people of Israel long ago and to us. You want us to know and worship You!

**S** God, we ask that You would work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Use Your creations to help us know You better.

### **Special Words**

**Idol:** An image of a (fake) god used as an object of worship.

**Altar:** A special place or structure, usually raised, where worship gifts to a god are made.

**Vineyard:** An area of land planted with grapevines, usually for producing wine.

**Prophet:** A person who speaks, teaches and acts in the name of a god.

# **ACTS PRAYER ACTIVITY**

Use this sheet to write down your ACTS Prayer

## **Instructions:**

Use this sheet to help the children apply the Bible Truth in prayer. You can use the ACTS provided or even better, have the kids think of their own applications. Also, have the children add their personal requests to the prayer, too. Lead the children in the prayer or let them pray sections, with your help. Never force a child to pray! Non-readers can participate by you whispering a section of the prayer into their ear and allowing them to pray it aloud for the group.

## **ADORATION:**

God, we praise You for showing us many things about You as we look at all Your creations. You show Yourself to be powerful, beautiful, loving, infinite and so much more.

God, we praise You for being.....

Add your own Adorations:

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## **CONFESSION:**

God, we confess that we look at Your creations and enjoy them, but often forget to praise You for them or learn about You from them. We need a Savior!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

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## **THANKSGIVING:**

Thank You, God for all that You show us about Yourself in Your creations. Thank You for making us able to look at Your creations and learn more about You. Thank You for wanting us to know You.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

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## **SUPPLICATION:**

God, use all Your creations to help us remember You, our Creator. Use them to teach us more about You. You created our hearts. Work in them that we might not just see You in Your many creations, but turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior and know You as our God.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

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## **SNEAKY SNACK**

Can you figure out how this snack ties in with our case?

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### **Snack: Water and Worship Gifts**

Use a graham cracker laid flat to make the altar's base. Put mini marshmallow "stones" on top, add pretzel sticks "wood" and an animal cracker "sacrifice." Things gets really, REALLY fun if you put this in the microwave and let the children watch, but don't keep it in very long. Empty cups (the drought) and later fill with water.

This is only a suggestion. Feel free to modify. Be mindful of allergy issues among your children!

**Case Tie-in:** The LORD showed Himself to be the one, true God. He withheld the water that Baal was supposed to provide and only He sent down fire for the worship gifts.

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## **SOUL FOOD**

Food for thought during snack time

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1. What does the snack have to do with the story?

Choose a few questions from the other activity discussion sheets to talk about during this snack time.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.



Directions: Read and discuss Bible Truth, using a FEW of the questions. Play game. Feel free to modify the game to fit your children.

### **God's Creations Tell Us about Him**

Creations tell you something about the person who created them. God is the creator of our world and His creations tell us about Him. God's creations show us many things about Him. They show us that He is mighty, glorious, beautiful, good, wise, infinite, perfect and so much more. God loves for us to learn about Him from His creations and praise Him for what He's like.

### **Understanding the Bible Truth**

1. Who do creations tell us and why? *Creations tell you about their creator. A creator makes things out of his own thoughts and abilities. When you see what someone makes, it tells you what they think about and what they are able to do.*
2. What do God's creations tell us about God? *The greatness of the universe tell us that He is even greater. The beauty and variety of flowers show us that He loves beauty and has never ending ability to think up new ways to make things. The perfection of how movement of the sun, moon, stars and planets show how amazingly wise He is.*
3. What does God love for us to use His creations to do? *To learn about Him and to praise Him for what He's like.*

### **Story Connection Questions**

1. How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: God's Creations Tell Us about Him**? What did God's creations tell King Ahab and the Israelites about the LORD? *That He is the true God over the rain, the lightning, the fire and everything else. He alone is to be worshiped.*

### **Bible Verse Connection Question**

What does our Bible Truth have to do with our Bible Verse: **Psalm 8:1,3-4**: "O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens...When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?"

*God created the heavens and the earth. Creations show us the "name" of their creator. That means they tell us something about their creator. When we look at all that God has made in the earth around us, we can see that His name is majestic--He is so wise, so beautiful, so power, so much greater than anyone or anything else. The heavens God made are so great. display some of His glory: how good and great He is. Everyone can look up in the heavens and see a picture of God's glory in what they see. When we look at them and think about how small we are, it's amazing to think that God cares so much about us! To think: He created all these things to show us what He is like! And to think: that of all His creations, He sent His Son to die for us!*

### **Life Application Questions**

1. What about God do we see from His creations that help God's people to trust His care for them? *He is powerful enough to create the whole world, so He is able to take care of them. He cares that even the smallest creatures are fed, He will takes care of their needs. He makes beautiful things for them to enjoy. He loves to delight us by giving us good things.*
2. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

### **ACTS Questions**

1. What is something we can praise God for because of this Bible Truth? *Praise God for His greatness, beauty, wisdom, kindness, etc. that we see when we look at His creations.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth? *That though we see how good and great God through His creation, we all choose to rebel against Him and many times do not want to know Him. We deserve His punishment! We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Bible Truth? *We can thank God for all the wonderful things He has created and all the pleasure we have in looking at them. We can thank God for letting us know some of what He is like as we look at His creations.*
4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Bible Truth? *We can ask God to work in our hearts and help us to see what He is like and praise Him, as we look at His creations.*

**The Gospel**

1. God made all things for His pleasure, but we are sinners who have chosen to disobey Him! We deserve His eternal punishment for our disobedience. Is there any hope for us? What is the gospel?

