

## **BIBLE TRUTH 13, LESSON 3: PLANNER/OVERVIEW**

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

**Welcome to Praise Factory:** PFI: Praise Factory Investigators Theme Song *PFI ESV Songs 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 13:** God's People Know Heaven Is Their Home

**Bible Truth Hymn:** The Sands of Time Are Sinking *PFI ESV Songs 12, Tracks 46-49*

**Bible Verse:** Philippians 3:18-20, ESV

**Bible Verse Song:** Many Walk as Enemies *PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 50*

*Extra Bible Verse: You Were Publicly Exposed: Hebrews 10:32-36, ESV PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 51*

**Lesson 3 Old Testament Story:** The Case of the Locked Out Leader

Exodus 2-3; Numbers 20,27:12-23; Deuteronomy 32:44-52, 34; Acts 7: 20-43; Hebrews 11:16,23-27

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

**Snack and Discussion Planner:** Rock of Trouble

**ACTS Prayer:** Prayer Sheet

**Bible Truth Review:** Discussion Questions and Game: Red Light, Green Light for Storks

**Bible Truth Hymn:** The Sands of Time Are Sinking *PFI ESV Songs 12, Tracks 46-49*

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

**Bible Verse Review:** Philippians 3:18-20 Discussion Sheet and Game: Ball Circle Toss

**Bible Verse Song:** Many Walk as Enemies *PFI ESV Songs 12, Track 50*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice **PFI ESV SONGS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

**Story Review:** Discussion Questions and Game: Tell the Truth Basketball

**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 Promised Land from Mount Nebo

**VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time:** Coloring Sheets (back of book) and Game: Crabbin' Around

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

**PFI Pronto:** Bible Truth 13, Lesson 3 **PFI ESV PRONTOS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

**The Case of the Locked-Out Leader** Exodus 2-3; Numbers 20,27:12-23; Deuteronomy 32:44-52;34; Acts 7:20-43; Hebrews 11:16,23-27

by Connie Dever

**Our story is: The Case of the Locked-Out Leader.**

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

- 1. Who was the Locked-Out Leader?**
- 2. Where was he locked out of? Why? Where did he get to go that was even better?**

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

A young man, deep in thought, sat in Pharaoh's palace. Looking at his fine, linen kilt, his papyrus and gold sandals and his royal headdress, there was no mistake that this was a prince of Egypt. But if you could read his mind at that moment, you would see an Israelite, instead. This man was Moses, the Israelite baby found and adopted by an Egyptian princess, yet still very much an Israelite. Perhaps he had learned chariot driving, literature and hieroglyphics from the best Egyptian teachers, but his heart burned in anger at the way the Egyptians treated his people. He longed for God to send a rescuer to free them and take them back home to the Promised Land of their father Abraham. He had begun to wonder if he was that man.

One day, Moses went out to where the Hebrew slaves were working. In horror he watched an Egyptian beat one of the them. He could take no longer. He would leave his fine life as an Egyptian prince and rescue his people! He killed the Egyptian and hid his body in the sand. He thought the Hebrews would understand he was coming to deliver them. But they didn't and Moses had to flee for his life.

Away from Egypt and across the barren desert he ran far away to the land of Midian. This wasn't what Moses had planned at all! His people were supposed to see God had sent him to rescue them, but they had rejected him. Had he given up the riches of Egypt for nothing? Had he placed his trust in his unseen God and promises to lead them to an unseen land for nothing? Would he keep finding his joy and reward in what was unseen? Forty years went by. Moses could have given up, but he did not. God gave him faith to keep trusting Him. At just the right time, the LORD appeared to Moses and told him to go back to Egypt. Reluctantly Moses obeyed. Would the LORD really enable him to lead the people

out of Egypt and to the Promised Land? It was hard for him to trust, but he did.

Back across the desert Moses went, now an eighty-year-old man. He gathered the Israelites together and said: "I have heard from the LORD, our unseen God, on Mount Sinai. He has chosen for me to lead you out of Egypt and to the land He promised to give you long ago. Will you give up your life here in Egypt and follow Him to the Promised Land?" he asked them.

"Yes, we will!" the people eagerly promised.

After many, mighty displays of God's power, the Egyptians finally released the Israelites. Through Moses, the LORD led them away from Egypt, and across the desert sands. How they were looking forward to their rich, promised homeland!

The Promised Land was so close that the Israelites could have walked there a couple weeks, but forty YEARS would pass before they would even set one foot there! Though Moses kept urging the Israelites to trust in God to provide for their needs and bring them safely into the land He had promised them, they only grumbled and doubted Him every time something difficult happened.

"We see only dry desert! How will we find food and water to stay alive?" they grumbled. "The Promised Land might be filled with good things, but huge, fierce warriors live there in strong, walled cities. How can we match their strength? They have gods that they can see and who go before them. How can we trust the LORD our God to take care of us, we can't even see Him?" they doubted. "Now we shall die out here in the desert never even seeing this Promised Land! We should have never left Egypt! Life as a slave was even better than this!" they

#### 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.

grumbled.

