

BIBLE TRUTH 4, LESSON 3: 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 4: God Speaks through His Word, the Bible

Bible Truth Hymn: Amazing Grace, v.4 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 20*

Bible Verse: Psalm 119:18, 72-73

Bible Verse Song: Open My Eyes *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 21*

Lesson 3 Old Testament Story: The Case of the Forgotten Book
Deuteronomy 4,5,27-30,34; Jeremiah 1-2,4,11,25,36

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: Pieces of Scroll on Fire

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Beanbag Grand March

Bible Truth Hymn: Amazing Grace, v.4 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 20*

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

Bible Verse Review: Psalm 119:18, 72-73: Discussion Sheet and Game: Frisbee Toss

Bible Verse Song: Open My Eyes *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 21*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign? **PFI ESV Songs 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Balloon Volleyball

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: King Jehoiakim's Fire

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (back of book), Game: Crabbin' Around

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 4, Lesson 3 **PFI ESV Prontos 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Forgotten Book Deuteronomy 4,5,27-30,34; Jeremiah 1-2,4,11,25,36

by Connie Dever

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

1. What was the Forgotten Book?
2. Who should have remembered it? What happened because they forgot it?

This story takes place not far from the eastern border of Israel, in Old Testament times, beginning about 1400 years before Jesus lived on earth.

An old man (about one hundred and twenty years old!) sat in his tent, crouched over a papyrus scroll with ink reed in hand. It was Moses, hard at work writing down all the words the LORD had spoken to him. How his hand must have ached from day after day of writing, for it was Moses who wrote down the first, five books of the Bible! Now that's a lot of words!

Why would Moses go to all that effort? Because these words were God's words. God commanded him to write them all done. Through them, God would keep speaking the people, long after Moses had died.

But what would the people do with the Word of God? Would they listen and obey it...or not? The answer was a matter of life or death for the Israelites. They had made a solemn covenant with God. God promised to always bless them and protect them. The people promised to obey God's good laws. But along with the promises of blessings and protection, came a promise of punishment, too, if the people didn't obey God's laws as they had promised.

"Worship the LORD only. Do not make any idols. Keep the Sabbath day holy," God had told them. "Honor your father and your mother. Do not murder. Do not commit adultery. Do not steal. Do not lie. Do not crave to have anything that someone else has." Moses wrote down these good laws and many more that the Israelites were to follow.

But Moses didn't just write down God's good laws for the people. He taught them what they should do with them. "You, parents: each and every day, teach God's words to your children, as you rise and sit, as you work, as you walk...no matter what you're so that

they will remember to obey the LORD and keep His covenant. You priests! Gather the people and read the Bible to them every seven years. They will help them obey the LORD and keep His covenant," Moses instructed.

"Obey the LORD and His Word and He will protect you and bless you. You will be His special people. But if you choose to go your own way and not live according to God's good Word, then He will discipline you severely. There will be curses upon your food and your families. Your enemies will overtake you and finally the LORD will remove you from the Promised Land He is giving you, scatter you to other lands and destroy you," Moses warned them.

What a big decision the Israelites were making! It would to be God's special people, but how scary was the punishments He warned them about!

The Israelites chose to make the covenant with the LORD. "We want to be Your people. We promise to obey Your Word," they said. So together, the LORD and the people of Israel made their promises to each other.

How wonderful life would have been, if the Israelites had kept their promises. But unfortunately, they were sinners, just like us. All too soon they chose not to live God's good way. They began to worship idols and to break God's good laws. How long would it be before the LORD sent down the curses He promised them?

The LORD certainly had every right to send all those terrible curses on them, just as soon as they started breaking His laws, but He did not. You see, God is holy: He hates it when His good laws are broken! But, He is also very merciful and compassionate. His heart is filled with love for His people. He did not want to destroy them! So the LORD patiently wanted the Israelites to

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.

repent. He sent prophets to tell them to turn back to Him. He gave them smaller punishments than they deserved. But they kept worshiping idols and breaking the LORD's laws. So at last, after 800 years, it was time to punish them fully. He would remove from the Promised Land and scattered to other lands.

Another man sat crouched in his room over a scroll. This wasn't Moses. This was Baruch, the secretary of the prophet Jeremiah. Baruch furiously wrote down the words his master gave him to write: "The LORD says: 'The time for judgment has come. For eight hundred years I have waited for my stiff-necked people to turn from their idol worship and back to Me. As I promised through the covenant I made with them through Moses, I will now punish My people. I will send in the mighty Babylonian army to destroy all the cities and scatter and destroy all the people. Many will die and the rest will serve as slaves in Babylon. But I will show mercy, too. I won't punish them forever, as the covenant allows me to. After seventy, hard years in Babylon, I bring them back to the Promised Land.'"

Jeremiah wept at the words the LORD gave him. What terrible things were about to happen!

"Yet before I do this," the LORD continued through Jeremiah, "I want to give them one more chance to turn from their sins. Jeremiah, take this scroll with My words written upon it and have it read before all the people next time they gather at the Temple for a fast. If they hear My words and turn back to Me, then I will forgive them and I will not send the Babylonians to destroy them." How merciful and patient is the LORD!

