

## **BIBLE TRUTH 5, 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 NIV Songs 1, Track 1*

**Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love Others:** WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song *PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 2*

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

**Big Question Bible Verse:** Amos 4:13 Song *PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 5*

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

**Bible Truth 5:** God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus

**Bible Truth Hymn:** O For a Thousand Tongues, v.1 *PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 15*

**Bible Verse:** Hebrews 1:1-3

**Bible Verse Song:** The Son Is the Radiance *PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 16*

Extra Song: Anyone Who's Seen Me: John 14:9 *PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 17*

**Lesson 1 New Testament Story:** The Case of the Lips of Life or Death  
*John 10:22-33, 39-42*

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

**Snack and Discussion Planner:** Remembering Jesus, the Son of God

**ACTS Prayer:** Prayer Sheet

**Bible Truth Review:** Discussion Questions and Game: Omit! Obey!

**Bible Truth Hymn:** O For a Thousand Tongues, v.1 *PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 15*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Mimic Me! **PFI NIV Songs 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

**Bible Verse Review:** Hebrews 1:1-3: Discussion Sheet and Game: Memory Verse Limbo

**Bible Verse Song:** The Son Is the Radiance *PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 16*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Word Take Away **PFI NIV Songs 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

**Story Review:** Discussion Questions and Game: Spoon and Ball Relay

**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:** The Cross and the Crown

**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 5, Lesson 1 **PFI NIV Prontos 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

**The Case of the Lips of Life or Death** John 10:22-42

by Connie Dever

**Our story is called:****The Case of the Lips of Life or Death.****As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

1. Who thought he had life or death on his lips?
2. Why was he wrong?

This story is a New Testament story. It takes place in Hierapolis, Turkey, about 70 years after Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

In the middle of a magnificent room with towering arches and gleaming tile floors, stood an elderly, eighty-seven-year-old man. Soldiers had brought him to this great hall to appear before none other than the Roman proconsul of Turkey. Now the proconsul was an extremely powerful man. No one except Caesar, the Roman king, had more power than him. He could do whatever he wanted. He didn't even have to keep his own laws! You could say that he held the life or death of others on his lips, because if he said they were to live, they lived. But if he said they were to die, then they died. And today, it was the life or death of this old man that the proconsul held on his lips.

Who was the old man? It was Philip, one of Jesus' first, twelve disciples. And what had he done to deserve death? Philip, his sister Miriamme, and another Christian named Bartholomew had come to Hierapolis to tell the people there about Jesus. Few in the city knew the good news of Jesus and many were curious to hear. Among them was the proconsul's sick wife, Nicanora. Nicanora had suffered one illness after another. Too sick even to leave her bed, she invited the three Christians to come to her and tell her about Jesus. They did and not only did Nicanora become a Christian, but God healed her sickness as well!

You might think the proconsul would be grateful for his wife to be healed at last, but far from it! He was furious! And that's why he had ordered Philip be arrested and brought before him, on trial for his life!

"Look what you've done, old man!" the proconsul said to Philip. "By some magic you have healed my wife, Nicanora and put her under a spell that she would reject our great god Apollo for this dead man Jesus you worship as God. I command you to stop your lies about

Jesus. Turn away from worshiping Him as God now, and you will go free and live. If you do not, you will die today!" the proconsul threatened.

The words of life or death rang in Philip's ears. Which would he choose? Was he really so certain that Jesus was God? So certain that he even would die for Him?

Once, fifty years earlier, Philip had asked Jesus, "Show us the Father, that will be enough." Philip had been Jesus' disciple for three years, yet he still didn't completely understand that Jesus was God.

"Philip," Jesus had answered him, "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. (John 14:9-11, NIV 1984)

Yes, of course, the miracles! He been with Jesus when the terrible storm came upon them all on the Sea of Galilee. He seen Jesus stand up and say, "Peace be still!" and the wind and the waves stopped immediately. "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father," Jesus had said. Jesus revealed God's complete control over all of nature. Yes, Jesus was God!

He been with Jesus when four men lowered their paralyzed friend through a roof on a mat to be healed by Jesus? He seen watched Jesus as He turned to the man and said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven. Take up your mat and walk." And the man did.

"Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father," Jesus

**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.

had said. Jesus revealed God's complete control over sin and sickness. Yes, Jesus was God!

He had been with Jesus as He stood outside of the tomb of a man dead three days and shouted, "Lazarus, come forth!" He had seen the dead man come out with his burial clothes still wrapped around his body?

"Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father," Jesus had said. Jesus revealed God's complete control over death. Yes, Jesus was God!

He been there to watch Jesus die on that awful cross and buried in a cold, dark tomb to be the only perfect sacrifice for the sins of God's people.

"Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father," Jesus had said. Jesus revealed God's amazing love that would offer up His perfect holiness in payment for His people's sins. Yes, Jesus was God!

And most amazing of all, he had been there when on the third day Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to them the first time, then many more times in the next month. Then he had seen Jesus rise up into the sky to rule in heaven.

"Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father," Jesus had said. Jesus revealed God's complete victory over death and His splendid glory as ruler over all things. Yes, Jesus was God!

Whatever doubt or confusion Philip might have had fifty years early was certainly gone now! Jesus was truly God! And Philip would not deny Jesus, even if it meant he were to die!

"I see you are an old man. Perhaps you are slow of hearing, the proconsul jeered. "I'll say it again. You have a choice: give up Jesus as God and live! Or, keep confessing Him as God and die!"

The old man simply looked at the proconsul straight in the eyes and said, "You ask me to give up my God and live. I cannot. Jesus is God! And I say to you, proconsul, as I say to all: 'Accept Jesus and save your soul!'"

"Have this man beaten...and crucified like His "God"... only crucify him upside down!" ordered the proconsul in fury. And so it was done.

Philip endured terrible punishment that day and died. But Philip suffered with joy. He knew Jesus was God; his death that day was but a beginning. The proconsul had said, "Confess Jesus as your God and die!" but he was

wrong. Philip confessed his God and lived! For that very day, Philip entered heaven, the land of eternal life. There, he would see His God, face to face, and worship Him and enjoy Him forever!

### Cracking the Case:

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

##### 1. Who thought they had life or death on his lips?

**Why was he wrong?** The proconsul thought he had the power to preserve life or bring death to someone. He was wrong because God was more powerful than him. He could do whatever He wanted to do. Philip would not die that day unless it was within His good will. And, because the proconsul didn't understand that while Philip's body might die that day, Jesus had given Philip eternal life...and that is real life!

##### 2. Who really had life or death on his lips?

Philip spoke the words of life to the proconsul, so he had the words of true life or death on his lips. But ultimately, Jesus was the one who had life or death on his lips. It is through Him only that we can be saved from the death we deserve and receive God's eternal life.

### Something For You and Me

#### Our Bible Truth is:

**God Reveals Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus**

#### Our Bible Verse is: Hebrews 1:1-3

"In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets...but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son....The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being..."

Jesus shows us what God is like more than anything or anyone else. Why? Because Jesus is God! Philip knew this better than most. In just three short years as Jesus' disciple, Philip had seen so much of God in Jesus! So much, that not even the threat of a terrible death could change his mind--Jesus is God! Philip was certain of that!

What about you and me? How will we respond to this great God who has revealed Himself so completely through Jesus? When we are sick, will we remember that He has power over sickness—to sustain us and, if it is His will, to heal us? As sinners who have rebelled against God and His good ways, will we remember that

He will forgive those who humbly turn away from their sins and trust Him as their Savior? When we are faced with death, will we remember that He conquered death and reigns in heaven?

Let's praise God for revealing Himself in Jesus so that we might know Him. Let's ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Let's ask Him to help us remember who He is and to trust Him with everything we are faced with-- in life, and in death.

*Close in prayer.*

### **Closing ACTS Prayer**

**A** God, we praise You for revealing Yourself so completely through Your Son, Jesus.

**C** God, we confess that many times we forget what we don't live by what we know about You because we forget what You've taught us about Yourself through Jesus.

**T** God, we thank You for wanting to show us what You are like! Thank You for all we can better understand about You because of Jesus. Thank You for helping Your people bravely endure suffering for the honor of Your name, like You helped Philip.

**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, like Nicanora. God, make us brave and help us to keep on trusting in You, even when it is very hard, like Philip did.

### **Special Words**

**Proconsul:** A person who speaks, teaches and acts in the name of God.

**Caesar:** The title of the king of the ancient Roman Empire.

**Disciple:** Someone who learns and lives by a particular teacher's teaching.

**Crucified:** A terrible kind of death the Romans used to punish their worst criminals. A person is hung by nails on a wooden cross and left to die.

# **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 showing us so much of what You are like through Jesus. Thank You for showing us how holy and just You are, as well as so loving and merciful to sinners.

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

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Add your own Adorations:

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## **CONFESSION:**

We confess that many times we don't want to take time to learn more about You by learning about Jesus. We confess that even when we know more about You, as we look at Jesus, that we still do not love You or trust You as we should. We need a Jesus to save us!

God, we have sinned against You....

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Add your own Confessions:

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## **THANKSGIVING:**

Thank You, God for sending Your Son, Jesus, to come live on earth and show us what You are like.

God, we thank You for...

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Add your own Thanksgivings:

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## **SUPPLICATION:**

God, help us to understand who You are better as we learn about Jesus. Work in our hearts. Help us not just know about You, but come to know You, ourselves, as we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

God, we need Your help...

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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: Remembering Jesus, the Son of God**

Rectangular cracker bed with cheese mat, and teddy graham paralyzed man AND large round cracker tomb with teddy graham Lazarus and covered by cheese stone enclosing him. To represent two of the miracles Philip had seen Jesus do that helped confirm that Jesus was the Son of God.