The Israelites had chosen to look for their joy and reward in what they could see and taste and touch, not in their unseen God and His promises. They rejected the LORD.

“Because you have grumbled against Me and doubted that I would take care of you.... because you would not trust for Me to give you this unseen homeland I promised you, you will never have it at all,” the LORD told the people through Moses. “Instead, you will wander for forty years out here in this desert and die. It will be your children who will live to see it and live in it.”

So wander for forty years they did. Though they were never more than a week’s walk from the Promised Land, they did nothing more than look at it. And what did Moses do during those next forty years? He kept leading the Israelites, trying to patiently endure their grumbling.

Now grumbling would be hard to patiently endure for a week or a month. But can you imagine how difficult it would be to take forty years of it? So perhaps you’ll not be surprised to hear that there came a day, near the very end of those forty years of grumbling, when humble, patient Moses got fed up with it and sinned.

The Israelites had stopped to camp at a place called Kadesh, but when they looked for water, there wasn’t any. Once more, the people grumbled about this to Moses and Aaron instead of asking the LORD to provide. “Why did you bring us out to this desert, that we and our livestock should die here? Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to this terrible place? There is no grain or figs, grapevines or pomegranates. And there is no water to drink!” they complained.

Moses and Aaron left the people and went to the entrance to the Tabernacle and fell face down in prayer to the LORD. The glory of the LORD appeared to them and the LORD told Moses, “Take the staff, then you and your brother Aaron gather the people together before the rock I show you. Speak to the rock and before their eyes, water will pour out that they and their animals can drink.”

So Moses took the staff from the LORD’s presence, just as he commanded him. He and Aaron gathered the people together in front of the rock and Moses said to

them, “Listen, you rebellious people, must we bring you water out of this rock?” Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff, making it look as if he had made water come out of the rock. Water gushed out, and the people and their animals drank.

The LORD provided water, but Moses and Aaron had sinned. They hadn’t spoken to the rock as He had told them to. They had struck it. And even more importantly, they had not said the LORD would give the people water, but that they—Moses and Aaron-- would give them water.

So the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring the people into the Promised Land I am giving them.”

And so it was. Only months later, when at last it was time for the Israelites to at last cross into the unseen homeland Moses and the Israelites had waited for so long, Moses was not allowed to enter.

“Climb up here on Mount Nebo,” the LORD told Moses. “From there you will be able to see the land that has been unseen for so many years. I will show it all to you and then you will die.”

Moses sadly said farewell to the Israelites he had led for so long, and then climbed up Mount Nebo. From the summit of the mountain, Moses cast his eyes for the first time on the land he had spent most of his life trying to enter. It was as beautiful and rich as the Lord as promised. Then he died right there on Mount Nebo, just as the LORD said he would. And the LORD, Himself, buried him.

Was Moses very sad that day when he saw the Promised Land and knew he would never enter it? Yes, but not as sad as you might think. For while Moses knew he would never enter that earthly promised homeland of God’s people, he knew when he died, the LORD would take him to his a far better, unseen homeland—the homeland of heaven. This was the true homeland of all God’s people. And this homeland had joys and rewards far better than the riches and treasures Moses had known as an Egyptian prince and would be far more wonderful than anything in the rich Promised Land he had seen from the top of Mount Nebo that day. For in heaven, he would be with the LORD. No longer

would He be unseen. Now, Moses would live in close, face to face fellowship with Him forever. And that is best of all.

### Cracking the Case:

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

**1. Who was the Locked-Out Leader?** Moses.

**2. Where was he locked out of? Why? Where did he get to go that was even better?** He was not allowed to enter the Promised Land with the Israelites because of how he sinned against the LORD. The LORD took Moses home to be with Him in heaven.

### Something For You and Me

**Our Bible Truth is:**

**God's People Know Heaven Is Their Home**

**Our Bible Verse is: Philippians 3:18-20**

"For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."

For years Moses and the people of Israel eagerly awaited the day when they would enter the Promised Land. How much greater, though, do God's people eagerly await their Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, to come from heaven! What a great day that will be when Jesus brings an end to sin and death forever! What a great day that will be when at last all God's people will be gathered together in God's glorious presence!

You and I can be a part of God's people, too! We can be among those who enjoy life forever in God's presence. How? By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. He will forgive our sins and make us His dearly loved people!

Let's praise God for His offer to make sinful people like you and me citizens of heaven! Let's ask Him to help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Let's ask Him to fit us for heaven, giving us hearts that know, love and obey Him, even today.

*Close in prayer.*

### Closing ACTS Prayer

**A** God, we praise You for being so patient and merciful to Your sinful people.

**C** God, we confess that many times we, like the Israelites, grumble and complain to You rather than trusting You. We deserve Your punishment! We need a Savior!

**T** God, we thank You for promising Your people a land far better than the Promised Land of the Israelites. You promise them an eternity in heaven with You!

**S** God, work in our hearts! Help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us not to complain but to remember and trust You to take care of us when we go through difficult things. Help us to long to be with You in heaven.

