

BIBLE TRUTH 2, LESSON 3: PLANNER/OVERVIEW

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

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

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

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

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

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

Bible Truth 2: God's People Love Him with All of Themselves

Bible Truth Hymn: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, v.4 *PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 8*

Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Bible Verse Song: Hear, O Hear *PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 9*

Lesson 3 Old Testament: The Case of the Man Who Lived "No" *Jeremiah 17:7; 29:7; Daniel 1,6*

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: Forbidden and Favored Foods

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Circle and Cross

Bible Truth Hymn: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, v.4 *PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 8*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Mimic Me! **PFI NIV SONGS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Discussion Sheet and Game: All Dressed Up

Bible Verse Song: Hear, O Hear Deuteronomy 6:4-5 *PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 9*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Word Take Away **PFI NIV SONGS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Basketball Toss

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: Daniel in a Den of Lions

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (back of book), Game: Hot and Cold Hide

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 2, Lesson 3 **PFI NIV PRONTOS 12 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Man Who Lived “No” *Jeremiah 17:7; 29:7; Daniel 1,6* by Connie Dever

Our story is: The Case of the Man Who Lived “No.”
As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who was the man? What did he say “no” to?
2. Why did he say “no”? Who did he love?

This story takes place in Old Testament times during the times of the last kings of Judah, about 600 years before Jesus lived on earth.

Rest and riches. That’s what life in Jerusalem was like during King Jehoiakim’s day. And why not? Seated high upon Mount Zion, surrounded by thick, tall walls what enemy could touch Jerusalem? And if that wasn’t enough, there was Baal, to protect them. The king, as well as most of the people of Jerusalem sacrificed to him in those days. Everyone knew this mighty god of rain was the one who gave them all the rest and riches they enjoyed, right?

Wrong! The LORD, not Baal, was the giver of the good things the people of Jerusalem enjoyed! They should have been taking their worship gifts to Him, not Baal. Yet all but a few still worshiped the LORD. One of these was a young man named Daniel.

Daniel was from one of the most important families in Jerusalem. He was handsome, rich, and very smart. He served in King Jehoiakim’s palace. It would have been easy to worship Baal like the king and the others did, but Daniel never forgot the LORD. Every morning, noon and night, he would face the LORD’s Temple and say the words of the Shema, “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength,” as the LORD’s faithful followers had for years. “How can I love you today, LORD?” is how we might say it. But either way, every word was the prayer of Daniel’s heart. He truly longed to live out his love for God with all of himself, every day.

The rest and riches of King Jehoiakim was soon to end. The Lord had warned the king through the prophet Jeremiah that unless he and the people stopped worshipping Baal and turned back to Him, that He would send the mighty chariots, the fierce horsemen of Babylon to destroy Jehoiakim and all Jerusalem with him. Jehoiakim refused to listen and King Nebuchadnezzar

and his mighty army attacked and destroyed Jerusalem.

They stripped the Temple of all its gold, killed many people and then took King Jehoiakim and more than 3000 of those who remained alive from the finest families of Jerusalem as captives—including Daniel.

Every morning, every noon, every evening, no matter where Daniel was he remembered to pray “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength’ How can I love You today, LORD? How can I love you even chained like a slave and forced to walk all the way to Babylon. I’ve lost my home, my family, my beautiful things, everything that I’ve ever known.”

Maybe Daniel remembered what the prophet Jeremiah had told them to do: “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in Him.” Jeremiah 17:7 It may take all of his heart, mind, soul and strength to do it, but even on that terrible day as he walked in chains to Babylon, the young man could love the LORD by trusting Him.

After the long, six hundred mile journey across wilderness, the long line of captives came to Babylon. It was a magnificent city with a gigantic temple and ziggurat tower dedicated to the god Marduk with its gigantic temple and ziggurat tower rising hundreds of feet in the air from the middle of the city.

“Ashpenaz, bring in the best of the captured men from Judah,” Nebuchadnezzar ordered his chief court official. “I want only the smartest, best educated, handsomest and strongest young men from the captives. Take them and train them for service in my kingdom.”

“Yes, sire,” Ashpenaz responded. Asphehaz searched through the captives and handpicked the young 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.

who fit the King's requirements. And who was among them, but none other than Daniel.

