

## **BIBLE TRUTH 1, LESSON 2: PLANNER/OVERVIEW**

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

**Welcome to Praise Factory:** PFI: Praise Factory Investigators Theme Song *PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 1*

**Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another:** WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song  
*PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 2*

**Big Question Under Investigation:** Big Question 12 Songs *PFI NIV Songs 12, Tracks 3,4*

**Big Question Bible Verse:** Ephesians 5:1-2 Song *PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 5*

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

**Bible Truth 1:** God's People Grow to Be More Like Jesus

**Bible Truth Hymn:** The Church's One Foundation, v.1 *PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 6*

**Bible Verse:** 2 Corinthians 3:18

**Bible Verse Song:** We Who Reflect the Lord's Glory *PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 7*

**Lesson 2 Story of the Saints:** The Case of the Drunken Soldier

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

**Snack and Discussion Planner:** Aussie Food and Fangs

**ACTS Prayer:** Prayer Sheet

**Bible Truth Review:** Discussion Questions and Game: Triple Play Baseball

**Bible Truth Hymn:** The Church's One Foundation, v.1 *PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 6*  
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice **PFI NIV SONGS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

**Bible Verse Review:** 2 Corinthians 3:18 Discussion Sheet and Game: Take a Step Back

**Bible Verse Song:** We Who Reflect the Lord's Glory 2 Corinthians 3:18 *PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 7*  
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean? **PFI NIV SONGS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

**Story Review:** Discussion Questions and Game: Chair Pile-Up

**Case Replay, Jr: Drama Activity for Youngest Children** (children do same story actions together)

**Case Replay, Sr: Drama Activity for Most Children** (children re-tell story with individual parts)

**Craft:** A Poisonous Snake

**VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time:** Coloring Sheets (Back of book) and Game: Picture Run

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

**PFI Pronto:** Bible Truth 1, Lesson 2 **PFI NIV PRONTOS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

**The Case of the Drunken Soldier**

by Connie Dever

**Our story is called:****The Case of the Drunken Soldier.****As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:****1. Who was the Drunken Soldier? What problems did his drunkenness cause?****2. What changed him? How did this change show?**

This story is not in the Bible. It is a true story about God's people who lived in New South Wales, Australia around 1800.

When you think of Australia perhaps you think of strange animals such as kangaroos, koala bears and platypus, and you would be right. But if you were to ask English people 200 years ago what they thought of when they thought of Australia, they would have said, "Criminals!"

Why criminals? Because some time after Australia was claimed by English explorers sailing the South Seas, the English government got the idea to ship out most all of the English criminals from the crowded prisons in England and leave them far away on the other side of the world in Australia. And that's just what they did. They sent them to Australia to live together in a settlement. They got to work during the day and didn't even have to be in a prison cell at night, but they could never return home to England!

As you might guess, a land filled with criminals wasn't a very law-abiding place.. People kept on doing the kinds of things they had been put in prison for back in England. Not only that, but there wasn't the right kind of metal to make Australian money, so they made rum (a kind of very strong alcohol) to be their money. Many people wound up just getting drunk on their rum "money," especially the soldiers who guarded it.

Where could change come for a place filled with people like this? Only through the good news of Jesus and the work of the Holy Spirit. Yet few of the criminals had heard this good news and few Christians were brave enough to move there to tell them.

This story is about a man named John Lees. John was a soldier in the New South Wales Corp. He was given the job of guarding the rum money, but all too soon he was drinking it.

After three years, John quit the army and married

Mary, one of the lady criminals who had been sent to Australia. John bought some land in the unexplored forests of Castlereagh for Mary and him to live on. He hoped they could clear it of trees and turn it into a nice farm.

At first life together were good for John and his wife John worked hard on the farm while Mary raised their ten children. But with each passing year, John started to drink more and more, until at last he couldn't stop. Rum cost money and the Lees didn't have much, so John began to take what few valuable things they had and sell them for money to buy rum.

Soon everything was gone, except for a pig fattened and ready for market. Mary didn't know what to do! How could she and the children live? What would John do next after he had sold that pig? She didn't know. Was there nothing that could change John's life?

But there WAS something—or rather Someone—who could change John Lees. God, by His powerful Holy Spirit, could change John Lees into someone like Jesus, with a heart of love for God and a life lived to please Him. And that's just what God planned to do.

One night while John was outside getting a log of wood for the fire, a deadly snake leapt out and bit him on the wrist. John thought for sure that he would die from the bite.

"God, help me! I have been a terrible man and I know I deserve to die, but please spare me!" John prayed. "If You do, I will live for You the rest of my life!"

The Lord heard John's prayer and John didn't die from the snake bite. And John kept his promise to God. He turned away from his drinking and his sinful way of life and trusted in Jesus as his Savior. The Holy Spirit worked in John's heart, cleansing it of sin and growing

**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.

his love for God and desire to please Him with his whole life.

When Mary and the children saw the changes in John, they became Christians, too. Every night they would sit together and read the Bible and pray. The more they read and prayed the hungrier they became to learn about God. "What we need is a teacher to come and teach us the Bible," John said.

"But we are way out here in the middle of the wilderness! What would ever bring a teacher way out?!" Mary despaired.

"I don't know, but God does. Let's pray every night that God will send us a missionary preacher to come right here to Castlereagh so we can know more about Him." The Holy Spirit had been working such powerful changes in John Lees, giving him faith like Jesus to ask for seemingly impossible things.

So every night they prayed and every day they hoped. Three years passed and still no missionary came. Yet John kept on praying.