*Yes, there is hope! God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.*



## Game: Menagerie

### Materials

Small Bag/Bowl  
Bible Truth Questions

### Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Bible Truth Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Write the Bible Truth questions on small thin strips of paper (or make a photocopy of the Bible Truth Discussion Questions and simply cut them into strips) and put them in the bag/bowl.

### Playing the Game

Divide the children into three or four teams, depending on how many children you have. Each group of children is given the name of an animal and is assigned a corner of the room. You are "It" and stand in the middle of the room. When everyone is ready, give instructions to different groups of animals, such as "I want the bears to change places with the monkeys." The bears and monkeys when then run to change places. You, as It, will try to tag bears and monkeys. Choose a question from the bag to read to your caught animals. If they get it right, they are released to be back with their fellow animals. If not, they must wait until another, correct answer to be released.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

### Non-competitive Option

Do not exclude "caught" animals from the game, even if they get the answer wrong. Instead release them back to their fellow animals and put the question back in the bag for review again.

### Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during TAKING IT TO OTHERS time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children. Make sure you read the Bible verse aloud before you ask your questions.

Directions:

1. Write words to song in large print before class.
2. Play the song for the children, helping them follow along on the song sheet.
3. Discuss the song, using a few questions from the discussion sheet. *Don't use them all!*
4. Introduce sign language for key words of your choice from sign language sheet for your song. Use as few or as many as you think the children can learn.
5. Sing and sign the song. Sign language as well as large format lyrics and sheet music are found in the PFI Unit Songbook or online.
6. If desired, play the Song Game.

**Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Presenting and Singing the Song**

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the song ties in with the Bible Truth.

## O Worship the King

### Verse 3

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?  
 It breathes in the air,  
 it shines in the light,  
 It streams from the hills,  
 It descends to the plain,  
 And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 14

### Understanding the Song

1. What does "Thy" mean? *"Thy" is the old English word for "Your."*
2. What does "bountiful" mean? *An overflowing amount of something, far more than expected or needed.*
3. What is God's care for His people like? *It is so bountiful—so overflowing—that the tongue cannot even recite (a person does not even have time to tell) all the ways He has cared for them.*
4. What "breathes in the air" and what does that mean? *God's care "breathes in the air." This is a beautiful way of saying that we see God's care by giving us the air we breathe in with each breath.*
5. What "shines in the light" and what does that mean? *God's care for us. God cares for us by giving us the light we and all living creatures need to live.*
6. How does God's care "stream from the hills and descend to the plain?" *God takes care of all the needs of His creations—animals, plants, birds, people—whether they live high on the hills or down on the lowland plains.*
7. What does "distill" mean? *To come from.*
8. How does God's care "distill in the dew and the rain?" *God gives the water that all living creatures need to live in the dew and the rain. God's great care for us shows in every dew drop and rain drop.*

### Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **God's Creations Tell Us about Him?**

*All of God's creation tells us about Him. We can look at everything from the air to the light, to the hills and plains, to the dew and rain, and see that God cares for us.*

### Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *The Israelites worshiped Baal like it was he whose bountiful care they lived in. They learned that it was the Lord, not Baal who gave them everything. Creation told of His rule, not Baal's.*

### Life Application Questions

1. How can God's people be affected by the message of this song? *They can ask God to help them to see His care in everything in creation around us and give them grateful hearts that thank Him for it.*
2. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

**Bible Verse Connection Question**

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Psalm 8:1,3-4**: "O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens...When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?"

*God reveals His majestic name--the way He is-- in loving care for all His creation by providing them light from the heavens (the sun), as well as the rain and dew that is needed to grow the food that they need. We can look at all the ways that God cares for His creations and be amazed that someone so great cares so much for someone so small as us!*

**ACTS Questions**

1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?

*Praise God for being full of care for all of His creations, especially us!*

2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?

*That many times, we see God, His goodness and greatness, in His creations, but we do not want to know Him or obey Him. We would rather do things our own way. We deserve His punishment! We need a Savior!*

3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?

*We can thank God that His care of us is so great that our tongues cannot recite everything He has done!*

4. What is something we can ask God for from this hymn?

*That God would give us grateful hearts and would help us see His bountiful care for the whole world. We can pray that God would work in our hearts and help us to turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. That is the greatest way God has cared for us!*

**Gospel Question**

1. When we look at the how God waters the hills and plains so that all things can grow, we see a picture of God's care for us and the world He created. But the greatest way God has shown His care for us is not through the rain, it is through sending Jesus. What is the gospel?

