



BIBLE TRUTH 4 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 4 Concept: The Holy Spirit Brings Us to God

Ever since Adam and Eve rebelled against God, each of us have been born with a spirit dead with sin. That means that on our own, none of us can know God or choose to live for Him, just like a dead person can't bring his body back to life.

But God can do what we cannot do. He can bring dead hearts to life, so that we can know Him and want to live for Him. He does this by sending His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. As we hear God's Word, the Holy Spirit can help us see our sins and help us want to turn away from them. He gives us faith in God. Faith to trust that Jesus died on the cross for sinners and rose from the dead in victory. He gives us a new heart that can know God and want to live for Him.

Jesus called this being "born again, born of God." He calls this being born again because this change in heart is so radical that God actual makes us into a new creation--a brand-new person on the inside! He calls this being born of God, because this change comes from God. And with it, He makes us a part of His family forever.

We can ask God's Holy Spirit to work in our hearts like this. God delights to answer this prayer. He loves for sinners to ask Him to change them and make them into His people.

Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse

Meditation Version: Titus 3:4-7

"But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life."

Alternate Memory/Games Version: Titus 3:5

"... He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit."

Bible Truth 4 ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the Changer of the hearts of sinful people, like you and me.

C God, we confess that we are all sinners. We have hard hearts that are slow to believe, love and obey You. We need Jesus to save us!

T Thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to work inside us that we can know You, love You and live for You. You give us what we need, but could never get on our own.

S God, send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. Give us faith as we hear Your Word, the Bible. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us new creations! Give us the new birth! We want to know You and live for You!

Bible Truth 4 Stories

Lesson 1: The Case of the Stony Hearts (Old Testament)

Psalm 137:1-6; Ezekiel 36, 37:15-28; John 2:12-3:21

Lesson 2: The Case of the Scorpion House (Story of the Saints)

Lesson 3: The Case of the Surprising Sky (New Testament)

Acts 9

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

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| <p>Welcome</p> | <p>“Welcome to Praise Factory. We’re so glad you’ve joined us! Here at the PFI we are 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>Praise Factory Theme Song</p> | <p>“Let’s sing our Praise Factory Investigator’s theme song.”</p> <p>PFI: Praise Factory Investigators <i>PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 1</i></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>Classroom Rules Song</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>WoGoLOA Rules Song <i>PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 2</i></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

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| Opening Prayer | "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> |
| Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 11 and Songs | <p>"Now it's time to turn today's Big Question Under Investigation.</p> <p>It's: How Can We Be Saved?</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, 'How Can We Be Saved?' is: It Is God's Free Gift!</p> <p>"Let's sing our Big Question Song(s): <i>choose one or both</i></p> <p>Big Q & A 11 Song <i>PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 3</i> <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>How Can We Be Saved? <i>PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 4</i> <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. <i>Refrain</i></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. <i>Refrain</i></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 4**

"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 have learned some already. Can you remember what they are? (God Saves Sinners Who Confess Their Sins; Jesus Is the Only Way to Be Saved; and, We Must Trust Jesus as Our Savior and Obey Him as Our Lord.)

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

The Holy Spirit Brings Us to God.

Ever since Adam and Eve rebelled against God, each of us have been born with a spirit dead with sin. That means that on our own, none of us can know God or choose to live for Him, just like a dead person can't bring his body back to life.

But God can do what we cannot do. He can bring dead hearts to life, so that we can know Him and want to live for Him. He does this by sending His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. As we hear God's Word, the Holy Spirit can help us see our sins and help us want to turn away from them. He gives us faith in God. Faith to trust that Jesus died on the cross for sinners and rose from the dead in victory. He gives us a new heart that can know God and want to live for Him.

Jesus called this being "born again, born of God." He calls this being born again because this change in heart is so radical that God actual makes us into a new creation--a brand-new person on the inside! He calls this being born of God, because this change comes from God. And with it, He makes us a part of His family forever.

We can ask God's Holy Spirit to work in our hearts like this. God delights to answer this prayer. He loves for sinners to ask Him to change them and make them into His people.