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

**Case Tie-in:** As Philip chose to stand firm to the death in his belief in Jesus as the Son of God. He only had to remember back to the things that Jesus did, such as heal the paralyzed man and raise Lazarus from the dead to remind him that of who Jesus was.

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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.

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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 Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus**

God sent His Son, Jesus, to leave His home in heaven to be our Savior. He was born as a baby here on earth. Jesus grew up and became a man. He was fully human, like us, but He was also, still fully God.

Jesus lived the perfect life that pleases God. He never did anything wrong. He taught about God and He did many amazing miracles. Most amazing of all, He offered up His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, He rose from the dead, showing that He had really beaten sin and death, then He rose back up to heaven where He lives now.

Jesus didn't live on earth long--only about thirty years. He taught about God and did miracles only about three of those years. But in that short, little bit of time, He showed us more about God than anything else in the whole world.

The Bible calls Jesus the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of Him. That means when we learn about Jesus and see what He is like, we are seeing what God is like: completely holy, powerful, loving and good. He hates sin, but He loves sinners who turn to Him for forgiveness and mercy! Thank You, God, for sending Jesus to show us what You're like!

### **Understanding the Bible Truth**

1. What did God send Jesus to do? *To be our Savior.*
2. Where was Jesus' home? *Heaven.*
3. What did Jesus do when He left heaven? *He came to earth to be born as a baby.*
4. How was Jesus like us and how was He different? *Jesus was fully human just like us, but He was also fully God.*
5. What kind of life did Jesus live? Who did that please? *He lived a perfect life that pleased God. He never did anything wrong.*
6. What did He do that showed us about God? *He taught about God. He did amazing miracles with God's power.*
7. What was the most amazing thing that Jesus did and what did that show us? *He offered up His perfect life as the full payment for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. He rose from the dead in victory on the third day.*
8. How long did Jesus live on earth? *How many years did Jesus teach? He lived here about thirty years and taught about three years.*
9. What did Jesus do in those few years? *Showed us more about God than anything else in the whole world.*
10. What does the Bible call Jesus? What does that mean? *The radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of Him. It means that Jesus is a perfect reflection of God. When we learn about Jesus and see what He is like, we are seeing exactly what God is like.*
11. What is God like? *Completely holy, powerful, loving and good.*
12. How did Jesus show what God is like in His life? *He showed His complete control over nature in the stilling of the storm; His ability to heal and forgive sins, His complete control even over life and death in His death and resurrection. He even displayed some of God's glory, itself, when He at the transfiguration.*

### **Story Connection Questions**

1. How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus**? How did Philip see that Jesus was the exact representation of God? *Philip had seen that Jesus had complete control over nature, sin, sickness, even life and death, just as God did.*
2. How did having seen what Jesus was like, help Philip to so willingly give up his life confessing Him? *What Philip had seen about Jesus confirmed in his heart that Jesus really was God. He could die in complete confidence.*

**Bible Verse Connection Question**

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our Bible Verse: **Hebrews 1:1-3**: "In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets...but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son....The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being...?"

*The Bible tells us that when we see what Jesus is like, we are seeing what God is like. There is nothing or no one else who can show us more about God than Jesus. That's because Jesus is God!*

**Life Application Questions**

1. How can we know what God is like through Jesus today? *By reading about Jesus in the Bible. When we see what Jesus did and taught, we can know what God is like.*

2. How can we not just know about God, but actually know Him? *By turning away from our sins and trusting Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God will forgive us our sins and send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts that we can know God.*

**ACTS Questions**

1. What is something we can praise God for because of this Bible Truth?

*Praise God for His holiness, love, powerfulness and goodness, as seen in Jesus.*

2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth? *That we are all sinners made to reflect God, but we have all chosen to disobey Him and His good ways. 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 sending Jesus so we could see just what God is like.*

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 trust in this wonderful Jesus as our own Savior.*

**The Gospel**

1. God show His holiness and His mercy in 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've 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 as a man to save sinners. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who's 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: Omit! Obey!

### Materials

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 two teams, having them line up in straight lines, arms' length apart, side to side. The leader stands at one end of the two lines and tells the children that he/she will tell them to do a certain action, saying "Obey" or "Omit" right before doing it. Children are to do the action if the leader says "Obey", but NOT do it if they say "Omit" first. Any child caught moving when the leader has said "Omit" is identified and is the Question Chooser for the class. If the class answers the question correctly, then the child resumes play. If not, then the child must sit out until another round when a correct answer is given.

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

NOTE: Have children who are "Out" help give you ideas for actions.

### Non-competitive Option

Let the Question Chooser immediately back into the game, 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.

**O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

**Verse 1**

O, for a thousand tongues to sing,  
My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of His grace!