*God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.*

## **Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice**

### **Materials**

Song

Sign language signs used in the song printed out onto little cards

Blindfold

### **Preparing the Game**

None.

### **Playing the Game**

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Then tell them: "Children, we are going to hide a sign language sign and see if one of you can find it... with a little help from the rest of us!"
2. Choose someone to be "It" and blindfold them. Choose another child to hide one of the sign language cards. When it's hidden, "It" can remove the blindfold and begin to look.
3. The rest of the children will sing the song in a louder voice when "It" gets closer to the hidden sign and quieter when "It" gets further from the sign.
4. When "It" finds the hidden clue, another "It" is chosen and play begins again.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

choose a FEW questions for discussion, then choose the game and/or music activity

**Meditation Version: Psalm 8:1,3-4 ESV**

“O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens... When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?”

**Alternate Memory Version: Psalm 8:1 ESV**

“O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**Understanding the Bible Verse**

1. What does majestic mean? *Amazing and grand.*
2. Who's name is majestic in all the earth? The LORD's.
3. Why is the LORD's name majestic in all the earth? Because He is the one that made everything. When we look at the things He has made, we see some of what He is like. His creations are so amazing that they point to how amazing the LORD, Himself, is.
4. This verse says that the heavens are the work of God's fingers? Does God really have fingers like us? *Jesus, the Son of God who became man, does have fingers. But that's not the point of these words. They are really just saying that God made the heavens.*
5. Why is it so amazing that God cares about us (man)? He is so great that He made the heavens...something so big that we can't even see the end of it! We are so tiny when compared to this great creation of God's. Yet, He has chosen to love us and care for us most of all.
6. Does the LORD just care for men and not women? No, this verse is using the word man to mean all people.

**Bible Truth Connection Question**

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: God's Creations Tell Us about Him?** *God created the heavens and the earth. Creations show us the "name" of their creator. That means they tell us something about their creator. When we look at all that God has made in the earth around us, we can see that His name is majestic--He is so wise, so beautiful, so power, so much greater than anyone or anything else. The heavens God made are so great. display some of His glory: how good and great He is. Everyone can look up in the heavens and see a picture of God's glory in what they see. When we look at them and think about how small we are, it's amazing to think that God cares so much about us! To think: He created all these things to show us what He is like! And to think: that of all His creations, He sent His Son to die for us!*

**Story Connection Questions**

1. How did God use the heavens to declare His name to the Israelites? *By not allowing the rain to fall until He (the LORD) commanded it to, so that all would know He is God over all, even the rain. Not Baal.*

**Life Application Questions**

1. How can God's people use all of God's creations in heaven and earth to praise Him? *By looking at it and seeing all the different things about God and His name (the way He is) that they each reflect.*
2. How can God's people use God's creation to encourage them in hard times? *By looking at it and all of God's wisdom and powerful and goodness it reflects and reminding themselves that it is this same God who loves and cares for them.*
3. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

**ACTS Questions**

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible Verse? *Praise God for being the Revealer of Himself through all things He's created.*
2. What is something we can confess to God from this Bible Verse? *Confess that many times, we see God, His goodness and greatness, in His creations, but we do not want to know Him or obey Him. We would rather do things our own way. We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible Verse? *We can thank God for all the wonderful and beautiful ways He shows us what He is like in everything we see that He has made.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Bible Verse? *That God would work in our hearts that we might know and love Him, both by what we see of Him in His creations; and, most of all, by trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

**Gospel Question**

1. How has the LORD shown how much He cares about man --about people-- most of all? What is the gospel? *God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.*

## Game: Cross the Raging River

### Materials

Bible verse written up in large print so that all can see

Two yardsticks or long pieces of rope

### Preparing the Game

Make up some questions about the verse and/or story (use the Bible verse Discussion and Story Review Discussion Questions).

### Learning the Verse

Some or all of your children may be non- or early readers. Teach the verse in sections, having them say it after you. Repeat a few times. Add clapping or other movement as they say it.

### Directions

1. If desired, lead the children in a discussion of a **FEW** of the most important questions before beginning game.

2. Explain the game to them as follows:

Have the children line up in a straight line behind the leader. Explain to them that there's a river to cross and they get to jump the bank without getting wet. Each child will say the verse and then jump across the two yardsticks/ropes lying next to each other on the floor. After each round, the sticks/ropes will be separated by more space, making it a wider river to jump across. As the river gets wider, some children will not make it but "fall in". Explain to them that they are stuck in the river unless they can answer a question (that you make up) about the Bible verse or the story. Feel free to let a child "stuck in the river" ask another child for a "lifeline" and help them answer their question.

Game continues as time and attention span allow.

Caution: Avoid accidents by not letting the "river" get too wide.

### Optional **TAKING IT TO OTHERS** Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during **TAKING IT TO OTHERS** time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children. Make sure you read the Bible verse aloud before you ask your questions.