Yet there was a problem. Jeremiah had to figure out how to get the LORD's message to the people.

"How will we do this, Baruch?" Jeremiah asked his scribe. "You know that the king hates me and my 'messages of doom,' as the people call them. I have been forbidden to enter the Temple at all. You will have to be the one to read the scroll. But from where can you read them the message so that they can all hear? We must make a plan," he said.

Jeremiah and Baruch shared with their friend, Gemariah, what the Lord commanded them to do. Gemariah was a high official of King Jehoiakim. It would be risky

for him to help Jeremiah, but Gemariah had a third story room that faced out into the Temple courts. It would be the perfect place to read God's Word to all the people. What would Gemariah do with the Word of God? He would risk his job and life and let Baruch read it from his room? Yes, he would!

The day of fasting finally came and all of the people of Jerusalem and the rest of the country gathered in the temple courts. Baruch snuck up to Gemariah's third floor room, faced the people and began reading in a loud voice all of God's words:

"Turn back to the LORD!" Baruch told them. "This is your last chance. If you refuse, I will send the Babylonians to destroy your land and you will serve them as their slaves. But even so, He will show you mercy. After seventy years of punishment, He will send you back home."

What would the people do with the God's Word? Would they accept it? No, they would not.

News of Baruch's stunt made it to the ears of King Jehoiakim's officials. When they heard what was on the scroll, they were afraid.

"The King needs to know about this. Give us the scroll!" the officials demanded. "And as for you, I'd advise you and Jeremiah to go and hide before the King finds out about it. You know what he will do to you!"

Jeremiah and Baruch went to hide and Jehudi, the King's servant, was sent to take Jeremiah's scroll to the King and report what had happened.

"Read me that scroll!" ordered King Jehoiakim.

So Jehudi began to read: "The time for judgment has come. For eight hundred years I have waited for My stiff-necked people to turn from their idol worship and back to Me. I am giving you one more chance before I send the Babylonian army to destroy your cities and scatter the people. Turn back to Me!"

King Jehoiakim listened as Jehudi read. What would he do with the Word of God? King Jehoiakim did not believe it! He took the scroll of the Word of God and he cut it up piece by piece and threw it into his fire until it was all burned up!

There would be no turning back from God's judgment now. Word reached Baruch and Jeremiah of what the king had done. Six years later, the Babylonian army

swept into Jerusalem, burning it down, killing many and taking the rest to be slaves in Babylon for seventy years, just as the LORD had promised.

But the LORD said to Jeremiah, "Write my words down again." So that's exactly what Jeremiah did. Why did God want Jeremiah to write down all those words again? Because God's Word was not just for King Jehoiakim and the people who heard it and rejected it that day in the Temple. It was also for many others who would come. These others would hear those words and believe. They would turn from their sinful ways and trust in the LORD.

And would you believe that God even had Jeremiah write those words down for us to hear today? Yes, He wants to know what will WE do with the Word of God? Will we reject it, like King Jehoiakim and the people did long ago? Or, will we turn away from our sins and ask Him for forgiveness? God is just holy and just as merciful now as He was then! We face His punishment for our sins, but He promises to forgive us and make us His very, own special people forever, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Close in prayer.

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. What was the Forgotten Book?

God's Word, the Bible.

2. Who should have remembered it? What happened because they forgot it?

The people of Israel and their kings forgot it. They turned away from God and worshiped other fake gods. When they would not turn back, the LORD disciplined them by sending them to Babylon. In the end, they turned back to the LORD.

Something For You and Me

Our Bible Truth is:

God Speaks through His Word, the Bible

Our Bible Verse is: Psalm 119:18,72-73 ESV

"Open my eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of your law...The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold. Your hands made me and fashioned me; give me understanding to learn your commandments."

Who are some of those who would hear and believe? Some were the people who the Babylonians captured to work as slaves. These people would remember God's promises to rescue them after seventy years and take comfort. But, you know, those people in Babylon weren't the only people those words were written for. Many people, in the hundreds of years since Jeremiah wrote them down have read them and been warned to turn from their sins and seek God's forgiveness.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being so patient with sinners, wanting them to repent of their sins and turn to You.

C God, we confess that many times we don't love God's Word and don't want to read it or obey it. We deserve Your punishment, too! We need Jesus to save us!

T God, we thank You for how wonderful Your Word is! Thank You for all that it tells us about You. Thank You for how You warn us about our sins and tell us how we can be saved through it.

S God, work in our hearts! By Your Holy Spirit, help us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to understand, love and obey Your Word, the Bible.

Special Words

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

Covenant: A very serious promise made between two persons.

Babylon: An city that was east of Israel that conquered many lands and peoples and became one of the greatest empires in the world, thousands of years ago.

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

ACTS PRAYER ACTIVITY

Use this sheet to write down your ACTS Prayer

Instructions:

Use this sheet to help the children apply the Bible Truth into a 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:

We praise You, God, for being the God who reveals Himself to us through Your Word, the Bible.

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

We confess that many times we don't want to learn from Your Word, the Bible. Many times we don't want to obey what it tells us to do. We would rather think about ourselves or do something else that seems more fun. We need a Savior to save us!

