

BIBLE TRUTH 1, LESSON 3: PLANNER/OVERVIEW

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

Welcome to Praise Factory: PFI: Praise Factory Investigators Theme Song *PFI NIV Songs 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 3 Old Testament: The Case of the Boy Who Did What Men Did Not *1 Samuel 1-3*

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: Tabernacle Offering

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Enemy Invaders

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

Bible Verse Review: 2 Corinthians 3:18 Discussion Sheet and Game: Horse Tag Verse Tag

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: Mimic Me! **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: Little Samuel

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (Back of book) & Game: Crabbin' Around

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 1, Lesson 3 **PFI NIV PRONTOS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Boy Who Did What Men Did Not 1 Samuel 1-3

by Connie Dever

Our story is: The Case of the Boy Who Did What Men Did Not.

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

1. Who was the boy? Who were the men who didn't do what the boy did?
2. What did the boy do that the men did not? Who helped the boy live this way?

This story takes place in Shiloh, a little town in the grassy hills of Ephraim, Israel. It takes place in Old Testament times during the days of the judges of Israel, about 1100 years before Jesus lived on earth.

Hannah sewed busily on the ephod made of fine Egyptian cloth. What's an ephod, you might be wondering? It was special apron that only worn by the men who served in the Tabernacle—the Tent of Meeting of the LORD. When the special apron was done, Hannah would make a beautiful robe to go with it.

There was something very strange about this ephod and the robe that went with it. They were very tiny. Yet the priest Eli and his sons who served in the Tabernacle were grown men! Why would they need such a small ephod and robe as this?

The truth was, this little ephod and robe weren't for them at all. They were for Hannah's little, three-year-old son, Samuel, who would soon be joining Eli and his sons in service at the Tabernacle.

How did Hannah explain to her little son what was about to happen to him? The Bible doesn't tell us, but perhaps it went something like this:

"Why do I need an ephod, Mama? I live here with you, not at the Tabernacle?" Samuel asked his mother.

"Because you are going to serve before the LORD at His Tabernacle!" she replied. "You see, long ago, I wanted a son but could not have one. Then I prayed to the LORD to give me a son. I promised Him that if He did, that I would give that little boy back to the Him to serve Him all the days of his life. Then the LORD gave me you! So you see, Samuel, the LORD has chosen you to do something very special."

"What is it like at the Tabernacle?" Samuel asked.

"The Tabernacle and its courtyard are kept inside long walls, 150 by 75 feet, all made of fine, linen cloth," Hannah told him. "The first thing you see when you go

inside the entrance on the east side is a big, open courtyard with a huge bronze altar. This is where the priests sacrifice all the offerings of birds, sheep, and bulls to the LORD. The priests are never supposed to let the fire go out, (so that it is always ready for the sacrifices, just as the LORD is always ready to receive our praise and confessions of sin). Behind the huge altar is a big bronze basin of bronze where the priests do their special washing so that they will be seen as pure before the LORD. But best of all, is what is behind the altar and the basin: the Tabernacle, itself, with the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place!" Hannah said.

"What are they, Mama?" Samuel may have asked.

"Well, I've never been inside. Only priests get to go in." his mother answered, "And it is covered with thick coverings of goat hair, sheep skin and sea cows, so you can't see in from the courtyard," she replied. "But I am told that it has beautiful curtains of blue, purple and scarlet with cherubim woven all through them on all sides. In the Holy Place there are just three things, all covered in pure gold. On the left is a tall golden lampstand with seven candle holders, each that look like the branch of an almond tree with buds. It is to remind the people that God is always present. On the right there is an altar where priests burn sweet-smelling incense every morning and every evening as a reminder of the prayers of God's people going up to God. And in between them, is a golden table on which each day twelve loaves of bread-- one for each tribe of Israel-- are put out, as a reminder of the fellowship (special friendship) that God has with His people."

"But what about the Most Holy Place, where's that, Mama?" Samuel asked.

"The Most Holy Place is behind a beautiful curtain at

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.

the back of the Holy Place," Hannah explained. "Inside it is the important thing of all: a golden box called the Ark of the Covenant. It has two huge angels bending over its cover; and, inside the box are the Ten Commandments of the covenant the LORD made with our people through Moses long ago. It is a room so holy that only the most important priest, called the high priest can go in that room....and he can only go in there once a year. It's where he takes the special offering to ask God to forgive the people's sins."

"Will I get to go inside the Holy Place?"

"Yes, you will, Samuel. You are going to get to do many very special things when you go to the Tabernacle."

It was not long before it was time for Hannah and Elkanah, Samuel's father, to take Samuel to Shiloh to live at the Tabernacle. They gathered up Samuel's few things, his little ephod and robe, plus three bulls, grain and wine to offer up to the LORD as a sacrifice.