"Congratulations, young men of Judah," Ashpenaz welcomed the men. "You have been especially chosen to be prepared for the service before the great King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. By his orders you are all to receive a special three-year training to learn to speak Babylonian and learn all about the Babylonian customs, literature and gods. You will get to eat the best of food right from the King's table. When the three years are up, you will serve before the King in his lavish palace as his advisers."

What should Daniel do? "These people worshiped terrible idols like Marduk, Anu and Enlil. Was he really supposed to learn about them? How could he be an adviser who is supposed to seek these idols and even do magic, yet still be loving the LORD? The king ate horse, pig and all sorts of other animals the LORD told them not to eat. How can he do that and still love the LORD?" Daniel wondered.

What was it that the LORD had told the captives to do through the prophet Jeremiah? "Seek the peace and prosperity of Babylon when I send you into exile there," he had told them. "Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." (Jeremiah 29:7)

"I will love the LORD by not eating the meat, but I will also love Him with all my heart, mind, soul and strength by doing my very best to serve the Babylonians. I will consult the LORD, not their gods or use magic for advise. I will trust that this is what He wants me to do," Daniel decided.

Daniel did just that: he studied hard and the LORD blessed him. He helped him to understand everything he was supposed to learn. The LORD even gave him a special gift that the advisers wanted most of all: the gift of understanding dreams.

King Nebuchadnezzar was so pleased with Daniel that he made him chief adviser over all—even the advisers from Babylon. For sixty-six long years, Daniel served first King Nebuchadnezzar, then King Darius after him, but never did he forget to love the LORD. Now he was an old man, but still every morning, noon and evening, he would get up and face east, towards where the Temple had been, and say the words of the Shema. "How

can I love You today, LORD?"

Daniel's love for the LORD pleased the LORD, but it angered the king's other advisers. They wanted to get rid of Daniel and decided to use Daniel's love for the LORD to do it.

"King Darius, you should be honored most of all. Make a law that everyone should worship only you for the next thirty days or else be thrown to the lions," they suggested.

The king was pleased and agreed to the idea. The advisers waited and watched for what Daniel would do. To their pleasure, he did exactly what they hoped: he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem and prayed three times a day, giving thanks to the LORD, his God, as usual. Daniel knew these prayers might lead to his death, but if this was how the LORD wanted him to love Him this day, then so be it.

Before long, Daniel had been arrested and thrown to the lions. The king was distressed at what had happened to his chief adviser, but could not break his own law. "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!" the king said to Daniel as a stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the hole. The king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so show this was a law that couldn't be broken. Then he returned to his palace and spent the night doing nothing but worry about Daniel.

At sunrise, the king got up and hurried to the hole with the hungry lions. "Daniel, servant of the living God, whom you always serve, has your God saved you?" he called out.

"O king, live forever! My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions," Daniel answered.

The king was overjoyed! "Lift Daniel out of the lions' pit!" he ordered. And sure enough, there was Daniel completely safe without even a single scratch mark on him! He had loved His God and His God had rescued him!

Then King Darius wrote out a new law for all to obey: "Everyone in my kingdom must worship the LORD, for he is the living God and the great king who rules forever. He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has even

rescued Daniel from the lions.”

So Daniel lived well during the rest of reign of King Darius and King Cyrus after him. And he kept on loving the LORD his God with all his heart, mind, soul and strength every day of his life.

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who was the man? What did he say “no” to?

Daniel. He said no to do anything that would be worshiping anyone but the LORD.

2. Why did he say “no”? Who did he love?

He knew the LORD was the one, true God. He loved the LORD. He wanted everything he did to show the love he had for Him. He would rather die than stop worshiping and loving the LORD.

Something For You and Me

Our Bible Truth is:

God's People Love Him with All of Themselves

Our Bible Verse is: Deuteronomy 6:4-5

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.”

Even though Daniel lived six hundred years before Jesus, he knew God's promises to send a Messiah to save His people, and looked forward in faith to that day. Daniel truly did try to love the LORD his God every day of his life, no matter how difficult it was.

Daniel loved the LORD like that without ever even knowing how Jesus would choose to die on the cross for the sins of God's people! How much more should we, who know the good news of Jesus in full. Don't we have even more reason to love the LORD with all of ourselves? How can we do this? By turning from our sins and trusting Jesus as our own Savior. By asking God's Holy Spirit to live in our hearts and give us more and more love for God. Every moment of every day is a chance to love Him in everything we think, feel, say and do. Like Daniel, we can ask Him to show us how to love Him and ask Him to help us to.

