

BIBLE TRUTH 11, LESSON 1: PLANNER/OVERVIEW

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

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

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

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

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

Extra Bible Verse Song: Let Everyone Who Names the Name: 2 Timothy 2:19,22, ESV PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 6

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

Bible Truth 11: God's People Tell Others about Him

Bible Truth Hymn: Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy, v.1 *PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 37*

Extra Song: God's One, Big Plan PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 38

Bible Verse: Romans 10:13-15

Bible Verse Song: How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15 *PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 39*

Extra Bible Verse Song: Be My Witnesses: Acts 1:8, ESV PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 40

Lesson 1 New Testament Story: The Case of the Homecoming Heralds Acts 13:1-12

TAKING ACTION: Response Activities

Snack and Discussion Planner: Beautiful Feet in Cyprus

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Help the Blind Man

Bible Truth Hymn: Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy, v.1 *PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 37*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Mimic Me! **PFI ESV SONGS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: Romans 10:13-15 Discussion Sheet and Game: Jump for Joy

Bible Verse Song: How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15 *PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 39*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Word Take Away **PFI ESV SONGS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Spin the Light

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: The Proconsul, Sergius Paulus

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (Back of Book) and Game: Hit the Wall

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 11, Lesson 1 **PFI ESV PRONTOS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Homecoming Heralds Acts 13:1-12

by Connie Dever

Our story is called:**The Case of the Homecoming Heralds.****As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

1. Who were the homecoming heralds? Who went with them?
2. What did they come home to do?

This story takes place in New Testament times, after Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

"Home, at last!" Barnabas and his cousin, John Mark, must have thought as the white beaches of Cyprus came into view. In the distance, they could see the familiar, green plains and majestic, snow-capped mountains of Cyprus that had once been their home. How beautiful! It has been years since they had seen these lovely sights! How good it was to see them again!

But Barnabas and John Mark hadn't come to Cyprus just to see their beautiful country or even to catch up with family, as nice as that might have been. They had come to Cyprus on a mission, together with Paul. A mission placed upon them by God. Paul and Barnabas were to preach the good news of Jesus to the people of Cyprus for the first time. John Mark had come as their helper.

One day, as the leaders of the church in Antioch were worshipping the Lord and fast, the Lord spoke to them. "Set apart Barnabas and Paul for Me, for the work I am calling them to," the Holy Spirit told them. "I am sending them out from you to tell others about Jesus who have not yet heard."

The elders laid hands upon Barnabas and Paul and asked God to bless the mission. Then, the three men set off. Guided by the Holy Spirit, the three walked west to Seleucia, the big, Roman, naval seaport on the Mediterranean Sea. From there, they set sail on a cargo ship for Cyprus. And now, after 100 miles of sea-tossed travel, their ship had docked at Salamis, Cyprus.

It didn't take long to see why the Lord had sent them to Cyprus. Oh yes, the people were worshippers, but not of the Lord! It seemed that none had heard the good news of salvation through Jesus! The Greeks worshiped Zeus and Aphrodite. And Jews worshiped the Lord. They tried to keep God's laws. They gathered

in the synagogues to hear preaching from the Bible. They knew the prophets' promises of a coming Savior, but they didn't know that Savior was Jesus and they didn't know that He had come! But now both Greeks and Jew would hear. So, beginning in Salamis, the three men went to the synagogues of Cyprus, preaching the good news of Jesus to all who would listen.

"Jews and Greeks who seek after God, listen to me," Paul would say. "God has brought the Savior Jesus, as he promised he would. All who confess their sins, turn from them, and believe in Him will be forgiven! Don't live separated from God anymore! Come and make peace with Him, once and for all!" They urged everyone.

On and on the three men walked. Over mountains, through forests and fields, along beaches, they traveled with the message of Jesus. Through Tremithus, Citium, Amathus, Curium, and Palaipaphos—all the major cities of Cyprus—they went until they reached Paphos, more than a hundred miles away at the other end of the island.

Paphos was the most important city in Cyprus. The Romans designed and built it to be the island's new modern capital. It had a port where big, Roman ships could easily anchor. It had luxurious villas for the most important Roman leaders to live in. There were temples built for their gods, and a giant, outdoor theater that could hold hundreds of people. Most of all, Paphos was home to the most powerful man in Cyprus: Sergius Paulus, The Roman proconsul (governor).

Paul, Barnabas, and John Mark wasted no time in sharing the good news of Jesus with the people of this important city. Before long though, news of three men

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.

and their new teachings reached the proconsul.

“Find these men and bring them to me!” Sergius Paulus ordered his men. “I want to hear for myself these new things they are preaching.”

