

BIBLE TRUTH 2, 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 NIV Songs 10, Track 1*

Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another: WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song
PFI NIV Songs 10, Track 2

Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 10 *Songs: PFI NIV Songs 10, Tracks 3,4*

Big Question Bible Verse: Ezekiel 36:26 *Song: I Will Give You a New Heart PFI NIV Songs 10, Track 5*
Extra Bible Verse Song: A New Heart Ezekiel 36:26 PFI NIV Songs 10, Track 6

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

Bible Truth 2: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage

Bible Truth Hymn: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God, vs.3,4 *PFI NIV Songs 10, Tracks 12,13*

Bible Verse: Acts 4:29,31

Bible Verse Song: Now, Lord Consider Their Threats *PFI NIV Songs 10, Track 14*

Lesson 3 Old Testament: The Case of the Small Man with the Big, Secret Weapon *1 Samuel 17*

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: Food for the Family

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

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

Bible Truth Hymn: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God, vs.3,4 *PFI NIV Songs 10, Tracks 12,13*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean? PFI NIV Songs 10 BOOK or ONLINE

Bible Verse Review: Acts 4:29,31 Discussion Sheet and Game: Which Way Did It Go?

Bible Verse Song: Now, Lord Consider Their Threats Acts 4:29,31 *PFI NIV Songs 10, Track 14*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign PFI NIV Songs 10 BOOK or ONLINE

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Forceball

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: A Sling with Five Smooth Stones

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (back of book), Game: Stop and Go

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 2, Lesson 3 **PFI NIV Prontos 10 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Small Man with the Big, Secret Weapon *1 Samuel 17*

by Connie Dever

Our story is: The Case of the Small Man with the Big, Secret Weapon. As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who was the Small Man? Who thought he was too small to fight?
2. What was the Small Man's big, secret weapon? What difference did this make?

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came and filled the disciples' hearts powerfully and gave them new hearts, filled with courage to share the good news about Jesus and live for God.

But even before Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was at work in God's people. He has always been at work, doing the Father's will in the lives of His people.

This story is about David. It takes place about 1000 years before Jesus lived on earth and that Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came to fill the hearts of the disciples. And it takes place in the hills of Judah, not too far from Bethlehem.

David was the shepherd-on-duty for the family flocks. All his brothers were off at war with the Philistines, Israel's hated enemies. That left him at home sheep-watching, for any time the sheep were out, a shepherd must guard them from wild animals.

David knew this well. How many times had he been watching the flock when suddenly there was the loud, panicked bleating of a sheep caught in a lion's mouth. Quickly David would spring to his feet, load his sling with a stone, then hurl it towards the fleeing beast.

"ROOOOAAAARRRR!" The lion would shriek as the rock struck him, forcing him to drop the sheep. Sometimes the lion would run, but sometimes the lion would turn and attack David. David would seize it with his bare hands, strike it and kill it.

Who gave David the courage to fight a ferocious lion like this? David knew. it was God! As he returned the poor, terrified sheep to the flock, David would thank God for rescuing the sheep and for delivering him from the paw—and teeth!—of the lion once more!

Many times David had been the sheep's champion, but he knew that God was His champion every time. God made him quick and strong. He gave him courage to fight, and the victory over lions or any other enemy he might face. So David stayed alert, watching the

sheep. But he rested in God, not himself, to give him the courage he needed to protect the sheep.

While David guarded the flocks near Bethlehem, King Saul, David's three oldest brothers and the other men of Israel stood on guard about fourteen miles away against an even more powerful enemy: the great Philistine Army! The Philistines were the fierce enemies of the Israelites. They lived nearby, in the dry flatlands next to Judah. For years they had attacked the Israelites again and again, hoping to steal some of Israel's green, hilly land.

Now both armies faced each other across the Valley of Elah: the Israelite army stood armed on one hill and the Philistines stood armed on another nearby hill. For a month and a half now, no one had moved. No one would lead the attack against the other army. So, the Philistines had decided to settle the war by a fight to the death of champions. They challenged the Israelites to choose their one, best warrior to fight their one, best warrior...to the death! Whichever warrior won, would win the whole war for their army without anyone else having to fight.

That might sound like a good plan, until you saw the size of the Philistine champion, Goliath of Gath. He was 9 ½ feet tall...taller than two of you put together! He had a thick, bronze helmet on his head and thick, bronze armor for his body. The armor alone weighed about 125 pounds, the weight of a small woman! On his legs he wore bronze leggings and on his back was slung a large, curved, bronze sword called a javelin. He carried a long spear with a heavy, sharp, iron tip in his hand and a shield bearer carried Goliath's shield in front of him as protection.

Each morning and evening of that month and a half

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.

Goliath faced the Israelites and shouted to them, "Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of King Saul? Choose a champion and have him come down to me. If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us," he said. "This day, I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other!" Goliath challenged.

But who had the courage to face Goliath? He was almost twice as tall as any of the Israelites, not to mention far more powerful. Who would be that crazy?