After two days of walking, the smell in the air told them they were close. It was the smell of smoke and the offerings from the Tabernacle's altar. Soon Shiloh came into view and behind it on a hill, were the curtains of the Tabernacle's courtyard.

With worshipful hearts, Elkanah and Hannah brought their offerings to the priests. Eli and his sons were amazed at this huge offering! It was three times bigger than the biggest offering (one bull) suggested in the Bible! "Who are these people? Why are they making such a big offering?" the priests probably wondered.

Hannah explained it to the high priest Eli. "Three years ago I stood before you praying to the LORD," Hannah told him. "He gave me this son in answer to my prayer. I am now bringing him here to the LORD to be His for his whole life, just as I promised I would that day." Hannah handed Samuel's things to Eli.

How could such a little boy go and live with strangers at the Tabernacle? Surely he would cling to his parents in fear! But the LORD was with Samuel already, working inside his heart and helping him want to love and serve Him in this way. Instead of pleading to go home with his parents, Samuel bowed down and worshiped the LORD. Yes, God can do great things, even in the heart of a very young boy.

Eli took care of the Samuel and taught him all the

duties of being a priest, just as he had been teaching his sons Phinehas and Hophni. He learned how to fill the lampstand candle holders with oil, how to place incense on the altar of incense, how to make the special loaves of bread for the golden table, how to wash himself to stay pure before the LORD, how to make sacrifices and what prayers to say for each one, and many other things. Eli taught Samuel the right way to do things and Samuel tried hard to serve the Lord just as he had been told.

But Phinehas and Hophni, Eli's sons, were not like Samuel. They were wicked men with greedy hearts. They didn't worship the LORD. When their father wasn't looking, they spoiled the people's sacrifices by snatching the best part of their sacrifices for themselves, instead of offering it to the LORD.

Samuel saw what Phinehas and Hophni did, but he didn't copy them. The LORD, by His Holy Spirit, was working in Samuel's little heart, already giving him a desire to please Him. He was preparing Samuel for the special job He had planned for him. God can do great things, even in the heart of a very young boy.

One night Samuel lay sleeping on a little mat beneath the golden lampstand in the Holy Place when he heard someone calling him. It was almost daybreak and the oil of the lampstand was almost all used up.

"Samuel, Samuel!" the voice said.

Samuel ran to Eli and answered, "Here I am."

"I didn't call; go back and lie down," Eli said.

So Samuel went and lay down. Twice more the voice called and twice more Samuel went to Eli. Then Eli understood. The LORD was calling Samuel!

So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, if you hear the voice again, 'Speak, LORD, your servant is listening.'"

Samuel lay down again, and this time the LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!" Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

That night was but the first of eighty years worth of messages the LORD would give Samuel for the people of Israel. The people knew Samuel was the LORD's prophet and listened carefully to the words the LORD gave him.

The LORD had planned to do great things for His

people through Samuel and every one of them happened. Why? Because God does great things in His people, even in a very young boy, thanks to His Holy Spirit at work in their heart.

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who was the boy? Who were the men who didn't do what the boy did?

Samuel. Phineas and Hophni, the sons of the high priest, Eli.

2. What did the boy do that the men did not? Who helped the boy live this way?

Samuel worshiped the LORD and offered the people's sacrifices the right way. Eli taught Samuel how God wanted him to serve. Samuel listened to God when He spoke and wanted to obey. The Holy Spirit worked in Samuel's heart, helping him obey.

Something For You and Me

Our Bible Truth is:

God's People Grow to Be More 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."

What about you and me? God did great things, even in the heart of a very young boy. Could God have plans to work in our lives, too? Could He grow our love and desire to serve Him? Yes, He could. It is His promise to all who turn away from their sins and trusts in Jesus. Not only will He save them, but He will put His Holy Spirit in their hearts giving them growing love for Him and a desire to serve Him. Then, like Samuel, we can also reflect God's glory as He uses His Spirit to transform them.

Let's praise this God who saves His people and grows their hearts by His Holy Spirit. Let's ask Him to send His Spirit to work in us, even today.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the God who speaks Your words to Your people. We praise You for working in Your people that they are able to do what You have planned for them to do.

C God, we confess that we, like Eli's sons, are sinners. We have learned Your good ways yet many times we choose to rebel against them. We need to confess our sins to You and ask Your forgiveness! We need a Savior!

T God, we thank You for speaking to Your people throughout the ages, both long ago through Your prophets, like Samuel, and still today, through Your Word, the Bible.

S God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts that we might love You and obey You more and more—and even when it might be very difficult, like it would have been for Samuel at times.

Special Words

Prophet: A godly person who God uses to speak and explain His words to others.