Paul, Barnabas and John Mark were found and brought before the proconsul. “Sergius Paulus, your honor, listen to us,” they told him. “God has sent the Savior Jesus, as he promised in the Bible. Jesus died on the cross for the sins of God’s people and then rose from the dead in victory. All who repent of their sins and trust in him as their Savior can be saved. You, too, can make peace with God and know eternal life.”

Many Greeks and Romans had laughed when they heard the good news of Jesus, but not this man. Sergius Paulus listened carefully and was eager to hear more!

“How wonderful!” thought Paul, Barnabas and John Mark. “Could it be that the Holy Spirit was working in his heart? Could it be that the Lord would bring the very proconsul of Cyprus to be saved? What a great testimony to the Lord he might to many Romans and Greeks!!

But Satan, too, was aware of how greatly Jesus might be glorified through Sergius Paulus; and, he had his own plans to block the work of God in this man’s heart, if possible. Right there, in Sergius Paulus’ palace, was a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet named Elymas Bar-Jesus. He had giving Sergius Paulus spiritual advice based on his evil powers. As soon as he saw his master’s growing interest in the good news of Jesus, Elymas began to argue against Paul, Barnabas and John Mark. He tried to turn the proconsul from the faith.

But Satan can never stand up against the mighty power of God and His perfect plans. Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, turned and looked straight at Elymas. He said, “You are from the devil and an enemy of everything that is right! You’re full of tricks and lies. Will you never working against the Lord? Now He will be against you! You are going to be blind, and for a time you will be unable to see the light of the sun.” Immediately Elymas lost his sight. He felt his way around the room, seeking someone to lead him by the hand.

Sergius Paulus watched what happened in amazement of God’s power. This Jesus must be who Paul and Barnabas said he was, the proconsul decided.

Right there and then, he repented of his sins and trusted in Jesus as his Savior. How Paul, Barnabas and John Mark praised God! Their mission here was complete!

The three men headed down to the docks at Paphos. John Mark headed back to Jerusalem, but Paul and Barnabas set sail for the city of Perga, 150 miles across the sea in Turkey. Watching the coast of Cyprus fade out of view, the men had much to praise God for. He was raising up His people in Cyprus! He would use these new believers to keep on sharing the good news of Jesus with others, while He sent Barnabas and Paul to new lands so that yet more might hear about Jesus for the first time.

Cracking the Case:

It’s time to answer our Case Questions.

- 1. Who were the homecoming heralds?** Barnabas and John Mark.
- 2. Who went with them?** Paul.
- 3. What did they come home to do?** They went home to tell the people of Cyprus the good news of Jesus that they might believe and be saved.

Something For You and Me

Our Bible Truth is:

God’s People Tell Others about Him.

Our Bible Verse is: Romans 10:13-15

“For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

Paul and Barnabas had been especially called by the Holy Spirit to leave their home church in Antioch and go share the good news of Jesus with people who had never heard. Theirs were the “beautiful feet” that brought good news to the island of Cyprus and many other places for the first time.

But did you know that even today, almost two thousand years ago, there are still billions of people

who have never even heard of Jesus?

And as long as there are people who have not heard, the Holy Spirit will be calling God's people to leave their home churches and be the "beautiful feet" that bring tell them, just like He called Paul and Barnabas to.

Perhaps some of you have never heard the good news of salvation through Jesus before today. How does God want us to respond to it that we might be forgiven our sins? He wants us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, He forgives our sins, He fills our heart with His Holy Spirit and makes us one of God's dearly loved people. And then we will get to know Him, love Him, serve Him and enjoy Him here on earth our whole lives. And get to live forever with Him in heaven. That's why the gospel is such good news!

Let's praise God for wanting all the people of the earth to know about Him, that they might turn to Him and be saved. Let's ask God to move in the hearts of His people to send them out to even the ends of the earth, until all have heard the good news of Jesus. Let's ask Him to work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the Sender of Your people to others so that they can hear and believe the gospel and be saved.

C God, we confess that, like the people of Cyprus, we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

T God, we thank You that You sent Jesus to willingly suffer and die to save sinners like us.

S God, we ask that You to work in our hearts. Help us to confess our sins, turn away from them and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Send out Your people to all parts of the world that everyone might hear the gospel. Work in the hearts of those who hear the gospel, giving them the gift of faith that they might turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

Special Words

Herald: A person who announces important news.

Fasting: Fasting is choosing to not eat for a time and spending that time in prayer instead.

Elders: The godly men raised up by God to lead a local church.

Gospel: A word that means "good news." Christians use it to talk about the good news of salvation through Jesus.

Proconsul: A Roman governor.

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 so gracious and compassionate that You chose to save sinners from every people on earth.