"How can we fight this giant of a man!" the Israelites said to each other. "We have no warrior to match Goliath. Surely we will lose our land and be forced to serve the Philistines," they worried. And so the two armies stood day after day. Facing each other and doing nothing.

One day, David was sent by his father to take grain, bread and cheese to his brothers on the battle front. As he arrived in camp, he heard the sounds of marching feet and war cries as the Israelite army got into battle positions. David left his supplies and ran to his brothers on the battle lines.

Once more Goliath stepped out from his lines and shouted his challenge, "I defy you, Israelites! Give me a man and let us fight each other!" Once more, the Israelites heard it and ran away, terrified.

David was shocked! "What will be done for the man who kills this Philistine and removes this disgrace from Israel? Why should he be allowed to defy the armies of the living God?" he asked.

"That is Goliath, the champion of the Philistines," they answered. "Look at the size of him! The king promises a great reward to any man who is willing to be our champion, but no one dares step forward. Surely no one could match the strength of that giant!"

"Why have you come down here, David? Who did you leave those few sheep in the desert with? You came down here to watch the battle, didn't you?" accused David's brother Eliab, angrily. Eliab thought David was all talk. He was too little to fight.

But there was more than talk to David. He knew that it was never just one man against another when you believed in the LORD, the living God. The Holy Spirit

gave him faith and courage to believe he defeat even Goliath with the LORD's help.

David's brave words reach the ears of King Saul and Saul sent for him. "What's this talk, boy?" Saul asked.

"I will fight Goliath," David replied.

"You are only a boy. What makes you think you could defeat this giant?" Saul asked.

But David didn't think he could defeat this giant on his own. God, the Holy Spirit, was at work in his heart, giving him faith and courage to believe that God would help him, just as He had before. "I have killed both lions and bears while protecting my father's sheep," David told King Saul. "Goliath will be no different. The LORD who delivered me from the lion and bear will deliver me from Goliath."

"Then go, and the LORD be with you," Saul replied.

Saul armed David with armor, helmet, and sword, but they were too much for him.

He took them off and picked up his shepherd's staff, and five smooth stones from the stream. With his sling in hand, David faced Goliath on the battle field.

Goliath, with his shield bearer in front of him, came towards David. He looked David over and saw that he was only a shepherd boy. "Am I a dog that you come at me with sticks?" he said, looking at David's wooden shepherd's staff. Then he cursed David by his gods.

Goliath was right, David was no match for him by himself. But David wasn't alone. God's Holy Spirit was working inside him, giving him faith and courage to trust God to deliver him.

"David said to Goliath, "You come against me with sword, spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, whom you have defied. The LORD will hand you over to me. I'll strike you down and cut off your head. He will help us defeat your whole army and the world will know of the living God of Israel."

All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

As Goliath moved in to attack, David ran to meet him. Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face-down on the ground, dead. David picked up Goliath's huge sword

and cut off his head. When the Philistines saw Goliath dead they turned and ran. The Israelites surged forward with a shout and chased the Philistines to their cities of Gath and Ekron.

What no man could have done on his own, the Holy Spirit gave David courage to trust God to do these great things, that day.

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who was the Small Man? Who thought he was too small to fight? David was the Small Man. Everyone! Goliath, his brothers, King Saul.

2. What was the Small Man's big, secret weapon? What difference did this make?

The Holy Spirit working in David's heart, helping him have faith in the LORD to speak out against Goliath and to proclaim Him as the one, true, God, full of greatness and power. It made all the difference! He might have been too small to defeat giant Goliath alone, but the LORD gave him courage to stand up to Goliath and He helped David defeat him. Everyone could see how great the LORD was!

Something For You and Me

Our Bible Truth is:

The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage

Our Bible Verse is: Acts 4:29,31

"Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.... After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly."

The Holy Spirit also made David brave to fight this enemy who dishonored the LORD's name. Through David, the LORD showed both the Israelites and the Philistines that He really was the mighty, living God. Yes, the mighty living God who could, by His Holy Spirit, put faith and courage in a young man's heart to trust God to help him defeat a huge 9 ½ foot giant, swinging a massive spear and sword with just a sling, some stones and a shepherd's staff! How amazing is our God!

But what about us today? If we are God's people, will the Holy Spirit give us courage? Yes, He will. God promises to give the Holy Spirit to all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.... and to

do so in even a far greater way than even David knew. For it wasn't until after Jesus came and died on the cross for God's people that the Holy Spirit would come to live and stay forever in the hearts of God's people. From in their hearts, the Holy Spirit helps God's people do even more incredible things in God's name and bravely tell others about Jesus. He can make them brave and bold like David....and even more!

Let's praise God for sending His people the Holy Spirit to give them courage to do whatever He wants them to do. Let's ask Him to work in our hearts, that we might trust Jesus as our own Savior and have the Holy Spirit live in us, making us brave to do whatever God would have us do.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the Giver of the Holy Spirit to Your people, to make them courageous to tell others about You to do great things for the glory of Your name.