### Special Words

**Pharaoh:** The title of the Egyptian king.

**Hieroglyphics:** Written language of the ancient Egyptians.

**Mount Sinai:** A mountain in the wilderness, in southern Egypt where the LORD appeared to Moses and the people of Israel. Also the place where He gave them the His laws, including the 10 Commandments.

**Tabernacle:** The portable worship tent that God commanded the Israelites to make.

**Mount Nebo:** A mountain in Jordan, just east of Israel. The view from the top gives a wide view of much of Israel.

# **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 Preparer of Your people's wonderful home in heaven.

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

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Add your own Adorations:

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## **CONFESSION:**

We confess that many times we grasp for the best things in life here on earth and grumble when we don't get them. We forget about You. We forget that we can one day live with You in heaven which will be far better than anything we can imagine.

God, we have sinned against You....

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Add your own Confessions:

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## **THANKSGIVING:**

Thank You, God, for being willing to forgive all our sins through Jesus so that we can have eternal life and be with You forever in heaven.

God, we thank You for...

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Add your own Thanksgivings:

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## **SUPPLICATION:**

God, work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to desire to be with You in heaven, most of all. Prepare our hearts by helping us love and obey You more today.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

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## **SNEAKY SNACK**

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

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### **Snack: The Rock of Trouble**

Dinner roll “rock” with a pretzel stick “staff” striking it (stuck in the top of it.) Serve with “water from the rock.” (You might also want to have a little butter or some other spread to put on the roll.)

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

**Case Tie-in:** Moses lost his temper and sinned against the LORD by striking the rock instead of speaking to it as the LORD had commanded him to. The LORD did not allow Moses to enter the Promised Land with the Israelites, but he soon gained his far better heavenly home.

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## **SOUL FOOD**

Food for thought during snack time

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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.

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

### **God's People Know Heaven Is Their Home.**

Jesus is God's Son. He left His home in heaven to come to earth to save God's people. He lived a perfect life and offered it up on the cross as the perfect payment for the sins of God's people, so they would be God's forever. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day then went back to heaven to reign. He is preparing a place for God's people to come and live with Him. There is nothing better than living with God and enjoying Him forever. The Bible tells us that we can't even imagine how wonderful it will be. There are many hard things that God's people may have to endure here on earth, but they look forward to the day when they go home to heaven and suffer no more. There are also many good things that God's people enjoy here on earth, but they know that none of them can compare to the good things they will enjoy in heaven in God's presence. Every day, God's people try to please God with whatever happens in their lives, but they are always looking forward to that wonderful day when they will go home to be with Him forever.

### **Understanding the Bible Truth**

1. Who is Jesus? *God's Son.*
2. Where is Jesus' home and why did He leave it? *Heaven. He left it to come to earth and save God's people from their sins.*
3. What did Jesus do on earth for God's people? *Lived a perfect life, then offered it up on the cross as the perfect payment for their sins so they could be God's forever.*
4. What happened to Jesus after He died on the cross? *He rose from the dead on the third day and went back home to heaven.*
5. What is Jesus doing in heaven? *He is reigning and He is preparing a place for God's people to live.*
6. What is the best thing we can enjoy? *Living with God and enjoying Him forever.*
7. What about heaven helps God's people endure their hardships with joy? *They will have eternal happiness there with God. He will give them many good things, more wonderful than anyone can imagine.*
8. Who do God's people try to please each day? *They try to please God with whatever happens in their lives.*
9. What are God's people always looking forward to? *The day when they will go home to be with God forever.*

### **Story Connection Questions**

How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: God's People Know Heaven Is Their Home:**

1. Why did Moses choose to leave Pharaoh's palace and be mistreated along with the Israelites? *He thought it was better to suffer as one of God's people than to enjoy good things for a little while. He was looking forward to heaven, when God would reward him with eternal happiness and good things that would never, ever end.*

### **Bible Verse Connection Question**

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our **Bible Verse: Philippians 3:18-20**: "I have often told you before and now way again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ."?

*God's people know heaven in their home. They look forward to the day when their troubles here are over and they will get to live with God forever in that wonderful place.*

### **Life Application Questions**

1. How can knowing heaven is their home help God's people through their hardships? *They can know that one day the hardships will end and they will enjoy close fellowship with God forever. They know that in heaven, God will give them far greater treasures than anything they gave up here.*
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 Preparer of His people's wonderful home in heaven.*

2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth? *Confess that many times we grasp for the best things in life here on earth and grumble when we don't get them. We forget about God. We forget that we can one day live in a wonderful heavenly home with Him, if we are those who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. That heavenly home will be far better than anything we can know or have here.*

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

*Thank God for sending Jesus to rescue sinful people like us.*

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 away from our sins and trust in Him as our own Savior. We can ask Him to fit us for heaven, by helping us to love God, obey Him and long to be with Him.*

**The Gospel**

1. What is God's marvelous plan to make sinners like us His people, to live with Him forever in heaven? 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: Red Light, Green Light for Storks

### Materials

Tape

Bible Truth Questions

### Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Bible Truth Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Write the Bible Truth questions on small thin strips of paper (or make a photocopy of the Bible Truth Discussion Questions and simply cut them into strips) and put them in the bag/bowl.
3. Tape a starting line and finish line at each end of the room.