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. We confess that we are sinners who need to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus that we might be saved.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, work to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Help Your people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Help us tell the good news of Jesus, too. Bring many people to know and love You.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

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

Snack: Beautiful Feet in Cyprus

Traditional Cyprus food: gold fish cracker “fish”, grapes, olives, pita bread, hummus; or “Beautiful Feet” Toe-Food: foot-shaped “Nutter-Butter” peanut butter cookies, made by splitting apart 2 sandwich cookies and alternating the “feet” like footsteps.

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

Case Tie-in: The people of Athens worshiped many gods, but Paul used the Altar to the Unknown God to tell them about the Lord, the one, true God.

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 Tell Others about Him

We've all rebelled against God and deserve His just and eternal punishment for our sins. But God, in His great love for sinners, chose to send His Son, Jesus to be our Savior. Jesus came and lived the perfect life that pleases God. On the cross, He offered it up as the perfect payment for the sins of God's people. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had conquered sin and death, once and for all! Now all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior are forgiven and receive eternal life with God. This good news is what Christians call the gospel--and everyone needs to hear it! God calls His people to tell it to everyone, in every part of the world. Jesus promises to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, all according to God's good plan.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. Who has rebelled against God? *We all have.*
2. What do all people deserve for their rebellion against God? *His just and eternal punishment for their sins.*
3. How did God show His love towards us, despite our wicked rebellion against Him? *He sent His Son, Jesus to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior.*
4. What did Jesus do on the third day that showed He had conquered sin and death for God's people, once and for all? *He rose from the dead.*
5. What do we call the good news of salvation through Jesus? *The gospel.*
6. Why do all people need to hear the good news of Jesus? *He is the only way to be saved from the punishment they deserve for their sins and to enter into fellowship with the Lord.*
7. Why should God's people to go every part of the world, to every people and tell them about Jesus? *It is God's command; and, because God has always planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation and language.*
8. What will happen before Jesus comes back? *The gospel preached to every people, according to God's plan.*

Story Connection Questions

1. How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: God's People Tell Others about Him**? *How did the church in Antioch fulfill Jesus' command to tell others about Him? They fasted and prayed to know God's will. They listened and obeyed the Holy Spirit telling them to send out Paul and Barnabas. They prayed for them as they went. Paul and Barnabas (and John Mark) journeyed to many faraway places to tell the people there about Jesus.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our **Bible Verse: Romans 10:13-15**: "For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"?

God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.

Life Application Questions

1. How can we use God's people in our church today to tell others about Him? *They can pray that God would show them who in our church does He want to go to tell others about Jesus in faraway places. They can pray for those who have gone to faraway places already. They can pray that God would even give them, opportunities, right here at home, to tell others about Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries who have come to live here, make friends with them, love them, and tell them the good news of salvation through Jesus.*
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 because of this Bible Truth?

Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth..

2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth? *Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.*

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

Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.

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

Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

The Gospel

1. *What is the good news that God wants His people to tell everyone? 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.

Game: Help the Blind Man

Materials

Blindfold

Cane

Bible Truth Questions

Bag/Bowl

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

Children form a circle, with "It", a blind man, in the center. The circle moves slowly to the left or to the right at the Blind Man's command. Then, the Blind Man says, "Halt!" Everyone in the circle stands still. The Blind Man then begins walking out towards the circle of children, GENTLY touching his cane out until he touches someone. When he does, the blind man gets to choose a question from the bag for the teacher to read to the class. When they get a correct answer, the blind man gives up his blindfold to the other child who becomes the blind man, while the former blind man joins the circle.

Game continues as number of questions, 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.

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Verse 1

Come ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and pow'r.

Refrain:

I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms..

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 37

Understanding the Song

1. What is a sinner? *Someone who thinks, says and acts in ways that do not please God.*
2. What words describe a sinner? What do they mean? *Poor and needy: not that they don't have money, but that they have no way to "pay" for their sins. Weak and wounded, sick and sore: Not only are their bodies suffer under weakness, wounds, sickness or soreness, but their hearts are weak and hurt from fighting sin. They suffer from sadness and guilt.*
3. Who should a sinner come to? Why? *Jesus, because He stands ready to save you.*
4. How does Jesus receive sinners who come to Him? *He is full of pity (sad that you are suffering and desiring to help you), love and power (through His life offered up on the cross).*
5. Who is the song writer going to? How will He receive him? *Jesus. He will embrace him in His arms.*
6. What he mean when he says Jesus will embrace him in His arms? *Not that Jesus will really give him a hug, but that He will rejoice that he has come to Him for salvation, and that He loves him tenderly. In heaven, though, Jesus very well WILL really hug him!*
7. What does it mean that there are ten thousand charms in the arms of Jesus? *A charm is something that delights you. Knowing Jesus' love and forgiveness, being in His family, are so wonderful that it is like getting ten thousand of the things that delight you most, all rolled up into one. There is nothing as wonderful as knowing and being loved by Him.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **God's People Tell Others about Him?**
When God's people share the good news of Jesus with others, they tell them that we are all sinners who need to come to Jesus to save them.