C God, we confess that many times, like the Israelites and the Philistines that we look at our own strength and do not think about You and having faith in You to act. We need a Savior! We need the Holy Spirit working in our hearts!

T God, we thank You for working so powerfully in Your people, by Your Holy Spirit. Even though they are so weak and small against their enemies, Your Spirit works powerfully inside of them, giving them courage say and do great things in Your name, for Your glory.

S God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, making us courageous to live and to speak and even to suffer for You. Make us like David, with a desire to show how great is Your name is when others dishonor You.

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:

God, we praise You for being the Giver of Courage to Your People through the Holy Spirit.

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that many times we fear instead of trusting You to give us courage by the Holy Spirit. We need Jesus to be our Savior!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for giving Your people the Holy Spirit to give them courage to do everything You call them to do.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, work in our hearts, that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts that we might live courageously for You. Help us to boldly do everything You want us to do, no matter how hard it is.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

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

Snack: Food for the Family

Cheese and bread, like what David would have taken to his brothers.

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

Case Tie-in: While David planned only to take cheese and bread to feed his brothers where the armies faced off, the LORD used him to do far greater things. The LORD used David to face the giant Goliath and defeat their enemies. He was just a small man, really just a teenager. But David loved the LORD and, with the help of the Holy Spirit, boldly challenged Goliath in the LORD's name...and won!

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.

The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage

God gives His people many good things to enjoy, but He also calls them to do difficult things. God does not expect His people to do these things on their own. He gives them His Holy Spirit, to live inside of them and help them do everything He calls them to do.

God's Holy Spirit helps God's people do things they would never have the courage to do on their own. He gives them the courage to tell others the good news of salvation. He gives them the courage to obey Him, even when they are tempted not to. He gives them courage to keep trusting in God and to joyfully endure any hard things God may have them go through. He even gives them courage to boldly face their enemies who want to hurt or kill them.

Not only does God's Holy Spirit give them the courage to do whatever God calls them to, but He also reminds them of God's promises to use everything that happens to them for their good and God's glory. And, He reminds them that one day God will bring them home to live with Him in heaven, where there will be only joy and happiness in God's presence forever.

God's Holy Spirit can give us courage to live for God, too, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. What kinds of things does God give His people? *Many good things.*
2. What does God call His people to do? *He calls them to do many things, even very difficult things.*
3. What did God promise to do to help His people? *He promised to send them the Holy Spirit to live in them and to help them.*
4. Who does the Holy Spirit live in? *He lives in every believer.*
5. What does the Holy Spirit help believers do? *Everything He calls them to do, even very difficult things that they would never have the courage to do on their own.*
6. What does the Holy Spirit give God's people the courage to do when they go through hard things? *To keep trusting in God and joyfully endure the hard things.*
7. What does the Holy Spirit give God's people the courage to do when they face enemies who want to hurt or even kill them? *To boldly face them.*
8. What are some of God's promises that the Holy Spirit encourages believers with? *That God will use everything that happens to them for their good and His glory. That one day God will bring them home to live with Him forever.*
9. Can God's Holy Spirit give us courage to live for God, too? How? *Yes! When we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our **Bible Verse: Acts 4:29,31**: "Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness....After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly." *God delights to answer His people when they pray for boldness to live and speak for Him. He answers these prayers by filling them with His Holy Spirit. He is the one who gives God's people boldness.*

Bible Truth Story Connection Questions

1. Was David a believer in Jesus? *No, in the sense that Jesus was not born yet. But yes, in the sense that David believed in the LORD and knew of the promises of God to one day send a Savior to save God's people. David looked forward in faith to that day, just like other Old Testament believers.*
2. How did the Holy Spirit help David? *He gave him courage to stand up to Goliath and to testify to both the Israelites and the Philistines to the greatness of God to have victory over any enemy.*

Life Application Questions

1. Can the Holy Spirit live inside us, giving us courage? *Yes, when we turn away from disobeying God and trust in Him as our own Savior. God will send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts. He will give us courage to live and to speak for Him.*

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for being the Giver of Courage through the Holy Spirit.

2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth?

Confess ways that we fear instead of trusting Him to give us courage.

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

Thank God for giving His people the Holy Spirit so they do not ever need to be afraid.

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. We can ask God to fill us with His Spirit so we will bravely tell others about Him.

The Gospel

1. God gives the Holy Spirit to His people. How can we become God's people? 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.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Verse 3

And though this world with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us.
We will not fear for God has willed,
His truth to triumph through us.
The Prince of Darkness grim, We tremble not for him.
His rage we can endure, For lo' his doom is sure,
One little word shall fell him.

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 10, Tracks 12.13

Verse 4

That word above all earthly powers,
No thanks to them abideth,
The Spirit and the gifts are ours,
Through Him who with us sideth,
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also,
The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever.