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for giving us the Bible so we can know more about You, more about why You made us, and how to be saved through Jesus.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, help us to know You better as we read the Bible, Your Word. Help us to live out what the Bible tells us to do. Use it to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins, trust in Jesus and be saved.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

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

Snack: Pieces of Scroll on Fire

Square cracker “pieces of scroll” in fruit roll up or cream cheese “fire” (colored red with red food coloring).

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

Case Tie-in: Jeremiah urged the people and King Jehoiachim to love and obey the LORD by turning back and worshiping Him and obeying His laws. They refused and King Jehoiachim even burned up the scroll of God’s Word.

SOUL FOOD

Food for thought during snack time

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 Speaks through His Word, the Bible

God used many people to write down His words in the Bible. The Holy Spirit worked in their hearts and minds to help them write down exactly what God wanted written. That's why the Bible is called God's Word. It's the only book where God's words are written down perfectly for us to know.

When we read the Bible, God speaks to us about who He is, about who we are, and why He made us. He tells us how we can be saved and how He wants us to live. He tells us of His great plans for this world and for the world to come.

There are many things that God has chosen not to tell us in the Bible, but He has told us everything we need to become His people; to know Him, to live for Him and to look forward to life with Him forever.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. Who did God use to write down His words in the Bible? *Many people.*
2. How did God give men the words to write down? *The Holy Spirit worked in their hearts and minds so they would write down exactly what God wanted written.*
3. Why is the Bible called God's Word? *Because it's the only book where God's words are written down perfectly for us to know.*
4. What sorts of things does God tell us about in the Bible? *He tells to us about who He is, who we are, and why He made us. He tells us how we can be saved and live to please Him.*
5. How does God speak to us in the Bible? *When we read the Bible, the Holy Spirit works in our hearts and minds to help us understand it and apply it to our lives. He also speaks to us through the Bible when the pastor preaches on it in church or Christians discuss what it means.*
6. Does God tell us everything there is to know in the Bible? *No. There are many things He has chosen not to tell us.*
7. What do we know God has put in the Bible? *Everything we need to know to become His people; to know Him, to live for Him, and to look forward to life with Him forever.*
8. What can God's Holy Spirit use God's Word to do? *Use His Word to help us to save us, know Him, live for Him and enjoy life with Him forever.*

Story Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: God Speaks through His Word, the Bible**? *The Israelites heard God's Word, but chose to reject it and serve idols instead. He was merciful and patient for 800 years!*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our Bible Verse: **Psalms 119:18, 72-73**: "Open my eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of your law...The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold. Your hands made me and fashioned me; give me understanding to learn your commandments."? *There is no book like the Bible! It alone is God's Word, written down perfectly. When we read the Bible, God speaks to us about who He is, who we are, and why He made us. He tells us how we can be saved and live to please Him. That is why it is more precious to God's people than even a lot of money—because they want to know those things and live out those things most of all.*

Life Application Questions

1. Why is it so important that we read the Bible? *Because it is the only book that God has given us that is His Word. If we don't read it, how will we know what He is like, who we are, and why He made us. How will we know how to be saved and live to please Him?*
2. What does the Bible tell us is the way that we can be saved? *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 being the Giver of His perfect Word, the Bible.

2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth? *That many times when we listen to God's Word that we choose to rebel against it. We want do what we want to do, not what God wants. We need a Savior!*

3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Bible Truth?

We can thank God for giving us His Bible so we can know about Him and how we can be saved.

4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Bible Truth?

We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to turn away from disobeying Him and His good ways, written down in the Bible. We can ask Him to help us to say sorry to Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to give us the Holy Spirit in our hearts who can help us to obey God and His good laws

The Gospel

1. What is the good news of Jesus that the Bible tells us? 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: Beanbag Grand March

Materials

Small bowl or bag
1 Bean Bag per child
CD and CD player
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

Have the children form partners, then form a big double circle. Give each child a bean bag. Have them balance them on their heads. Tell the children that you will start the music and tell the children to move however you command them to move, such as march, walk, skip, tip toes, big knee bends, pat head, fly like a bird, etc. (BUT NOT RUN!!!) and try not to let their bean bag fall off their heads. When/if the bean bag falls off, a team is to sit down. When the music stops, all of the seated children are asked a question. If they get the right answer, then everyone is released to the march again. If not, then they must wait until the next time a question is asked and answered correctly.

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

NOTE: Have the children who are "out" help make up actions for the other children to do, put them in charge of the music, etc. along with you. This will keep them happily occupied as they continue.

Non-competitive Option

Let all the children whose beanbag fell join back into the march, even if the class misses the question. Add the missed question back into the bag for further review.

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.