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *Paul, Barnabas and John Mark shared the good news of salvation to the people of Cyprus. They explained to everyone that we are all sinners who need a Savior. They told them that Jesus was standing ready to save them right then, if they will turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Bible Verse: Romans 10:13-15:** "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"?

This hymn is a call for all sinners to call on the name of the Lord and be saved. God's people sing this song to encourage others to hear the good news of salvation through Jesus and be saved.

Life Application Questions

1. How can God's people be affected by the message of this song? *They can praise God who loves sinners who come to Him so much that He delights to embrace them and bless them with ten thousand charms.*
2. We are sinners, poor and needy. How can we be saved? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for being the gracious God, full of pity, love and power, to save sinners.

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

Confess that we are weak, wounded, sick and sore, with sin. We deserve God's punishment. We need a Savior!

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

We can thank God for not treating sinners just as their sins deserve, but for standing ready to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. He is so full of pity, love and power!

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

That God would work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to heal us of the weakness, wounds, sickness and soreness of sin in our lives. We can ask Him for His eternal life.

Gospel Question

1. Why does God not just judge our sins as we deserve, but stands ready to save us? Because of what Jesus has done! Can you tell me the good news of Jesus?

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: 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.

choose a FEW questions for discussion, then choose the game and/or music activity

Meditation Version: Romans 10:13-15, ESV

“For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

Alternate Memory Version: Romans 10:13-15 ESV

“For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? ... As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. What does it mean to “call on the name of the Lord? *Confess to God that you are a sinner who deserves His just wrath for your sin and that only by Him saving you (by taking the punishment you deserved when He died upon the cross) can you ever find forgiveness for your sins.*
2. Who will be saved? *Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord.*
3. What do people have to do before they can call on the name of the Lord? *Believe.*
4. What has to happen for people to believe? *Someone must preach to them.*
5. What does “preach” mean in this verse? *Doesn’t have to be a pastor who tells them about Jesus as he preaches a sermon. It can mean any Christian who tells others the good news of Jesus.*
6. How will those who haven’t heard about Jesus hear preaching? *Someone must be sent..*
7. Who sends people to tell others about Jesus? *Jesus and God’s people gathered together—churches. After Jesus rose from the dead, He commanded those who believed in Him to go into all the world, telling others about Him that they could become His obedient followers (disciples), too. But we see in our story today that the Holy Spirit guides churches to pray for and sent out their very own to tell others about Jesus.*
8. What makes the feet of those who bring good news beautiful? *Not that they have good looking feet. It means that they are the ones who are coming with the good news that saves people from their sins. They are coming to rescue them.*
9. What is the good news that God’s people bring? *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.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: God’s People Tell Others about Him?**
God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.

Story Connection Questions

1. What does the verse have to do with our story? *The Holy Spirit guided the church in Antioch to send out Paul, Barnabas (and John Mark) to go to Cyprus and other places to preach the good news to them that they might call on the name of the Lord and be saved.*

Life Application Questions

1. How can God's people today take the good news to those who have not heard? *They can go to live in the faraway places to tell people there how they can be saved through Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries that move here and tell them how they can be saved through Jesus. They can pray for others who have already gone out to faraway places that God would help them tell others about Jesus. They can pray for people here that God would help them tell these people the good news of Jesus.*
2. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*
3. Who can tell us the good news of Jesus? *People at our churches, our Sunday School teachers, and any other Christians we know would be happy to talk to us about becoming a Christian.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible verse?
Praise God for being faithful to His promise to save all who call on His name.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Bible verse?
That we are all sinners, who need to turn away from our sins and believe in Jesus. That many times we could tell others the good news of Jesus, but choose not to because we are lazy or afraid they won't want to hear it.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible verse?
We can thank God for sending His people to tell others in faraway places about Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Bible verse?
We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. That He would send out many of His people today to faraway places that all may hear the good news of Jesus, turn from their sins, believe in Jesus and be saved.

The Gospel

1. What is the good news of Jesus that God's people bring to others? 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.

Game: Jump for Joy

Materials

Bible verse written up in large print so that all can see
A very long rope or jump rope

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 form a line. Have two people be the Rope Turners for the jump rope. While the entire group recites the verse, have the children take turns trying to jump through the whole verse without stopping. For children adept at jumping rope, you can even have them try running in and jumping, jumping with a partner, etc. or other variations the children come up with.