Tabernacle: The special meeting tent that the LORD instructed the Israelites to build. It could be taken down and moved with the people of Israel so that the special place of His presence would always be with them. Later it was replaced by the Temple in Jerusalem. It was very holy and could only be entered by the priests if they followed the LORD's careful instructions. It was here that the people brought their worship offerings to the LORD.

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.....

Add your own Adorations:

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....

Add your own Confessions:

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...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

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...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

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

Snack: Tabernacle Offering

Pretzel stick "altar", placed in a cross-hatch pattern to look like the grate, with yellow cheese slice "fire" placed underneath the altar. On top of the altar, place 3 animal cracker "bulls" (use cheaper version, not Barnum and Bailey animal crackers because they do not look so much like the animals they represent and can pass more easily for bulls). Also, could serve grape juice "wine" to represent the wine offering they also brought with them.

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

Case Tie-in: Hannah and Elkanah brought a huge worship gift to the LORD to thank Him for giving them Samuel. He had answered their prayers for a son. And, what a son Samuel was to be! He would become the godly prophet that led Israel in following the LORD for many years.

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.

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 Samuel's life?
Even as a very young boy, he loved the LORD. When left at the Tabernacle, he did not respond by begging his parents to take him home, but by bowing down and worshiping the LORD. He faithfully served in the Tabernacle by doing everything Eli taught him to do. He always told all of the LORD's words for the people, even when it was very hard.

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: Enemy Invaders

Materials

Index cards of two different colors (or use red and black playing cards, such as hearts and spades)
Bible Truth Questions
String or yarn
Two chairs
Masking Tape

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.
3. Tie an end of the string to each chair and draw the line across the room where the teams will be. Preferably this line will be about 4' above the ground.
4. Tape a line about 6' to 9' from the string on each side.
5. Cut cards in half along the long side, making them about the same size as playing cards.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams and have them stand (or kneel to make it even harder!) on their team's line. Give each child an index card, the same color for the children on one team. At your signal, have them try to toss their cards over the line and into their "enemy's" territory on the other side. Add up how many cards fell on each side. That is how many points they can win by answering a question. Choose a question for each team. If the team gets it wrong, the question goes to the other team for an extra point. Distribute the cards and play again.

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

Non-competitive Option

Set a target number of points for the whole group. Challenge the children to see how many turns it takes score the target number of points. Once the target has been reached, start the game over and see how many turns it takes to reach the target the second time.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

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

Directions:

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

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

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the 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? *Samuel did not know Jesus, but he like all of God's people who lived before Jesus, looked forward to His day. Watching the sacrifices for sin each day and spending years as prophet to God's sinful people, he knew that only the Lord could save His people from their sins and change them to people who lived lives that pleased Him. He knew, even early in his life, the work of the Holy Spirit in his own heart to help him love God and live a life to please Him more and more.*

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: 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.

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. How could others see the Holy Spirit’s transforming work in Samuel’s life? *They saw a very, very young boy respond by worshiping the Lord and trusting Him rather than begging to go home with them when he had to stay at the Tabernacle. They saw him choose to be a good priest rather than do what Eli’s sons did with the offerings. They saw him hear the Lord’s word and always give it to the people the way the Lord intended, even when it was very, very hard.*

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: Horse Play Verse Tag

Materials

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

Preparing the Game

None.

Learning the Verse

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

Directions

1. If desired, lead the children in a discussion of a **FEW** of the most important questions before beginning game.
2. Explain the game to them as follows:
Have the children spread out around the playing area. Explain to the children that they will say the verse together, then the person who is "It" (start with you) will try to tag another child while walking on all fours like a horse. The tagged child and "It" say the verse together, then the tagged child becomes the new "It." Everyone says the verse together, then the new "It" tries to tag someone else. Other options: do a crab walk (hands and feet, belly-up) or slither like snakes.

Game continues until all children get to be It or as time and attention span allow.

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: Mimic Me!

Materials

Sign Language
 Song

Preparing the Game

None.

Playing the Game

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Choose a person to be the leader and let them decide upon an action for everyone to do as they sing the song, such as jump on one foot, etc.
2. Sing the song while doing the chosen action.
3. Select another child to be the leader.
4. If desired, you can choose a different action for different important words in the song, such as jump on one foot when you sing the word "grace", but clap your hands when you sing the word "Jesus". Ask the children the meaning of each of the words before adding in their action.