Amazing Grace

Verse 4

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word, my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 20

Understanding the Song

1. What has the Lord promised to the person who believes in Him? *He has promised good.*
2. Where has He promised good to His people? *In the Bible.*
3. What kind of good does the Lord promise? *He does not promise that nothing bad will happen to us; but, that in all things—bad or good—that He will work to make us like Jesus. That is the greatest good of all.*
4. What is “His word?” *The Bible.*
5. What does the Bible secure? *The believer's hope that he will be forgiven his sins and get to live forever with God in heaven.*
6. What does a shield do? *A shield protects someone in a battle from being struck down by the enemy's arrows.*
7. How is God like a shield to His people? *He protects them from all sorts of evil and only allows things in their lives that He knows will work for their good and His glory.*
8. What does it mean for God to be your portion? *To be satisfied that He will take care of absolutely everything you need.*
9. How long will God be the shield and portion for the believer in Jesus? *All his life*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **God Speaks through His Word, the Bible?** *God's people read in His Word His promises to do good to them. They know that they can have unfailing hope in Him for their salvation, their protection and provision for all their needs, for all of their lives, because He always does what He promises to do.*

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *The Lord promised the Israelites that He would always keep His promises that He gave them in the Bible. He would always be their shield and portion as long as they lived, if they would trust Him and keep His laws. But the Israelites turned from the Lord and would not trust Him or keep His laws.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Psalm 119:18, 72-73:** “Open my eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of your law...The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold. Your hands made me and fashioned me; give me understanding to learn your commandments.” *God's Word is where God's people learn that God promises to do good to His people and that their hopes for forgiveness of sins and eternal life with Him are secure through Jesus.*

Life Application Questions

1. How can God's people be affected by the message of this song? *They can thank God for giving them a secure hope in His promised salvation They can praise God for being so kind to them as to promise to always protect and provide for them, even when it was at the cost of sacrificing His only Son, Jesus.*
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 from this hymn?
Praise God for being the Giver of His Word, that tells us of His promises for His people and that their hope in Him is secure.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?
That many times we chose to not believe the promises of God's Word or don't care about them. We need God's forgiveness.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?
We can thank God for giving His people promises that He will never break. They know that their whole lives they can always trust what God's Word promises. Their hope is secure in Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this hymn?
That God would work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. That we might be His dearly loved people whose hope is always secure and can always trust His promises to them in the Bible.

Gospel Question

1. How greatest hope that the Bible gives us is the good news of 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 119:18, 72-73

“Open my eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of your law...The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold. Your hands made me and fashioned me; give me understanding to learn your commandments.”

Alternate Memory Version: Psalm 119:18

“Open my eyes that I may behold wondrous thing out of your law.”

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. What kind of eyes do we need God to open for us to see wonderful things in God's law? *Not our actual eyeballs, but the “eyes” of our spirit, our heart. Our spirit—or heart—doesn't really have eyes, like the ones we look around the room with. No! It's just a way of saying, help us to understand God's Word.*
2. Why do we need God's help to “see” wonderful things in God's law? *Because we are sinners, our hearts do not understand God's Word without God's help. God sends His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and helps us to understand His law.*
3. What is God's law? Is it just a bunch of rules? *God's law is another way of meaning the whole Bible. (Unless you are reading a part of the Bible that is talking just about laws God gave—then it is talking about God's actual laws).*
4. What kind of wonderful things are in God's law? *God shows us what He's like; His plans for this world and His people; the way to be saved; how He wants His people to live; and so much more.*
5. How is the Bible God's Word from His mouth? *God gave His words for men to write down just right. Sometimes He did speak aloud to men, like Moses. Many times, He spoke to them by His Holy Spirit, whispering in their hearts.*
6. What makes God's law worth more than a thousand pieces of silver or gold? *It alone is the perfect Word of God. Without it, we would not know so many things about God. Without it, we would not have the stories of Jesus and how to be saved.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: God Speaks through His Word, the Bible?**

There is no book like the Bible! It alone is God's Word, written down perfectly. When we read the Bible, God speaks to us about who He is, who we are, and why He made us. He tells us how we can be saved and live to please Him. That is why it is more precious to God's people than even a lot of money—because they want to know those things and live out those things most of all.

Story Connection Questions

1. How does our story tie in with this Bible Verse? *The people of Israel did NOT think much of God's Word. They did not want to obey it when they heard it. They had eyes that could not “see” wonderful things in God's law and they did not want to ask for them. Worse of all was King Jehoikim who even had God's laws cut up and burned in the fire.*

Life Application Questions

1. Who made us and formed us? Why does this make God the one to give us understanding of His commands? *Since God made us, He knows exactly how to teach us how to understand His Word.*
2. What is the best first step God calls us to make to know Him, obey Him and understand His Word, as He made us to? *To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God will forgive us and fill our hearts with His Holy Spirit. He can help us to know God and obey God and to understand God's Word.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible verse? *Praise God for being the Giver of His laws and for being the One who made us.*

2. What is something we can confess to God from this Bible verse *That many times we don't want to hear God's law and we don't love it. Many times we just want to 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 giving us His Word and for being able to help us understand it.

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

Ask God to help us to "see" and understand His laws. Ask Him to help us obey His commands that we might honor Him in the way we live.

Gospel Question

1. What is the most precious good news the Bible tells us? 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: Frisbee Toss

Materials

Bible verse written up in large print so that all can see
1 or more Frisbees (or bean bag)
Masking tape
marker and paper
small container

Preparing the Game

1. Divide the verse into 5 to 10 sections and place a word/verse section in each section. Write point values on the word/verse section, higher points for a word near the beginning of the verse; lower points for a word closer to the end. Tape these down.