Let's praise this God who is worthy of all our love. 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 help us to love Him with all our heart, mind, soul and strength each day, in everything we do.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the one true God, alone worthy of our worship.

C God, we confess that we too many times we choose to not love You when things are hard. We want to please and protect ourselves, instead of pleasing and depending upon You. We need a Savior!

T God, we thank You for giving Your people the courage to live for You and to love You, even when it is very hard.

S God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts so that we would love and live for You, even when it is very hard.

Special Words

Shema: The name the Jews give for Deuteronomy 6:4-5. Some Jews even today still say these words each day, as the guide for their life.

Mount Zion: The name of the mountain where Jerusalem was built.

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 completely worthy of all our love.

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that many times we do not love You as You deserve. Too many times, we love other things more than You, even though You deserve all of our love. We need a Savior to save us from our sins! We need Your Spirit to work in our hearts!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for all showing how great Your love for sinful people by sending Jesus to be the Savior of all those who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior. Thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to help us to love You most of all.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, work in our hearts! Send Your Holy Spirit to live inside of us. Help us turn away from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior. Help us to love You most of all, in our hearts and in our lives.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

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

Snack: Forbidden and Favored Foods

“Unclean” Hot dog pieces (Jews weren’t to eat pork) and “Clean” carrot sticks and/or fruit pieces.

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

Case Tie-in: Even when Daniel was taken to Babylon and offered the finest food from the king’s table, he chose to love God and do what he thought would please Him, rather than do what would be easiest. He chose not to eat any meat sacrifice to idols, but ate fruits and vegetables.

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 Love Him with All of Themselves

God calls His people to love Him with all their heart, mind, soul and strength-- and, oh, they want to do this! Why wouldn't they? Didn't God love them before they loved Him? Didn't He freely give His own Son as the sacrifice for their sins? And doesn't He promise to always love them and do what is best for them? Why wouldn't they want to love God most of all, in everything they do?

But loving God and living for Him is not something God's people will ever do perfectly here on earth. Yes, their sins have all been forgiven by God and they will be God's people forever, but they still struggle with sin. Their hearts are still tempted to love other things. Their lives show that they still want to live for themselves. It will be this way until they go to live with God in heaven. There, God will make them perfect; and at last, they will live and love perfectly.

Until then, God's Holy Spirit lives in their hearts and helps them love God more and more. He grows love in their hearts for God and His good ways. He works in their minds to understand God better and to delight in His ways. He gives them strength to act out their love for God and fulfill His good plans in all that they do.

God's people are grateful to God for helping them live for Him now, but they look forward to the day when they go to heaven and will truly love Him with all of themselves.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. How does God call His people to love Him? *He calls them to love Him most of all--with all of their heart, mind, soul and strength.*
2. Why do God's people want to do this? *Because of how God has loved them.*
3. How did God show how much He loved His people? *He freely gave His own Son as the sacrifice for their sins.*
4. Why did God love His people this way? *Not because they deserved it. They were all sinners. He did it because He loved them and to bring glory to His name (so we could see and delight in who God is.)*
5. Why did God's people need Jesus to be sacrificed for their sins? *Because they were sinners and could never pay for their sins themselves. Only the sacrifice of a perfect life, like what Jesus lived, could be the payment for sins.*
6. Why does God's gift of His Son for them cause God's people to want to love Him in response with all their heart, mind, soul and strength? *Because they love Him and they are so grateful that He would be so merciful to them and be willing to make such a huge sacrifice for them. They know His love is the most wonderful thing of all. They want to love Him completely because this is the best way to live.*
7. Why is there nothing that will ever be enough to show God how much God's people love Him? *Because His gift to them is so wonderful, so huge.*
8. Will God's people ever be able to love Him with all of themselves here on earth? Why or why not? *No, they will not. Because they are still sinners.*
9. Who helps God's people love God more? *The Holy Spirit working in their hearts.*
10. Where will God's people finally love God with all of themselves? *In heaven.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our **Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 6:4-5**: "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." *This verse reminds us that God wants His people to love Him most of all: with all of their heart, soul and strength. That is loving Him with all of themselves.*