Game continues until all children get to jump, 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 the song in large print on a white board or some large paper 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 the 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 verse ties in with the Bible Truth.

How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15, ESV**Refrain**

How beautiful! How beautiful!

How beautiful are the feet.

How beautiful! How beautiful!

Are the feet of those who preach the good news.

Ev'ryone who calls on the name of the Lord,
Will be saved.

Ev'ryone who calls on the name of the Lord,
Will be saved.

Yes, but I have some questions...

How then will they call on Him they've not believed in?

How are they to believe in Him they never heard?

How are they to hear without someone preaching?

How are they to preach unless they are sent?

Well, it all goes back to those feet! Refrain

Romans Ten, thirteen through fifteen.

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 39

Song Game: Word Take Away**Materials**

Sign Language Signs and Song

White board and marker

Eraser

Preparing the Game

1. Write the words to the song on a white board.

Playing the Game

1. After children have learned the song and signs well, then tell the children that you are going to leave out words from the song (that you've learned signs for) and just do the sign in its place.
2. Have the children help you choose a word to take out. Erase the word from the board. Review the sign the for erased word.
3. Sing the song, trying to remember to NOT sing the word and do only the sign.
4. Continue to take out words until all of the words (with signs) have been taken out.

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. How did the church at Antioch know to send out Paul and Barnabas? *The Holy Spirit told them as they were praying and fasting.*
2. What is fasting? Fasting is choosing to not eat for a time and spending that time in prayer instead.
3. Why do Christians fast? *All through the Bible, we read about God's people fasting, especially in times of great difficulty or need. It is a way of showing that they want His wisdom and help so much that it is even more important than food for their hungry bodies. Children should seek their parents wisdom before fasting.*
4. How did Paul and Barnabas know that the Greeks and Romans who lived on Cyprus needed to know about Jesus? *They worshiped the Greek gods, Zeus and Aphrodite.*
5. How did Paul and Barnabas know that the Jews needed to know about Jesus? *They listened to God's Word read in the synagogue and tried to keep the Laws of Moses, but they could never keep all of the laws and they did not yet know about Jesus, who came to save them from their sins.*
6. Where did Paul and Barnabas preach first? Why? *In the synagogues. Because the Word of God was taught there; and many of the Jews and Greeks who gathered there already had the Holy Spirit softening their hearts by the Word of God.*
7. Where else did Paul, Barnabas and John Mark go? Why? *They traveled across the island, stopping at the cities along the way. They wanted all to hear about Jesus, not just those in Salamis.*
8. What was special about the city of Paphos? *It was the new Roman capitol of Cyprus. Home of the governor of Cyprus, Sergius Paulus.*
Why did Sergius Paulus order Paul and Barnabas come to meet him? *He received word about what they were preaching and he wanted them to tell him about Jesus, too.*
9. Why would it be especially good if Sergius Paulus became a Christian? *As governor, he could protect the other Christians from persecution. Also, he could be a great witness for the good news of Jesus to others on the island and even other Roman leaders in other places he came into contact with.*
10. What did Satan do to try to prevent Sergius Paulus from believing? *He used a sorcerer named Elymas Bar-Jesus, who worked for Sergius Paulus, to try to argue him out of believing in Jesus.*
11. What did Paul do to stop Elymas? *He rebuked him in Jesus' name and caused him to go instantly blind.*
How did God use Satan's tricks for His own good purposes? *Sergius Paulus saw the power of the name of Jesus by how Paul rebuked Elymas; and then immediately believed.*
12. What is the good news of Jesus that God's people tell others? *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.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: God's People Tell Others about Him?** *The church in Antioch obeyed the Lord to send out Paul and Barnabas to go and tell others who lived far away the good news of Jesus, that they, too, might be saved.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Romans 10:13-15** "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" ?

The Holy Spirit guided the church in Antioch to send out Paul, Barnabas (and John Mark) to go to Cyprus and other places to preach the good news to them that they might call on the name of the Lord and be saved.