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

**Understanding the Song**

1. What does "O for a thousand tongues to sing" mean? *It means "I want to sing about this so loudly that one tongue (one voice) to praise God is not nearly enough. I wish I had the voice of 1000 tongues so I could be that loud in my praises!"*
2. What does he want to sing so loudly about? *His great Redeemer's praise.*
3. What is redeemer? *A redeemer is someone who frees someone from being a slave by buying them and setting them free.*
4. Who is the "Great Redeemer" and who did He redeem from what? *Jesus is the great Redeemer who paid the price for the sins of all His people (all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him) so that they might know God.*
5. What makes Jesus a great redeemer? *He is great because He alone was the one who could pay the price for His people's sins. He didn't just redeem one person, but so many people that the Bible calls them uncountable!*
6. What glories and triumphs would he sing about? *The amazing display of God's mercy and power on behalf of undeserving sinners and His triumph over sin and death for all His people.*

**Bible Truth Connection Question**

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus?** *Jesus is the Great Redeemer who came to earth to show us what God is like and to save His people from their sins. When we see what God has done through Jesus, we want to sing of His glorious love and mercy and grace shown to undeserving sinners.*

**Story Connection**

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *Even as Philip faced beating and death, he would not deny that Jesus is God. He had seen Jesus' miracles and seen Him die and rise from the dead. He knew that Jesus was His Redeemer and would rather die praising His name than live and deny Him.*

**Bible Verse Connection Question**

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Hebrews 1:1-3:** "In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets...but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son...The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being...?"  
*God's people wish they had a thousand tongues to sing of Jesus' praise because when they look at Him and what He's done for them, they see how great God's mercy and love towards them, even though they are sinners.*

**Life Application Questions**

1. How can God's people be affected by the message of this song? *They can ask God to help them remember each day what a very, very great thing Jesus did for His people when He chose to die for them on the cross. They can ask Him to be so grateful that they would truly wish to have a 1000 tongues.*
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 gracious God, full of mercy to sinners who don't deserve i*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?  
*That many times we don't think about God and how merciful He has been to us sinners by sending His Son Jesus to suffer and die as the payment for sins. We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?  
*We can thank God for the triumph of His grace through Jesus saving His sinful people that they might get to know Him, love Him and obey Him forever.*
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 desire a thousand tongues to sing His praise.*

**Gospel Question**

1. What is the good news of salvation that is the triumph of God's grace? 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: Mimic Me**

### **Materials**

Sign Language  
Song

### **Preparing the Game**

None.

### **Playing the Game**

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Choose a person to be the leader and let them decide upon an action for everyone to do as they sing the song, such as jump on one foot, etc.
2. Sing the song while doing the chosen action.
3. Select another child to be the leader.
4. If desired, you can choose a different action for different important words in the song, such as jump on one foot when you sing the word "grace", but clap your hands when you sing the word "Jesus". Ask the children the meaning of each of the words before adding in their action.

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: Hebrews 1:1-3**

"In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets...but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son....The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being..."

**Alternate Memory Version: Hebrews 1:3**

"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being..."

**Understanding the Bible Verse**

1. What are forefathers? *Forefathers are our family members that lived many years—even hundreds and thousands of years—before us.*
2. How did God speak to the forefathers (especially of Israel)? *Through the prophets.*
3. Can you name some of the prophets? *Daniel, Moses, Elijah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, etc.*
4. How did God speak through the prophets? *He gave them His words to tell the people; and, He had them write down their words in the Bible.*
5. What are "these last days"? *The time since Jesus came to earth.*
6. How has God spoken to us in these last days? *By His Son, Jesus.*
7. What is radiance? *The light and power that come out from something like the sun.*
8. What is Jesus the radiance of? What does that mean? *Jesus is the radiance of God's glory. That means that when we learn about Jesus' life and know and follow Him that He shows us the magnificent greatest of God—His great power, love, mercy, holiness, wisdom and faithfulness.*
9. What is an exact representation? *A perfect reflection of something.*
10. What is Jesus the exact representation of? *Of God's being. Jesus always perfectly reflected to people what God is like (His character, not His appearance which is invisible).*
11. How could Jesus be the exact representation of God? *Because Jesus is God.*

**Bible Truth Connection Question**

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus?** *The Bible tells us that when we see what Jesus is like, we are seeing what God is like. There is nothing or no one else who can show us more about God than Jesus. That's because Jesus is God!*

**Story Connection Questions**

1. How did Philip see that Jesus was the exact representation of God? *Philip had seen that Jesus had complete control over nature, sin, sickness, even life and death, just as God did.*

**Life Application Questions**

1. What can God's people today know about God because of what they know about Jesus? *They can know that He is good and holy. That he hates sin, but has loved them, His sinful people, so much that He was willing to take the terrible punishment for their sins upon Himself so that they could be His dearly loved people forever.*
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 Bible verse? *Praise God for His holiness, love, powerfulness and goodness, as seen in Jesus.*
2. What is something we can confess to God from this Bible verse? *That we are all sinners made to reflect God, but we have all chosen to disobey Him and His good ways. We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible verse? *We can thank God for sending Jesus so we could see just what God is like.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Bible verse?  
*We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to turn away from disobeying Him and trust in this wonderful Jesus as our own Savior. That God would help us to understand more of what He is like as we learn about Jesus.*

**Gospel Question**

1. What is the good news of salvation that reflects God's holiness and His merciful love? 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: Memory Verse Limbo

### Materials

Bible verse written up in large print so that all can see  
A broom or other long pole

### Preparing the Game

None.