Directions:

1. Write words to song in large print before class.
2. Play the song for the children, helping them follow along on the song sheet.
3. Discuss the song, using a few questions from the discussion sheet. *Don't use them all!*
4. Introduce sign language for key words of your choice from sign language sheet for your song. Use as few or as many as you think the children can learn.
5. Sing and sign the song. Sign language as well as large format lyrics and sheet music are found in the PFI Unit Songbook or online.
6. If desired, play the Song Game.

**Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Presenting and Singing the Song**

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the verse ties in with the Bible Truth.

**O LORD, Our Lord**

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name!  
 How majestic is your name in all the earth!  
 O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name!  
 How majestic is your name in all the earth!  
 When I look at the heavens, the work of your fingers,  
 The moon and the stars that you have set in place,  
 What is man? What is man?  
 That you are mindful of him?  
 And the son of man that you care for him?

**Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 15**

## Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean?

### Materials

Sign Language signs used in song, particularly choose words with important meanings you want the children to learn, such as "grace", "redeem", etc.

Bag or bowl

### Preparing the Game

1. Cut out signs and put in bowl.

### Playing the Game

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Then put all the signs we've learned in this bag/bowl and mix them up.
2. Ask one of the children to choose a sign, but not show it to anyone...but you, if they need some help.
3. Ask the child to do the sign for the rest of the children and see if the other children can guess which one it is. Do the sign with the child, if desired.
4. When the children guess the sign, ask them the meaning of the word. If no one guesses the sign, put it back in the bowl to be picked again.
5. Choose another child to pick a new sign from the bag and continue.

NOTE: You might want to sing the song after you do each word or couple of words.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

**STORY REVIEW**

Directions: Read and discuss Bible Truth, using a FEW of the questions. Play game. Feel free to modify the game to fit your children.

**General Story Questions**

1. What did King Ahab do to provoke the LORD to anger? *He worshiped Baal and led the people in worshiping him, too.*
2. Of what was Baal supposed to be the god? *The god of rain, storms, and everything good.*
3. Why did the LORD choose to not make it rain for two years to make the point that He was the true God? *Because it showed that He, not Baal, really had power over the Rain and everything else.*
4. What did Elijah challenge the prophets of Baal to do? *To prove that Baal was the real god by sending fire down from heaven to burn up a sacrifice.*
5. How many prophets of Baal were there? *450 prophets of Baal.*
6. Where did the contest take place? *On the top of Mt. Carmel.*
7. What did the prophets of Baal do when Baal did not answer them? *They danced and cut themselves; they shouted loudly to him.*
8. Why did Elijah have to fix the LORD's altar? *Because it had not been used for so long.*
9. Why was the altar made from 12 stones? *One stone for each of the 12 tribes of Israel—all of the Israelites.*
10. What was different about how Elijah prepared the LORD's altar for the sacrifice? *He had lots of water poured all over the sacrifice and the altar.*
11. Why did Elijah want water poured on the altar? *To show that even with water on it, the LORD would still send fire down to burn up the sacrifice, even though water usually makes it harder to make fire.*
12. How did the LORD answer Elijah's prayer for fire? *He sent down a huge amount of fire that burned up not just the sacrifice, but the wood and stones and water as well.*
13. What did the Israelites do after the LORD sent fire? *They bowed down and exclaimed that the LORD was the one, true God.*
14. What happened to the prophets of Baal? Why was that important? *They were killed so that they could not lead the people astray anymore.*
15. Why did Elijah tell King Ahab to celebrate? *Because at last the LORD was sending rain.*
16. Why did Elijah bow down to the ground? *To pray to the LORD and ask Him to send the rain.*
17. How did God show Himself in His creation in this story? *That He, not any other idol, is the powerful God over the rain and everything else.*

**Bible Truth Connection Questions**

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: God's Creations Tell Us about Him**? *Rain fell only when the LORD told it to. Fire fell from heaven only when He told it to. Creation showed that He alone is the true God.*

**Life Application Questions**

1. What does God want His people to do when they see His creation? *He wants them to see what He is like, that they would enjoy Him, know Him and praise Him more.*
2. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

**Bible Verse Connection Question**

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Psalm 8:1,3-4**: "O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens...When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?"