### Playing the Game

Have all the children stand facing you on the starting line. Tell them that you are the traffic light controller for storks. When you say "Green light" they can move forward with your back towards them. But when you say "Red light" they must freeze in stork position, balancing on one leg. You will turn around quickly and try to catch anyone moving or off balance. These children will choose a question to ask the class. If the class gets it right, then the children can join the game back at Start. If they do not, then the children have to wait it out until another round when a correct answer is given. Whoever makes it to the finish line first becomes the new traffic light controller for storks.

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.

**The Sands of Time Are Sinking**

**Verse 1**

The sands of time are sinking, The dawn of Heaven breaks,  
The summer morn I've sighed for, The fair, sweet morn awakes;  
Dark, dark hath been the midnight, But dayspring is at hand.  
And glory, glory dwelleth, In Immanuel's land.

**Verse 2**

The King, there in his beauty, Without a veil is seen,  
It were a well-spent journey, Though sev'n deaths lay between;  
The Lamb with his fair army, Doth mercy doth expand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth, In Immanuel's land.

**Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 12, Tracks 46-49**

**Verse 3**

O Christ, He is the fountain, The deep, deep well of love,  
The streams of earth I've tasted, More deep I'll drink above,  
There to an ocean fullness, His mercy doth expand,  
And glory, glory dwelleth, In Immanuel's land.

**Verse 4**

With mercy and with judgment, My web of time He wove,  
And aye the dews of sorrow, Were lusted with His love,  
I'll bless the hand that guideth, I'll bless the heart that planned,  
When throned where glory dwelleth, In Immanuel's land.

**Understanding the Song**

1. What does the sands of time are sinking mean? *People used to tell time with a hourglass. It would take exactly one hour for the sand to sink from the top of the glass to the bottom. God's people know that the sands of time are sinking--the day when they will go to live at home with God in heaven is coming closer and closer.*
2. Why would this life be called dark, like midnight? Why is getting to be in heaven like the coming of the sun in the morning? *The sin, death and brokenness in this world that makes it sad. Darkness is used as a picture of that sadness. Life with God in heaven will be perfectly wonderful always. Bright sunshine is used as a picture of that happiness.*
3. Who is Immanuel? What does that mean? Why is heaven His land? *Immanuel is a nickname for Jesus. It means God with us, because Jesus came from heaven to earth to save sinners and bring them to God. Heaven is Immanuel's land because that's where Jesus came from and because that's where He takes His people to live with Him when they die.*
4. Who will God's people see in heaven? What will He be like? What is his nickname? Why? *They will see Jesus, the Lamb, in all His beauty and glory. He is called the "Lamb" because lambs were often offered (in Old Testament times) as sacrifices when people sinned. Jesus was the perfect payment for the sins of God's people.*
5. Who is Christ and how is He like a fountain? *Jesus is the Christ---the special Savior sent from God. A fountain was an old name for a deep well full of water where you could drink and drink until you would not be thirst anymore. Jesus' love for His people is like a fountain. It never runs out for them. Here on earth and later in heaven, they will enjoy more and more of it. It will never run out, just like the ocean never runs out of water!*
6. What does it mean that God wove the web of time of His people with mercy and judgment? What will God's people praise Him for about their lives when they get to heaven? *A spider carefully weaves its web. Every single thread is put in place where he wants it to be. God carefully plans out every single day of His people's lives. There may be times of sorrow. But God's people trust in God's good plan for them every day they live here on earth; They know that's true, even when they don't understand it all. Just like a web glistens and shines in the morning when the sun shines on the dew that collects on the web and makes it look so beautiful, so in heaven, God's people will fully see how true it was that God used all things for the good in their lives. They will praise God for all the good and wise things He did.*

**Bible Truth Connection Question**

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **God's People Know Heaven Is There Home?**  
*God's people look forward to the day when they will get to see Jesus, their King, face to face at last! They know how He has loved them, by dying for their sins to save them. They have seen how He has planned everything in their lives for their good and His glory. These things are good, but they are nothing compared with the day when they will see their King in all His beauty and glory in heaven and live there forever--Immanuel's land!*

**Story Connection**

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *How sad it must have been for Moses to never get to even set foot in the Promised Land! For over forty years it had been his life purpose to get the people there. Yet, Moses did get to enter an even better Promised Land--Immanuel's Land, heaven! After he died on Mt. Nebo, he went to live with God in heaven. There, he gazed upon the Lord, face-to-face, in all His glory.*

**Bible Verse Connection Question**

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Philippians 3:18-20**: "For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."?