### 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. Have everyone say the verse together. Start with the pole at head height and have each child say the verse before "limbo-ing" (bend backwards without touching the pole) under the pole. Feel free to help the children say the verse. After everyone has gone through at the first height, lower a few inches and repeat the process. (Say verse and have children go through). A child is "out" when he/she can no longer limbo without falling down or touching the pole.

Give children who have a failed limbo attempt the option of being restored to the limbo line again by saying the verse a second time (on their own, with a partner or with you); or, allow them sit quietly in a line in front of the limbo line so that they can help others still "limbo-ing" saying the verse (if needed) or simply watch.

Game continue as time or attention span allow.

### Non-competitive Option

Let the children continue to limbo at each height, even if they have a failed attempt at a particular height.

### 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.

**The Son Is the Radiance**

The Son is the radiance, the radiance of God's glory,  
 The Son is the radiance, the radiance of God's glory,  
 And the exact representation of His being,  
 And the exact representation of His being.  
 The Son is the radiance, the radiance of God's glory,  
 The Son is the radiance, the radiance of God's glory,  
 Hebrews Chapter One, verse three.

**Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 1, Track 16**

**Song Game: Word Take Away****Materials**

Sign Language Signs and Song  
 White board and marker  
 Eraser

**Preparing the Game**

1. Write the words to the song on a white board.

**Playing the Game**

1. After children have learned the song and signs well, then tell the children that you are going to leave out words from the song (that you've learned signs for) and just do the sign in its place.
2. Have the children help you choose a word to take out. Erase the word from the board. Review the sign the for erased word.
3. Sing the song, trying to remember to NOT sing the word and do only the sign.
4. Continue to take out words until all of the words (with signs) have been taken out.

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



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 was Nicanora's illness? *Nicanora suffered from one illness after another.*
2. What did Philip do for Nicanora? *Healed her in the name of Jesus.*
3. Why was the proconsul so upset with Philip? *Because Nicanora stopped worshiping Apollo and started worship Jesus instead.*
4. What did the proconsul tell Philip to do or else he would have him killed? *To renounce Jesus as Lord and God.*
5. Why wouldn't Philip deny Jesus is God? *He had seen that Jesus was the Son of God.*
6. What miracles of Jesus might Philip had remembered? *The paralyzed man on the mat; Lazarus raised from the dead; Jesus rising from the dead, etc.*
7. What attribute of God did Jesus show when He stilled the storm? *That He had power over all creation.*
8. What attribute of God did Jesus show when He healed and forgave the paralyzed man? *That He could forgive sins—something only God can do.*
9. What attribute of God did Jesus show when He raised Lazarus from the dead? *That He had power over life and death.*
10. What attribute of God did Jesus show when He rose from the dead? *God's complete victory over death.*
11. What did Philip challenge the proconsul to do? *To believe in Jesus and save his soul.*
12. How did the proconsul have Philip killed? *Upside down on a cross.*
13. How did Philip both die and live on the day he was crucified? *His body died, but he went to heaven to live eternally with Jesus.*

### Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus**? *Philip remembered things that Jesus did that showed what God is like; and, that showed that Jesus is God.*

### Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Hebrews 1:1-3**: "In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets...but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son....The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being..."?  
*Philip could see that Jesus was the exact representation of God in the things He did. Phillip had seen that Jesus had complete control over nature, sin, sickness, even life and death, just as God did.*

### Life Application Questions

1. What kinds of things might God's people today remember that helps them know that He is God? *That He lived a perfect life, taught about God and did amazing miracles that only God could do. He died on the cross, just as He said He would, then rose from the dead, just as He said He would, winning victory over sin and death for God's people.*
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's something we can praise God for from this story? *Praise Jesus for being the true Son of God.*
2. What's something we can confess from this story? *Confess that many times we forget all the things we have learned about Jesus in the Bible that show us that He is the Son of God. We need a Savior!*
3. What's something we can thank God for from this story? *We can thank God for working in His people and helping them bravely endure, even in very, very hard times like Philip faced.*
4. What is something we can ask God for, from this story?  
*We can ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior, like Nicanora. We can ask Him to make us brave and keep trusting in Him, even when it is very hard, like Philip did.*

**The Gospel**

1. What is the good news of Jesus that Nicanora heard and believed? ? 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: Spoon and Ball Relay

### Materials

Spoons, one per each team

Ping-pong Balls, one per each team

Masking Tape

Baskets: one small one per team; plus, one large one to be shared by all teams.

Story Review Questions, one per child

Paper and marker/pencil for writing questions and keeping score

### Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own. Write point values to each question, such as 5, 10 and 25 points, depending upon how difficult they are.

**5 point questions: What does it say?** Simple fact questions, such as “How did Satan tempt Jesus to disobey God, His Father?”