Understanding the Song

1. What is a mighty fortress? *A very strong building (fort) or even a town, built to keep you safe when enemies attack.*
2. Who is the mighty fortress of believers? *The LORD is. He is always strong enough to help them and protect them.*
3. What are devils and what does it mean that this world is filled with them? What do they threaten to undo? *Devils-- or demons--refer to Satan and the other angels who long ago, in the beginning, rebelled against God. Satan also tempted Adam and Eve, the first people, to rebel against God, too. Since then, he and his demons have continued to try to bring harm to God's world and His good plans.*
4. Who does Satan threaten to undo? What does that mean? *God's good plans for this world, especially for God's people. It means Satan would love to keep God's people from loving God and living for Him.*
5. Why can Satan only threaten to undo God's good plans and God's people? *God is far mightier than Satan. Satan will only be able to act within the bounds set by God, in His mercy and wisdom. While there are parts of God's wisdom about what He allows Satan to do, we KNOW for sure, that God promises to only use all things His people go through for their good and His glory. Satan can never undo this!*
6. Why do God's people not have to fear? What has God willed? *God, His Word and His good plans will always win out. God's truth will always triumph. He will always help His people to keep on believing and living for Him.*
7. Who is the Prince of Darkness? *Satan. This is a nickname that points to his love of sin (Darkness). And, that he has only a limited rule (Prince) here in this broken world of ours, for now. He will continue to have this power until Jesus comes back and puts a final end to him. Then Jesus, called the Prince of Peace, will reign forever.*
8. What is Satan's certain end? *He will be completely defeated and put away, once and for all. Jesus already defeated him when He died on the cross and rose from the dead.*
9. What is the one little word that will "fell" him (put an end to Satan's attempts to lead God's people away from God)? *Martin Luther wrote that the word "liar" was the one word. That's because every day he had to remind himself that Satan was a liar and that God's Word and God's promises were always true. Satan wants us to believe his lies so we will doubt and rebel against God. We can remind ourselves to believe God, not Satan.*
10. What does God give His people to fight against Satan's schemes and lies? *His Word, the Bible; His Holy Spirit and the gifts He gives to each of God's people that work together to encourage us to love and live for God.*
11. Why do God's people have these wonderful gifts? *God has given the Holy Spirit and the other gifts because of what Jesus has done for them on the cross.*
12. What are goods and this mortal life? *Goods are a word meaning all the things we have. Mortal life means our life.*
13. What does abide mean? What abides, even if we die? *Abide means to continue. God's truth continues to be true and will be completely fulfilled, even if we die*
14. What truth is especially comforting for God's people to remember, even when they die? *God's promises that He has beaten sin and death through Jesus. His promises to take them to live with Him in His kingdom--heaven--forever.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our **Bible Truth: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage**? *We do not have to look very far to see signs that God's good world and good ways are challenged by a powerful enemy called Satan. He and other angels rebelled against God long ago. No wonder his nickname is the "Prince of Darkness" and these rebel angels are called demons! They love to oppose God. These enemies also want to cause trouble for God's people. This may sound very scary. No one wants to have powerful enemies like these. But the good news is that they are not even close to a match for God. He is so much more powerful than they are. He will always win over any of their wicked plans. And thanks to Jesus, God gives His people powerful gifts to fight these enemies, too. He puts His Holy Spirit in their heart to make them bold. They will never have to fight alone! The Holy Spirit working inside them helps them to stand up to Satan's lies and keep on believing and living for God.*

Story Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *Only David willingly stood up to Goliath. He did not fear the evil plans of Goliath. He would not let that giant's evil words about the LORD stand! He believed God's truth would prevail. He believed there was no earthly power strong enough to defeat the LORD and His good plans. He was willing to even give up his life in order to show that God's truth abideth still. And sure enough, the LORD did prevail. His truth did triumph.*

Bible Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Acts 4:29,31**: "Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness....After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly."?

God's people know that while they may face strong enemies who threaten to harm them or try to spoil God's plans, that they need not fear. They may not be strong enough on their own, but they know that God is their mighty fortress. He gives them the Holy Spirit to give them courage and help them keep on doing what God wants them to do. All they need do is ask. God delights to answer His people's prayers to give them strength! He is always able to give them everything they need. His truth will always win the victory!

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn? *Praise God for being the Giver of Your Spirit and other gifts to help Your people keep on believing and living for You. Praise God for always being stronger than Satan. He is always able to win!*

2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn? *That many times we do fear instead of trust that God can always beat Satan's evil plans. We want to depend on ourselves, not God. We don't think His Spirit will be enough. We need a Savior! We need the Holy Spirit to change our hearts!*

3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn? *That God really is always stronger than our greatest enemy! Through Jesus, God has already defeated 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. We can ask Him to send the Holy Spirit to come and live in our hearts, helping us not to fear, but to trust God to take care of us, no matter what we go through.*

Life Application Questions

1. How can our lives be affected by the message of this song? *We can ask God to help us turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask God to help us not to fear, but for Him to give us His Spirit and His gifts to help us love Him and keep on living for Him. We can remember that if we are God's people, then even if we lose all of our goods or even our life, that we will go to be with Him in His kingdom forever. That will be best of all.*

Gospel Question

1. Who do we need to "side" with us? Who has beaten Satan, sin and death? 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.*

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

Materials

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

Bag or bowl

Preparing the Game

1. Cut out signs and put in bowl.

Playing the Game

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

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

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

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

Meditation Version: Acts 4:29,31

"Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness...After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly."

