

BIBLE TRUTH 3, 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 ESV Songs 11, Track 1*

Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another: WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song
PFI ESV Songs 11, Track 2

Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 11 Songs *PFI ESV Songs 11, Tracks 3,4*

Big Question Bible Verse: Romans 6:23 Song: *PFI ESV Songs 11, Track 5*

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

Bible Truth 3: We Must Trust Jesus as Our Savior and Obey Him as Our Lord

Bible Truth Hymn: To God Be the Glory, v.2 *PFI ESV Songs 11, Track 11*

Bible Verse: Romans 10:9-10

Bible Verse Song: If You Confess with Your Mouth *PFI ESV Songs 11, Track 12*

Lesson 3 Old Testament: The Case of the Red Rope Ransom
Joshua 1-6; Exodus 13-14; Numbers 21; Deuteronomy 2-3; Psalm 87:4; Hebrews 11:31; James 2:25

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: Hide and Escape

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

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

Bible Truth Hymn: To God Be the Glory, v.2 *PFI ESV Songs 11, Track 11*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean? **PFI ESV Songs 11 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: Romans 8:31-32,35,38-39 Discussion Sheet and Game: Balloon Find

Bible Verse Song: If You Confess with Your Mouth: Romans 10:9-10 *PFI ESV Songs 11, Track 12*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign **PFI ESV Songs 11 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: The Answer's in the Tent

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: Two Spies Hidden in Bundles of Flax

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (back of book) & Game: Hot and Cold Hide

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 3, Lesson 3 **PFI ESV Prontos 11 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Red Rope Ransom by Connie Dever*Joshua 1-6; Exodus 13-14; Numbers 21; Deuteronomy 2-3; Psalm 87:4; Hebrews 11:31; James 2:25*

Our story is: The Case of the Red Rope Ransom. As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who put out the red rope? Why? Who was supposed to see it?
2. A ransom is something paid to free someone. How was the owner of the red rope ransomed--paid and freed twice? How was she used as part of God's plan to ransom many?

This story takes place in Old Testament times about 1400 years before Jesus lived on earth.

The city of Jericho was on alert. Its soldiers stood watch from its towering stone walls. The Israelites had set up camp not from away and all of Jericho was terrified. Who hadn't heard of the mighty power of the LORD, their God? He had rescued them from the powerful Egyptians. He had defeated their enemies, the king of Bashan and Sihon. Could He not also defeat them? the people of Jericho thought.

How much more scared the people of Jericho would have been, if they had known that Joshua, the leader of the Israelites was preparing the Israelites to march on their city very soon. A matter of fact, he would be sending out spies to check out Jericho that very day!

"Get the people ready," Joshua order his officers. "In three days, we will cross the Jordan River and take the land the LORD your God promised us." Then Joshua called two of his best soldiers to his tent. "Go and spy out the land across the Jordan River, especially Jericho," he ordered them. "Report to me what you see. Be careful! This is a dangerous mission, but the LORD will be with you."

So the spies crossed the Jordan, crept through the countryside. "What a large spring of water, what good fields of wheat. Look at the dates on those trees! The pastures are full of sheep and cows. There will be plenty of good supplies for our people!" the spies told each other.

At last they made it to Jericho. Soldiers lined the walls above, peering down on everyone entering through the city gates; yet somehow, the spies slipped through the gates unnoticed. Through the streets they crept, taking note of everything they saw.

What a city Jericho was! About two thousand people lived inside its safe walls-- twenty-five feet high and twenty feet thick. Statues to Yerach, the moon god reminded the spies of the awful god these people worshiped and trusted for protection. Oh, what terrible sacrifices were made to this idol, this fake god! Yet soon, the LORD would lead the Israelites in victory over Jericho and all would see that it was the LORD, not Yerach, who is God in heaven above and on the earth below. The spies looked forward to that day!

The spies learned many things to tell Joshua about Jericho that day. But now, the sun was setting. Soon, the city gates would be shut. Yet hurry as they did, they were too late. The gates shut. They would have to hide in the city for the night. But where?

"Where might two weary travelers stay?" they asked.

"The house of Rahab" they were told. "Her house is one of the ones built into the wall."

The spies quickly made there way to her house, hoping they were safe. But they were not! They had been watched all day and word reached the king of Jericho: "Israel spies have been in Jericho all day. They are now at Rahab's house. What do you want us to do to them?" the soldiers asked the king.

"Tell Rahab to give up the spies! Arrest them and kill them!" the king answered.

But Rahab was making plans of her own. "I know that you are Israelite spies and you have been watched all day," she told the spies. "You must hide. Come up to the roof, quickly! We'll talk more when danger has passed." Rahab led the men to her roof and hid them under the huge bundles of flax she had laid out to dry.