One night they gathered as usual around the table for evening devotions. John began their time with prayer. "Lord, we praise You for Your goodness to us. Thank you for our crops, our family and most of all for Jesus. Thank you for the way You work changes in our hearts. Thank You for Your Word, the Bible. Lord, we ask that You help us understand it tonight as we read it and we ask that one day You would send us a missionary preacher to come here and teach us more. Amen."

Suddenly, there was a crack of a whip at the door. Who could it be at this hour of the night? Few people wandered out in these wild parts after dark. In a country of criminals, you never know what a stranger might plan to do.

"Is there anyone here who would receive a tired missionary?" the stranger asked. The Lees' could not believe their ears! The door flung open and there before them, too tired to even get down from his horse, was the answer to their three long years of prayers—a man named Samuel Leigh. One of John Lees' boys ran out to Samuel Leigh. "Sir, my father would be honored to help you," he said. He led the missionary into the house and invited him to join them at dinner. He was delighted to have a home-cooked meal and even more delighted to

see the family's open Bible.

"Sir, we've been praying for three long years that the Lord would send us a missionary preacher to teach us more about Him," John Lees said. "Perhaps you would be willing to start tonight? The Bible passage we are studying is Isaiah 35. "The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose."

What a fitting verse! That very night the Lord had brought them a man who could teach them more about Jesus to their "wilderness" and "solitary place," of Castlereagh so that by the Holy Spirit might use what they learned to powerfully work to make them more like Jesus—with hearts and lives blossoming with love and good works pleasing to God, every bit as beautiful as roses bursting into bloom.

Samuel Leigh stayed with the Lees for quite a while. Together they built a little chapel on the edge of Lees' farm so that not just the Lees but everyone from all over Castlereagh could hear God's Word. And as they did, the Holy Spirit worked in hearts of many, giving them faith in Jesus as their Savior and changing their lives to look more and more like Jesus.

And what happened to John Lees? The Holy Spirit continued His work in his heart. He became one of the most loved men in all of Castlereagh; and, became known far and wide for his love and good works.

Who could transform a sinful man like John Lees from a drunk who didn't take care of his family to someone who loved God so much that he would pray three years that God would send them a missionary? Only the Holy Spirit could do such a wonderful, powerful work!

**Cracking the Case:**

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

**1. Who was the Drunken Soldier? What problems did his drunkenness cause?**

John Lees. He spent his family's money on drink instead of spending it on food and other things they needed.

**2. What changed him? How did this change show?**

John became a Christian. The Holy Spirit came to live in his heart. John read God's Word and prayed. The Holy Spirit used these things to change him. He left behind his drink. He was a good and godly father and husband. He worked hard to tell others about Jesus.

**Something for Me and You**

**Our Bible Truth is:**

**God's People Grow to Be Like Jesus**

**Our Bible Verse is: 2 Corinthians 3:18**

"And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."

Maybe you think you are nothing like John Lees at all. But there are at least two ways that we are ALL just like him: we are all sinners whose only hope is Jesus. We need to turn away from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior. And, we need God to send His Holy Spirit to make us like Jesus: with a heart of love for God and a life that pleases Him.

Let's praise God for sending His Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of His people. Let's ask Him to work in our hearts to believe and to grow in Him, so that we might love and live for Him more each day.

*Close in prayer.*

**Closing ACTS Prayer**

**A** God, we praise You for being the Changer of sinful people.

**C** God, we confess that we, like John Lees, are sinners. We all need to confess our sins to You and ask Your forgiveness! We need a Savior! We need You to change us!

**T** God, we thank You for saving and changing all who come to You, all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. No one is too bad for You to save them! There is no one You cannot change.

**S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts and change us, just like You changed John Lees.

# **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 Changer of Your People through Your Holy Spirit.

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

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Add your own Adorations:

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## **CONFESSION:**

God, we confess that many times we do not live or love like Jesus. We need a Savior!

God, we have sinned against You....

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Add your own Confessions:

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## **THANKSGIVING:**

Thank You, God for Your promise to change Your people to love and live for You. None who trust in Jesus ever need to feel hopeless about their sins!

God, we thank You for...

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Add your own Thanksgivings:

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## **SUPPLICATION:**

God, work in our hearts! Send Your Holy Spirit to live inside of us. Help us turn away from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior. Make us more like Jesus in how we live and love.

God, we need Your help...

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Add your own Supplication:

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# SNEAKY SNACK

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Can you figure out how this snack relates to the story?

## Snack: Aussie Food and Fangs

Kiwi slices or other Australian food and Gummy Worm "Snakes"

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

**Case Tie-in:** When John Lees went to Australia as a soldier, he started drinking so much alcohol that it was destroying him and his life. But the Lord used a snake bite to prompt John to cry out to Him for mercy. John became a Christian and the Lord began to change his life completely, through His Word and the work of the Holy Spirit in his heart. John Lees became a godly man who helped bring the good news of Jesus to many others.

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# SOUL FOOD

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Food for thought during snack time

1. What does the snack have to do with the story?

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Choose a few questions from the other activity discussion sheets to talk about during this snack time.

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Directions: Read and discuss Bible Truth, using a FEW of the questions. Play game. Feel free to modify the game to fit your children.

### **God's People Grow to Be More Like Jesus**

When someone turns away from their sins and trusts in Jesus as their Savior, they become one of God's people. Not only does God forgive their sins, but He puts His Holy Spirit in their heart to live.

The Holy Spirit works powerfully inside of God's people. He gives them wisdom and helps them understand God's Word. He helps them want to love and please God. He helps them continue to turn away from their old ways of living. He helps them to grow more like Jesus in how they think, speak and act. He is their Helper, their Comforter, their Guide, who will always be with them, at work on the inside.