Alternate Memory Version: Acts 4: 29,31

"After they prayed...they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly."

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. Who was threatening whom? *The Jewish leaders were threatening the believers in Jesus.*
2. What did the Jewish leaders not want them to do? *To tell others about Jesus.*
3. What did the disciples ask God to give them because of the Jewish leaders' threats?
Courage to tell about Jesus boldly.
4. Why didn't the believers ask to be rescued from danger? *Because the Holy Spirit gave them courage to trust God with their safety and to help them care more about sharing about Jesus than even their lives.*
5. How did God answer the believers' prayers? *Filled them with the Holy Spirit and shook the room.*
6. Do rooms always shake when God sends His Holy Spirit to His people? *No. This was a special sign of encouragement to those first believers in Jesus. The Holy Spirit comes to live inside God's people today, even without the room being shaken.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage?**

God delights to answer His people when they pray for boldness to live and speak for Him. He answers these prayers by filling them with His Holy Spirit. He is the one who gives God's people boldness.

Story Connection Question

1. How does this verse relate to our story? *Like the first believers in Jesus, David knew that he had to face a strong enemy and that he must depend upon God, not himself, to give him courage and victory. The LORD answered David just as mightily as He did the first believers. He gave David bold words to say about the greatness of the LORD and He gave him victory over his enemy in battle.*

Life Application Questions

1. Who will God give His Holy Spirit to today?
All His people; all those who turn from their sins and trust in Christ and live for Him.
2. What sorts of things do Christians today need the Holy Spirit to give them courage to do?
Same as with these believers, the courage to stand up and tell about Jesus, no matter what.

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible Verse?
Praise God for being the Hearer and Answerer of His People's prayers.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Bible Verse?
That many times we do not want to pray for boldness to speak and act for God. Instead, we want Him to protect us from hard and scary things like this. We forget all that God has done for His people through Jesus! We deserve God's punishment! We need a Savior!
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible Verse?
We can thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to give His people courage. They do not have to have enough courage on their own to do what He wants them to do. No! He will give it to them, through the Holy Spirit!
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. We can ask Him to give us His Holy Spirit and make us those who courageously speak and act for the glory of His name.

The Gospel

1. What is the good news of Jesus that believers need the Holy Spirit's help to boldly tell? 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: Which Way Did It Go?

Materials

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

Coin

Beanbag or other small object

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:

Divide the children into two teams. Have the children sit or stand in a circle, alternating team members. Have everyone say the verse together. Explain to the children that they will pass the beanbag, stating clockwise, around the circle. Outside the circle one person, the Coin Flipper, will flip the coin. Each time the Coin Flipper gets a tails, he yells "Change" and the children in the circle change the direction they are passing the beanbag. After 5 changes whoever has the beanbag says the verse for their team. He gets 2 points for his team if he can say it be himself. One point, if he can say it with the help of another team member. If they can't say it, then the person next to him (on the other team) can try to say it for 1 point for his team. The child who correctly recited the verse is the next Coin Flipper. Have everyone say the verse again, then repeat steps.

Game continues until all children get to be the Coin Flipper, or as time and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Don't split the children into teams. Give the group a target number of points to make. Challenge the children to see how few turns it will take to reach the target number of points. Tally the number of points on a piece of paper. Continue until target number is reached. Repeat, seeing if they can do it in less turns the second time.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

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

Directions:

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

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

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

Now, Lord Consider Their Threats

Now, Lord, consider their threats,
Enable your servants to speak Your word,
Now, Lord, consider their threats,
Enable your servants to speak Your word,
With great boldness,
With great boldness.

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 10, Track 14

After they prayed,
The place where they're meeting was shaken,
And they were all filled,
They were all filled with the Holy Spirit,
And they spoke boldly,
And they spoke boldly,
And they were all filled,
They were all filled with the Holy Spirit.