"Bang! Bang!" The soldiers were soon at Rahab's door.

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.

"Rahab! We have a message for you from the king. Give us the men staying at your house. They are spies," they demanded.

"Yes, the men came, but I didn't know where they had come from," Rahab replied. "At sunset, when it was time to close the city gate, the men left. I don't know which way they went. Go quickly. You may catch up with them," she lied.

The soldiers believed Rahab and left the city, in search of the spies.

When the soldiers left, Rahab went to the spies and said, "I know that the LORD has given this land to you. Everyone is so afraid because they have heard of the mighty power of the LORD, your God who is with you," she told them. "He is God in heaven above and on the earth below. Now please promise that you will show kindness to me because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign that you will spare me and my family when you come to take our city," she asked.

"Our lives for your lives!" the men assured her. "If you don't tell what we are doing, we will spare your lives when we take the city." So Rahab let them down by a rope through the window.

"Go to the hills and hide there three days until the soldiers return, and then go back to your camp," she told them.

"If you want us to keep this promise, you must tie this scarlet cord in your window," the spied told Rahab. "And make sure your whole family is in your house. It will be the only place where they will be safe."

Rahab agreed. She sent the spies away and tied the scarlet cord in the window.

The spies stayed in the hills for three days, then went back across the Jordan River to give Joshua their report: "The LORD has surely given the whole land into our hands; all the people are terrified because of us." They know that they can never stand against us and our great God, the LORD, for He is God in heaven above and on the earth below," they told him.

And the people of Jericho were right. Nothing could stand against the LORD. Seventeen days later, the Israelites stood before the high walls of Jericho. The priests sounded the trumpet blast, and Joshua commanded the people, "Shout! For the LORD has

given you the city!"

When the trumpets sounded, the people shouted, and the walls fell down by the LORD's power. The Israelites charged in and took the city. All of Jericho was destroyed that day. Nothing was left, except for Rahab and her family, tucked safely away in her house with the scarlet cord in the window.

Did you ever wonder what happened to Rahab after Jericho was destroyed? The Bible tells us that Rahab turned away from worshipping Yerach, the moon god, and turned to worship the LORD. Yes, Rahab became one of God's people! The LORD gave her a good Israelite husband of her very own and so honored her that He made her the great grandmother of King David and even the great, great, great, great, great, great etc. grandmother of none other than Jesus, Himself!

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who put out the red rope? Why? Who was supposed to see it? Rahab put it out because the two Israelite spies told her to. The Israelites who attacked Jericho would see it and know that was where Rahab lived and were not to harm her.

2. A ransom is something paid to free someone. How was the owner of the red rope ransomed--paid and freed twice? How was she used as part of God's plan to ransom many? Rahab was ransomed from Jericho the first time, for her help with the two spies. But, she was ransomed from her sins by trusting in the LORD, becoming one of His people and obeying His laws. Through Rahab's family would come Jesus, the Savior, one day.

Something For You and Me

Our Bible Truth Is:

We Must Trust Him as Our Savior and Obey Him as Our Lord

Our Bible Verse is Romans 10: 9-10:

"...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

Like all the people who believed in the LORD before Jesus came, Rahab did not know Jesus to trust Him as her Savior. But the Bible tells us that she and others like her trusted in the promises of God and looked forward in faith to the day when He would send a Savior to save them from their sins. The LORD accepted their faith in Him and saved them.

How much easier it is for you and me! We do not have to look forward in faith that the Lord would send a Savior. We know that He has already sent a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us praise God for sending us His Son to be Savior to all, like Rahab, who turn from their sins and trust in Him. Let's ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Him, too.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the Savior of Your people from every nation.

C God, we confess that like the people of Jericho, we have all rebelled against God. We need to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

T God, we thank You for being so merciful to sinners who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, just like You saved Rahab.

S God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior.

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 Savior of sinners who trust in Jesus. We honor You as the wise and good Lord we all should obey.

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

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

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for working in the hearts of sinners that they would trust in Jesus as their Savior and be saved.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, work in our hearts. Help us to confess our sins to You and repent of them. Help us to trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to no longer live however we please, but now to live to please You.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

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

Snack: Hide and Escape

Teddy Graham spies hiding under crumbled Shredded Wheat Flax with red licorice rope.

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

Case Tie-in: Rahab hid in bundles of flax the two Israelite spies who came to Jericho. She asked that they spare her life and let her escape to live with them and worship the LORD. The spies agreed. They gave her the sign of a red rope to put out to tell the soldiers where she was and to let her escape when they came to attack the city.