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:

Divide the children into two teams and sit down in line. Explain that everyone will say the verse together. Then a child from one team will come up and toss the Frisbee into a word section. The leader/group will say the verse up to that word. The child can then win total point values by completing the verse on his own, or have point values by asking a team member to help him. If they are unsuccessful, the other team will have a chance to complete it for the half point amount. Have whole group say verse together again, then choose a child from the other team to toss the Frisbee.

Game continues until all children get a turn, or as time and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Don't split the children into teams. Have the children take turns throwing the Frisbee, letting the child or a child with a partner, say the rest of the verse on their own.

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.

Open My Eyes

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 21

Open my eyes that I may behold,
Wondrous things out of your law.
Open my eyes that I may behold,
Wondrous things out of your law.
The law of your mouth is better to me,
Than thousands of pieces of silver and gold.
Your hands they made me and fashioned me.
Give me understanding that I may learn your commandments.
Open my eyes that I may behold,
Wondrous things out of your law.
Open my eyes that I may behold,
Wondrous things out of your law.
Psalm One-nineteen, eighteen, seventy two and three.

Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign

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
Blindfold

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.
2. Have all the children stand in a tight circle, except one, "It" who will stand in the middle of the circle, blindfolded.
3. Have the children in the circle to put their hands behind their backs. Choose a sign from the bag and hand to a child in the circle, still keeping hands behind their backs, not looking at the sign.
4. When "It" says "Pass the Secret Sign", the children will begin to pass the sign around behind their backs.
5. When "It" says "Stop the Passing!" the child who has the sign freezes with the sign behind his back.
6. The child with the sign brings it around and looks at it. You can help the child practice the sign.
7. Then take the blindfold off of "It", watch the child with the card do the sign, then have "It" guess the name of the sign. (If desired, "It" can ask another child in the circle for help with their guess.)
8. The holder of the sign then becomes "It." Sing the song with all the signs, then repeat.

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 Moses write down? *The first five books of the Bible.*
2. What did the Israelites do instead of following God's Word? *They disobeyed it; they didn't read it; they forget it.*
3. What did the LORD promise would happen if they kept disobeying Him? *He would send curses upon them: curses upon their food, their families. Their enemies would overtake them and finally He would remove them from the Promised Land He was giving them, scatter them to other lands and destroy them.*
4. How many years did the LORD wait before promising them great punishment? *800 years.*
5. Who wrote down Jeremiah's words from the LORD? *Baruch.*
6. What did the LORD promise would happen to Israel if they did not repent? *The Babylonians would come and destroy their land. They would kill many Israelites and the rest be taken as slaves back to Babylon.*
7. Why did the LORD want Jeremiah to have His words read to all the people? *He wanted them to have another chance to repent before He sent punishment.*
8. From whom did Baruch get a room off the Temple courts? *Gemariah.*
9. What did the people do when they heard Jeremiah's words of the LORD? *They did not repent.*
10. What did the officials do when they heard Jeremiah's words of the LORD? *They told the king.*
11. What did the king do when he heard Jeremiah's words of the LORD? *He had God's Word torn up and burned in the fire.*
12. How did the LORD show mercy to the people even in His punishment of them? *He promised that they would return back to their land after 70 years in slavery.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: God Speaks through His Word, the Bible?** *The Israelites heard God's Word, but chose to reject it and serve idols instead. He was merciful and patient for 800 years!*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Psalm 119:18, 72-73:** "Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law... The law from your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold. Your hands made me and formed me; give me understanding to learn your commands."? *The people of Israel did NOT think much of God's Word. They did not want to obey it when they heard it. They had eyes that could not "see" wonderful things in God's law and they did not want to ask for them. Worse of all was King Jehoiakim who even had God's laws cut up and burned in the fire.*

Life Application Questions

1. What should we do when we hear God's Word? *We should hear and believe. We should repent of our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*
2. Who can help us to hear and believe God's Word? Who can help us to repent of our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior? *God can and will if we ask Him.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? *Praise Him for being so patient with sinners, wanting them to repent of their sins and turn to Him.*
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? *Confess that many times we don't love God's Word and don't want to read it or listen to it. Many times we don't obey it. We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? *We can thank God for how wonderful His Word is. How much it tells us about Him, warns us about God's eternal punishment we deserve, and tells us how we can be saved through Jesus.*
4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our story? *We can ask God to work in our hearts and help us to understand, love and believe His Word, the Bible. We can ask Him to help us to turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.*

The Gospel

1. What was the good news about Jesus that the disciples learned from the Bible? 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: Balloon Volleyball

Materials

20+ balloons
small strips of paper
pen
Masking Tape
20+ Story Review Questions and other 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. Write out each Story Review question on a small strip of paper. (Or photocopy the review questions and cut them apart). Roll it up and place it inside of the balloon. Inflate the balloon. Continue this process for each Story Review question. Make a line with masking tape across the middle of the playing area.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams and have them spread out on each side of the masking tape line. Take one of the balloons and bat it out into the field of play. The children will bat it back and forth without letting it hit the floor. When it hits the floor, play stops and the team on the opposite side scores a point. The balloon is popped, the question is unrolled and read. The team who scored the point gets first try at answering the question. If they get it correctly, they get another point. If not, then the other team can try for a point. Play resumes by the leader batting another balloon out into the court.