Life Application Questions

1. Can people be saved today without hearing and responding to the good news of salvation through Jesus? *No. Only through faith in Him can anyone be saved.*
2. Why do God's people today need to tell others about Jesus? *Because there are still billions who haven't heard. Jesus is only way to be saved from their sins! They need to know if they are to be forgiven by God and are to become God's dearly loved people, enjoying eternal life with Him.*
3. Is anyone too sinful to be saved? *No. God will forgive all who turn away from their sins, confess them to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior.*
4. How can we be saved? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

ACTS Questions

1. What's something we can praise God for from this story? *Praise Him for being the Sender of His people to others so that they can hear and believe the gospel and be saved.*
2. What's something we can confess from this story? *Confess that like the people of Cyprus we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*
3. What's something we can thank God for from this story?
We can thank God that He would save sinners from their sins, though none of us could ever deserve it. We can thank Him for sending Jesus to willingly suffer and die to save God's people.
4. What is something we can ask God for, from this 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 out His people today to all parts of the world that everyone might hear the gospel. We can ask Him to work in the hearts of the hearers of His gospel, giving them the gift of faith that they might turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.*

The Gospel

1. What is the good news of salvation through Jesus that Paul, Barnabas and John Mark told to the people of Cyprus? 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.

Game: Spin the Light

Materials

Flashlight
Paper and Marker
Story Review Questions

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams. Have them sit in a close circle, alternating Team A and Team B players. Have the children sit in a circle. Put the light in the middle of the circle. Spin the light. Whoever the light points to, answers the question. If it points to a Team A player and he gets it right on his own, it is worth 2 points for his team. If he needs help from another team member, then it is worth 1 point. The question goes to the Team B player on his right for a possible 1 point if the Team A player fails to answer correctly.

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

Non-competitive Option

Don't split into teams. Have the children sit in a circle and spin the light, asking whoever it points to a question. If desired, you can let each child choose another child to help them 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

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 called: The Case of the Homecoming Heralds.

Our story takes place in Antioch and on the island of Cyprus, during New Testament times, not long after Jesus rose from the dead and went back to heaven.

And now we present: "The Case of the Homecoming Heralds:"

Actions:

Scene 1:

The leaders of the church in Antioch--which included Paul and Barnabas— gathered to pray and fast. The Holy Spirit spoke to them, telling them to send out Paul and Barnabas from them for a mission He had planned for them. They laid hands on Paul and Barnabas and prayed a special prayer of blessing, guidance, and protection and sent them out. John Mark went with them as a helper. The Holy Spirit guided Paul and Barnabas to the seaport of Seleucia and to a ship headed for Cyprus, the home country of Barnabas and John Mark.

Scene 2:

When the ship lands in Salamis, Cyprus, Paul, Barnabas and John Mark see that no one there seems to know about Jesus. The Greeks worship Zeus and Aphrodite. The Jews try to keep God's laws, but know nothing about Jesus. They begin to share the good news about Jesus. They go to the synagogue and preach to the Jews and Greeks that gather there to hear God's Word. After Salamis, the three men travel by foot around Cyprus, stopping at the other cities on the island- Tremithus, Citium, Amathus, Curium, and Palaipaphos— preaching to the people there about Jesus. Finally they reach Paphos, the new Roman capitol on the far end of the island. Once more, they go to the synagogue to preach about Jesus.

Scene 3

Sergius Paulus, the Roman governor of Cyprus who lives in Paphos, hears about the new message that Paul and Barnabas are preaching. He calls for them to come and tell him what they are preaching. Sergius Paulus quickly becomes interested in the good news of Jesus, but Satan uses a Jewish sorcerer named Elymas Bar-Jesus to argue against Paul and Barnabas and try to keep Sergius Paulus from believing. Paul turns to Elymas and rebukes him. By the power of Jesus, he causes Elymas to suddenly lose his sight. Sergius is amazed at the good news of Jesus and the power of His name. He believes in Jesus. Having preached about Jesus all over Cyprus, Paul and Barnabas get on a ship and set sail for Perga, Turkey, where there are many other people who have never heard about Him

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God's People Tell Others about Him.** The church in Antioch obeyed the Lord to send out Paul and Barnabas to go and tell others who lived far away the good news of Jesus, that they, too, might be saved.

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 Homecoming Heralds.

Our story takes place in Antioch and on the island of Cyprus, during New Testament times, not long after Jesus rose from the dead and went back to heaven.

The characters in our story are: Leaders of the Antioch Church; Paul and Barnabas; John Mark; Jews and Gentiles; Sergius Paulus; Elymas Bar-Jesus; Sailors of the ships.

And now we present: "The Case of the Homecoming Heralds."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

The leaders of the church in Antioch—which included Paul and Barnabas—gathered to pray and fast. The Holy Spirit spoke to them, telling them to send out Paul and Barnabas from them for a mission He had planned for them. They laid hands on Paul and Barnabas and prayed a special prayer of blessing, guidance, and protection and sent them out. John Mark went with them as a helper. The Holy Spirit guided Paul and Barnabas to the seaport of Seleucia and to a ship headed for Cyprus, the home country of Barnabas and John Mark.