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.

We Must Trust Jesus as Our Savior and Obey Him as Our Lord

It isn't enough to simply think that Jesus is the only way to God. We need to trust in Jesus as our own Savior; and, we need to begin a new life of living for Him.

We need to confess to God that we are a sinner and ask His forgiveness for our sins. We need to believe that Jesus suffered and died on the cross as the perfect payment for our sins; and that three days later, He rose from the dead in victory over death. We need to turn our lives over to Him, asking Him to help us to love and live for Him in everything we do.

Trusting in Jesus to be our Savior is a wonderful work that God does by His Holy Spirit in the hearts of His people. He delights for us to ask Him to send the Holy Spirit to do this work in our heart.

When we trust in Jesus as our Savior, we also accept Him as our Lord. "Lord" is an old word used in the Bible that we don't use much anymore. It means someone who is in charge and who we are to obey. The sign of someone who truly trusts in Jesus as their Savior, is whether they also are trying to live to please God.

God's people want to obey Him in everything they do, but they can't do that on their own--and they don't have to. God gives believers His Holy Spirit to live inside them and help them to grow in love and in obedience to Him. God always gives us what we need to be His people, if we but ask!

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. Why isn't it enough to just know that Jesus is the only way to God? *Because we can know something with our minds and there never be a change in our hearts or lives. If we are truly saved, our hearts will be changed and our lives will show that change as we live to love and obey God.*
2. What must we do besides know that Jesus is the only way? *Ask Him to be our Savior, confess our own sins to Him, ask Him to forgive us, trust in our hearts that He died for us and that we are forgiven, and live our lives for Him.*
3. What do we need to believe about Jesus? *That He suffered and died on the cross as the perfect payment for our sins; and then three days later, He rose from the dead in victory over death.*
4. Who do we turn our life over to, if we want Jesus to be our Savior? How do we do that? *We need to turn our lives over to Him, asking Him to help us to stop living live to please ourselves, but instead to live to please God.*
5. What does "Lord" mean? *It means someone who is in charge and who we are to obey.*
6. What is the sign of someone who truly trusts in Jesus as their Savior? *That they are trying to live to please God, instead of just living life their own way.*
7. Who works in our hearts when we trust in Jesus? *God does, by His Holy Spirit.*
8. Who do God's people want to obey in everything they do? *God.*
9. Can they obey God on their own? Who helps them? *No, they can't on their own. The Holy Spirit will help them.*
10. What does God delight to do in our heart, if we ask Him? *To help us to trust in Jesus as our Savior and live for Him.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our **Bible Verse: Romans 10:9-10**: "...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved." ?
This verse tells us that we are saved when we believe in our hearts that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead in victory over sin.

Bible Truth Story Connection Questions

1. What did Rahab believe about the LORD? *She believed that He was the one true God.*
2. How did Rahab show she believed in the LORD? *She was willing to hide the spies, leave behind her people and her sinful way of life.*
3. How did the LORD show that He accepted her as one of His people? *He gave her an Israelite husband and family and then made her the great grandmother of King David...and the great, great, etc. grandmother of Jesus, Himself.*

Life Application Questions

1. Are there any sins we can commit that Jesus cannot forgive if we ask Him? *No!*
2. Who can God's people go to for help in trusting in Jesus? Why? *God. He promises to never turn away anyone who comes to Him. He promises to give faith to all who ask Him for it.*
3. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for because of this Bible Truth?
Praise God for being the Savior of His People.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth?
Confess that we are sinners who have rebelled against God and His good ways. We deserve His punishment! We need Him to be our Savior!
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Bible Truth?
Thank God for making the way, Himself, through Jesus, that we might be saved.
4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Bible Truth?
We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to turn away from disobeying Him and trust in this wonderful Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to work in the hearts of others, too, that they might be saved.

The Gospel

1. What is the good news that we need to believe to be saved? 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.

To God Be the Glory

Verse 2

O perfect redemption,
the purchase of blood,
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus
a pardon receives

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, thro' Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 11, Track 11

Understanding the Song

1. What is "perfect redemption"? *To have your sins completely, perfectly paid for.*
2. Whose blood is the only perfect redemption for our sins? Why? *Jesus: Because only He lived the perfect life that could please God. Only He could offer up His life—His blood—as an acceptable sacrifice for sins.*
3. What is the promise of God? *To pardon every believer who truly believes.*
4. What does "vilest offender" mean? *The worst of sinners.*
5. What does the vilest offender have to do to have his sins forgiven? *Truly believe in Jesus as his Savior.*
6. Why does Jesus pardon make us want to praise and rejoice in the Lord? *Because His pardon is perfect and we never have to worry about our sins again. Because we could never deserve such a wonderful gift.*
7. What does it mean to come to the Father through Jesus the Son? *Trusting in Jesus' death and sacrifice is the only way we can know the Father, the holy, perfect God.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **We Must Trust in Jesus as Our Savior?**

It is not enough to know that Jesus can save, we must trust Him to be our Savior. When we do—even if we have been the worst of sinners—we can know that God will save us, just as He has promised. This makes us want to give God the glory for the great things He has done for us.