None of God's people will ever be perfect here on earth. But God, by the power of His Holy Spirit, is growing them and transforming them, bit by bit, for their good and His glory. This is how God helps them to live for Him on earth and prepares them to live with Him in heaven one day.

### **Understanding the Bible Truth**

1. How does someone become one of God's people? They turn away from their sins (repent) and trust in Jesus as their Savior.
2. What are two things that God does when someone becomes a Christian (one of God's people)? He forgives their sins and He puts His Holy Spirit in their heart to live.
3. Who lives within the hearts of God's people? *The Holy Spirit.*
4. Does the Holy Spirit come to live in our hearts that beat? *No, heart is also another word for our spirit, the part of us that we cannot see but that thinks, feels and can know and love God and others.*
5. What does the Holy Spirit do in the hearts of God's people? *He gives them wisdom and helps them understand God's Word. He helps them want to love and please God. He helps them continue to turn away from their old ways of living. He helps them to grow more like Jesus in how they think, speak and act.*
6. What does it mean to be like Jesus? Do Christians start to look just like Jesus did on the outside? *No. It means that they love God and live lives that please Him, like Jesus did.*
7. What are some things that change as the Holy Spirit works in their hearts? *The way they think, speak and act.*
8. Will God's people be perfect here on earth? *No.*
9. Who works to transform God's people bit by bit? *The Holy Spirit.*
10. Why does the Holy Spirit transform God's people? *For their good and God's glory.*
11. What does the Holy Spirit's work help God's people do? *Helps them to live for God on earth.*
12. Where is the Holy Spirit preparing God's people to live? *In heaven.*

### **Bible Verse Connection Question**

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our **Bible Verse: 2 Corinthians 3:18**: "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit"?

*This verse reminds us that it is the Holy Spirit who works in God's people so that they love God and live to please Him more and more. He is why they are being transformed. It is not just a work of their own.*

### **Bible Truth Story Connection Questions**

1. How could others see that the Holy Spirit was working in John Lee's life? *John Lee no longer was a drunk who did not care for his family. Became a man who loved God and others more and more. He had an unshakable faith that kept praying to the Lord for three years to send a missionary to teach them more about Jesus. He offered his home to the missionary and his land to build a chapel for others to hear about Jesus, too.*

### **Life Application Questions**

1. How can we have the Holy Spirit work in our lives? *We must turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. He will fill us with His Spirit, cleansing our hearts and then working inside to help us to love God and live lives that please Him.*

**ACTS Questions**

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

*Praise God for being the Changer of His People through the Holy Spirit.*

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

*Confess ways that we do not live and love like Jesus.*

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

*Thank God for His promise to change His people to love and live for Him. No one is too bad for God to change.*

4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Bible Truth?

*Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. Ask Him to help us turn away from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior. Ask Him to make us more like Jesus in how we live and love.*

**The Gospel**

1. Why do we need the Holy Spirit to change us so that we love God and live for Him more and more? 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: Inspecting the Troops

### Materials

Crown (if desired)  
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

Tell the children that they are the Queen's/King's soldiers and are to follow her/his every command. Have the soldiers march, pretend to hold out their swords, ride their horses, etc. Then, finally have them stand at attention, very still and showing no emotion. Tell them that you are the Queen/King and have come to inspect the troops. (Put on the crown). You have to remove anyone who is not very straight and still, and show no emotion. As you inspect the troops, make faces or say things to try to get the troops to break into a smile, etc. Watch them for movement. Whoever breaks a smile or moves, etc. told to step forward and must answer a question to be reinstated to the Troops. If it is just one soldier, he/she may choose two other soldiers to help them answer the question. If the soldier (and the soldiers he chose to help him) answer the question correctly, everyone goes back into the line. If they get it wrong, they must wait out one turn. If desired, let some of the children take turns being the king/queen.

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

NOTE: Have the children who remain out help you to give commands to the troops.

### Non-competitive Option

Don't exclude the soldiers from the Troops, even if they get the wrong answer. Do put the answer back in the bag to be reviewed 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.

### **The Church's One Foundation**

#### **Verse 1**

The Church's one foundation  
 Is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
 She is His new creation,  
 By Spirit and the Word:  
 From heav'n He came and sought her  
 To be His holy bride,  
 With His own blood He bought her,  
 And for her life He died.

**Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 6**

### **Understanding the Song**

1. What is the church? Is it a building? *No. A local church is a group of Christians who gather together. The building is a church building. But the church this hymn is talking about is The Church, meaning all Christians in all places and in all times.*
2. What is a "foundation"? *Something that supports everything else. Builders lay a foundation of solid concrete before they build a house so that it won't fall down.*
3. Who is the Church's foundation? Why? *Jesus Christ is the Church's foundation because He is the only one who could save His people. Without Him, no one could ever be forgiven their sins and come to know God.*
4. Who is the "she" talking about? *The Church. In the Bible, God's people are called the Church, the Bride of Christ (a "she" image), the people He loves and cares for forever.*
5. Why is the Church called Jesus' new creation? How does He do that? *Jesus shed His blood on the cross (bought them with His blood) that His people might be saved. When they believe in Him, He sends the Holy Spirit to live in His people. The Holy Spirit comes into their hearts, cleansing them and making them like new—or new creations. But the Holy Spirit keeps working in their hearts, changing them so that they love God and live lives pleasing to Him, more and more.*

### **Bible Truth Connection Question**

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **The Holy Spirit Helps God's People?**

*Christians owe everything to Jesus, their foundation. He is the one who not only bought them with his very own blood on the cross, so they might be saved. But, He is the one who sends the Holy Spirit into their hearts, making them new and working inside them so that Christians love God and live lives pleasing to Him, more and more.*

### **Story Connection Question**

1. How does this song relate to the story? *John Lees was grateful to Jesus for being the one who bought him with His blood and sent His Spirit to work in his heart, making him a new creation.*

**Bible Connection Question**

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **2 Corinthians 3:18**: "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."?