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 kind of animals was David in charge of? *Sheep.*
2. What animals did David protect his sheep from? *Lions and bears.*
3. What is a champion? *Someone who is given the job of protecting others. In war, a champion is given the job of representing his whole army in battle against one of the enemy's men.*
4. Who did David thank when he rescued the sheep and killed the lion? *The LORD.*
5. Who gave David the courage to fight the lion? *The LORD, through His Holy Spirit.*
6. Why did David go to where the Israelites soldiers were fighting?
His father sent him to give him brothers food and check up on them.
7. Who were the Israelites fighting? *The Philistines.*
8. Why did Goliath want to fight instead of the whole army?
Because he thought he could easily beat any Israelite soldier and then his whole army wouldn't have to fight and men possibly die in battle. It was the easy way out for the Philistines.
9. Why wouldn't the Israelites send a man out to fight Goliath?
Because they could see how big and strong Goliath was and did not have faith that God would deliver them.
10. Why did David think he could defeat Goliath?
Because David knew that the LORD could enable him to defeat Goliath. The LORD by His Holy Spirit would give him courage. And, He would help him as he fought.
11. Why didn't King Saul think David could win?
King Saul, like the other Israelites, did not think about the situation with faith in the LORD. He looked only at appearance of Goliath's great strength and size and David's small strength and size.
12. What did David take with him to fight Goliath?
Staff, sling, stones, and the Holy Spirit giving him courage in his heart.
13. Why did David want to fight so badly? *To honor the name of the LORD.*
14. What did the Holy Spirit help David do? *Speak and act with faith and courage.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our Bible Truth? *The Holy Spirit was the one who gave David courage to fight against Goliath to glorify God's great name.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Acts 4: 29,31**: "Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness....After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly."?
Like the first believers in Jesus, David knew that he had to face a strong enemy and that he must depend upon God, not himself, to give him courage and victory. The LORD answered David just as mightily as He did the first believers. He gave David bold words to say about the greatness of the LORD and He gave him victory over his enemy in battle.

Life Application Questions

1. What sorts of things do Christians today need the Holy Spirit's courage to do?
Live for God and tell others about Jesus.
2. Who may have the Holy Spirit in their hearts to give them courage?
All who are Christians.
3. How can we become Christians? *By turning away from our sins and trusting Jesus as our own Savior.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story?

Praise God for being the Giver of the Holy Spirit to His people, to make them courageous to tell others about Him.

2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story?

Confess that many times, like the Israelites and the Philistines that we look at our own strength and do not think about God and having faith in Him. We deserve God's punishment! We need a Savior!

3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story?

We can thank God for working so powerfully in His people, by His Holy Spirit. Even though they are so weak and small against their enemies, He powerfully works in them to have courage and to do great things in His name, for His glory.

4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our 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. We can ask Him to send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, making us courageous to live and to speak and even to suffer for Him. We can ask Him to make us like David, with a desire to show how great God's name is when others dishonor Him.

The Gospel

1. David was the champion of the Israelites that day. The LORD used him to glorify Himself, by giving David the courage to fight Goliath and to show how great the LORD is against any enemy. God promised that through one of David's sons, that He would send a champion for all of God's people to save them from their sins. Do you know who this "champion" is? What did He do? 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: Forceball

Materials

One kick ball or other rubber ball
Masking tape
Yard stick
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. Use the tape to mark 2 lines about 3 yards apart.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams and have each team line up behind one of the lines.

Players should stand side to side, with legs apart and feet touching. The two teams are facing each other. Play starts as one team rolls (with their hands) the ball to the other team, trying to get it through the other team's legs without being blocked. The defending team cannot move their feet to block the ball. They can only block it with their hands. If the ball gets through their legs, the other team can get 2 points if they can answer a Story Review question correctly. If they do not say it correctly, then the defending team can try for 1 point. The defending team then bats the ball and tries to get it through the other team's legs. The team with the most points wins.

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

Non-competitive option

This game is difficult to make completely non-competitive. You can, however, not keep track of points.

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: The Case of the The Small Man with the Big, Secret Weapon.

This story starts out in Old Testament times, about 1500 years before Jesus lived on earth.

And now we present: "The Case of the The Small Man with the Big, Secret Weapon."

Scene 1:

David took care of his family's sheep while his other brothers were away with King Saul, fighting the Philistines. David knew he must keep a constant look out for wild animals who wanted to attack the sheep. Many times a lion snatched a sheep and David had to rescue it. He would hit the lion with a stone from his sling, then rescue the sheep from its mouth. Sometimes, he had to fight and kill them with his hands. David knew that it was God who helped him, giving his faith and courage by His Holy Spirit.

Actions:

Scene 2:

Only a few miles away on the battlefield, King Saul and the Israelite soldiers were in a standoff with their enemies, Philistines. One day, as David took food to his brothers, he heard the Philistine champion, Goliath, mocking the LORD's name and challenging an Israelite to fight him to settle the battle. All the Israelites were too scared to fight Goliath, but David had courage and faith by the Holy Spirit to stand up to him. He says he will fight him for the honor of the name of the LORD. He believes can win because God will help give him the victory. King Saul listened to David's request to fight Goliath. He has a hard time believing David should do this, but he allows him to fight anyway.

Scene 3:

King Saul offers David his armor for protection. David tries on the king's armor, but refuses to wear it. It is too heavy. David faces Goliath with his staff, his sling and five, smooth stones. Goliath makes fun of David, but David answers back with the courage and the words the Holy Spirit gives him. He believes that the LORD will give him victory over Goliath. David hits Goliath with a stone, then kills him with his sword. The LORD's name is honored through the courage of David and the defeat of Goliath by a young man who fights with the LORD's strength.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage.** The Holy Spirit gave David the courage to fight against Goliath and believe that the Lord would give him victory. He had courage to speak out against Goliath's mocking of the Lord so that the Lord's name would be honored.