Play continues as balloons last, or as time and attention span allow. The team with the most points at the end wins.

Non-competitive Option

Don't keep track of points. Encourage the children to see how many times they bat the balloon back and forth, counting out loud with each hit. When the balloon hits the floor, the leader pops the balloon and reads question for all to answer.

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 Forgotten Book.

Our story takes place just outside of Israel, in Old Testament times, beginning about 1400 years before Jesus lived on earth.

And now we present: "The Case of the Forgotten Book."

Actions:

Scene 1:

Moses wrote down the laws of the LORD for the people of Israel to follow. The LORD promised to bless them if they followed His laws, but curse them if they did not. For eight hundred years the Israelites kept turning to other gods and the LORD kept warning them to turn back to Him or He would have to punish them as He had promised.

Scene 2:

The people of Israel still did not turn back to the LORD. despite His great patience and many warnings. It is almost time for Him to discipline them for their disobedience. The LORD sent the prophet Jeremiah to write down His words and warn the people one last time. Jeremiah had his secretary Baruch sneak up into Gemariah's room overlooking the courts of the Temple. From there, he read the words of the LORD to all the people gathered for a special day of fasting. Would the people repent? No! They still would not! Baruch is found by the king's officials. They take the scroll of God's words to the king to be read.

Scene 3

King Jehoiakim listened to God's words of warning, but he refused to repent, just like the people of Israel. He didn't care about God's Word at all. He took a knife and cut the scroll of God's Word, piece by piece and threw it in the fire to be burnt up. No one would repent, so the LORD fulfilled His warnings of punishment. The Babylonian soldiers swoop into Jerusalem. They capture all the people and take them back to Babylon to be their slaves. How sad! Yet even in His punishment, the LORD was merciful. He did not destroy the people completely as they deserved. He gave them a promise that their punishment would last seventy years and then they would return to Jerusalem. The LORD told Jeremiah to write down the words on a scroll again. The LORD would use His Words to warn and to comfort God's people throughout all time, even today.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Speaks through His Word, the Bible.** The Israelites heard God's Word, but chose to reject it and serve idols instead. He was merciful and patient for eight hundred years!

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 Forgotten Book.

Our story takes place just outside of Israel, in Old Testament times, beginning about 1400 years before Jesus lived on earth.

The characters in our story are: Moses, the Israelites, Jeremiah, King Jehoiakim, Baruch, Gemariah, King's officials, Babylonians

And now we present: "The Case of the Forgotten Book."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

Moses wrote down the laws of the LORD for the people of Israel to follow. The LORD promised to bless them if they followed His laws, but curse them if they did not. For eight hundred years the Israelites kept turning to other gods and the LORD kept warning them to turn back to Him or He would have to punish them as He had promised.

Scene 2: (Middle)

The people of Israel still did not turn back to the LORD, despite His great patience and many warnings. It is almost time for Him to discipline them for their disobedience. The LORD sent the prophet Jeremiah to write down His words and warn the people one last time. Jeremiah had his secretary Baruch sneak up into Gemariah's room overlooking the courts of the Temple. From there, he read the words of the LORD to all the people gathered for a special day of fasting. Would the people repent? No! They still would not! Baruch is found by the king's officials. They take the scroll of God's words to the king to be read.

Scene 3: (End)

King Jehoiakim listened to God's words of warning, but he refused to repent, just like the people of Israel. He didn't care about God's Word at all. He took a knife and cut the scroll of God's Word, piece by piece and threw it in the fire to be burnt up. No one would repent, so the LORD fulfilled His warnings of punishment. The Babylonian soldiers swoop into Jerusalem. They capture all the people and take them back to Babylon to be their slaves. How sad! Yet even in His punishment, the LORD was merciful. He did not destroy the people completely as they deserved. He gave them a promise that their punishment would last seventy years and then they would return to Jerusalem. The LORD told Jeremiah to write down the words on a scroll again. The LORD would use His Words to warn and to comfort God's people throughout all time, even today.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Speaks through His Word, the Bible.** The Israelites heard God's Word, but chose to reject it and serve idols instead. He was merciful and patient for eight hundred years!

King Jehoiakim's Fire

Description

Children will make a paper bag fire with a leaping felt glove flame that "burns up" paper.

Materials

Fire:

White cardstock

Yellow, red, orange, and brown markers

OR brown, yellow and orange wax crayons, red tempera paint and sponge pieces

Larger size lunch paper bags, 1 per child

Special Flame Glove:

Craft glue, stapler

Red, orange, and yellow felt

Orange and yellow glitter glue (optional)

Hot glue gun and sticks

Scroll of God's Word:

White or cream tissue or regular unlined paper.

