



## **BIBLE TRUTH 1 OVERVIEW**

### **Unit 11: The God Who Saves**

**Big Question and Answer:** "How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift!"

**Bible Verse:** "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."  
Romans 6:23

### **Bible Truth 1 Concept: God Saves Sinners Who Confess Their Sins**

God is perfectly holy. There is no sin in Him at all. He is too holy for sin to even live in His presence. How gloriously magnificent and pure is He!

But we are all sinners. We have all chosen to rebel against God and His good ways. Not only can we not live in His presence because of our sinfulness, but we deserve to be shut out of His presence forever because of it. And there's nothing sinful people like us can do on our own to make ourselves acceptable to God.

We would be without hope, except for God's amazing grace and mercy! He, Himself, has done what was needed. He sent His Son Jesus to live a perfect life and offer it up as the perfect payment for the sins of His people when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, showing He had beat sin and death. Yes, He had fully paid for the sins of God's people. He has made salvation a gift.

How can we receive this wonderful gift? God offers forgiveness of sins and eternal life to all who confess their sins to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior. When we do this, turning away from living life our own way and living for God instead, He will give us this gift! He will make us His people forever!

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

**Meditation Version: 1 John 1:8-9**

"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

**Alternate Memory/Games Version: 1 John 1:9**

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

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

**A** God, we praise You for being faithful and just and able to forgive our sins.

**C** God, we confess that we are all sinners who need You to save us. We can never be acceptable to You on our own. We need Jesus to save us!

**T** Thank You, God for being willing to forgive all our sins, when we confess them and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

**S** God, work in our hearts. Make us aware of our sins and our need of Jesus to save us. Help us to confess our sins to You and repent of them. Help us to trust in Jesus as our Savior. Be our Heavenly Father! Make us Your adopted children who love You and who You will love forever.

### **Bible Truth 1 Stories**

**Lesson 1: The Case of the Ridiculous Runner (New Testament)**

Luke 15

**Lesson 2: The Case of the Mountains of Life and Death (Story of the Saints)**

**Lesson 3: The Case of the Not-So-Secret Sinner (Old Testament)**

2 Samuel 11-12

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

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

<p><b>Welcome</b></p>	<p>“Welcome to Praise Factory. We’re so glad you’ve joined us! Here at the PFI, we’re investigators. (That’s what the “I” stands for!) Investigators look for answers to questions. In PFI, we look for answers to big questions about God. We dig deep down in the truths of God’s Word to find them.”</p>
<p><b>Praise Factory Theme Song</b></p>	<p>“Let’s sing our Praise Factory Investigator’s theme song.”</p> <p><b>PFI: Praise Factory Investigators</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 1</i></span></p> <p>We’re PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word,          That’s PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word,          We’re looking for answers to very big questions,          Big questions about God,          If you’re looking for answers to very big questions ‘bout God, come along,          Join PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word,          That’s PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word.          Deep down, diggin’ down, Let’s go diggin’ down,          Deep down, diggin’ down,          ‘Til answers to all our Big Questions we’ve found.          We’re PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word,          That’s PFI: Praise Factory Investigators,          Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word.</p>
<p><b>Classroom Rules Song</b></p>	<p>An important part of Praise Factory is helping us worship God and love one another. Our WoGoLOA song reminds us how we should act. Let’s sing it.”</p> <p><b>WoGoLOA Rules Song</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 2</i></span></p> <p>Refrain:          WoGoLOA means “Worship God and love one another,”          WoGoLOA means “Worship God and love one another.”</p> <p>WoGo means “Worship God.”          Sound off, 1,2,3,          Joyfully take part,          Listen to others,          Obey your teachers. (<i>Refrain</i>)</p> <p>LOA means “Love One Another.”          Sound off, 1,2,3,          Be kind,          Be encouraging,          Help others, help others. (<i>Refrain twice</i>)</p>