*The one foundation of God's people, the Church, is Jesus Christ. He came from heaven to purchase His people with His blood that they might be saved from their sins. By His Spirit, He makes them new creations. He transforms them so that they reflect the Lord's glory more and more, as they love God and live lives that please Him.*

**Life Application Questions**

1. How can God's people be affected by the message of this song?

*They can praise Jesus for being the Giver of not just salvation to all who turn and trust in Him, but also the one who sends the Holy Spirit to change their hearts so that they love God more and live for Him.*

2. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

**ACTS Questions**

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

*Praise God for being the Purchaser of the Church, His people.*

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

*That many times we do not appreciate God's great love shown to His sinful people by sending Jesus to die and save them with His own blood.*

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

*We can thank God for choosing to save His people. They would never have chosen Him on their own. They would have never been saved and made into new creations with Him.*

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

*That God would work in our hearts that we confess our sins, might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to make us new creations through His Holy Spirit.*

**Gospel Question**

1. Why do people need to be bought? What have they all done? 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: Big Voice, Little Voice**

### **Materials**

Song

Sign language signs used in the song printed out onto little cards

Blindfold

### **Preparing the Game**

None.

### **Playing the Game**

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Then tell them: "Children, we are going to hide a sign language sign and see if one of you can find it... with a little help from the rest of us!"
2. Choose someone to be "It" and blindfold them. Choose another child to hide one of the sign language cards. When it's hidden, "It" can remove the blindfold and begin to look.
3. The rest of the children will sing the song in a louder voice when "It" gets closer to the hidden sign and quieter when "It" gets further from the sign.
4. When "It" finds the hidden clue, another "It" is chosen and play begins again.

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: 2 Corinthians 3:18**

“And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”

**Understanding the Bible Verse**

1. Who is “we” in this verse? *Christians.*
2. How does someone become a Christian? *They turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.*
3. What do Christians reflect? *The Lord’s glory.*
4. Who wore veil after reflecting the LORD’s glory in the Old Testament? *Moses did. He would meet with the LORD and the glory of the LORD would linger and shine from his face. He would tell the words of the LORD, with his face still shining. But before long, the glory would fade. It would not last. It was a glory from the outside. Moses put on the veil so the people would not see the glory fade.*
5. How do Christians reflect the Lord’s glory? *By having His Holy Spirit living inside them forever. He is always working inside them and helping them love God and live holy lives, pleasing to Him. When people see the way Christians love and live, and hear them tell about the Lord, they reflect who He is to those around them. They will go on reflecting the glory of the Lord by the Holy Spirit forever.*
6. How is the way they reflect the Lord’s glory with unveiled face? *It means that the Lord’s glory that Christians reflect will never fade. They will always reflect the Lord’s glory because now the Holy Spirit lives inside them forever. They will only grow with ever-increasing glory, as He works in them, more and more.*
7. What does transformed mean? *It means to be changed into something else.*
8. What are Christians being transformed into? *They are being transformed into the Lord’s likeness.*
9. Does that mean that they will look like Jesus did? *No, it means that their hearts and lives will be changed so that they show more of the same love for God and live lives that please God more—like Jesus.*
10. Does the glory of the Lord that Christians reflect always stay the same? *No, it is ever-increasing glory—they will grow from one degree to another. They will show more and more of His glory as the Holy Spirit works in them and changes them.*
11. Why does the glory keep increasing? *Because the Holy Spirit is at work inside their hearts, making more and more changes in them.*
12. Where does the glory and the transformation come from? *From the Lord—God the Holy Spirit.*

**Bible Truth Connection Question**

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

*This verse reminds us that it is the Holy Spirit who works in God’s people so that they love God and live to please Him more and more. He is why they are being transformed. It is not just a work of their own.*

**Story Connection Questions**

1. What does the verse have to do with our story? How could others see the Holy Spirit’s transforming work in John Lees’ life? They saw him change from being a drunk who could not stop drinking and did not take care of his family to someone who loved God, cared not only for his family but for others, and who had great faith to keep praying for something that seemed almost impossible.

**Life Application Question**

1. How can we have the Spirit’s transforming work in our lives? We can turn from our sins, trust in Jesus as our Savior. He will fill us with His Spirit and begin His wonderful work in our hearts.

**ACTS Questions**

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible Verse? *Praise God for being the Transformer of His People, for their good and His glory.*

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

*That many times we choose to rebel against His good ways for our own sake. We want to people to think more about us instead of God. We choose to bring glory to our name instead of His. 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 giving His people His Holy Spirit to transform them. They could never love God and live for Him more and more on their own.*

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 confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in this wonderful Jesus as our own Savior. That He would send the Holy Spirit to transform us so that we glorify Him more and more in the way we love Him and live for Him.*

**The Gospel**

1. Why do people need to be transformed? What happened to them? 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: Take a Step Back

### Materials

Bible verse written up in large print so that all can see  
1 beanbag for every 2 children

### Preparing the Game

None.