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

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 was Hannah making for Samuel and why? *A little ephod and a little priestly robe for Samuel to wear as he served at the Tabernacle.*
2. Why was Hannah taking Samuel to the Tabernacle? *She had promised the LORD that if He gave her a son she would give the child to serve before the LORD all of his life. She was fulfilling her promise to the LORD by taking Samuel to the Tabernacle.*
3. What was in the courtyard of the Tabernacle? *The altar for sacrifices and the bronze basin for washing.*
4. What was funny about the walls around the Tabernacle's courtyard? *Made of fabric!*
5. What was in the Holy Place of the Tabernacle? *The golden lampstand, the Altar of Incense, and the Table of Shewbread.*
6. What was in the Most Holy Place of the Tabernacle? *The Ark of the Covenant with cherubim leaning over the top and with the 10 Commandments inside.*
7. Who was the only person who could go in the Most Holy Place and when? *Only the high priest on the Day of Atonement when he brought a special offering for the sins of the people.*
8. What was the Tabernacle? *The special meeting place of God with His people during that time.*
9. Why did Samuel not need to be afraid, even though he had to leave his mother and father? *Because the Lord had made this plan for his life and He would take care of him.*
10. What was unusual about Hannah and Elkanah's sacrifice? *It was three times bigger than the biggest sacrifice that people usually brought*
11. Why do you think they made such a big offering? *Thankfulness, Asking the Lord's blessing upon Samuel living at the Tabernacle.*
12. What were Eli's sons like? *They were wicked. They did not treat the sacrifices to the LORD with reverence.*
13. Why didn't Samuel copy Eli's sons? *The LORD was at work in his heart already, to desire to love and serve Him.*
14. Who did Samuel first think was calling him in the night? *Eli*
15. What did Samuel do with the words that the LORD gave him to speak? *Always speak them as He desired.*
16. Why would it have taken the LORD's work in Samuel's heart to always speak the LORD's words? *Because many times they were words of punishment and it would have been easy to not want to say them.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our Bible Truth: **The Holy Spirit Helps God's People**? *Even as a very young boy, he loved the LORD. When left at the Tabernacle, he did not respond by begging his parents to take him home, but by bowing down and worshiping the LORD. He did not want to do the evil things to people's offerings like Eli's sons did. He always told all of the LORD's words for the people, even when it was very hard.*

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."? How could others see the Holy Spirit's transforming work in Samuel's life? *They saw a very, very young boy respond by worshiping the Lord and trusting Him rather than begging to go home with them when he had to stay at the Tabernacle. They saw him choose to be a good priest rather than do what Eli's sons did with the offerings. They saw him hear the Lord's word and always give it to the people the way the Lord intended, even when it was very, very hard.*

Life Application Questions

1. What is something about Samuel's heart that we could ask God to do in our hearts? *That He would give us hearts that desire to love God and obey Him, even when it is very hard. That our hearts would not be tempted to sin when we see others sinning, just like Samuel chose not to sin like Eli's sons. That He would give us courage to speak His words to others, no matter what.*
2. How can we become one of God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? *Praise God for being the God who speaks His words to His people and who works in His people that they are able to do what He has planned for them to do.*
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? *Confess that we, like Eli's sons, are sinners. We have learned God's good ways yet many times we choose to rebel against them. We 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 for speaking to His people throughout the ages, both long ago through His prophets, like Samuel, and still today, through His Word, the Bible.*
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 them and trust Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask God to send His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts that we might love Him and obey Him more and more—and even when it might be very difficult, like it would have been for Samuel at times.*

The Gospel

1. Samuel lived before Jesus' day, but he looked forward to the day when the promised Messiah would come and save God's people. What is that good news of salvation through Jesus? 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: Chair Pile-Up

Materials

A Chair for every two players

Index Cards

Paper and Marker

Tape

Story Review Questions

Optional: Game "Pennies" for easy recognition for members of each team

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Form a circle with the chairs. On the index cards, make identical two sets of numbers corresponding to the number of chairs. Use one set to tape a number onto the back of each chair.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into teams. Have all players select a seat and share it with one other person. (No special ordering of players needed.) The players from both team will move from chair to chair according to the directions you give. ("If you have shoes that have Velcro, move 1 chair to your left," "If you came to church in a mini van, move four chairs to your right," "If you have a sister, stay where you are, but everyone else move 1 chair to the left", etc.) If there are too many students to sit on one chair, have them at least put their hands on the chair. After giving several direction, choose a number from the 2nd set of index cards. All the children at that particular numbered chair will answer a Story Review question. If they answer it correctly, they earn as many point for their team as team members at that particular chair, (i.e., if 2 people from Team A and 1 people from Team B are on the same chair, then Team A gets 2 points and Team B gets 1) If they do NOT answer it correctly, then their teams are DOCKED the same number points as team members at that chair. The team with the most points at the end of play, wins.

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

Non-competitive Option

Don't split into teams. Simply play the game and have the children at whatever numbered chair is chosen answer 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**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 Boy Who Did What Men Did Not.