Preparing the Craft

1. Make 2 of Template #1 out of the Yellow Felt, per child
2. Glue two pieces together along edges with hot glue gun to make a glove.
3. Cut 6 of Template #2 out of orange felt, 6 of Template #3 out of red felt, per child.
4. Copy and cut one of Template #4 out of cardstock, per child
5. If using wax crayons and paint, set out crayons and mix paint slightly thickly.
6. Set out glue, glitter glue and other supplies.
7. Cut the bottom out of the lunch bags, leaving about an 1" around the edges.

Making the Craft

1. Show the children your sample of the craft.

Fire:

Paper and markers method: Have children color the bottom of Template #1 like wood and the rest of it, like a leaping flame, using the markers.

Wax Resist Method: Have the children FIRMLY PRESS DOWN as they color the bottom of Template #1 like wood with brown crayons and the rest of it, like a leaping flame, leaving some spaces between colors. Lightly sponge red tempera paint over whole picture. Dab off excess paint to keep from getting too wet. Glue or staple (is better for wet paint) to one side of the lunch bag, the top of the flames pointing up and hanging over the edge of the BOTTOM OF THE LUNCH BAG.

(Bag will be used upside down.)

Leaping Flame: Have children glue the red and orange little felt "flames" to each other and then to each finger of the yellow felt "glove." And one on back of glove. They can add glitter glue details to the glove or the little flames.

Word of God: Cut some 3"x3" pieces of tissue paper or paper. Can write words of warning on it, if desired.

How It Works: Child puts on glove and sticks hand in bag, that they hold with their other hand.

Another child sticks a piece of "the Word of God." up to the flame of the bag, the hand "leaps up", grabs it and goes back down into fire "bag." By moving hand in bag, can make noise of fire crackling.

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. Who wrote down and brought God's Word to King Jehoiakim and the people of Israel?

Jeremiah.

2. When the king was given God's Word in his palace, what did Jeremiah hope he would do? Hear it and lead the people in repenting of their sins and turning back to obeying the LORD.

3. What did the king do? Why did he do this?

He cut it up into pieces and through them in the fire. He refused to believe or obey it.

4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning?

God Speaks through His Word, the Bible.

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: God Speaks through His Word, the Bible?

The LORD had Jeremiah write down His words of warning to the Israelites and King Jehoiakim that they might repent of their sins. The people and the King heard the LORD's words, but they refused to obey them. The King even had them burned!

6. What can our craft help us remember?

God has given us His words in the Bible that we would love and obey Him, and know His blessings.

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: King Jehoiakim's Fire.

2. In his palace in Jerusalem, King Jehoiakim threw Jeremiah's scroll of the LORD's Word into the fire to burn up because he refused to believe them or obey them.

3. Our Bible Truth is: God Speaks through His Word, the Bible.

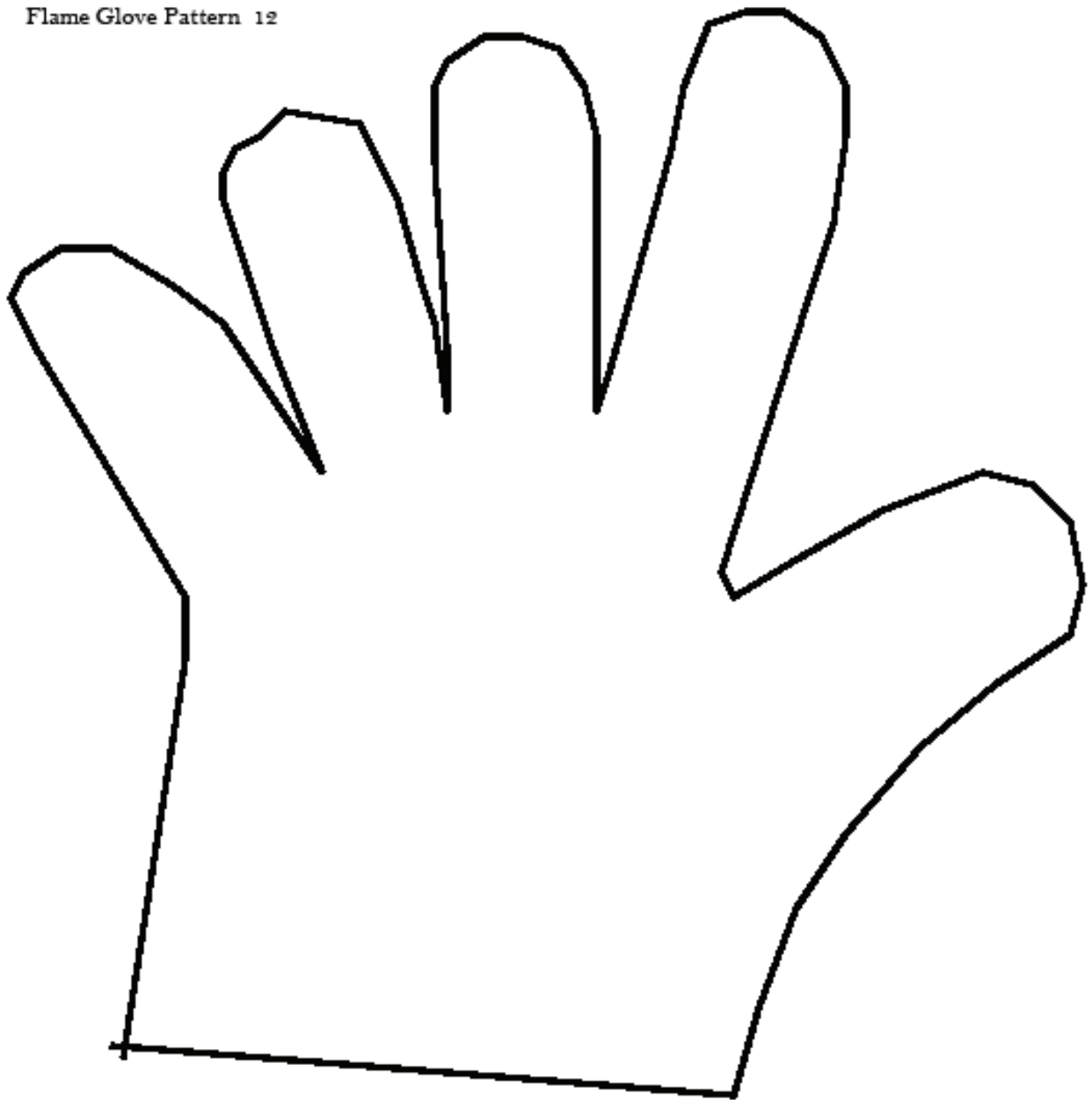
4. The LORD had Jeremiah write down His words of warning to the Israelites and King Jehoiakim that they might repent of their sins. The people and the King heard the LORD's words, but they refused to obey them. The King even had them burned!