Scene 2: (Middle)

When the ship lands in Salamis, Cyprus, Paul, Barnabas and John Mark see that no one there seems to know about Jesus. The Greeks worship Zeus and Aphrodite. The Jews try to keep God's laws, but know nothing about Jesus. They begin to share the good news about Jesus. They go to the synagogue and preach to the Jews and Greeks that gather there to hear God's Word. After Salamis, the three men travel by foot around Cyprus, stopping at the other cities on the island—Tremithus, Citium, Amathus, Curium, and Palaipaphos—preaching to the people there about Jesus. Finally they reach Paphos, the new Roman capitol on the far end of the island. Once more, they go to the synagogue to preach about Jesus.

Scene 3: (End)

Sergius Paulus, the Roman governor of Cyprus who lives in Paphos, hears about the new message that Paul and Barnabas are preaching. He calls for them to come and tell him what they are preaching. Sergius Paulus quickly becomes interested in the good news of Jesus, but Satan uses a Jewish sorcerer named Elymas Bar-Jesus to argue against Paul and Barnabas and try to keep Sergius Paulus from believing. Paul turns to Elymas and rebukes him. By the power of Jesus, he causes Elymas to suddenly lose his sight. Sergius is amazed at the good news of Jesus and the power of His name. He believes in Jesus. Having preached about Jesus all over Cyprus, Paul and Barnabas get on a ship and set sail for Perga, Turkey, where there are many other people who have never heard about Him.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God's People Tell Others about Him.** The church in Antioch obeyed the Lord to send out Paul and Barnabas to go and tell others who lived far away the good news of Jesus, that they, too, might be saved.

The Proconsul, Sergius Paulus

Description

The children will make a Roman laurel (head wreath like what Roman officials worn sometimes) with poster board, card stock and optional golden glitter glue.

Materials

22" x 28" poster board 1 piece per 14 laurel wreaths
 2 or 3 pages of printed out leaves per craft (on following page)
 White paper, card stock preferred but not necessary
 1.5" sticky back velcro per craft
 Leaf-colored markers/colored pencils
 Glue (tape or staplers)
 Gold glitter glue (optional)
 Scissors

Preparing the Craft

1. Cut 22" x 2" strips out of the poster board, 1 per craft.
2. Cut velcro into 1.5" pieces
3. Print out 3 pages of leaves per craft onto white paper (card stock is preferred)
4. For youngest children, you may want to cut out their leaves ahead of time.
5. Stick one side of the velcro in place on each band.
6. Set out other supplies.
7. Make a sample for the children to see.

Making the Craft

1. Show children your sample.
2. Have the children color in their leaves.
3. Hold up a band to each child's head and cut down to an appropriate size, if necessary. Add the other piece of velcro to the BACK side of the band on the other end.
4. Have the children paste/tape/staple their leaves in place in an overlapping fashion as shown below.
5. If desired, children can add glitter glue accents to the leaves.
6. Put on head, securing in place with the velcro.

Making a Bible Truth Connection

Once the children have settled into their craft, use the Bible Truth- Craft Connection Sheet to lead discussion about the craft. Note that most of these questions echo the questions on the case board, providing a review of what the children learned earlier.

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 Paul, Barnabas and John Mark go?

To Cyprus.

2. To whom was Paul and Barnabas especially excited to do in Paphos?

Meet with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus.

3. What did Sergius Paulus ask Paul and Barnabas about?

He wanted to hear the good news of Jesus they were preaching.

4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning?

God's People Tell Others about Him.

5. What does Sergius Paulus have to do with our Bible Truth?

Paul, Barnabas and John Mark were especially pleased to tell Sergius Paulus the good news of Jesus because if he became a Christian, he could make it much easier for others to become Christians in Cyprus.

6. What can God use the craft of Sergius Paulus to help us remember?

God wants all people, from the most important to the least important in this world to hear the good news of salvation through 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 The Proconsul, Sergius Paulus.

2. At Paphos, Cyprus, Paul, Barnabas, and John Mark were invited into the presence of the proconsul, Sergius Paulus because he wanted to hear the good news of Jesus.

3. Bible Truth 11 is: God's People Tell Others about Him.

4. Paul, Barnabas and John Mark were especially pleased to tell Sergius Paulus the good news of Jesus because if he became a Christian, he could make it much easier for others to become Christians in Cyprus.