*God's people know that the sands of time is sinking--that is, their lives and this earth will not last forever. While there are many things that they enjoy in this life, there are many hard things, too, brought by the sin and brokenness in this world. Sometimes they even suffer because they are Christians. But, God's people remember that their citizenship is in heaven. That is where their King reigns in beautiful. That's where they will see Him face to face and live with Him forever. They know how much He loves them and will help them through everything in this life, but heaven will be home. They eagerly look forward to the day when they will live in Immanuel's land (heaven) forever. They look forward to the day when He will return and bring His kingdom that will last forever and ever.*

**Life Application Questions**

1. How can we be affected by the message of this song? *We can remember that this life here on earth will not last forever. We can remember how great is God's love for His people. Not only will He be at work, doing good to them in everything they go through in this life, but that He is preparing them a home with Him that will be forever. There, they will see Him and enjoy Him. How wonderful it will be!*

2. What must we do if we are to go to live with God in heaven? How can we be God's people? *We must turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

**ACTS Questions**

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

*We can praise God for being the Giver of Eternal Life with Him in Heaven.*

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

*Sometimes we live our life here on earth as if it will never end. We don't think about God and seek to know, love and obey Him as we should. We don't want to think about heaven. We want to think about getting what we want, how we want it, right now, here on earth. We need a Savior!*

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

*We can thank God for the wonderful home with Him in heaven that He has for all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. How wonderful it will be to see Him, the great King, at last! We can thank Him for how He cares for all His people and has carefully planned for all things in their lives to be for their good and His glory. They may have had to endure some hard things, but He has helped them every step of the way.*

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

*We can ask God to 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 help us remember that our lives here on earth will not last forever, and to help us to live in a way that prepares us to live with Him in heaven forever.*

**Gospel Question**

1. This song reminds us that our lives on earth will not last forever, but there is a way for us to know eternal life with God after we die. What is that way? 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: 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.

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

**Meditation Version: Philippians 3:18-20 ESV**

“For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.”

**Alternate Memory Version: Philippians 3:18,19,20 ESV**

“For many...walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction...with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.”

**Understanding the Bible Verse**

1. Who is the “I” and the “you” in this verse? *“I” is Paul, who wrote these words to believers in the city of Philippi.*
2. What had Paul told the Philippian believers before? *That many live as enemies of the cross of Christ.*
3. What does it mean to walk as an enemy of the cross of Christ? *It means that they reject the good news of salvation through Jesus. They do not think you need to turn away from your sins and trust in Jesus as your Savior to be saved. And not only do they reject, but they do not want others to believe it either.*
4. What sorts of things had the enemies of the cross of Christ done to Paul to try to stop him from telling others the good news of Jesus? *They had him stoned, beaten, put him in prison, and in the end, they even put him to death.*
5. How did Paul feel about so many people living as enemies to the cross of Christ? Why? *He was so sad about it that he cried about it. He felt this way because he knew that without faith in Jesus, these people would face God’s eternal punishment. Paul did not want anyone to face that! He wanted them to be forgiven and to become God’s people.*
6. What is the destiny of these enemies of the cross of Christ? *Destruction.*
7. What kind of destruction does Paul have in mind? *Facing God’s eternal punishment for their sins. They will forever have to live away from God and everything good.*
8. What does Paul mean when he says their god is their belly? *Not that they worship their stomachs, but that they want to get right now whatever it is that they desire, just like stomachs ache to be filled with food when we are hungry. They want what they want right now! Also, there were some people who thought if they ate certain foods in certain ways, according to God’s laws that they could please God with these good works. Paul may also have been talking about these people, too.*
9. What does it mean that their glory is their shame? *This kind of glory stands for something that they are proud of that they are or have done. Paul here is saying that many are proud and even feel like they please God by certain things they do. But, because they trust in these good works to please God rather than in Jesus and His death on the cross, they should really be ashamed of these good works instead of proud of them. They will never be enough to please God.*
10. What does Paul say the mind of these enemies of the cross of Christ is on? What does he mean? *Earthly things. He means that they are so busy thinking and doing things that only matter here that they have forgotten God and His ways.*
11. What is citizenship and where is the citizenship of believers? *Citizenship means the city or home where you belong. The citizenship or home of all believers is heaven.*
12. What does it mean for God’s people to have their citizenship in heaven? *It means that heaven is the place where they will be at home. They think about it and live by its laws. It is the place where they will receive the rich reward God promises to give all of His people. They look forward to getting to live there.*
13. Who do believers eagerly await for who will come from heaven? *Jesus Christ.*
14. When will Jesus come? What will He do then? *At the end of time Jesus will come back to bring an end to sin and death once and for all. He will judge all people and give them their eternal punishments and rewards—eternal death to those who have not turned away from their sins and trusted in Him as their Savior; but eternal life to those who have turned away from their sins and trusted in Him as their Savior. He will reign forever with His people, forever happy, in the new heavens and earth.*

**Bible Truth Connection Question**

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: God's People Know Heaven Is Their Home?**

*God's people know heaven in their home. They look forward to the day when their troubles here are over and they will get to live with God forever in that wonderful place.*

**Story Connection Questions**

1. What does the verse have to do with our story? *Many of the Israelites were earthly minded. They complained and grumbled instead of trusting the LORD. Filling their empty stomachs many times led them to do sinful things. The LORD punished these Israelites for their repeated disobedience and lack of faith. In the end, they died out in the wilderness instead of entering the Promised Land. But the children of these Israelites did get to enter into the Promised Land. And Moses, while he did not get to enter the Promised Land, the LORD took him home to heaven, to be with Him forever. This was best of all.*