5. Our craft can help us remember that God has given us His words in the Bible that we would love and obey Him, and know His blessings.

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.

Template #1

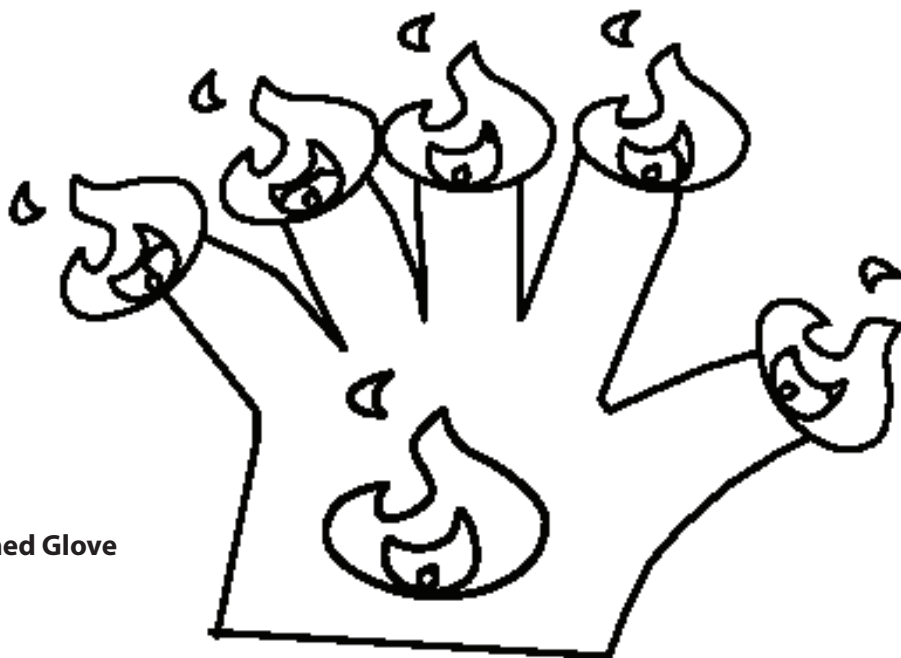
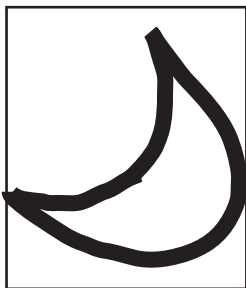
Flame Glove Pattern 12



Template #2
Red Flame



Template #3
Orange Flame



Picture of Finished Glove

Template #4
Fire Template for Bag



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 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 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: Crabbin' Around

Materials

Information Sheet for two VIPPs

2 Sets of Clue Cards

Tape

A Bag

Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for the VIPP you are using.
2. Put all the Clue Cards in a bag, except for the ones with the names and pictures of the VIPPs.
3. Tape the picture and name of each VIPP to the wall, about 3 feet from the ground.

Playing the Game

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

Review: Put the Clue Cards for both VIPPS put in one bag. Mix up. Have children sit down, with their legs in front of them and their hands propped behind them. Show them how to get in crab position and try moving around. (Moving on hands and feet, with front side facing up). Tell them that you will pull out a clue, tell them what it is and they are to crab-crawl their way to the picture of the person who it belongs to. Give them the answer after everyone has run to their guessed person. Continue until all clues have been used up.

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
(Missionary)

3 WAYS VIPP SERVES CHURCH

**3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR
THE VIPP**