*The heavens showed that they were the work of the LORD's hand, not Baal's, by the fact that they did not bring rain until the LORD commanded it to rain. The LORD used the skies in this way to show the Israelites that He was the one, true God and they should turn back and worship Him.*

**ACTS Questions**

1. What's something we can praise God for from this story? *Praise Him for being the true Creator of all things.*
2. What's something we can confess from this story? *Confess that we are sinners, just like the Israelites. And, that even though we even know about the LORD and His good ways, that we still do not seek Him as we know we should. We need a Savior!*
3. What's something we can thank God for from this story? *We can thank God for being so merciful that He wouldn't just punish His sinful people, but would help them to repent of their sins and come back to worship Him. We can thank Him for offering forgiveness even to us, today, through Jesus..*
4. What is something we can ask God for, from this story? *We can ask God to work in our hearts and help us to worship and love Him as the One, True God. We can ask Him to help us to see His greatness in His creations around us.*

**The Gospel**

1. How are we like the Israelites in this story? *Like the Israelites we are sinners, who chose to live life our own way. Maybe we don't bow down to idols, but we many times choose to not worship the LORD and obey His good ways.*
2. God's just punishment for sinners is eternal punishment, away from Him and everything good forever! Is there any hope for sinners? What is the gospel?  
*Yes, there is hope! God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.*

## Game: Go Fish

### Materials

Broom stick or pole  
String  
U-shaped magnet  
Paper clips, 1 per question  
Construction paper  
Scissors  
Basket/Pail  
Story Review Questions

### Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Cut out fish (different sizes and shapes, if desired), one per question. Write a question on each fish. And assign a point value to each fish based on difficulty. Attach a paper clip to the mouth of each fish. Place the fish in the basket. Attach the magnet to one end of the string and the pole to the other end.

### Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams. Teams will take turns catching fish by hooking them with the magnet and the paper clip. The question is then read to the child/team. A correct answer is worth as many points as is indicated on the fish. If answered incorrectly, the question goes to the other team for a possible one point.

Play continues as questions last, or as time and attention span allow.

### Non-competitive Option

Don't split into teams. Have the children take turns catching fish and answering the questions together.

### Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during TAKING IT TO OTHERS time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children.

**CASE REPLAY ACTIVITIES**

Use this guide to review the Case Story and act it out for others to enjoy!

**CASE REPLAY, JR: YOUNGEST CHILDREN**

**Description:** The children will act out the story together, everyone doing the same action/sound effect at the same time. This activity is most suitable for kindergarteners.

**Materials**

The Case RePlay, Jr. script for younger children

**Preparation**

1. Read through the script and write in the blanks along the side possible actions/sound effects the children could do to act it out.

**Instructions**

1. Tell the children that they will be re-enacting the story together as you tell it.
2. As you read the script, lead the children in actions/sound effects to do with you.
3. If desired, you can read the script and stop at certain sentences and ask them what a good action/sound effect would be to act out what you just read.
4. Repeat the re-enactment one or two times more.

**CASE REPLAY, SR: OLDER CHILDREN**

**Description:** The children act out the story as a three-scene play. You will narrate it using the Case RePlay, Sr. script and they will act it out (no spoken words, for the most part), with each child assuming a different character's role. This activity is most suitable for first grade and up. You will review the story, then practice it a few times before performing it for others.

**Materials**

The Case RePlay, Sr. script  
White board or other large format paper  
Costumes and props

**Preparation**

1. Prepare for the play by choosing costumes and props for each character in the story. Decorate the area with any scenery props.
2. Write the words "Beginning," "Middle," "End" on a large piece of paper/whiteboard with plenty of space under each heading. You will use this paper to help the children think about the story as a three-scene play, as it is presented in the script.

**Instructions**

1. Tell the children that they will get to act out the story as a three-scene play, with a beginning, middle and end section. Tell them that before they can act it out, they need to think it out. as you narrate it with your script.
2. Take the children's answers as they recount the story, helping them put key incidents in the right order.
3. If desired, when they have filled in their Beginning, Middle, End, read through your whole (real) script, so they hear exactly what you will have them act out.
4. Then tell the children that it's time to practice acting out the story.
5. Assign parts to each child. If you are using costumes, do NOT give them out at this point. They will be a distraction.
6. Have all the children sit on the floor or in chairs on one side of the "stage," then call the characters up in place as their part in the story comes.
7. As you read the script, guide the children in where you want them to move or do to act it out.
8. After going through the whole script once, give out any costumes and props and act out the script once or twice more.

**Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Re-enacting the Story**

Read the script as the children act out together (younger) or assuming different roles (older) as the other children or the parents watch.

**CASE REPLAY, JR--YOUNGER KIDS (KINDERGARTEN) P.2**

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is called: The Case of the Speaking Rain.

Our story takes place in Israel, up on Mt. Carmel. It takes place in Old Testament times, about 900 years before Jesus came to earth.

And now we present: "The Case of the Speaking Rain."

**Actions:**

**Scene 1:**

King Ahab provoked the LORD to anger by worshiping Baal, the god of rain, lightning and fire, instead of the LORD. He made a temple to Baal and set up altars on many hills for the Israelites to worship him, too. The prophet Elijah brought the LORD's word to King Ahab that Israel would not have rain for two years because of his sin. Ahab did not repent. For two years, no rain fell. Crops withered, animals and people died. The LORD was showing that He, not Baal, was the one, true God. He alone should be worshipped.