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 Small Man with the Big, Secret Weapon.

This story starts out in Old Testament times, about 1500 years before Jesus lived on earth.

The characters in our story are: David and his brothers; the Israelite soldiers; King Saul; Goliath and the Philistine soldiers.

And now we present: "The Case of the The Small Man with the Big, Secret Weapon."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

David took care of his family's sheep while his other brothers were away with King Saul, fighting the Philistines. David knew he must keep a constant look out for wild animals who wanted to attack the sheep. Many times a lion snatched a sheep and David had to rescue it. He would hit the lion with a stone from his sling, then rescue the sheep from its mouth. Sometimes, he had to fight and kill them with his hands. David knew that it was God who helped him, giving his faith and courage by His Holy Spirit.

Scene 2: (Middle)

Only a few miles away on the battlefield, King Saul and the Israelite soldiers were in a standoff with their enemies, Philistines. One day, as David took food to his brothers, he heard the Philistine champion, Goliath, mocking the LORD's name and challenging an Israelite to fight him to settle the battle. All the Israelites were too scared to fight Goliath, but David had courage and faith by the Holy Spirit to stand up to him. He says he will fight him for the honor of the name of the LORD. He believes can win because God will help give him the victory. King Saul listened to David's request to fight Goliath. He has a hard time believing David should do this, but he allows him to fight anyway.

Scene 3: (End)

King Saul offers David his armor for protection. David tries on the king's armor, but refuses to wear it. It is too heavy. David faces Goliath with his staff, his sling and five, smooth stones. Goliath makes fun of David, but David answers back with the courage and the words the Holy Spirit gives him. He believes that the LORD will give him victory over Goliath. David hits Goliath with a stone, then kills him with his sword. The LORD's name is honored through the courage of David and the defeat of Goliath by a young man who fights with the LORD's strength.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage.** The Holy Spirit gave David the courage to fight against Goliath and believe that the Lord would give him victory. He had courage to speak out against Goliath's mocking of the Lord so that the Lord's name would be honored.

A Sling with Five Smooth Stones

Description

The children will make a sling shot of felt and string based on what we know of sling shots in David's time. They will make "stones" out of foil and color in a Goliath figure to shoot at. (If you would rather them not practice shooting at a human, then simply use the 16 oz. paper cups without the Goliath picture.

A note on the history and technique of slingshots, quoted from wikianswers.com:

"Sling shots have not changed since the time of David. David's, weapon would have consisted of two strips of leather, about 1 centimeter or less in width. One would be about 60-65 cm in length while the other slightly longer. Both strips would be tied to a strip of leather about 8-10cm in length by about 4 cm in width.

The longer strip of leather would be wound around the hand, while the shorter held between the thumb and forefinger. A stone would be placed in the wider strip of leather, and the whole would be swung around either the head or at the side of the person using the weapon, according to how they wished to use it.

The sling shot is an extension to the user's arm, and when the required momentum is reached the strip being held by the thumb and forefinger is released and the projectile will travel at tremendous speed towards its desired target.

As they are now banned weapons I suggest you get permission to use it in a safe area." (I think that our little felt and paper/foil versions are fully within the "toy" range to leave little concern, except for breakable glass objects and knickknacks! Still, make sure you give the slings to the parents when you dismiss the children, rather than the children. That leaves them at full discretion about the when and where of sling shot use at home.)

Materials

Card stock

Template for sling pocket and Goliath

1 1 1/2' string and 1 2' string per child

Brown felt (or craft leather, etc)

Foil or notebook paper

Crayons, markers, colored pencils, etc.

Tape or Glue

Scissors

16 oz. plastic cups, 1 per craft

Preparing the Craft

1. Print out the sling pocket and Goliath picture (if using it) and copy them onto card stock, one for each child.
2. Cut out 1 sling pocket per child out of the felt. Poke a hole in two ends of the sling, as shown on pattern.
3. Set out coloring supplies.
4. Tear off 1' long sheets of foil, 5 per child. (or have 5 pieces of notebook paper per child)
5. Make a sample of the craft to show the children.

Making the Craft

1. Have the children color in Goliaths. Glue or tape Goliath to upside-down plastic cup.
2. Have the children thread a string through each hole in the felt sling pocket.
3. Crumple up the foil or notebook paper into little balls.
4. Have the children wind the longer of the two strings around their arm, load a foil ball into the sling, then grasp the other string with the same arm. Swing the sling a few times and then let go of the string not wound around your arm, releasing the "stone". Try to make Goliath fall down. **WARNING: Adult supervision definitely required!** You may want to hold on to the "stones" and have the children take turns knocking down Goliath