Our story takes place in Old Testament times, about 1100 years before Jesus lived on earth.

And now we present: "The Case of the Boy Who Did What Men Did Not."

Scene 1:

Samuel's mother, Hannah, sat making a little ephod and robe for her three-year-old son, Samuel to serve in the Tabernacle, the special Meeting Tent of the LORD. This was very unusual to have so young a boy serve in the Tabernacle, but Hannah had promised to give Samuel is to serve the LORD all his days, in answer to her prayer for a son. Hannah would have probably explained to Samuel what the Tabernacle was like.

Actions:

Scene 2:

Hannah, Elkanah and Samuel travel two days to Shiloh where the Tabernacle is. First they make their huge sacrifice of bulls, wine and flour offerings in worship of the LORD. They take Samuel to Eli and Hannah explains who she is and why she is leaving her son with Eli. Instead of crying, Samuel responds by worshiping the LORD as they give him to Eli. Samuel learns from Eli along with his sons, Hophni and Phinehas, how to be a priest. Phinehas and Hophni are wicked, greedy men who take from the people's sacrifices when they should not. Samuel sees what they do, but chooses not to do those things because the LORD is at work in his heart.

Scene 3:

One night the LORD calls Samuel, as he lay sleeping under the lampstand in the Holy Place. Eli tells Samuel it is not him, but the LORD calling him. This is the first of eighty years of messages the LORD gives the people of Israel through Samuel. No matter what the message, Samuel always gave the LORD's message as He wanted him to. All the years of his life, the LORD worked in Samuel's heart by His Holy Spirit, so that he would love and serve Him.

Bible Truth Tie-In: The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God's People Grow to Be More Like Jesus.** Even when Samuel was just a very small boy, the LORD was already at work in his heart, helping him want to love and serve Him.

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

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is: The Case of the Boy Who Did What Men Did Not.

Our story takes place in Old Testament times, about 1100 years before Jesus lived on earth.

The characters in our story are: Hannah; Elkanah Samuel; Eli, Hophni, and Phinehas; Worshipers at the Tabernacle; and, the Israelites.

And now we present: "The Case of the Boy Who Did What Men Did Not."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

Samuel's mother, Hannah, sat making a little ephod and robe for her three-year-old son, Samuel to serve in the Tabernacle, the special Meeting Tent of the LORD. This was very unusual to have so young a boy serve in the Tabernacle, but Hannah had promised to give Samuel is to serve the LORD all his days, in answer to her prayer for a son. Hannah would have probably explained to Samuel what the Tabernacle was like.

Scene 2: (Middle)

Hannah, Elkanah and Samuel travel two days to Shiloh where the Tabernacle is. First they make their huge sacrifice of bulls, wine and flour offerings in worship of the LORD. They take Samuel to Eli and Hannah explains who she is and why she is leaving her son with Eli. Instead of crying, Samuel responds by worshiping the LORD as they give him to Eli. Samuel learns from Eli along with his sons, Hophni and Phinehas, how to be a priest. Phinehas and Hophni are wicked, greedy men who take from the people's sacrifices when they should not. Samuel sees what they do, but chooses not to do those things because the LORD is at work in his heart.

Scene 3: (End)

One night the LORD calls Samuel, as he lay sleeping under the lampstand in the Holy Place. Eli tells Samuel it is not him, but the LORD calling him. This is the first of eighty years of messages the LORD gives the people of Israel through Samuel. No matter what the message, Samuel always gave the LORD's message as He wanted him to. All the years of his life, the LORD worked in Samuel's heart by His Holy Spirit, so that he would love and serve Him.

Bible Truth Tie-In: The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God's People Grow to Be More Like Jesus.** Even when Samuel was just a very small boy, the LORD was already at work in his heart, helping him want to love and serve Him.

Little Samuel

Description

The children will make a Samuel puppet with a blue priest's robe with scarlet and purple fringe and bells attached at the bottom.

Materials

Patterns for face and for robe

1 lunch bag per child

Cardstock

Black, scarlet (red) and purple yarn, about 2 yards of each per child

2-4 jingle bells per child

Markers or colored pencils, especially blue!!!!

Jiggly eyes

Glue sticks

Hole punches

Scissors

Preparing the Craft

1. Print out 1 copy of the face and 2 copies of the robe per child in cardstock. Cut out shapes (especially for the younger children. Older children can do this themselves)
2. Cut black yarn into 2" lengths. This will be Samuel's hair.
3. Cut the scarlet and purple yarn into 6" lengths. This will be used for the tassels along the bottom of the robe.
4. Set out hole punches. For younger children, you will probably want to punch out the holes along the bottom of the robes for them ahead of time. Older children can do this, themselves.
5. Set out other supplies.