Story Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *Rahab had been a worshiper of Yarech and had lived a very sinful life. Yet, when she turned and trusted in the Lord as her God, He fully pardoned her for her sins. He even gave her the special honor of being the great, grandmother of King David and the great, great, etc. grandmother of Jesus, Himself.*

Life Application Questions

1. How can our lives be affected by the message of this song?
We can praise God who is willing to forgive us our sins, no matter how many or how terrible they are. We can ask Him to help us to truly believe in Him that we would be saved. We can ask God to help us praise His name to others that they might know, too, what an amazing Savior He is.
2. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Bible Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Romans 10:9-10**: "...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."?

No matter who you are and what you have done, you can receive a pardon for all your sins when you truly believe in Jesus (that is, when you have confessed your sins to God, turned away from them and trusted in Jesus as your Savior). This is true, even if you are the vilest offender. How can this be? Because God's people are redeemed through Jesus' blood, shed on the cross. His blood is enough to pay for all of a sinner's sins, no matter how many or how bad they are. That is why God's people praise Him and give Him the glory for this great thing that He has done!

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for being the purchaser, the redeemer of His people through the blood of Jesus.

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

We can confess that we are vile offenders against God and His good ways. We have all chosen to rebel against Him. We deserve God's punishment! Our only hope is for Him to save us, through the blood of Jesus.

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

We can thank God sending Jesus to save His people from their sins. We can thank Him that He can save anyone, even the vilest offender (the worst of sinners) when they turn from their sins and truly believe in Him.

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

That God would work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to pardon our sins and make us His people. We can ask Him to help us praise Him for the great things He has done for His people through Jesus.

Gospel Question

1. How did we become sinners? How can we be saved? 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: Romans 10:9-10

"...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

Alternate Memory/Games Version: Romans 10:9

"...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. What does it mean to confess something? *To say that you believe it is true.*
2. What does it mean to confess that Jesus is Lord? *A lord is someone who rules over his lands; but to say that Jesus is Lord (capitol "L") means that he rules over everything.*
3. Why is it important to believe that God raised Jesus from the dead? *Only if God raised Jesus from the dead, did Jesus really win the victory over sin and death. He cannot save us, if He was still dead.*
4. What is the difference between knowing about something and believing in something? *You know about something with just your mind, but you believe something with your mind and your heart and are willing to change your life because of it.*
5. What does it mean to be justified? *To be forgiven of your sins so that God does not count them against you. (He treats "just as if" never sinned.)*
6. Why is confessing with our mouths important for salvation? *It shows that we truly believe that Jesus is Lord and are willing to be known as a believer in Jesus, no matter what others think.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: We Must Trust in Jesus as Our Savior**? *It's not enough to just know about Jesus. We must believe in our own hearts that He is our Savior and be willing to confess to others that He is our Lord who we obey, if we are to be saved.*

Story Connection Questions

1. What does this verse have to do with the story? *Rahab, like all believers in the Old Testament, did not know about Jesus yet, but looked forward to His day. However, she did believe that the Lord was the true God and was willing to leave her people and give up her sinful ways to become one of His people.*

Life Application Questions

1. Who can help God's people confess that Jesus is Lord and help us believe that God raised Jesus from the dead? *God! He promises to give faith to all who ask Him for it.*
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 being the Lord, the one, true God all should worship and obey.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Bible Verse? *That we have all turned away from God, even though He is Lord. We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible Verse? *We can thank God for making the way that sinners can be saved.*
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 help us confess that Jesus is Lord. We can ask Him to help us believe that He raised Jesus from the dead.*

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for being the Provider of the Way to eternal life with Him.

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

That we have all turned away from God. We cannot make our way to God on our own because of our sins. 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 the wonderful promise of taking all His people to live forever with Him.

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 work like this in others, too.