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. What was taking place in the Valley of Elah? *The Philistine and the Israelite armies gathered to fight each other.*
2. What did Goliath challenge the Israelite soldiers? *One man to come forward and fight him, settling the battle.*
3. How did David react to Goliath's challenge? Who helped him to do this? *David agreed to fight him with only his sling and five, smooth stones. The Holy Spirit gave David the courage to speak out against Goliath and fight him.*
4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning? *The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage.*
5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage. *No Israelite soldier dared to fight the huge Goliath. They knew he was too big to beat. But by the Holy Spirit, God gave David courage and victory over lions and bears. David trusted God to give him courage and victory over even Goliath.*
6. What can our craft help us remember? *The Holy Spirit gives God's people courage to do things that seem impossible. He helps them to trust in God's power, not their own.*

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:

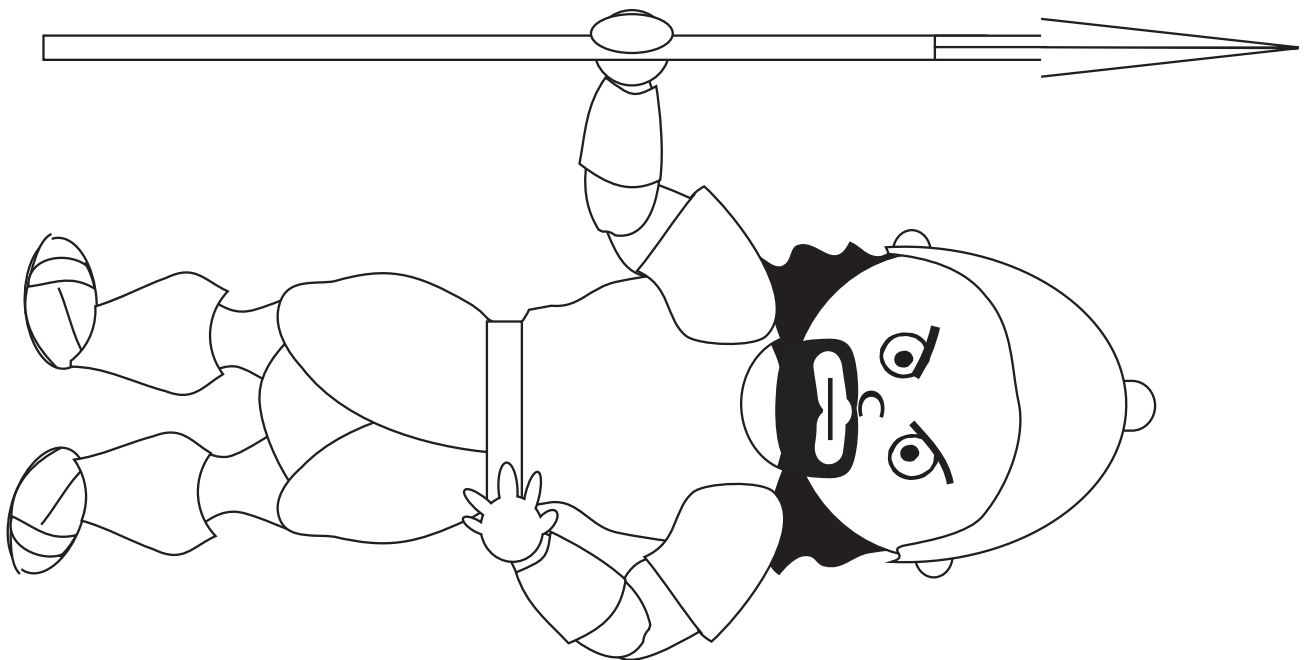
1. Our craft is: A Sling with Five Smooth Stones.
2. In the Valley of Elah, where the Philistine and Israelite armies gathered, God gave David courage speak out against, fight and kill the great Philistine, Goliath, With his sling and five smooth stones by the Holy Spirit working in David's heart.
3. Our Bible Truth is: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage.
4. No Israelite soldier dared to fight the huge Goliath. They knew he was too big to beat. But by the Holy Spirit, God gave David courage and victory over lions and bears. David trusted God to give him courage and victory over even Goliath.
5. Our craft can help us remember that the Holy Spirit gives God's people courage to do things that seem impossible. He helps them to trust in God's power, not their own.

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.

Sling Pocket



Goliath



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: Stop and Go

Materials

Information for one VIPP

2 Sets of Clue Cards

8 8.5" x 11" Manilla Envelopes

Ball

Blindfold

Bag

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. Put all the Clue Cards envelopes in a bag, except for the ones with the names and pictures of the VIPPs.

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 stand or sit in a circle. Choose one child to be the Caller. The Caller stands in the center of the circle, blindfolded. Hand the ball to a child in the circle. At the Caller's "Go" command, the ball is passed around the circle. It is passed around until the Caller says "Stop." Whoever has the ball when the Caller says stop chooses a Clue Card envelope. The child (or the teacher) tells the class the Clue Card category and asks them if they can remember the answer for the VIPP. The envelope is opened to see what the answer is. If the children get it right, the category is retired. If they get it wrong, it goes back into the pile of envelopes.

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