**Life Application Questions**

1. How can God's people who suffer today be encouraged by thinking about their home in heaven? *They can remember that their sufferings will only last for a while. They will soon be free of their hard times and enjoy their heavenly home, where there will be no more sin, sadness or death and they will get to enjoy God's presence forever.*

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

**ACTS Questions**

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

*Praise God for being the Savior of His people who has given them heaven to be their home.*

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

*We confess that many times our minds are filled up with earthly things and we do not think about God and what pleases Him in how we live.*

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

*We can thank God for His promise to send Jesus to come and bring an end to sin and death once and for all.*

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 own Savior. We can ask Him to help us to not have our minds on earthly things, but think about Him and what pleases Him.*

**The Gospel**

1. What has God done so that sinners like you and me can have our citizenship be in heaven with Him? What is the good news of 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'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: Ball Circle Toss

### Materials

Bible Verse written up in large print so that all can see  
Foam or other soft surface ball

### 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 in a circle, arm's length apart. Explain that everyone together will chant the verse slowly, word by word, and toss the ball to another child with each word chanted. They want to try to chant the whole verse without dropping the ball. Speed up the pace of the chanting as the children get good at chanting and catching.

Game continues as time and attention span allow.

### Alternative Game Version:

- 1) Individual chant version: After the children can get through the verse without dropping the ball and chanting the verse together, have them try to get through the entire verse with only the person throwing the ball saying the next word.
- 2) No Hands Version: Have the children sit on the floor and roll the ball to each other. They must try to trap the ball with their legs, etc. (no hands) instead of trying to catch it.

### 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.

### **Our Citizenship Is in Heaven**

Many live as enemies of the cross of Christ,  
 Many live as enemies of the cross of Christ,  
 Their destiny is destruction,  
 Their mind's on earthly things,  
 Their mind's on earthly things

*But what about God's people?*

But our citizenship is in heav'n,  
 Yes, our citizenship is in heav'n,  
 And we eagerly, we eagerly,  
 Await a Savior from there.  
 Philippians Three, eighteen through twenty.

**Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 50**

## **Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign**

### **Materials**

Sign Language signs used in song, particularly choose words with important meanings you want the children to learn, such as "grace", "redeem", etc.

Bag or bowl

Blindfold

### **Preparing the Game**

1. Cut out signs and put in bowl.

### **Playing the Game**

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well.
2. Have all the children stand in a tight circle, except one, "It" who will stand in the middle of the circle, blindfolded.
3. Have the children in the circle to put their hands behind their backs. Choose a sign from the bag and hand to a child in the circle, still keeping hands behind their backs, not looking at the sign.
4. When "It" says "Pass the Secret Sign", the children will begin to pass the sign around behind their backs.
5. When "It" says "Stop the Passing!" the child who has the sign freezes with the sign behind his back.
6. The child with the sign brings it around and looks at it. You can help the child practice the sign.
7. Then take the blindfold off of "It", watch the child with the card do the sign, then have "It" guess the name of the sign. (If desired, "It" can ask another child in the circle for help with their guess.)
8. The holder of the sign then becomes "It." Sing the song with all the signs, then repeat.

**STORY REVIEW**

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

**General Story Questions**

1. How was Moses like the other Egyptian princes? *He had had the best of education by the royal tutors and officers. He wore the Egyptian clothes.*
2. How was Moses NOT like the other Egyptian princes? *He knew that he was a Hebrew. He loved his people and worshiped the LORD, not the Egyptian idols.*
3. Why did Moses think he was an Egyptian prince? *So that the LORD might use him to rescue his people.*
4. What was hard about Moses' decision to rescue his people? *He knew he would have to give up the pleasures and treasures of being an Egyptian prince.*
5. Why did Moses give up all the riches of Egypt? *He believed that the joys and rewards of His unseen God were far greater than the riches of Egypt.*
6. Why did Moses kill the Egyptian taskmaster? *To rescue the Israelite being beaten.*
7. Why did the Israelites reject Moses at first? *They did not think that God had made him their rescuer.*
8. What happened to Moses after he killed the Egyptian? *He ran away to Midian for forty years.*
9. What did the LORD do while Moses was in Midian? *He appeared to Moses and told him to go back to Egypt. He would rescue the Israelites through him.*
10. How did the LORD free the Israelites from Egypt when Moses went back? *He sent mighty plagues upon the Egyptians.*
11. How long could it have taken to get to the Promised Land and how long did it take them to get there? *A couple of weeks' walk. Forty years.*
12. Why did it take so long to get to the Promised Land? *The Israelites grumbled against the LORD and did not trust He would take care of them. He punished them by having them wander and die in the wilderness. He would give the land to their children instead.*
13. How did Moses sin against God? How did God punish him? *In anger, he struck the rock that he was only supposed to speak to. He said that Aaron and Moses gave them the water, not the LORD. The LORD would not let him enter the Promised Land.*
14. How did Moses get to see the Promised Land? *The LORD had him climb up Mt. Nebo and see it from there. Why was Moses not so sad that he did not get to enter the Promised Land? He knew the LORD was taking him to the true, far better, eternal Promised Land—heaven—when he died.*