**10 point questions: What does it mean?** Meaning questions, such as “Why was it important that Jesus obeyed God perfectly?”

**25 point questions: What does it mean to me?** Life application questions, such as “What is something God wants you to do that you find especially difficult to obey?”

2. Fold up all the questions and place them in the large basket. Place all of the questions in the larger basket at a central point in the room. Use the tape to mark starting points for each team and place the smaller baskets next to the start line. Have a spoon and ping pong ball ready for each team.

### Playing the Game

**Part 1: Getting the Questions:** Split the children into two teams. Have them line up behind the taped lines on the floor. Give the first person in each line a spoon and a ping pong ball. Tell the children that at your signal the first person will walk with the ball balanced in the spoon down to where the basket is. They are to drop the ball into the basket, pick up the ball again as well as a question from the basket and run back with the spoon, ball, and question to their team. They hand the spoon and ping pong ball to the next person in line and deposit their question in their smaller team basket located next to the start line. The relay continues until all children have had a turn.

### Part 2: Asking the Questions

After the relay is finished, the children sit down in their groups. The leader will take a question from a team's basket, tell them how many points it is worth and ask them the question. If the team gets it right, then they get the points. If not, then any other team has a chance to win the points. The teacher then proceeds to the next team's basket and continues the process. At the end, add up the points and see who wins.

### Non-competitive Option

Split the children into two groups and retrieve the questions as above until all the questions have been retrieved. Have the children of the two groups take turns pulling a question out of their basket for all the children to answer. Tally how many questions the children were able to get right. If desired, can play the game again, using only the questions they did not correctly answer. Ask them these again and see how many they get right the second time. Repeat as long as attention span allows or until all the questions have been correctly answered.

### 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 Lips of Life or Death.

Our story is a New Testament story. It takes place in Hierapolis, Turkey, about 70 years after Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

And now we present: "The Case of the Lips of Life or Death."

**Actions:**

**Scene 1:**

Philip, Miriamme, and Bartholmew travel to Hierapolis to share the good news of Jesus. The Lord uses them to save as well as heal many who are sick. Nicanora, the wife of the Roman proconsul of Hierapolis, lay sick in bed. She hears how Philip and his friends are teaching about Jesus and healing people, she asks for them to come speak to her. Nicanora hears the gospel and is saved. God also heals her illness. She refuses to worship any god but the Lord. The proconsul is furious when he hears that his wife is healed in the name of Jesus and no longer follows the Roman god, Apollo. He orders Philip brought before him.

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**Scene 2:**

The proconsul threatens to put Philip to death unless he will deny that Jesus is God. Philip has many things about Jesus he can remember as he chooses what to do. He could remember back to the time he asked Jesus to show them the Father. Jesus told him that to see Him is to see the Father and to remember His miracles. Jesus stilling the storm showed He was God. Jesus healing and forgiving the sins of the paralyzed man showed He was God. Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead showed that He was God. Jesus raised from the dead and then rising from the dead showed that He was God.

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**Scene 3**

Philip knows Jesus is God and refuses to deny Him. He urges the proconsul to accept Jesus and save his soul. The proconsul refuses. He has Philip beaten and crucified—upside down! Philip leaves this side of life to enjoy life with Jesus in heaven that day. There, he would get to worship and enjoy Him forever. This was best of all!

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**Bible Truth Tie-In:**

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus.** Philip chose not to avoid death by denying that Jesus was God. He only had to think back on the miracles he had seen Jesus do, the wonderful things Jesus had taught, and most of all, that he had watched Jesus die on the cross and seen Him risen from the dead. How could Philip deny Jesus when He so clearly showed what God was like because He was God!

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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 Lips of Life or Death.

Our story is a New Testament story. It takes place in Hierapolis, Turkey, about 70 years after Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

The characters in our story are: Nicanora, the Proconsul, Philip, Miriamme, Bartholomew, the People of Hierapolis, Jesus, Disciples, Paralyzed man and friends, Lazarus, Jesus buried and risen, Roman soldiers

And now we present: "The Case of the Lips of Life or Death."

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

Philip, Miriamme, and Bartholmew travel to Hierapolis to share the good news of Jesus. The Lord uses them to save as well as heal many who are sick. Nicanora, the wife of the Roman proconsul of Hierapolis, lay sick in bed. She hears how Philip and his friends are teaching about Jesus and healing people, she asks for them to come speak to her. Nicanora hears the gospel and is saved. God also heals her illness. She refuses to worship any god but the Lord. The proconsul is furious when he hears that his wife is healed in the name of Jesus and no longer follows the Roman god, Apollo. He orders Philip brought before him.

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

The proconsul threatens to put Philip to death unless he will deny that Jesus is God. Philip has many things about Jesus he can remember as he chooses what to do. He could remember back to the time he asked Jesus to show them the Father. Jesus told him that to see Him is to see the Father and to remember His miracles. Jesus stilling the storm showed He was God. Jesus healing and forgiving the sins of the paralyzed man showed He was God. Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead showed that He was God. Jesus raised from the dead and then rising from the dead showed that He was God.