Bible Truth Story Connection Questions

1. How did Daniel respond with his life, to all that God had done for him? *Three times each day he thought about loving God with all his heart, soul and strength. In everything he did he tried to do what would show the most love to God, no matter how hard it was.*

Life Application Questions

1. What can God's people do today that shows their grateful love to God for what He has done through Jesus? *They can seek to obey Him and love Him in everything they do. (Add specific examples)*
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 completely worthy of all our love.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth?
Confess that many times we do not love Him or live for Him as we should.
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Bible Truth?
Thank God for all showing how great His love for by sending Jesus to be the Savior of all those who would ever turn from their sins and sinful people trust in Him as their own Savior.
4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Bible Truth?
We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in this wonderful Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us love Him and live for Him more and more each day

Gospel Question

1. We are all born sinners. None of us love God as He created us to. What hope is there for sinners like us?
God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Game: Circle and Cross

Materials

Beanbags, 1 per child
Masking 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 circle about 2' in diameter on the floor. Tape a large X in the middle of it.
4. Mark one team's set of beanbags with a small piece of masking tape or other distinguishing mark.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams, giving the members of each team a beanbag of the same color or marking. Have all the children stand outside of the circle, about 6' back. At your signal, have the children toss their beanbags into the circle, trying to make them land on the taped X. Count up the beanbags for each team that landed on it. That's how many points their quiz question is worth. Choose a question for each team from the bag/bowl. If a team gets it wrong, the question goes to the other team for 1 point, if they can get the correct answer. Gather up the beanbags and continue play.

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

Non-competitive Option

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

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

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

Directions:

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

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

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the song ties in with the Bible Truth.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Verse 4

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 8

Understanding the Song

1. What does "realm of nature" mean? *All of the nature, the whole world.*
2. What is "a present far too small"? *All of nature, the whole world.*
3. Who is this too small of a present for? *The Lord.*
4. Why is the whole world too small of a present for the Lord? *Because of God's amazing love shown to His people through Jesus.*
5. What does divine mean? *Something that God is or does.*
6. What is so amazing and so divine about God's love? *It is amazing that He would choose to give up His own Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for the sins of His sinful, rebellious, undeserving people. It is divine love because only Jesus, the Son of God, could offer that kind of sacrifice for sins; and because only God is truly good enough to even think about doing such a thing for sinful people.*
7. What does this amazing, divine love demand (deserve) that is even better than all of nature as a present? *To love God with your "soul, life and all."*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **God's People Love Him with All of Themselves?**

When God's people think about what Jesus did for them on the cross, they want to respond back with grateful, loving lives that love God with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength.

Story Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *Daniel lived before Jesus' day, but he knew the goodness of the LORD and of His promises to send a Messiah to save God's people. He responded to what he knew of the LORD with a love that desired to love Him with all of his heart, mind, soul and strength, even if he had to die.*

Bible Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Deuteronomy 6:4-5**: "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."? *God calls His people to love Him with all their heart, soul and strength. God's people want to do this. Not just because they know that the LORD is God, but also because they think about how God sent Jesus to suffer and die on the cross to save them and make them His people. They want to love God with all of themselves because of all He has done for them!*

Life Application Questions

1. How can God's people be affected by the message of this song? *They can praise God for sending His Son Jesus to be the perfect sacrifice for their sins. They can ask God to send the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts to help them love Him with all our heart, mind, soul and strength. They can remember each day to ask themselves: "How can I live to show love to God today?"*
2. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?
Praise God for being worthy of giving us giving our whole lives, our "all" for Him.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?
That many times we don't marvel at how great God's love is. We don't think much about how Jesus suffered and died, taking God's people's punishment, so that they could be saved. We do not want to give Him our "all", but only what we think will be good for us or easy for us to give. 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 His glorious love that would send Jesus to save His people by suffering and dying on the cross.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this hymn?
That God would work in our hearts that we confess our sins, might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to come to Him and be forgiven. We can ask Him to help us wonder at His glorious love shown through Jesus. We can ask Him to send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, helping us to give our whole lives, our "all" for Him.