**Bible Truth Connection Questions**

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: God's People Know Heaven Is Their Home**? *Moses spent most of his life headed for the earthly Promised Land, but he never got to enter it. But he was not too sad, because the LORD took him to heaven, the far better, eternal Promised Land.*

**Bible Verse Connection Question**

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Philippians 3:18-20**: "For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."?  
*Many of the Israelites were earthly minded. They complained and grumbled instead of trusting the LORD. Filling their empty stomachs many times led them to do sinful things. The LORD punished these Israelites for their repeated disobedience and lack of faith. In the end, they died out in the wilderness instead of entering the Promised Land. But the children of these Israelites did get to enter into the Promised Land. And Moses, while he did not get to enter the Promised Land, the LORD took him home to heaven, to be with Him forever. This was best of all.*

**Life Application Questions**

1. How should God's people today not be like the Israelites? *They should trust the LORD when they face difficult situations. They should remember His promises to them instead of grumbling, complaining and doubting.*
2. What greater land and what greater promises do God's people today have to think about? *They know about Jesus' promises to take them to be with Him in His heavenly home.*

**ACTS Questions**

1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? *Praise God for being so patient and merciful to sinful people.*
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? *Confess that many times we, like the Israelites, grumble and complain to God rather than trusting Him. We deserve His punishment! We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? *We can thank God for promising His people a land even better than the Promised Land of the Israelites. He promises them an eternity in heaven with Him!*
4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our story? *We can ask God to help us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to not complain but to remember and trust Him to take care of us when we go through difficult things.*

**The Gospel**

1. Moses lived before Jesus' day, but he wrote about the coming Savior in the books of the Bible he wrote down. Moses looked forward in faith to that day. The day when the good news of salvation through Jesus would be revealed. 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'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: Tell the Truth Basketball

### Materials

- 3 baskets
- A ball
- Paper and marker
- Masking Tape
- 20+ statements that are true, false or not in the story

### Preparing the Game

1. Use the Story Review Questions to come up with 20+ statements about the story that are true, false, or not in the story.
2. Write the words "true", "false", and "not in the story" on separate pieces of paper and tape each to a basket. Use the masking tape to make a throw line. Place the baskets in a line, a reasonable throwing distance from the throwing line

### Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams and have them line up at the throw line. Ask a child to come up to the throw line. Read him one of the statements and ask him to give his answer: true, false, not in the story by throwing the ball into the basket with the right answer card on it. If correct, then he scores 2 points for his team. If incorrect or accidentally goes into the wrong basket, the statement is read to the first person in line for the other team. If he tosses the ball into the right basket, then he scores one point for his team.

Play continues as statement cards last, or as time and attention span allow.

### Non-competitive Option

Don't split into teams. Have the children take turns making baskets and answering the questions.

### 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 Locked Out Leader.

Our story takes place in Egypt and in the wilderness outside the Promised Land. It takes place in Old Testament times, about 1500 years before Jesus was born.

And now we present: “The Case of the Locked Out Leader.”

**Actions:**

**Scene 1:**

At forty years old, Moses looks every bit an Egyptian prince. He has received the finest education that Egypt can offer. He enjoys life as an royal prince. But deep in his heart, Moses knows he’s a Hebrew. He loves his people and the LORD. He watches them suffer and die as slaves in Egypt , while he enjoys a rich life in Pharaoh’s palace. He remembers God’s promise to free them from slavery and take them to the Promised Land. He decides God must have made him prince of Egypt to rescue the Israelites.

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**Scene 2:**

Moses sees an Egyptian taskmaster hurting an Israelite slave. He kills the taskmaster and buries him in the sand. He hopes they will see that he has come to rescue them. Moses hopes the people will see that he’s the rescuer God has sent to free them from slavery in Egypt. They reject him and Moses runs away across the desert to Midian. Forty years later, the LORD appears to him and tells him to go back to Egypt. Moses comes back and tells the Israelites that God has sent him to rescue them and take them to the Promised Land. This time they believe. After the LORD sends many plagues on the Egyptians, the Israelites are set free.

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**Scene 3**

The Israelites were only a few weeks’ walk from the Promised Land, but it took them forty years to get there because of all their grumblings and doubts of the LORD. They look at what they see instead of remembering their unseen God. They grumble there’s no water. They grumble that the men are too fierce in the Promised Land for them to conquer. The LORD punishes them by having the adults wander and die in the desert for forty years. He will bring their children into the land, instead. Near the end of the forty years, Moses loses patience with them. He strikes the rock for water when God told him just to speak to it. The LORD punishes him by not allowing him to enter the Promised Land. The LORD has Moses climb Mt. Nebo so he can see the Promised Land before he dies. The LORD buries Moses. Moses is sad to not get to enter this earthly Promised Land, but know the LORD is taking him home to be with Him to heaven—the far better and eternal Promised Land.