**1. GETTING STARTED, continued**

<b>Opening Prayer</b>	"Let's ask God to help us obey these rules, and to help us worship Him and love one another as we learn more about Him today. Let's pray." <i>Pray.</i>
<b>Big Question Under Investigation:</b>  <b>Big Question 11 and Songs</b>	<p>"Now it's time to turn today's <b>Big Question Under Investigation</b>.</p> <p>It's: <b>How Can We Be Saved?</b></p> <p>We are all sinners who choose to disobey God. No matter how hard we try, we can never please God or earn eternal life on our own. We would have to live God's way perfectly to do that. That's why we need a Savior to save us from our sins, if we are to know God and become His people. Jesus, God's Son, is the Savior we need! He died on the cross to pay for the sins of God's people. He rose from the dead in victory! He alone can give us the gifts of knowing God and enjoying eternal life with Him. He promises to give these gifts to all who repent of their sins and trust in Him as their Savior.</p> <p>So the answer to our Big Question, '<b>How Can We Be Saved?</b>' is:  <b>It Is God's Free Gift!</b></p> <p>"Let's sing our Big Question Song(s): <span style="float: right;"><i>choose one or both</i></span></p> <p><b>Big Q &amp; A 11 Song</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 3</i></span>  <i>(adapted version of "Here We Go Looby-Looby")</i>  How can we be saved?  How can we be saved?  How can we be saved?  It is God's free gift!</p> <p><b>How Can We Be Saved?</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 4</i></span>  <i>Refrain</i>  How can we be saved? How can we be saved?  How can we be saved? It's God's free gift.  How can we be saved? How can we be saved?  How can we be saved? It's God's free gift through Christ.</p> <p>Verse 1  I disobey God, I need a Savior,  You disobey God, You need a Savior,  We all disobey God, We need a Savior.  To save us from our sins. <span style="float: right;"><i>Refrain</i></span></p> <p>Verse 2  Jesus, He paid the price, the perfect sacrifice,  On the cross, gave His life,  Bought us eternal life,  Takes away all our sin,  Makes our hearts clean within,  When we repent and believe in Him. <span style="float: right;"><i>Refrain</i></span></p>

**1. GETTING STARTED, continued****Unit 11  
Bible Verse**

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

Romans 6:23 tells us: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

**Big Question 11 Bible Verse Song  
The Gift of God: Romans 6:23**

*PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 5*

The gift of God is,

The gift of God is,

The gift of God is....what?

The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus, through Jesus

The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus. (repeat)

Romans Six, twenty-three.

We all want to have eternal life, but the sad truth is that none of us deserve it. We have all turned away from God and His good ways. We all deserve God's punishment, not wonderful life with Him. But God in His amazing mercy sent His Son Jesus to live the perfect life we never have lived. He took the punishment we deserve. When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, He gives us the free gift of eternal life. How good is God to sinners, like you and me!

**2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN: Key Concept and Story** (*introduce the Bible Truth and tell the related story*)**Bible Truth 1**

"It's time for us to dig down deeper for answers to our Big Question. We're learning **FOUR** Bible Truths that all tell us something about the salvation God offers us. We are learning the first one today.

The Bible Truth we are going to be thinking about today is:

**God Saves Sinners Who Confess Their Sins.**

God is perfectly holy. There is no sin in Him at all. He is too holy for sin to even live in His presence. How gloriously magnificent and pure is He!

But we are all sinners. We have all chosen to rebel against God and His good ways. Not only can we not live in His presence because of our sinfulness, but we deserve to be shut out of His presence forever because of it. And there's nothing sinful people like us can do on our own to make ourselves acceptable to God.

We would be without hope, except for God's amazing grace and mercy! He, Himself, has done what was needed. He sent His Son Jesus to live a perfect life and offer it up as the perfect payment for the sins of His people when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, showing He had beat sin and death. Yes, He had fully paid for the sins of God's people. He has made salvation a gift.

How can we receive this wonderful gift? God offers forgiveness of sins and eternal life to all who confess their sins to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior. When we do this, turning away from living life our own way and living for God instead, He will give us this gift! He will make us His people forever!