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

Philip knows Jesus is God and refuses to deny Him. He urges the proconsul to accept Jesus and save his soul. The proconsul refuses. He has Philip beaten and crucified—upside down! Philip leaves this side of life to enjoy life with Jesus in heaven that day. There, he would get to worship and enjoy Him forever. This was best of all!

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

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus.** Philip chose not to avoid death by denying that Jesus was God. He only had to think back on the miracles he had seen Jesus do, the wonderful things Jesus had taught, and most of all, that he had watched Jesus die on the cross and seen Him risen from the dead. How could Philip deny Jesus when He so clearly showed what God was like because He was God!

## The Cross and the Crown

### Description

Children will make a paper mosaic of a cross and a crown.

### Materials

Construction paper: different hues of gray, brown, black (cross)

Metallic-look gift wrap paper: Gold, silver, jewel tones (crown)

Flat-backed craft jewels (optional)

White poster board

Craft glue and sponge pieces/brushes

Scissors

### Preparing the Craft

1. Cut lots of little squares (1/4-1/2") out of the papers. Put each color in different bowls.
2. Cut Templates #1 and 2 out of poster board, one for each child.
3. Set out glue and jewels.

### Making the Craft

1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
2. Have children spread glue all over their cross shape and decorate them with the dark construction paper squares.
3. Then have them spread glue all over the crown shape and decorate them in the metallic colored squares.
4. If desired, they can glue craft jewels on the crown when they are finished.

### 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 was on trial before the proconsul and why was he in trouble? *Philip. The proconsul was furious that his wife had been healed by the power of Jesus' name; had denied Apollo and believed in Jesus instead.*
2. What did the proconsul tell Philip to do if he wanted to spare his life? *Deny that Jesus is Lord and God.*
3. Why did Philip chose to die on a cross rather than deny Jesus? *Because he had seen himself that Jesus really was God. Only God could do the things that Jesus had done.*
4. What is Bible Truth 5, that we are learning? *God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus.*
5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus?  
*Philip was one of Jesus' disciples. He had seen the mighty things He had done and said. He saw Him raised from the dead. He knew Jesus was God. He was willing to suffer and die on a cross than to deny Jesus. He knew that day he would be with Jesus in heaven.*
6. What can this craft help us remember?  
*Jesus really is God. He rules over heaven and earth. We might have to suffer for Him now, but we will live with Him in perfect wonderfulness forever and ever.*