### Learning the Verse

Some or all of your children may be non- or early readers. Teach the verse in sections, having them say it after you. Repeat a few times. Add clapping or other movement as they say it.

### Directions

1. Pair up the children, giving a beanbag to each pair. Line up one child from each team, then have the partners face their team partner, about one foot apart from each other, forming a second line.
2. Have all the children say the verse together, then have the partner throw the beanbag to the other partner. Those who successfully catch the beanbag stay in for the next round.
3. Have each child take a step back.
4. Lead the children in saying the verse again, then have them throw the beanbag to their partner. Those who successfully catch the beanbag stay in for the next round.
5. Have the children take another step back, and so on.
6. Continue until only one team remains.

Alternate Play: Continue to allow all children to play the game, even if they drop their beanbag, but keep track of how many successful catches each team makes. The team with the most successful catches, wins.

### 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.

### **We Who Reflect the Lord's Glory**

We who reflect the Lord's glory,  
 Are being transformed into His likeness,  
 Which comes from the Lord,  
 With ever-increasing glory,  
 Which comes from the Lord,  
 The Lord who's the Spirit,  
 Who is the Spirit,  
 Who is the Spirit.  
 Second Corinthians Three, eighteen.

**Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 7**

## **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.

**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. Why were criminals being shipped to Australia? *To clear them out of England.*
2. What was life like in Australia? *The criminals did not have to live in prison. They could begin new lives there. But life was pretty wild. Many of the criminals kept doing the bad things they had done while they were in England. Few people knew the good news of Jesus. Few Christians wanted to go to Australia to tell them b/c there thought it was such a wild place.*
3. What was unusual about the kind of money they used? *It was not metal money, but rum—a very strong kind of alcohol.*
4. Why were so many soldiers getting drunk? *They were supposed to guard the “money” but wound up drinking it instead.*
5. Why did John Lees come to Australia? *He came as a soldier.*
6. What trouble did John Lees get into when he arrived in Australia? *He began to drink too much of the rum.*
7. Who was John Lees wife? *Mary, a lady criminal who had been shipped to Australia from England.*
8. What did John Lees do after he was a soldier? *He bought forest land out in the Castlereagh Forest. He planned to clear it and make it into a farm.*
9. What did John Lees do that made life so hard for his family? *He started drinking so much that he used up all their money to buy more alcohol.*
10. What did John do to keep getting alcohol? *He sold the few good things that he and Mary had.*
11. What happened to John that caused him to cry out to God? *He was bitten by a poisonous snake and thought he would die.*
12. What did John promise God? *If God saved him from dying, he would stop drinking and would follow Him.*
13. How did John change after he became a Christian? *The Holy Spirit worked in his heart. He stopped drinking and took good care of his family. He loved God and lived for Him. He read the Bible and prayed with his family.*
14. How was John able to change so much after he became a Christian? *The Holy Spirit was working in his heart.*
15. Why did John and his family want a missionary to come? *So that they could learn more about God through a good Bible teacher.*
16. How long did John and his family pray for a missionary? *Three years.*
17. Why didn't John give up praying for a missionary? *The Holy Spirit working inside him gave him faith to keep believing that God would and could supply what he wanted.*
18. Why was the Bible reading so fitting that the missionary read? *Because they lived in the wilderness and were so “thirsty” for God’s Word that the missionary was like one who waters wilderness ground and brings it to blossom.*

**Bible Truth Connection Questions**

1. What does this story have to do with our Bible Truth: The Holy Spirit Helps God’s People? *The Holy Spirit worked incredible changes in John Lees heart and life when he became a Christian.*

**Bible Verse Connection Question**

1. What does the story have to do with our Bible Verse: **2 Corinthians 3:18**: “And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”?

*John Lees became a drunk who did not love God or take care of his family. Yet after he repented of his sins and trusted in Jesus as his own Savior, the Holy Spirit did an amazing work in his heart. All could see how God was transforming this man with His Holy Spirit. He became a man who loved God tried to please Him with his whole life. He took good care of his family. He read the Bible and prayed for God to send a missionary to teach them more about God. As John Lees was changed by the Holy Spirit, he brought more and more glory to God as his family and others could see the amazing work of God in his life.*

**Life Application Questions**

1. Are there still places in the world that need to hear about Jesus, places that Christians don't really want to go because they are dangerous? *Yes!*
2. How are we like John Lees? *We are sinners who need to confess our sins to God and turn away from them. We need to trust in Jesus as our Savior. We need the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and change us.*
3. Why do Christians today decide to go to dangerous places with the good news of Jesus? *Because people need to hear how they can be saved. Without the gospel, they will face God's eternal punishment!*

**ACTS Questions**

1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? *Praise God for being the Changer of sinful people.*
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? *Confess that we, like John Lees, are sinners. We all need to confess our sins to Him and ask His forgiveness! We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? *We can thank God saving and changing all who come to Him in repentance and faith in Jesus. No one is too bad for God to save them! There is no one God cannot change.*
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 confess our sins, turn away from them and trust Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to send His Holy Spirit into our hearts and change us, just like He changed John Lees.*

**The Gospel**

1. What was the good news of Jesus that changed John Lees life? 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: Triple Play Baseball

### Materials

- 4 carpet squares or construction paper for bases
- 3 balls of different sizes, such as a foam ball, tennis ball, and soccer ball.
- A basket or cardboard box
- Masking tape
- Paper and pencil
- Story Review Questions

### Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Place the carpet squares at the four corners of a diamond, like for baseball, approximately 10 feet apart.
3. Place the basket with the balls in it next to "home" base.

### Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams. Team A will be up to bat, Team B will be out in the field. One player from Team B stands behind the batter as catcher. The leader will read a question to the batter. If the batter answers it correctly, he then picks up all three balls from the basket and tosses them out into the "field" in rapid succession. He then tries to run as many bases as possible around the diamond,, touching each base ,before the Team B players in the field return all three objects to the catcher who puts the balls into the box. The batter scores as many points as bases he was able to get to: 1 point for first base, 2 points for 2nd base, etc.. The next person on Team A becomes batter now, and repeats the process. A team incurs an "out" if a batter is unable to answer a question; or, if a batter is caught in between 2 bases when all the items are back in the box, then they are out. Teams switch positions after 2 outs.

Game continues until all children get to bat, or as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

WARNING: You may want to have the children only walk (rapidly) around the bases if you have slick floors. If you do this, you can also have the catchers have to crawl on all fours/do a crab walk to slow them down.

### Non-competitive Option

This game is difficult to play in a completely non-competitive way. You can take the "edge" off of the competitive nature of it by not assigning point values and simply letting each child have a chance to see how far around the bases they get on their turn. When all the children on Team A have a turn, switch batters and catchers and let the Team B children become the batters.

### 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****P.1**

Use this guide to review the Case Story and act it out for others to enjoy!

**CASE REPLAY, JR: YOUNGEST CHILDREN**

**Description:** The children will act out the story together, everyone doing the same action/sound effect at the same time. This activity is most suitable for kindergarteners.

**Materials**

The Case RePlay, Jr. script for younger children

**Preparation**

1. Read through the script and write in the blanks along the side possible actions/sound effects the children could do to act it out.

**Instructions**

1. Tell the children that they will be re-enacting the story together as you tell it.
2. As you read the script, lead the children in actions/sound effects to do with you.
3. If desired, you can read the script and stop at certain sentences and ask them what a good action/sound effect would be to act out what you just read.
4. Repeat the re-enactment one or two times more.

**CASE REPLAY, SR: OLDER CHILDREN**

**Description:** The children act out the story as a three-scene play. You will narrate it using the Case RePlay, Sr. script and they will act it out (no spoken words, for the most part), with each child assuming a different character's role. This activity is most suitable for first grade and up. You will review the story, then practice it a few times before performing it for others.

**Materials**

The Case RePlay, Sr. script  
White board or other large format paper  
Costumes and props

**Preparation**

1. Prepare for the play by choosing costumes and props for each character in the story. Decorate the area with any scenery props.
2. Write the words "Beginning," "Middle," "End" on a large piece of paper/whiteboard with plenty of space under each heading. You will use this paper to help the children think about the story as a three-scene play, as it is presented in the script.

**Instructions**

1. Tell the children that they will get to act out the story as a three-scene play, with a beginning, middle and end section. Tell them that before they can act it out, they need to think it out. as you narrate it with your script.
2. Take the children's answers as they recount the story, helping them put key incidents in the right order.
3. If desired, when they have filled in their Beginning, Middle, End, read through your whole (real) script, so they hear exactly what you will have them act out.
4. Then tell the children that it's time to practice acting out the story.
5. Assign parts to each child. If you are using costumes, do NOT give them out at this point. They will be a distraction.
6. Have all the children sit on the floor or in chairs on one side of the "stage," then call the characters up in place as their part in the story comes.
7. As you read the script, guide the children in where you want them to move or do to act it out.
8. After going through the whole script once, give out any costumes and props and act out the script once or twice more.

**Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Re-enacting the Story**

Read the script as the children act out together (younger) or assuming different roles (older) as the other children or the parents watch.

**CASE REPLAY, JR--YOUNGER KIDS (KINDERGARTEN) P.2**

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is: The Case of the Drunken Soldier.

Our story takes place in New South Wales, Australia around 1800.

And now we present: "The Case of the Drunken Soldier."

**Scene 1:**

England decides to empty its crowded prisons by sending most of the criminals away to Australia to live. In Australia, these former criminals had a lot more freedom. They didn't have to live in prison. This freedom was nice, but it created problems. Many kept doing the bad things they were first sent to prison for, such as stealing. Australia was a rough place to live and it took a lot to keep the peace. England sent lots of soldiers to enforce its laws. John Lees was one of the men who signed up be a soldier with the New South Wales Corps. He sails to New South Wales in Australia. Lees helps keep the peace and he is given the job of watching over the money, which wasn't money at all! It was rum! Instead of just watching it, he starts drinking it. Soon he is hooked on rum and gets drunk a lot.

**Actions:**

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**Scene 2:**

After a while, John leaves the army, gets married to Mary, one of the lady criminals. They buy land in Castlereagh to start a farm. They have ten children. John starts drinking more and more. He doesn't take care of his farm or family anymore. He starts to sell everything to buy more rum. Mary is worried as they get down to only a pig to sell for money. Things seem hopeless for this little family. Then John gets bit by a poisonous snake when he goes to get firewood. He cries out to God to spare his life and promises to follow Him. God spares his life and John becomes a Christian. The Holy Spirit begins to work amazing changes in his life. John and his family begin to read the Bible and pray every night that God would send a missionary to teach them more.

**Scene 3:**

Three years later, right after they pray at their evening meal, a whip cracks upon the door. It is a missionary traveling by horse who is looking to stay the night at his house. John is overjoyed. Their prayers have been answered at last! The missionary—Samuel Leigh—reads the Bible devotion that night. John Lees and Samuel Leigh work together to bring God's Word to the people of Castlereagh. They build a chapel where Samuel can preach. Many come to believe in Jesus, The Holy Spirit works in the lives of all the believers, helping them love God and live for him, like Jesus. John Lees becomes especially well-known for his great love for God and for others.