**2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued****Bible Truth 1  
Hymn**

"Long ago, a woman named Elizabeth Celphane was thinking about this Bible truth, too. She wrote the words a hymn called "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" We're going to learn a verse from it.

**Beneath the Cross of Jesus***PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 6***Verse 2**

Upon that cross of Jesus  
 Mine eye at times can see  
 The very dying form of One  
 Who suffered there for me;  
 And from my smitten heart with tears  
 Two wonders I confess,  
 The wonders of His glorious love  
 And my unworthiness.

God's people love to think about what God has done to save them. He loved them so much that He chose to send Jesus, His One and Only Son to suffer and die for their sins on the cross. They are saved because He died in their place! Their hearts are smitten with --that is, overwhelmed-- the greatness of His love for them, such undeserving sinners.

**Bible Truth 1  
Bible Verse  
and Song**

"The Bible verse we are going to be digging down into for this Bible Truth is:

**1 John 1:8-9**

"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

These verses remind us that we are all sinners. We deceive ourselves if we think we are not. But, the good news is, that if we admit we are sinners and confess our sins to God, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and save us through Jesus.

We've said our Bible verse, now let's sing it!

**If We Claim***PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 7*

If we claim to be without sin,  
 If we claim to be without sin,  
 If we claim to be without sin,  
 We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

*But, if we confess our sins...*

God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins,  
 Faithful and just and will forgive our sins,  
 Faithful and just and will forgive our sins,  
 And purify us from all unrighteousness.  
 First John One, verses eight and nine.

**2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued****LESSON 1 STORY**

**New Testament  
Story:**

**The Case of the  
Ridiculous Runner**  
Luke 15

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

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

- 1. Who was the Ridiculous Runner? Who thought his running was ridiculous? (Ridiculous means something silly that you wouldn't expect them to do).**
- 2. Why did he run even though it was thought ridiculous? Who did he run to? What does the Ridiculous Runner tells us about God?**

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

*Read story.*

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

**1. Who was the Ridiculous Runner? Who thought his running was ridiculous? (Ridiculous means something silly that you wouldn't expect them to do).** The father of the two young men in Jesus' story. Everyone in Jesus' time would think it ridiculous for an honored old man to run. The teachers of the law especially would have looked down on this man for running.

**2. Why did he run even though it was thought ridiculous? Who did he run to? What does the Ridiculous Runner tells us about God?** He ran because his son was returning home to him when he thought he would never see him again. He was so happy to see him! He ran to his son. That God rejoices over sinners who come to Him, confessing their sins. He loves them and welcomes them into His family.

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

**LESSON 2 STORY**

**Story of the Saints:**

**The Case of the  
Mountains of  
Death and Life**

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Mountains of Death and Life.**

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

- 1. Why were the mountains called the Mountains of Death?**
- 2. Who went to those mountains to bring life? How did they do that?**

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

*Read story.*

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

**1. Why were the mountains called the Mountains of Death?**

Because of all the terrible sicknesses there were there. Many people died.

**2. Who went to those mountains to bring life? How did they do that?** The Brands went to these mountains to bring medicine, but most importantly, to bring the good news of Jesus. As people heard the gospel, many confessed their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior. This brought God's life to the Mountains of Death.

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

**2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued****LESSON 3****Old Testament Story:****The Case of the Not-So-Secret Sinner***2 Samuel 11-12*

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Not-So-Secret Sinner.**

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

- 1. Who was the Not-So-Secret Sinner? How did he try to cover up his sin?**
- 2. Who knew about his sin and prompted him to confess it? How did God respond to this secret sinner's confession to Him?**

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

*Read story.*

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

- 1. Who was the Not-So-Secret Sinner? How did he try to cover up his sin?**

David. He had Bathsheba's husband killed in battle to get rid of him.

- 2. Who knew about his sin and prompted him to confess it? How did God respond to this secret sinner's confession to Him?** The LORD knew. He used Nathan the prophet to help David see his sins and turn away from them. The LORD forgave David when he confessed his sins.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Presenting to Parents**

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

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

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