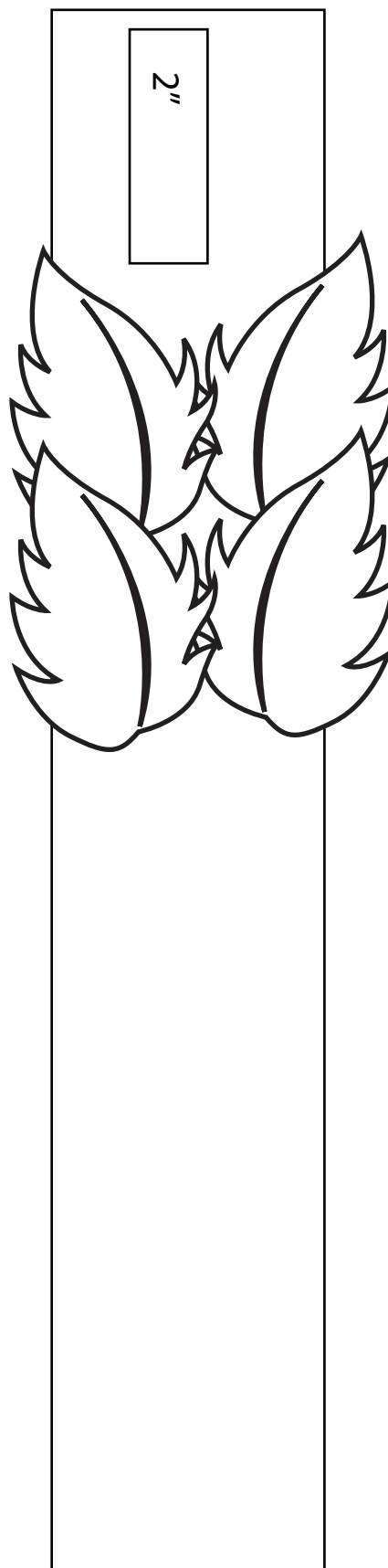
5. Our craft can help us remember that God wants all people, from the most important to the least important in this world to hear the good news of salvation through Jesus.

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.

Poster board "band" for laurel

22" length (cut down to size, if necessary, for younger children)

1 side of velcro



→
other side of 2"
velcro on back
side



BEFORE CLASS:**1. PICK YOUR PERSON**

VIPPs can be anyone in your church! Typically, they fall into 6 categories: Church staff, Elders, Deacons/deaconesses, Special Volunteers (people who aren't paid, but spend a lot of time helping out in particular ways), Supported Workers (aka missionaries), and Church Members.

2. GATHER YOUR FACTS

Use the VIPP Information Sheet to write down the facts about your VIPP. The information on this worksheet is used in the VIPP activities, listed in the "Choose an Activity" section below.

DURING THE ACTIVITY:**1. INTRODUCE YOUR VIPP**

Introduce your VIPP to the children, using the VIPP Information Sheet. Fill in a set of VIPP Clue Cards with the information for your VIPP. If desired, you can even have the actual person come into class for the children to meet.

Need help describing what someone does for the church in a kid-friendly way? Check out the list of common VIPPs on the Praise Factory website in the PFI resources. There are lots of kid-friendly descriptions for common VIPP's, such as pastors, elders, deacons and a lot more.

2. PRAY!

Lead the children in praying for the VIPP. Ask the children if they would like to pray for one of the VIPPs prayer requests. Even non-readers can pray for the VIPP if you whisper the prayer request in their ear, then let them say it aloud. Never force a child to pray!

3. CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY

There are two activities you can use to help the children learn about the VIPP:

VIPP Clue Cards: These are nine coloring sheets in which children fill in the nine things they learn about the VIPP from the VIPP Information Sheet. Photocopy a set of each child. Use as few or as many of these Clue Cards as you desire. They are found in the back of this book.

VIPP Game: This is a game that uses a set of Clue Cards for one or two VIPPs.

Choose a VIPP and fill in his/her information on the VIPP Information Sheet. Fill in a set of VIPP Clue Cards with the information for your VIPP. Tell the children about the VIPP, having them fill in the VIPP Clue Cards with the key facts as they learn them. Write any words the children need to write on a white-board or other piece of paper so they can see how to spell them. Help younger children write these words on their clue cards. Ideas for how to tell the children about many common VIPPs are listed at praisefactory.org with the resources for this Bible Truth.

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

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

Game: Hit the Wall

Materials

Information Sheet for one VIPP

2 Set of Clue Cards

8 8.5" x 11" Manilla Envelopes

Nerf Ball or other soft ball for indoor use

Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for the VIPP you are using.
2. Tape the other (blank) set of Clue Cards to the outside of the manilla envelopes.
3. Put the filled-in clue cards in the corresponding envelope.
4. Tape the envelopes to the wall.

Playing the Game

Reveal, then Review Version:

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

Review: Have the children take turns trying to hit an envelope with the ball. The teacher (or the child) tells the Clue Card category. The other children try to remember what the VIPP's answer was. Open it up and see if they got it right. If they did, the Clue Card is retired. If not, it can be added back into the Clue Cards to be aimed at.

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