**Bible Truth Tie-In:**

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God's People Grow to Be More Like Jesus.** The Holy Spirit worked incredible changes in John Lees heart and life when he became a Christian.



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

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is called: The Case of the Drunken Soldier.

Our story takes place in New South Wales, Australia around 1800.

The characters in our story are: English criminals; Soldiers; Thieves; John Lees; Mary, his wife and their 10 children; Samuel Leigh; and, people of Castlereagh at the little church.

And now we present: "The Case of the Drunken Soldier."

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

England decides to empty its crowded prisons by sending most of the criminals away to Australia to live. In Australia, these former criminals had a lot more freedom. They didn't have to live in prison. This freedom was nice, but it created problems. Many kept doing the bad things they were first sent to prison for, such as stealing. Australia was a rough place to live and it took a lot to keep the peace. England sent lots of soldiers to enforce its laws. John Lees was one of the men who signed up to be a soldier with the New South Wales Corps. He sails to New South Wales in Australia. Lees helps keep the peace and he is given the job of watching over the money, which wasn't money at all! It was rum! Instead of just watching it, he starts drinking it. Soon he is hooked on rum and gets drunk a lot.

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

After a while, John leaves the army, gets married to Mary, one of the lady criminals. They buy land in Castlereagh to start a farm. They have ten children. John starts drinking more and more. He doesn't take care of his farm or family anymore. He starts to sell everything to buy more rum. Mary is worried as they get down to only a pig to sell for money. Things seem hopeless for this little family. Then John gets bit by a poisonous snake when he goes to get firewood. He cries out to God to spare his life and promises to follow Him. God spares his life and John becomes a Christian. The Holy Spirit begins to work amazing changes in his life. John and his family begin to read the Bible and pray every night that God would send a missionary to teach them more.

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

Three years later, right after they pray at their evening meal, a whip cracks upon the door. It is a missionary traveling by horse who is looking to stay the night at his house. John is overjoyed. Their prayers have been answered at last! The missionary—Samuel Leigh—reads the Bible devotion that night. John Lees and Samuel Leigh work together to bring God's Word to the people of Castlereagh. They build a chapel where Samuel can preach. Many come to believe in Jesus, The Holy Spirit works in the lives of all the believers, helping them love God and live for him, like Jesus. John Lees becomes especially well-known for his great love for God and for others.

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

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God's People Grow to Be More Like Jesus.** The Holy Spirit worked incredible changes in John Lees heart and life when he became a Christian.



## A Poisonous Snake

### Description

The children will decorate a curly “poisonous” snake out of cardstock, markers and other optional decorating supplies.

### Materials

White cardstock

Scissors

Glue sticks

Markers, colored pencils, etc.

If desired, also sequins or glitter/glitter glue, jiggly eyes

Tape

### Preparing the Craft

1. Print out the template of the snake and snake heads onto cardstock, 1 per child.
2. Print out and cut out snake heads.
3. Set out decorating supplies.
4. Make a sample for the children to see.

### Making the Craft

1. Show children your sample.
2. Have the children decorate their snakes and snake heads with markers.
3. Cut out the snakes along lines. (You may need to do this for younger children.)
4. Tape/glue snake head in place.
5. If desired, let children add additional decorations with the sequins, glitter glue, etc.

### 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. Where did John Lees and his wife Mary settle down? *In Castlereagh, Australia.*

2. What was John Lees doing that was so terrible for him and his family? *He was addicted to rum. He drank all the time instead of caring for his family and his farm.*

3. What happened to him that change this? *He was bitten by a poisonous snake and cried out to God to save his life. God did. John turned away from his sins and trusted in Jesus as his Savior. The Holy Spirit living inside him worked powerfully and he was a changed man.*

4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning? *God's People Grow to Be More Like Jesus.*

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: God's People Grow to Be More Like Jesus? *The Holy Spirit began to work in John Lees heart when he trusted in Jesus as his Savior. From that day on, John began to love God and live to please Him more and more.*

6. What can our craft help us remember? *God's Holy Spirit works amazing changes in the hearts of even the worst sinner when they turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus.*

**TAKING IT TO OTHERS****Craft Presentation****Instructions:**

Have children hold up your model craft/their crafts. Choose five children (or you say) the five sections below to explain the craft's importance.