The Gospel

1. What must we believe if we are to be saved? What is the gospel?

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

Game: Balloon Find

Materials

Bible verse written up in large print so that all can see
 2 large pieces of paper or poster board
 Paper, pencil, permanent marker
 Balloons, at least one per child and up to one per word of verse per team.
 2 Baskets or garbage bags
 Masking Tape

Preparing the Game

1. Make copy of the verse per team and cut it apart into as many parts as there are balloons per team. Number these verse pieces in order. Make a sign per team of the verse. If you have a lot of non- or early readers, write the verse in easy to read print, numbering each word/section that correspond to the sections on the cut-up version of the verse. If your children are all proficient readers, do not write the verse on the poster board, but simply draw lines and number them 1-10, corresponding to the 10 verse pieces. Write down and cut out the numbers used on the verse pieces and put in a little bag or jar. Designate particular colors /shapes of balloons for each team. You can choose to have only one color per team (i.e., Team 1 has only blue balloons); Team 2 has only red ones) or multiple colors/shapes per team (i.e., Team 1 has orange and blue balloons, Team 2 has red and blue balloons). Roll up the pieces of paper and insert each one into each of the balloons. Write the corresponding number on the outside of the balloon with the permanent marker. Make sure to have a complete set of the verse for each team. Store each set of balloons in baskets or garbage bags until game time. Make a circle of masking tape: one larger one in the middle, where all the balloons will be released. Make two starting lines, one for each team.

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:

Split the children into two teams and have them stand/sit in line. Tell them that all the words to the Bible verse are inside of the balloons. Let them know what color balloons their team will be looking for. Release all the balloons into the middle circle. Say the verse together as a group. Draw a number out of the bag and tell it the group. Then, at your word, let the first child in each team go find the correctly numbered balloon from the pile of balloons. They will each bring back their balloon and sit on it to pop it (or let you or someone else pop it. Remove the piece of verse and put them in a pile. Everyone one then says the verse again, the teacher pulls another number out and the next two children go to find the new number. Continue until all the numbers are found. Have each team stick their verse pieces up on their poster board, then say the verse together. If working with less confident readers, point out to them that they can use the sign you made and the numbers in the verse pieces as hints to help them line it up properly. The team then says the verse together. The first team to do so, wins. The first team who does, wins.

Non-competitive Option: Have the teams add each piece of verse to their poster board as it is retrieved from the balloon. At the end, have everyone say the verse together again.

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

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

Directions:

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

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

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

If You Confess with Your Mouth

If you confess, with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord,"
 And believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead,
 You will be saved, you will be saved.
 For with the heart, one believes and is justified.
 If you confess, with your mouth,
 "Jesus is Lord,"
 And believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead,
 You will be saved, you will be saved.
 For with the mouth, one confesses and is saved.
 Romans Ten: nine through ten.

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 11, Track 12

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 news had the people of Jericho heard that made them so scared of the Israelites? *They had heard how the LORD had rescued them from the Egyptians. They heard how they had easily defeated other powerful enemies.*
2. What were the spies looking for in and around Jericho? *They were to look over the land. They were to report anything that might help Joshua plan the attack on the city.*
3. Why did they have to spend the night in Jericho? *The city gates shut for the evening before they could get out.*
4. Why did the spies have to be hidden? *Because the king's soldiers were looking for them to kill them.*
5. Why did Rahab want the spies to help her? *Because she believed that the LORD was the true God and wanted to follow Him. She knew that He had the power to destroy Jericho.*
6. How did Rahab hide the spies? *She hid them on her roof in huge bundles of flax that were drying.*
7. How did the King of Jericho find out about the spies? *His soldiers had spotted them and had been watching them.*
8. How did Rahab help the spies escape? *She tricked the soldiers into thinking they had left her house; then, she let them down the window on a rope.*
9. What instructions did the spies give Rahab so that she would be protected when the Israelites attacked Jericho? *To hang the scarlet rope in her window and stay in her house. The Israelites would rescue anyone in the house with her.*
10. Who made the walls of Jericho fall down? *The LORD did.*
11. How do we know that Rahab came to trust in the LORD? *Israelites were only supposed to marry other believers in the LORD. Rahab married an Israelite man and became part of the family line of King David and Jesus.*
12. How did the LORD save people even before Jesus was born to trust in as their Savior? *They trusted in the promises of God and looked forward in faith that one day He would send a Savior for their sins. The LORD accepted their faith in Him.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our Bible Truth? *Rahab heard about the LORD and believed in Him. She left her people and her god, Yerach, and her sinful ways to follow Him instead.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Romans 10:9-10**: "...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."?
Rahab, like all believers in the Old Testament, did not know about Jesus yet, but looked forward to His day. However, she did believe that the LORD was the true God and was willing to leave her people and give up her sinful ways to become one of His people.