Making the Craft

1. Show children your sample.
2. Have the children color the robe pieces blue.
3. Decorate Samuel's face adding hair and facial features. Use yarn and jiggly eyes.
4. If not done previously, have the children punch holes along the bottom of the robe pieces as indicated by the circles.
5. Take a strand and double it over in half. Poke the loop (the very middle of the strand) through a hole along the bottom of the robe piece. Take the ends of the strand and poke it through the loop and gently pull down, making a slip knot tassel. Continue until all the holes have been filled with fringe.
6. Thread a piece of the fringe through the loop in a jingle bell. Tie a knot to secure in place. Repeat for as many bells as each child has. Put a couple in the back and a couple in the front piece of the robe.
7. Give out a lunch bag to each child. Have them set the bag in front of them, turned upside down and with flap facing up. Glue the face to the flap section, then glue the robe pieces to the front and back of the bottom section of the bag.
8. The children can put their hand in their Samuel puppet and play with him.

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 Hannah take her little son, Samuel, to live? *At the Tabernacle at Shiloh.*
2. Who did Samuel think was calling to him that one night as he lay under the lampstand? *Eli the priest.*
3. Who did Eli tell Samuel was really calling him? What did Eli know the LORD was calling Samuel to do? Why Samuel and not his own sons? *Eli knew it was the LORD calling Samuel to be His faithful prophet. He could see that the LORD was already at work in Samuel's heart, helping him to love God and want to serve Him. His sons were wicked.*
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. *For over 80 years, the LORD helped Samuel love Him and to faithfully tell God's people His words. It was the Holy Spirit working inside him who helped him do everything the LORD wanted him to do.*
6. What can our craft help us remember? *If we are God's people, God will also send His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, helping us to love Him and serve Him.*