LESSON PLAN: BIBLE TRUTH 4 (1 Lesson Plan for ALL 3 Lessons) **P.4**

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued

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| <p>Bible Truth 4 Hymn</p> | <p>“Long ago, a man named John Newton was thinking about this Bible truth, too. He wrote the words a hymn called “Amazing Grace” We’re going to learn a few verses from it.</p> <p>Amazing Grace <i>PFI NIV Songs 11, Tracks 12,13</i></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Verse 1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found. Was blind but now I see.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>Verse 2 ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p>We would all be lost in our sins and rebellion forever, if it were not for God sending His Son Jesus. Jesus kept God’s laws perfectly and offered up Himself as the perfect sacrifice needed for sin. Then He gives to all who repent of their sins and trust in Him the amazingly gracious gift of salvation. He first gives them “sight” to make them aware of their sinfulness and to fear His judgment, then as they turn to Him, He relieves their fears by taking away their guilt the hour they believe.</p> | <p>Verse 1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found. Was blind but now I see.</p> | <p>Verse 2 ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!</p> |
| <p>Verse 1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, but now am found. Was blind but now I see.</p> | <p>Verse 2 ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed!</p> | | |
| <p>Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse and Song</p> | <p>“The Bible verse we are going to be digging down into for this Bible Truth is:</p> <p>Titus 3:4-7 “But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.”</p> <p>We could never please God with our own good works. Only through Jesus’ perfect life offered up in the place of sinners can we be saved. And what a salvation it is! God, Himself, sends His Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of His people. He gives them the gift of faith. He helps them turn away from their sins. He makes them clean of their sins and all new on the inside. This is how we become God’s people--His heirs, that is, His children who will receive eternal life with Him forever.</p> <p>We’ve said our Bible verse, now let’s sing it!</p> <p>He Saved Us <i>PFI NIV Songs 11, Track 14</i></p> <p>He saved us, he saved us, Through the washing of re-birth And renewal by the Spirit. He saved us, he saved us, Through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit whom he poured out, On us generously, Through Jesus Christ our Lord, The Holy Spirit whom he poured out, On us, through Jesus Christ. Titus Three, verses five through seven.</p> | | |

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued**LESSON 1 STORY****Old Testament Story:****The Case of the Stony Hearts**

*Psalm 137:1-6;
Ezekiel 36, 37:15-28:
John 2:12-3:21*

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

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

- 1. Who had stony hearts? What was stony about them?**
- 2. What should their hearts be like? Who alone could change them? How?**

(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 had stony hearts? What was stony about them? The people of Israel. Stones are hard and lifeless. The hearts of the people of Israel were hard and lifeless to God and His good laws.

2. What should their hearts be like? Who alone could change them? How? Their hearts were meant to be full of love for God and His good laws. God alone could change them. He promised to change them by His Holy Spirit.

LESSON 2 STORY**Story of the Saints:****The Case of the Scorpion House**

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

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

- 1. Why was it called the Scorpion House? Who lived there?**
- 2. What did God use who lived there to show and to tell others? What did God begin to do in these other people?**

(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 was it called the Scorpion House? Who lived there? It was infested with scorpions. C.T. Studd, his wife 'Scilla, and Miss Burroughes.

2. What did God use who lived there to show and to tell others? What did God begin to do in these other people? The difference the Holy Spirit makes when He lives in our heart. As the Chinese saw the work of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of the Studds and Miss Burroughes, they came to their house to hear more about God' Word and salvation through Jesus. Then the Holy Spirit began to work in the house of the Chinese and bring them to faith in Jesus, too.

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

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued**LESSON 3****New Testament Story:****The Case of the Surprising Sky**
Acts 9

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

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

- 1. What was surprising about the sky? Who saw the surprise? What happened to him after he saw it?**
- 2. What did God change inside the man that was so surprising? How did He make this change?**

(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. What was surprising about the sky? Who saw the surprise? What happened to him after he saw it? Suddenly a heavenly light shone down on Paul. Paul saw the surprise. Jesus told him to stop persecuting Him (and His people). Jesus caused Paul to become blind and told him to go into Damascus and wait. Paul obeyed.

2. What did God change inside the man that was so surprising? How did He make this change? Paul became a believer in Jesus. He boldly explained to others that Jesus was the Christ and urged them to repent of their sins and believe in Him. God sent His Holy Spirit to work in Paul's heart and change him.

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.