Life Application Questions

1. How is it easier for us to know the way to be saved than it was for Rahab? *We live in the time after the Savior Jesus has come. We can read how He died on the cross and rose from the dead on the third day, in victory over sin and death for His people.*
2. How is Rahab a good example for us? *She had faith in the LORD and was willing to give up everything to become one of His followers. She understood that being saved was more important than anything she had.*
3. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in 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 Savior of His people from every nation.

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

Confess that like the people of Jericho, we have all rebelled against God. We deserve God's punishment. We need to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

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

We can thank God for being so merciful to sinners who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, just like He saved Rahab.

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.

The Gospel

1. Rahab lived before the time of Jesus. She could not know all of the good news of Jesus. She could only look forward in faith, holding on to the promises of God to send a Savior. But we know all the good news of Jesus. Can you tell me what it is? 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: The Answer's in the Tent

Materials

Various props, objects, costumes, or even pictures from the story, enough for one idea per child at least.
 A small pup tent or blanket and chairs made into a tent
 Paper and pencil/pen to write down questions
 Jar or bag

Preparing the Game

1. Make a list of main characters, objects, elements from the story. For example in the story of Jesus being tempted in the wilderness you could have rocks, bread, blocks (like from the Temple), a globe, a red robe/shirt, etc. (for Satan), white robe for angels who came to comfort Jesus at the end, a Bible (the word of God that Jesus used to refute Satan), a picture of a desert or the sun, the number 40 (for 40 days and nights without food). The Plan-a-Play story sheet is a good source of ideas. If desired, you can write different point values--such as 5, 10, 25 points-- on questions, depending upon how hard they are. Place these objects in the tent.
2. Make up questions that have these props as their answers, such as: What did Satan tempt Jesus to turn the rocks into when He was so hungry? (bread)
3. Place the questions in a jar or bag.

Playing the Game

Have the children sit down in lines of equal teams. Tell them that in the tent are answers to the questions that you have folded up in the bag. They will take turns listening to a question and having the first person in line go into the tent and find the prop/costume piece/etc. that answers the question. If a team doesn't get the right prop, then the first person from the other team gets to go up and see if they can find it for a point.

Continue until all have had a chance to play or all questions have been answered. Tally points. Repeat game as time and attention spans allow.

Non-competitive Option

Don't put points on the questions. Don't split into teams, but instead sit in a circle around the tent. Have the children take turns going into the tent to retrieve the prop that fits the answer to the question.

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 (if using a word bank)

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 Red Rope Ransom.

This story takes place in Old Testament times, about 1400 years before Jesus lived on earth.

And now we present: "The Case of the Red Rope Ransom."

Scene 1:

The people of Jericho heard about all the mighty deeds of the LORD for His people, Israel. Their soldiers were on constant alert, watching for an attack from Israel on their city. Joshua sent out two spies to check out Jericho and the country around it, in preparation to attack it. The first thing the spies noticed was how good the land was. Then they snuck into Jericho to see what it was like. They hoped to get out of the city before the gates closed, but failed. They were forced to find a safe place to hide in this enemy city for the night. They find one at Rahab's house.

Actions:

Scene 2:

The spies hoped that no one had noticed them, but they were wrong. Before long, soldiers came to Rahab's door to arrest them. But Rahab came to the rescue. She told the spies that she knew who they were and that she believed the LORD was the true God. She bargained with them: she would hide them if they would protect her when they came to attack the city. The spies agreed. They told her to put out the red rope as a sign to the Israelite soldiers to spare the lives of her and her family. Rahab tricked the soldiers into thinking the men had gone. She helped the spies escape by a red rope from her house.

Scene 3

Seventeen days later, the Israelites circled the walls of Jericho and watched as the LORD made the walls of Jericho fall down. The soldiers rushed in to take the city. No one was spared except Rahab and her family, safely insider her house with the scarlet red rope hanging at the door as a sign that it was her house. Rahab joined the Israelites. She trusted fully in the LORD as one of His people. She married a Israelite husband. She became the great grandmother of King David and the great, great, etc. grandmother of Jesus, Himself.

Bible Truth Tie-In: The Bible Truth we are learning is: **We Must Trust Jesus as Our Savior and Obey Him as Our Lord.** Rahab heard about the Lord and believed in Him. She left her people and her god, Yerach, and her sinful ways to follow Him instead.

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

Welcome to our Case Story Re-Action! The name of our story is: The Case of the Red Rope Ransom.

This story takes place in Old Testament times about 1400 years before Jesus lived on earth.

The characters in our story are: Joshua; the Israelites; the Spies; the people of Jericho; the king and soldiers of Jericho; Rahab and her family; the Israelite priests; Rahab's Israelite husband; King David; and Jesus.