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**Scene 2:**

After the two years, Elijah appeared before King Ahab and challenged the prophets of Baal to a showdown on Mount Carmel to prove whether Baal or the LORD was the true God. The prophets of Baal set up their sacrifice on the altar to Baal and began to pray to him. When nothing happened they began to shout and even cut themselves to try to get him to answer them. Still nothing happened. Elijah repaired the stones of the LORD's altar, placed the bull on it and had it flooded with water. Elijah prayed and the LORD sent down fire and everything, even the rocks were burned up. The Israelites worshiped the LORD and the prophets of Baal were killed.

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**Scene 3**

Elijah told King Ahab to celebrate because the LORD would soon send rain. Elijah bowed down and prayed to the LORD. King Ahab hurried back to his palace. At first only a tiny, black cloud appeared, but soon it was pouring with rain. The LORD had used the skies once more to show that He, not Baal, was the one, true God.

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**Bible Truth Tie-In:**

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God's Creations Tell Us about Him.** Rain fell only when the LORD told it to. Fire fell from heaven only when He told it to. God's creation showed that He is their Maker and He alone is the one, true God. This helped the people of Israel turn away from worshiping Baal and turn back to worship the LORD.

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## **CASE REPLAY, SR--OLDER KIDS (1ST GRADE AND UP) P.3**

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is called: The Case of the Speaking Rain.

Our story takes place in Israel, up on Mt. Carmel. It takes place in Old Testament times, about 900 years before Jesus came to earth.

“The characters in our story are: Baal, King Ahab, Elijah, the LORD, the Prophets of Baal, and the Israelites.

And now we present: “The Case of the Speaking Rain

### **Scene 1: (Beginning)**

King Ahab provoked the LORD to anger by worshiping Baal, the god of rain, lightning and fire, instead of the LORD. He made a temple to Baal and set up altars on many hills for the Israelites to worship him, too. The prophet Elijah brought the LORD’s word to King Ahab that Israel would not have rain for two years because of his sin. Ahab did not repent. For two years, no rain fell. Crops withered, animals and people died. The LORD was showing that He, not Baal, was the one, true God. He alone should be worshipped.

### **Scene 2: (Middle)**

After the two years, Elijah appeared before King Ahab and challenged the prophets of Baal to a showdown on Mount Carmel to prove whether Baal or the LORD was the true God. The prophets of Baal set up their sacrifice on the altar to Baal and began to pray to him. When nothing happened they began to shout and even cut themselves to try to get him to answer them. Still nothing happened. Elijah repaired the stones of the LORD’s altar, placed the bull on it and had it flooded with water. Elijah prayed and the LORD sent down fire and everything, even the rocks were burned up. The Israelites worshiped the LORD and the prophets of Baal were killed.

### **Scene 3: (End)**

Elijah told King Ahab to celebrate because the LORD would soon send rain. Elijah bowed down and prayed to the LORD. King Ahab hurried back to his palace. At first only a tiny, black cloud appeared, but soon it was pouring with rain. The LORD had used the skies once more to show that He, not Baal, was the one, true God.

### **Bible Truth Tie-In:**

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God’s Creations Tell Us about Him.** Rain fell only when the LORD told it to. Fire fell from heaven only when He told it to. God’s creation showed that He is their Maker and He alone is the one, true God. This helped the people of Israel turn away from worshiping Baal and turn back to worship the LORD.



## Withered Land of Mt. Carmel

### Description

Children will make a sand picture of the withered land around Mt. Carmel.

### Materials

Brown, black, yellow, blue, orange, red, grey, beige colored sands

Glue and sponge pieces (for spreading the glue) OR Glue sticks

Toothpicks, one per child (optional)

Cookie sheets with low sides (optional)

Paper towels

Pieces of thin cardboard, like cereal boxes or poster board, one per child (optional)

### Preparing the Craft

1. Make a copy of Mt. Carmel scene (Template #1) onto cardstock, one per child.
2. Set out sands in bowls for all children to easily access them.
3. Set out glue and sponge pieces; or glue sticks.
4. Set out a cookie sheet in front of each child's place and place their pictures in it.
5. You may want to have wet paper towels on hand, for easy clean up of gluey hands.

### Making the Craft

1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
  2. Have children glue a section of the picture that will be a particular color sand.
  3. Have them sprinkle the sand over that portion of their picture, letting the excess fall onto the cookie sheet (and saving you a lot of clean up time!!)
  4. Continue the process of gluing and sand-sprinkling until finished.
- NOTE: Different effects can be made by sprinkling one base color and then adding sprinkles of another color on top; or, by using the end of a toothpick to make swirls in the sky, hatch marks on the mountains, strips on the snake, etc.
5. Children may find it easier to transport sand pictures home the next week when they've dried thoroughly; or, you can cut pieces of the light cardboard to support their work as they take it home that day.

### Making a Bible Truth Connection

Once the children have settled into their craft, use the Bible Truth- Craft Connection Sheet to lead discussion about the craft. Note that most of these questions echo the questions on the case board, providing a review of what the children learned earlier.

### Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Craft Presentation

If you are presenting the craft to other children or parents the children can hold up their crafts (or your model craft) and read their Bible Truth Connection answers to explain the importance of the craft.