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

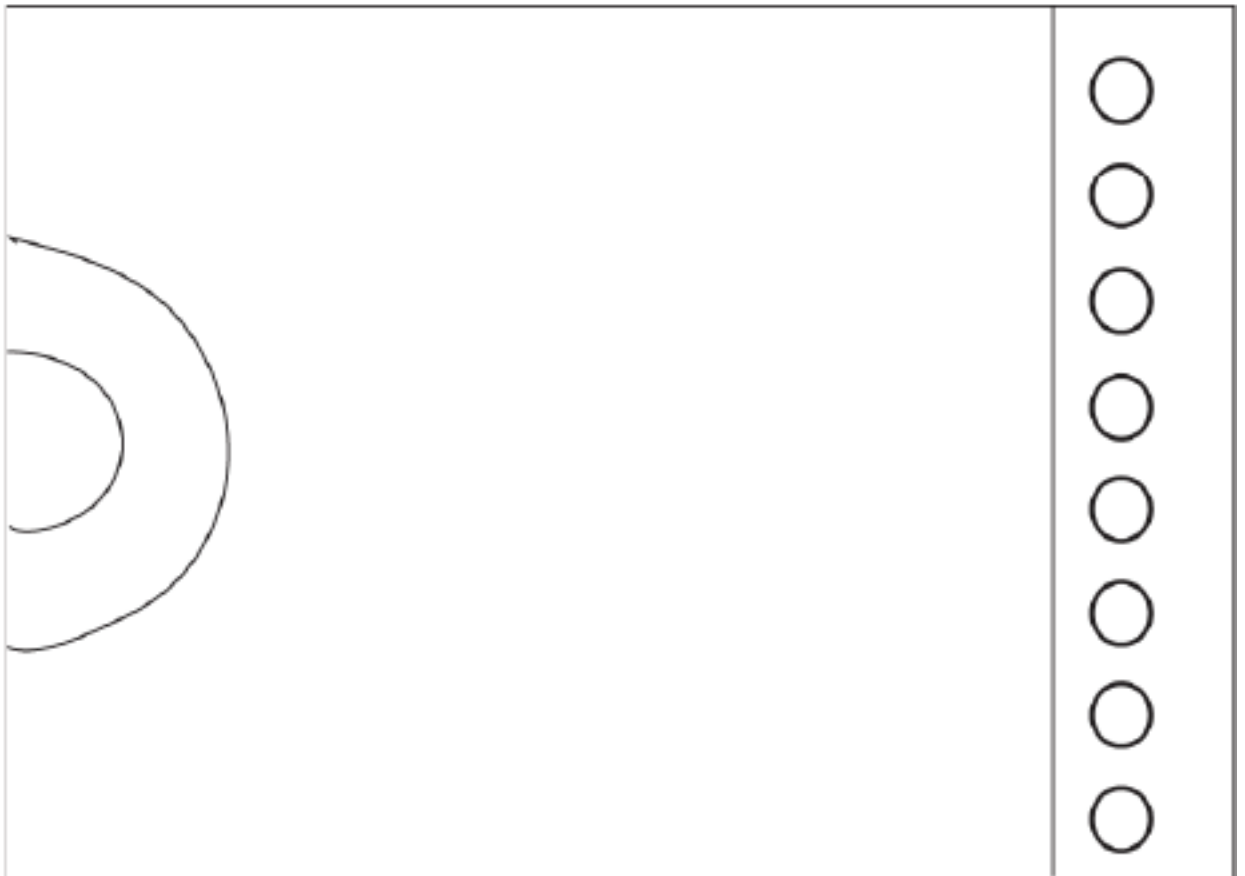
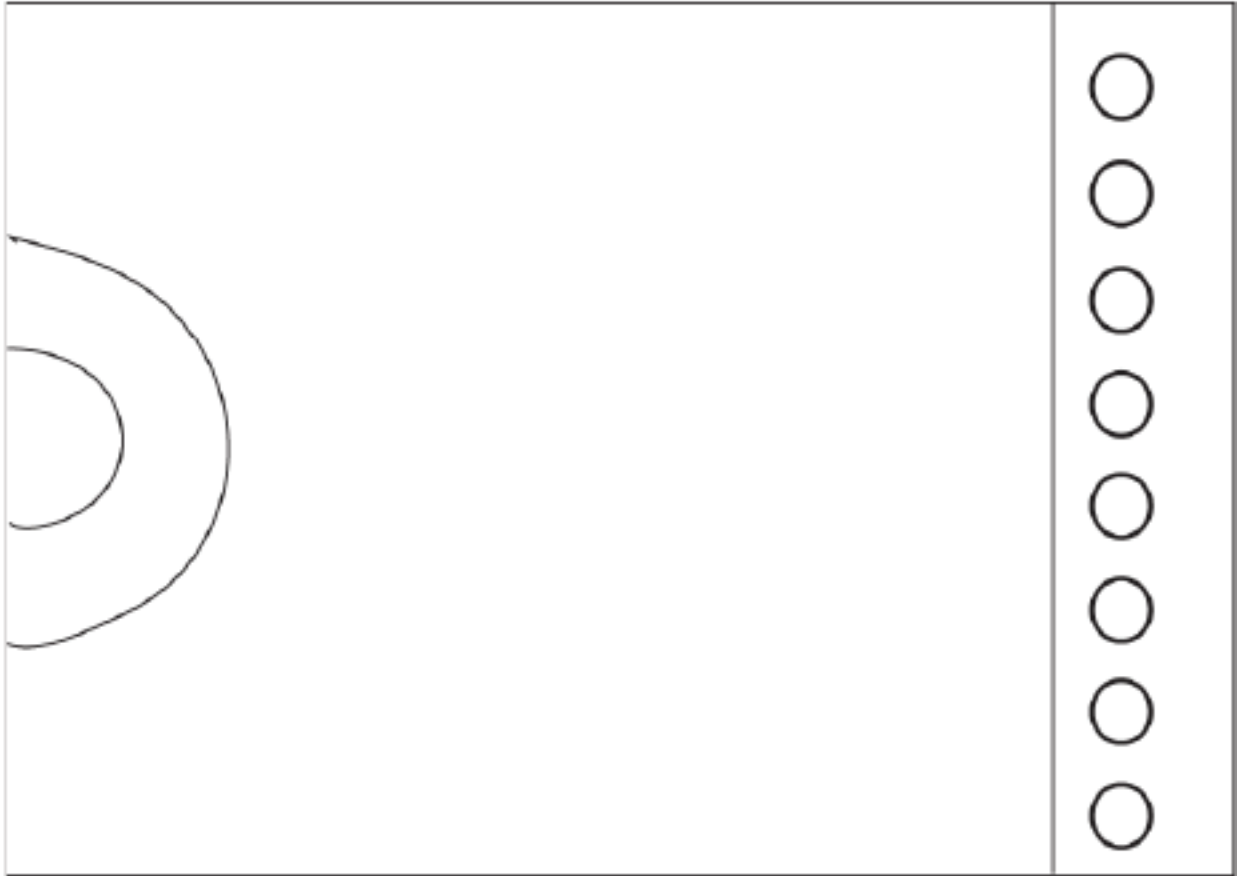
Have children hold up your model craft/their crafts. Choose five children (or you say) the five sections below to explain the craft's importance.