And now we present: "The Case of the Red Rope Ransom."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

Solomon was only a teenager when his father, King David, crowned him king of Israel. He was given the crown and royal robes, then was put on the royal mule and taken to Gihon to be anointed king. The people cheers so loudly that the ground shook.

Scene 2: (Middle)

Solomon knew he did not have the wisdom to rule the people well. He and his officials went to Gibeon to make 1000 sacrifices before the LORD and ask for wisdom. The LORD came to Solomon that night in a dream and asked Solomon what he wanted. Solomon asked for wisdom to rule well. The LORD promised to give him wisdom as well as a long life, riches, and honor. Solomon was so happy about God's answer that he went and made thank offerings, then had a big feast to celebrate.

Scene 3: (End)

Solomon's wisdom was soon put to the test when two women brought their case before him. One woman's baby had died and the other woman said that the first woman had switched babies in the night so that she would think that it was her baby had died. God gave Solomon wisdom to reveal the truth. He called to have the baby cut in two. The real mother cried out for mercy for the baby, while the other woman asked it be cut in two. Solomon gave the baby to the woman who wanted to save the baby's life. She must be the real mother, because she would want to save the baby's life more than keep him for herself God had indeed given Solomon wisdom to rule well the people. Solomon became known throughout the world for the wisdom God gave him by His Holy Spirit. Solomon wrote down some of the wise things God taught him. We can read them today in our Bibles, such as in the book of Proverbs.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **We Must Trust Jesus as Our Savior.** Solomon asked the Lord for wisdom to rule the people well. The Lord, through the Holy Spirit, gave Solomon more wisdom than any man who has ever lived.

Two Spies Hidden in Bundles of Flax

Description

Children will make one or two spoon “spies” hiding in cardstock and straw cardstock flax bundles.

Materials

Patterns for the spies’ outfits

1 plastic spoon per spy, preferably a soup spoon with the slightly wider head

3 trash bag twisty ties OR 2 pipe cleaners per spy

9” x 3.5” rectangle of light-colored plain fabric/felt per spy (can also use a white napkin)

Markers

Jiggly eyes

Craft Glue

Scissors

Yarn scraps for hair

Cardstock (or an empty toilet roll per spy)

Tape (preferably clear packing tape)

Flax: You need something like straw. Here’s some choices: craft straw; thinly cut sections of yellow construction paper; crinkly, thin shredded paper like used as decorative filler around a present

Preparing the Craft

1. Print out the patterns for the spies’ outfit.
2. Use the template to cut out each spy outfit out of the fabric/napkins, as shown.
3. Print out on cardstock the pattern for the flax bundles. Cut them out, fold along dotted line, then tape the ends of the slightly short sides together securely. (You can let the older children do this themselves, if desired). If using the toilet roll, simply flatten it.
4. Set out supplies.

Making the Craft

1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
2. Have the children first make their flax bundles. This will allow them to dry while they work on their spies.

Flax Bundles:

Spread a liberal amount of glue on the cardstock/toilet roll. Stick on the materials you chose to use for the flax. Set aside to dry.

3. Next, have the children make their spies.

Spies:

- a. Twist together two of the trash bag ties to make into one long one.
- b. Twist the middle of this long trash tie (or one pipe cleaner) around the handle of the spoon, directly underneath the cup portion of the spoon. This will be the spy’s arms.
- c. Have the children decorate the spy’s outfit using the markers.
- d. Dress the spy by slipping the outfit over his head so that it rests on his pipe cleaner “shoulders.”
- e. Take the other twisty tie/pipe cleaner and twist around the middle of the spy as a belt.
- f. Add eyes, hair, etc to the spy’s face.
- g. Stick the spy inside the flax bundle. You can push the spoon handle up and down to let his head pop out, if you want.

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 city did the two spies go to check out?

Jericho.

2. What happened when the city gates shut? Where did they go? *They had to find a safe place to hide. They went to Rahab's house.*

3. What surprising thing did Rahab do? Why did she do this? *She hid the two Israelite spies in bundles of flax, so that they would not be discovered by the soldiers of Jericho and so they would help her to escape to become an Israelite and worship the LORD.*

4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning?

We Must Trust Jesus as Our Savior and Obey Him as Our Lord.

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: We Must Trust Jesus as Our Savior and Obey Him as Our Lord.

Rahab hid the Israelite spies to save their lives. She believed that their God, the LORD, was the one, true God. She wanted to turn from her sinful ways and trust in Him. She wanted the Israelites to take her and her family to live with the Israelites and be God's people. She looked forward to the day when Jesus, the promised Messiah, would come and save God's people from their sins.

6. What can our craft help us remember?

Knowing God and becoming one of His people is worth taking great risks! It's more important than anything else.