**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.

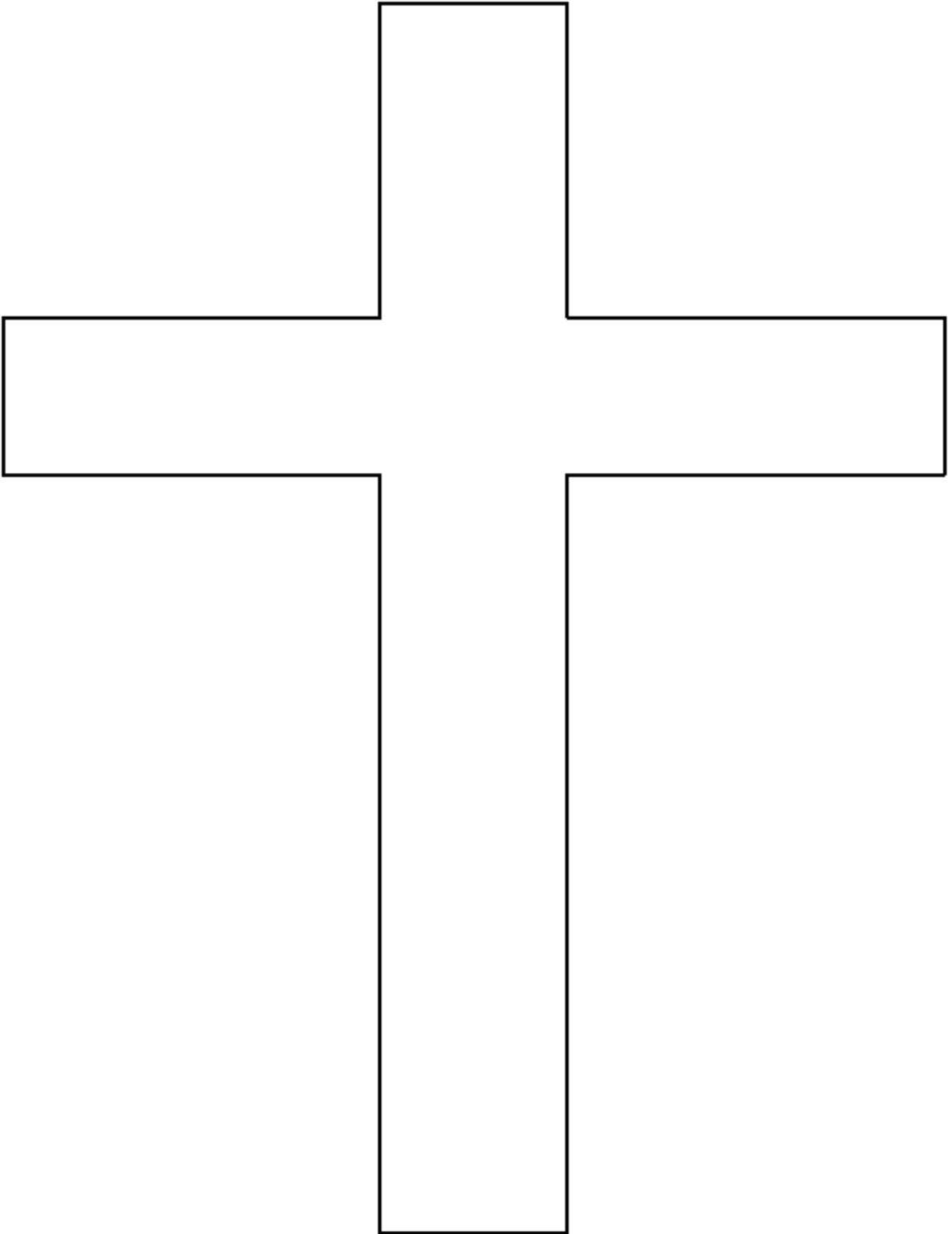
**Presentation:**

1. Our craft is the Cross and the Crown.
2. In Hierapolis, Philip chose to die on a cross rather than deny Jesus' crown as Lord because he had seen himself that Jesus really was God.
3. Bible Truth 5 is: God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus.
4. Philip was one of Jesus' disciples. He had seen the mighty things He had done and said. He saw Him raised from the dead. He knew Jesus was God. He was willing to suffer and die on a cross than to deny Jesus. He knew that day he would be with Jesus in heaven.
5. Our craft can help us remember that Jesus really is God. He rules over heaven and earth. We might have to suffer for Him now, but we will live with Him in perfect wonderfulness forever and ever.

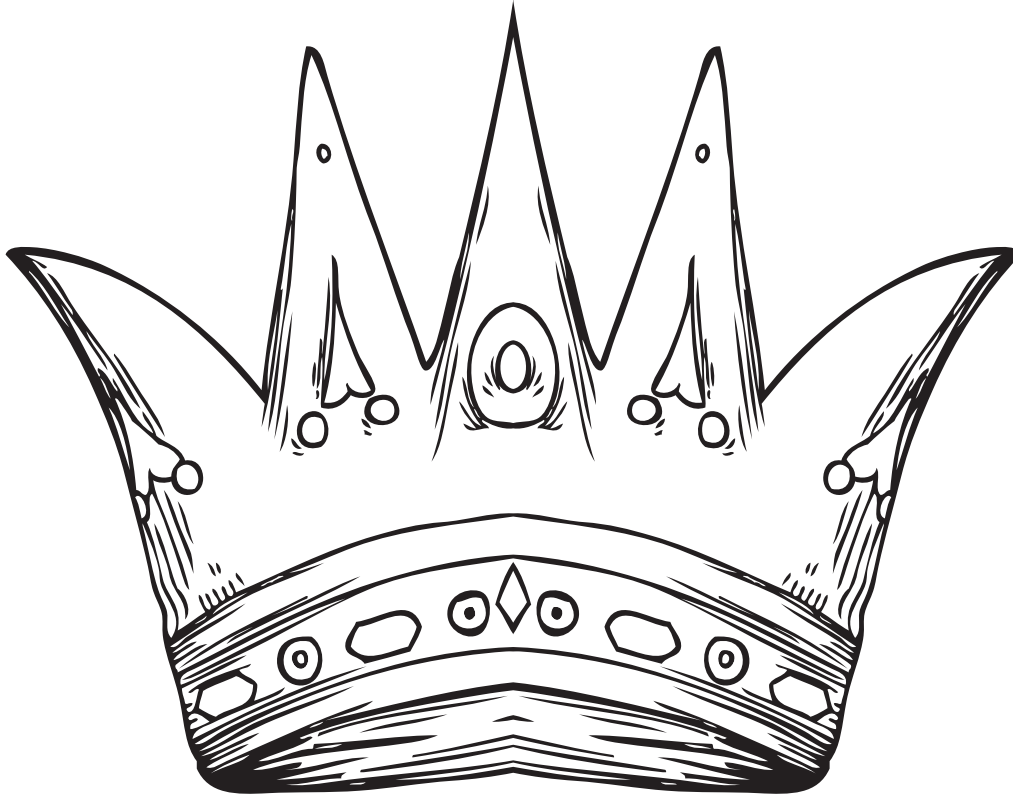
Note: Even non-readers can participate in presenting the craft, if you will whisper what they are to say in their ear and let them say it aloud for the others to hear.



**Template #1: Cross**



**Template #2: Crown**



**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](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  
(Missionary)

## **3 WAYS VIPP SERVES CHURCH**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR THE VIPP**

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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