**Presentation:**

1. Our craft is: A Poisonous Snake.

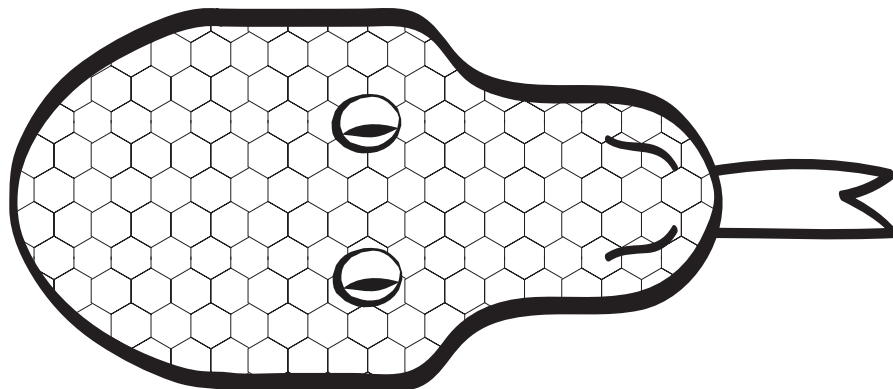
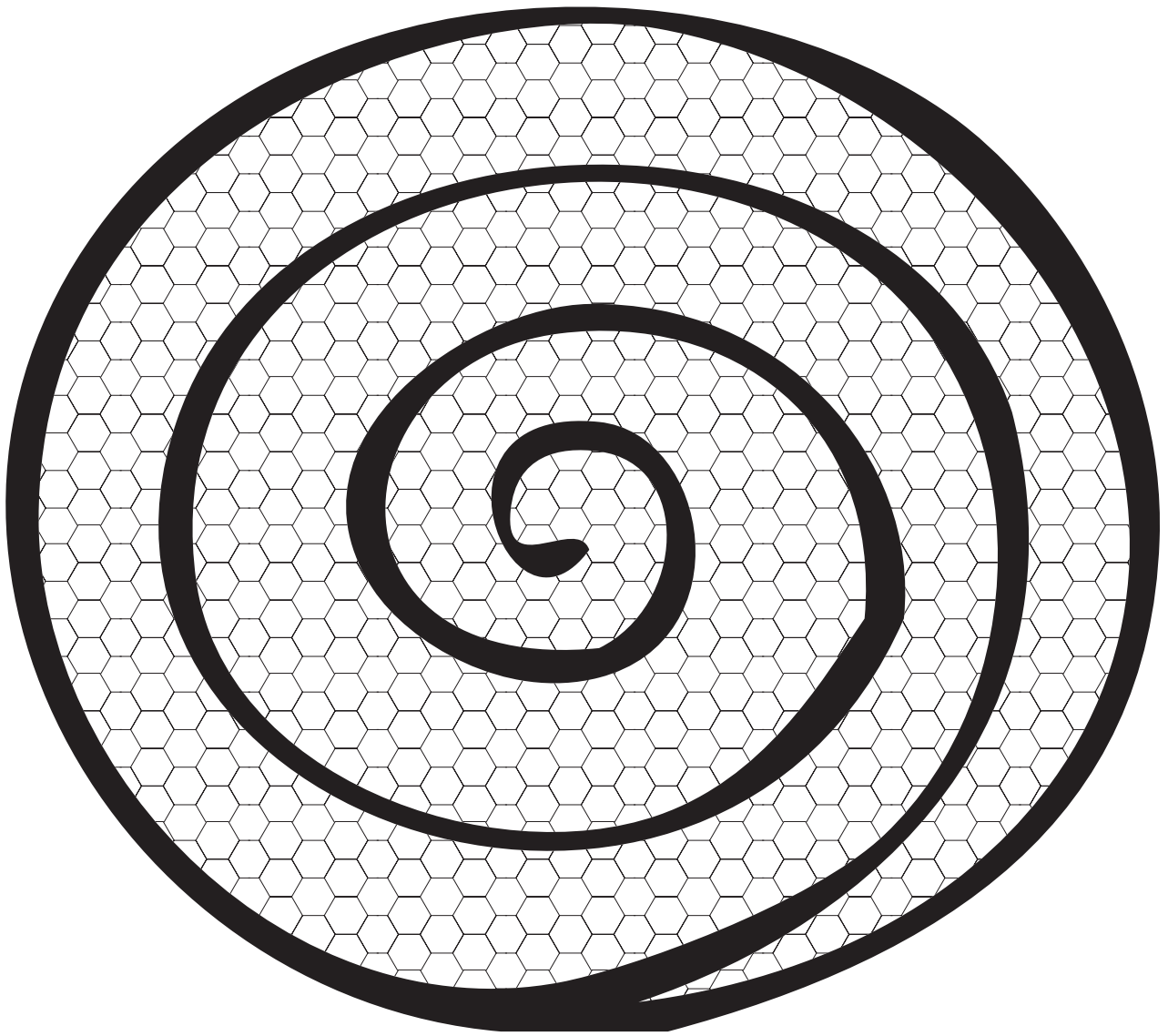
2. In front of his house in Castlereagh, Australia, John Lees was a changed man after being bitten by a poisonous snake because he turned away from his sins and trusted in Jesus as his Savior.

3. Our Bible Truth is: God's People Grow to Be More Like Jesus.

4. The Holy Spirit began to work in John Lees heart when he trusted in Jesus as his Savior. From that day on, John began to love God and live to please Him more and more.

5. Our craft can help us remember that God's Holy Spirit works amazing changes in the hearts of even the worst sinner when they turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus.

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.





**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](http://praisefactory.org) with the resources for this Bible Truth.

**Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Introduce and Pray for the VIPP**

If you are presenting the VIPP to other children or parents you can assign children to hold up the 10 clue cards and say what each card tells about the VIPP. (Or, you can have the children hold them up as you tell what each one means.) Then lead the children in praying for the VIPP.

## Game: Picture Run

### Materials

Information for two VIPPs

2 Sets of Clue Cards

Tape

Different color construction paper for each picture.

### Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for each VIPP you are using.
2. Put all the Clue Cards in a bag, except for the ones with the names and pictures of the VIPPs.
3. Use tape to put up the pictures of each VIPP on a piece of construction paper. Tape each up in a different location/wall around the room.

### Playing the Game

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

**Review:** Put the Clue Cards for the VIPPS put in a bag. Mix up. Have children stand together in middle of the room. Tell them that you will pull out a clue card, show it to them, and they are to run to the picture of the person who it belongs to. Give them the answer after everyone has run to their guessed person. Continue until all clues have been used up. (If you have a slick floor, you may want to avoid running. Make it fun by giving them a different way to go to each picture, such as skip or hop.)

**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**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