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The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God’s People Know Heaven Is Their Home.** Moses spent most of his life headed for the earthly Promised Land, but he never got to enter it. But he was not too sad, because the LORD took him to heaven, the far better, eternal Promised Land.

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## **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 Locked Out Leader.

Our story takes place in Egypt and in the wilderness outside the Promised Land. It takes place in Old Testament times, about 1500 years before Jesus was born.

The characters in our story are: Moses' teachers, Israelite slaves, Egyptian taskmaster, the LORD, Aaron, the fierce people in the Promised Land.

And now we present: "The Case of the Locked Out Leader."

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

At forty years old, Moses looks every bit an Egyptian prince. He has received the finest education that Egypt can offer. He enjoys life as an royal prince. But deep in his heart, Moses knows he's a Hebrew. He loves his people and the LORD. He watches them suffer and die as slaves in Egypt, while he enjoys a rich life in Pharaoh's palace. He remembers God's promise to free them from slavery and take them to the Promised Land. He decides God must have made him prince of Egypt to rescue the Israelites.

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

Moses sees an Egyptian taskmaster hurting an Israelite slave. He kills the taskmaster and buries him in the sand. He hopes they will see that he has come to rescue them. Moses hopes the people will see that he's the rescuer God has sent to free them from slavery in Egypt. They reject him and Moses runs away across the desert to Midian. Forty years later, the LORD appears to him and tells him to go back to Egypt. Moses comes back and tells the Israelites that God has sent him to rescue them and take them to the Promised Land. This time they believe. After the LORD sends many plagues on the Egyptians, the Israelites are set free.

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

The Israelites were only a few weeks' walk from the Promised Land, but it took them forty years to get there because of all their grumblings and doubts of the LORD. They look at what they see instead of remembering their unseen God. They grumble there's no water. They grumble that the men are too fierce in the Promised Land for them to conquer. The LORD punishes them by having the adults wander and die in the desert for forty years. He will bring their children into the land, instead. Near the end of the forty years, Moses loses patience with them. He strikes the rock for water when God told him just to speak to it. The LORD punishes him by not allowing him to enter the Promised Land. The LORD has Moses climb Mt. Nebo so he can see the Promised Land before he dies. The LORD buries Moses. Moses is sad to not get to enter this earthly Promised Land, but know the LORD is taking him home to be with Him to heaven—the far better and eternal Promised Land.

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God's People Know Heaven Is Their Home.** Moses spent most of his life headed for the earthly Promised Land, but he never got to enter it. But he was not too sad, because the LORD took him to heaven, the far better, eternal Promised Land.

## The Promised Land from Mount Nebo

### Description

The children will decorate a picture using either markers or craft sand of a view down into Canaan.

### Materials

Craft Sand, especially blues, greens and browns (or markers/colored pencils, if not using craft sand)

Craft Glue and brushes

Card stock

Cookie sheets with sides

### Preparing the Craft

1. Print out 1 copy of the picture onto card stock.
2. Place the craft sand in bowls and place the bowls on a cookie sheet.
3. Set other supplies.

### Making the Craft (See diagram on next page for assembly tips)

1. Show children your sample.
2. Have the children brush/wipe glue onto a section of the picture, then sprinkle a particular color of sand onto that section. Tilt the picture downward and let the excess sand fall off onto the cookie sheet.
3. Continue until pictures are covered with sand.
4. You may want to put excess sand back in the bowl when it begins to build up in the cookie sheet.

OR,

1. Simply color in the pictures with markers/colored pencils. Children can draw in extra details, as desired.

### 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 the LORD take Moses right before he died?

*To the top of Mount Nebo.*

2. What did the LORD show Moses from Mount Nebo? *The Promised Land.*

3. Where was the LORD taking Moses that was even better than the Promised Land?

*Heaven!*

4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning?

*God's People Know Heaven Is Their Home.*

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

*Moses did not get to enter the Promised Land, but he did get to see it; and best of all, the Lord took him home to heaven—a far better place than the Promised Land!*

6. What can our craft help us remember?

*No matter how wonderful the things of this world are, God's people will find that their home in heaven will be far better than anything they know or have here on earth.*

**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 Promised Land from Mount Nebo.

2. High up on Mount Nebo, Moses stood and looked out upon the Promised Land because the LORD was letting him see the Promised Land before taking him home to heaven.

3. Our Bible Truth is: God's People Know Heaven Is Their Home.

4. Moses did not get to enter the Promised Land, but he did get to see it; and best of all, the Lord took him home to heaven—a far better place than the Promised Land!

5. Our craft can help us remember that no matter how wonderful the things of this world are, God's people will find that their home in heaven will be far better than anything they know or have here on earth.

Note: Even non-readers can participate in presenting the craft, if you will whisper what they are to say in their ear and let them say it aloud for the others to hear.





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

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

**2. GATHER YOUR FACTS**

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

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

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

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

**2. PRAY!**

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

**3. CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY**

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Game: 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**

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**3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR THE VIPP**

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