Presentation:

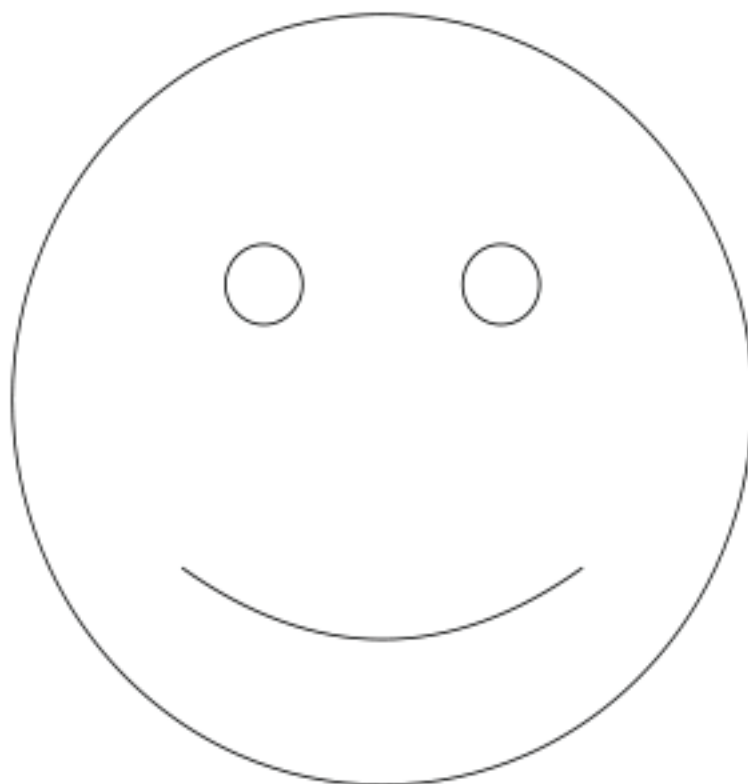
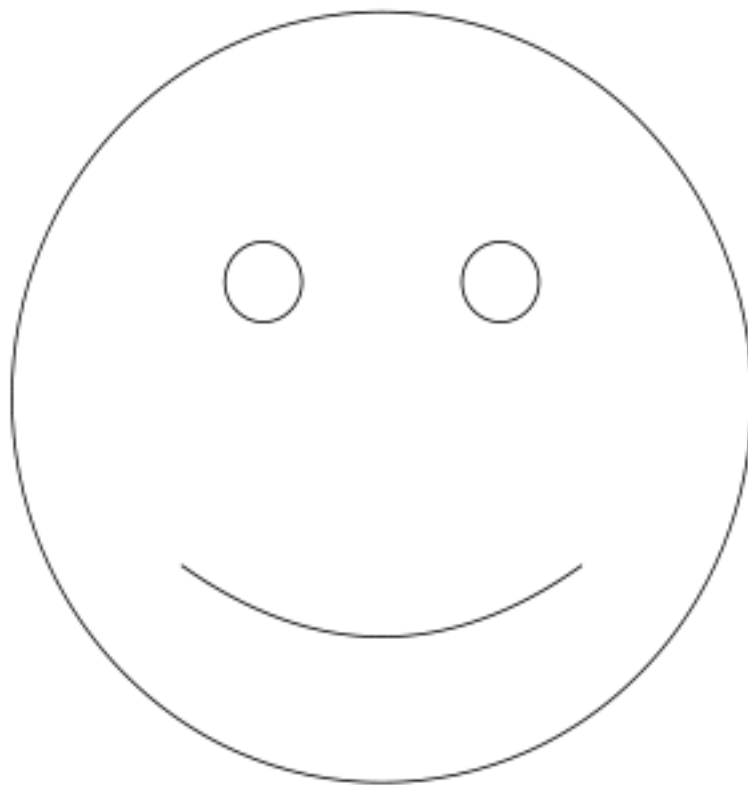
1. Our craft is: Little Samuel.
2. At the Tabernacle in Shiloh, Eli the priest knew the LORD was calling little Samuel to be His faithful prophet because the LORD was already at work in Samuel's heart, helping him to love God and want to serve Him.
3. Our Bible Truth is: God's People Grow to Be More Like Jesus.
4. For over 80 years, the LORD helped Samuel love Him and to faithfully tell God's people His words. It was the Holy Spirit working inside him who helped him do everything the LORD wanted him to do.
5. Our craft can help us remember that if we are God's people, God will also send His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, helping us to love Him and serve Him.

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.

Craft Pattern # 1 Samuel's Robe



Craft Pattern #2 Samuel's Head



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: Crabbin' Around

Materials

Information Sheet for two VIPPs

2 Sets of Clue Cards

Tape

A Bag

Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for the 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. Tape the picture and name of each VIPP to the wall, about 3 feet from the ground.

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 both VIPPS put in one bag. Mix up. Have children sit down, with their legs in front of them and their hands propped behind them. Show them how to get in crab position and try moving around. (Moving on hands and feet, with front side facing up). Tell them that you will pull out a clue, tell them what it is and they are to crab-crawl their way 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.

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