**CASE CRAFT****Discussion Guide****Instructions:**

As the children are settled into making their craft, ask them these questions to help them understand the craft's significance. Use the answers provided to guide the children's answers.

**Discussion Questions**

1. In what surprising place in Israel was the land dry and withered? *Mt. Carmel.*
2. Whose sin led to this drought? Who brought the drought on the land? *King Ahab's sin of worshiping Baal led to the drought. The LORD was the one who caused no rain to fall.*
3. What did the LORD show King Ahab and the people of Israel through His control over the drought? *That He, not Baal, was the one, true God. They should turn away from their sins and worship Him alone.*
4. What is Bible Truth 2, that we are learning? *God's Creations Tell Us about Him.*
5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: God's Creations Tell Us about Him? *God used the drought that withered even the land on Mt. Carmel to show King Ahab and all the Israelites that He, not Baal, was God over all creation; and, to encourage them to turn back and worship Him, for their good and His glory.*
6. What can the Withered Land of Mt. Carmel help us remember? *God made all of creation to show us who He is and what He is like.*

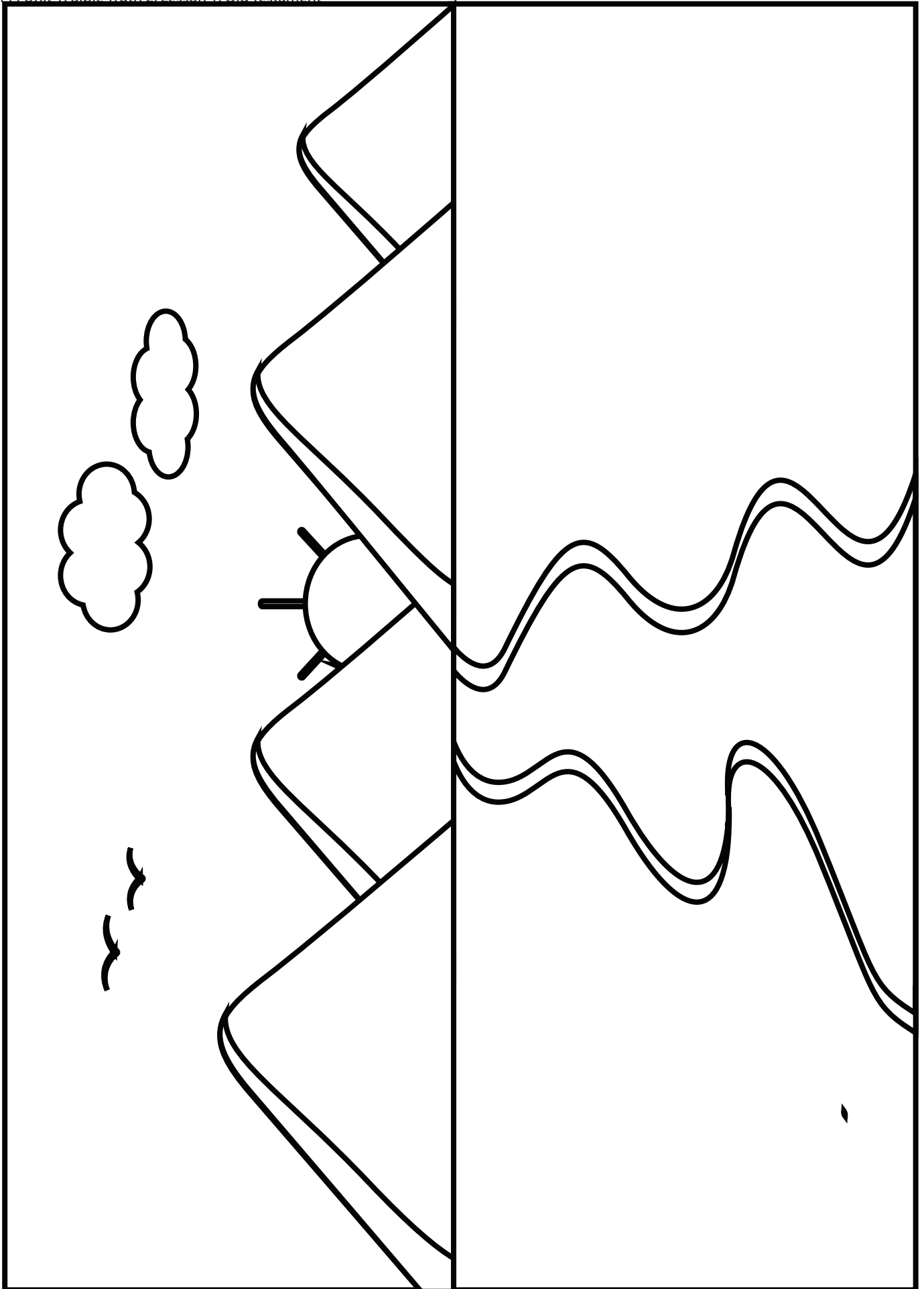
**TAKING IT TO OTHERS****Craft Presentation****Instructions:**

Have children hold up your model craft/their crafts. Choose five children (or you say) the five sections below to explain the craft's importance.