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: Two Spies Hidden in Bundles of Flax.

2. On the rooftop of her house in Jericho, Rahab hid the two Israelite spies in bundles of flax, so that they would not be discovered by the soldiers of Jericho and so they would help her to escape to become an Israelite and worship the LORD.

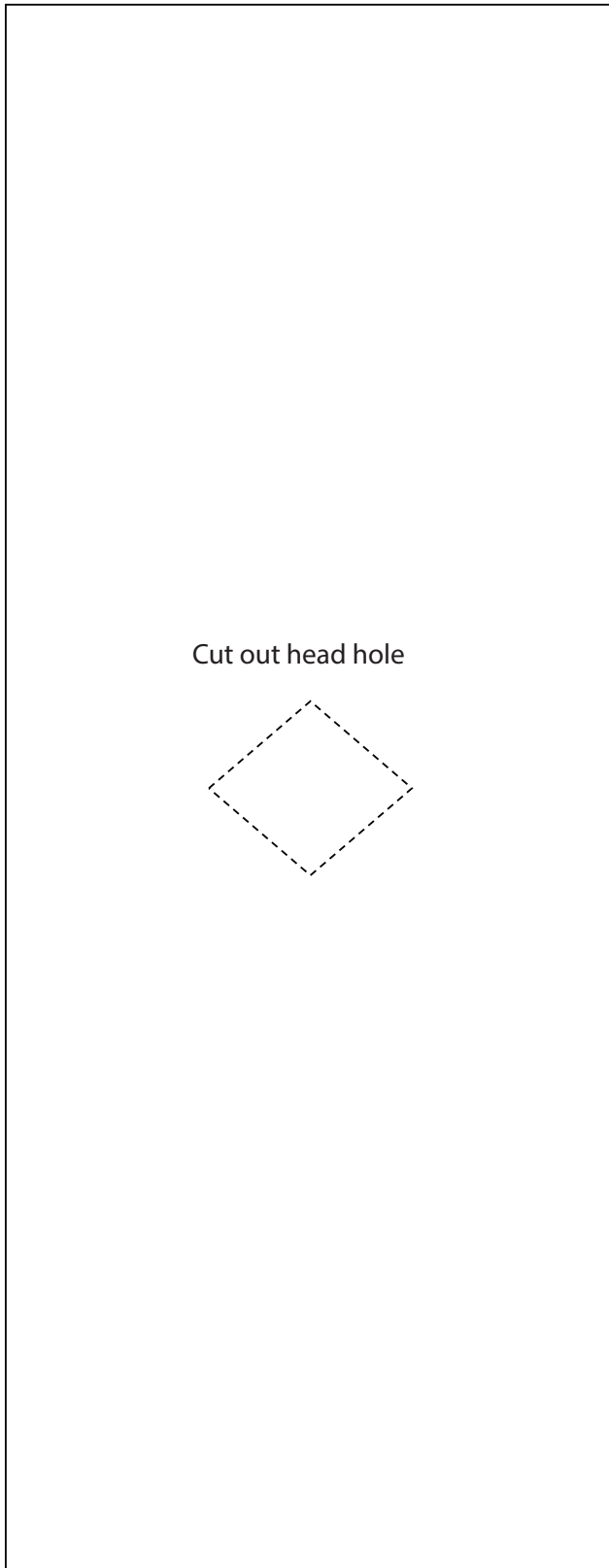
3. Our Bible Truth is: We Must Trust Jesus as Our Savior and Obey Him as Our Lord.

4. Rahab hid the Israelite spies to save their lives. She believed that their God, the LORD, was the one, true God. She wanted to turn from her sinful ways and trust in Him. She wanted the Israelites to take her and her family to live with the Israelites and be God's people. She looked forward to the day when Jesus, the promised Messiah, would come and save God's people from their sins.

5. Our craft can help us remember that knowing God and becoming one of His people is worth taking great risks! It's more important than anything else.

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.

Spy Outfit



Flax Bundles

Fold along dashed line



Tape along this side

Fold along dashed line



Tape along this side

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. They are found in the back of this book.

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: Hot and Cold Hide

Materials

Information Sheet for one VIPP
2 Set of Clue Cards
8 8.5" x 11" Manilla Envelopes
Blindfold

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.

Playing the Game

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

Review: Choose one child to be "The Finder" and cover his eyes with the blindfold. Choose one of the Clue Card envelopes. Choose another child to be "The Hider". This child will hide the envelope somewhere in the room. When the clue is hidden, the Finder takes off his blindfold and begins to look for the envelope. The other children say "hot, cold, etc" as the child gets closer or further from the envelope to help the child find it. When the folder is found, 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 hidden.

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