**Presentation:**

1. Our craft is Withered Land of Mt. Carmel.
2. In Israel, the LORD brought a drought upon all the land that even withered the land on Mt. Carmel. He did this to show King Ahab and all the Israelites that He, not Baal, was God over all creation.
3. Bible Truth 2 is: How Can I Know What God Is Like? He Shows Me What He's Like...God's Creations Tell Us about Him.
4. Baal was worshiped as the God of Rain and Thunder by Ahab and the Israelites, but the LORD was the real Giver of them. They should have worshiped Him. The LORD used His control over the rain and thunder to show the Israelites that He—not Baal—was Creator. They should worship Him alone.
5. Our craft can help us remember that God made all of creation to show us who He is and what He is like.

Note: Even non-readers can participate in presenting the craft, if you will whisper what they are to say in their ear and let them say it aloud for the others to hear.





**BEFORE CLASS:****1. PICK YOUR PERSON**

VIPPs can be anyone in your church! Typically, they fall into 6 categories: Church staff, Elders, Deacons/deaconesses, Special Volunteers (people who aren't paid, but spend a lot of time helping out in particular ways), Supported Workers (aka missionaries), and Church Members.

**2. GATHER YOUR FACTS**

Use the VIPP Information Sheet to write down the facts about your VIPP. The information on this worksheet is used in the VIPP activities, listed in the "Choose an Activity" section below.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:****1. INTRODUCE YOUR VIPP**

Introduce your VIPP to the children, using the VIPP Information Sheet. Fill in a set of VIPP Clue Cards with the information for your VIPP. If desired, you can even have the actual person come into class for the children to meet.

Need help describing what someone does for the church in a kid-friendly way? Check out the list of common VIPPs on the Praise Factory website in the PFI resources. There are lots of kid-friendly descriptions for common VIPP's, such as pastors, elders, deacons and a lot more.

**2. PRAY!**

Lead the children in praying for the VIPP. Ask the children if they would like to pray for one of the VIPPs prayer requests. Even non-readers can pray for the VIPP if you whisper the prayer request in the their ear, then let them say it aloud. Never force a child to pray!

**3. CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY**

There are two activities you can use to help the children learn about the VIPP:

**VIPP Clue Cards:** These are nine coloring sheets in which children fill in the nine things they learn about the VIPP from the VIPP Information Sheet. Photocopy a set of each child. Use as few or as many of these Clue Cards as you desire.

**VIPP Game:** This is a game that uses a set of Clue Cards for one or two VIPPs.

Choose a VIPP and fill in his/her information on the VIPP Information Sheet. Fill in a set of VIPP Clue Cards with the information for your VIPP. Tell the children about the VIPP, having them fill in the VIPP Clue Cards with the key facts as they learn them. Write any words the children need to write on a white-board or other piece of paper so they can see how to spell them. Help younger children write these words on their clue cards. Ideas for how to tell the children about many common VIPPs are listed at [praisefactory.org](http://praisefactory.org) with the resources for this Bible Truth.

**Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Introduce and Pray for the VIPP**

If you are presenting the VIPP to other children or parents you can assign children to hold up the 10 clue cards and say what each card tells about the VIPP. (Or, you can have the children hold them up as you tell what each one means.) Then lead the children in praying for the VIPP.

## Game: Hit the Wall

### Materials

Information Sheet for one VIPP

2 Set of Clue Cards

8 8.5" x 11" Manilla Envelopes

Nerf Ball or other soft ball for indoor use

### Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for the VIPP you are using.
2. Tape the other (blank) set of Clue Cards to the outside of the manilla envelopes.
3. Put the filled-in clue cards in the corresponding envelope.
4. Tape the envelopes to the wall.

### Playing the Game

**Reveal:** Tell the children about the VIPP, showing them your filled-in clue cards as you tell about them.

**Review:** Have the children take turns trying to hit an envelope with the ball. The teacher (or the child) tells the Clue Card category. The other children try to remember what the VIPP's answer was. Open it up and see if they got it right. If they did, the Clue Card is retired. If not, it can be added back into the Clue Cards to be aimed at.

**VIPP INFORMATION SHEET**

**VIPP NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT VIPP LOOKS LIKE**

Man or Woman? \_\_\_\_\_

Hair color? \_\_\_\_\_

Eye color? \_\_\_\_\_

**FAVORITE ANIMAL**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**FAVORITE FOOD**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**FAVORITE FREE TIME ACTIVITY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT VIPP DOES DURING WEEK**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**VIPP GROUP OF SERVICE:**

- |                   |                                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Church Member     | Deacon                           |
| Elder             | Church Staff                     |
| Special Volunteer | Supported Worker<br>(Missionary) |

**3 WAYS VIPP SERVES CHURCH**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR THE VIPP**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