Gospel Question

1. God's people marvel at God's love shown to them through Jesus? What is this amazing good news of God's love? 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: 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: Deuteronomy 6:4-5

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

Alternate Memory/Games Version: Deuteronomy 6:5

"Love the LORD our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. What did the LORD want Israel to do? *To hear.*
2. Who is Israel? *There are three answers to this question. Israel is the name of grandson of Abraham. God called the nation of people who were children, grandchildren, etc. of Israel, after him. They were to be His special people to obey Him and through whom the Savior Jesus would come one day. After Jesus came, Christians were called the New or True Israel because they are God's special people, to obey Him and saved through Him. Most of the old Israel rejected Jesus.*
3. Why is the name "LORD" written in all capital letters? *Because it stands for the special name of God, Yahweh, that the Israelites thought was too special to say aloud or even write down. They would just write "LORD" instead.*
4. What does it mean that the "LORD is one?" *He is the only true God.*
5. How was Israel to love the LORD? *With all their heart, soul and strength.*
6. Who today should love the LORD like this? *All people, but especially all Christians, since they are the New Israel.*
7. What is a soul? *A spirit is the invisible part of us that thinks, feels, loves and knows God.*
8. What is the difference between heart and soul? *None. It is written twice for emphasis.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: God's People Love God with All of Themselves?** *This verse reminds us that God wants His people to love Him most of all: with all of their heart, soul and strength.*

Story Connection Questions

1. What does the verse have to do with our story? *Daniel had many chances to turn away from the LORD and love other gods, but he chose to love the LORD his God instead. Not just in his heart, but with all his strength, too. He was willing even to die to stay faithful to the LORD.*

Life Application Questions

1. Who must help God's people to love God with all their heart, soul and strength? *God's Holy Spirit.*
2. How can we have the Holy Spirit live in our hearts to help us love God more and more? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior. When we do, God sends His Holy Spirit to live in our hearts and give us more love for God.*
3. How can God's people love God today with all their heart, mind, soul and strength? *Obey God, no matter what. Ask Him to give them more of the Holy Spirit to help them love God and live for Him in this way.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible Verse? *Praise God for being worthy of all our love.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Bible Verse? *That we are all sinners. who do not love God with all our heart, soul and strength. We choose to love other things. We choose to love ourselves, more than God. We deserve God's punishment! We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible Verse? *We can thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. He gives God's people more love for God.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Bible Verse? *We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in this wonderful Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to send the Holy Spirit to grow our love for God.*

The Gospel

1. Why don't we love God as we should? What happened to all people? How can we be changed? 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 have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Game: All Dressed Up

Materials

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

Various items of clothing (shirts, hats, shoes, gloves, coats, pants, dresses, etc.), about 10 per team

Two baskets or boxes

Masking tape

Preparing the Game

1. Put the clothing items for each team in a basket/box and place at far end of relay area. Mark the starting line with masking tape.

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:

Divide the children into two teams and have them line up behind the starting line. Explain to them that they will run down to the leader at the other end of the relay area, recite the verse to him, pick out a piece of clothing and put it on. After getting it on, they are to run back to their team and sit down at the back. The next player then goes. This is repeated until all team members are dressed. The team is then to stand up, grab hands and chant the verse together. The first team to do so, wins.

Game continues as time and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Don't split the children into teams. Instead, the children will try to beat the clock. Have the whole class say the verse before each child goes to get and put on a piece of clothing. When everyone has their costume clothes on, say the verse together one last time. Time how long it takes the children to do all of this. Repeat and see if they can do it more quickly the second time.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during

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

Directions:

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

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

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the verse ties in with the Bible Truth.

Hear, O Hear

Hear, O hear, O Israel,
 Hear, O hear, O Israel,
 The LORD your God, the LORD is one.
 Love the LORD our God with all your heart,
 Love the LORD our God with all your soul,
 Love the LORD our God with all your strength.
 Deuteronomy Six, verses four through five.

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 9

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.

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. What was life like for King Jehoiakim and the people of Jerusalem? *A good life lived in safety.*
2. What gifts did Daniel have that he could have been proud about? *His rich life, the importance of his family, his intelligence and his good looks.*
3. What did Daniel long to do with the good gifts God had given Him? *To love and serve the LORD.*
4. Why do you think God made Daniel so good at so many things? *To use all those "gifts" to love the Lord and glorify Him.*
5. How was Daniel different from most of the other people in Jerusalem? *He loved the LORD.*
6. What punishment did the LORD bring on the people of Jerusalem and Judah for worshiping idols? *He sent the Babylonians to destroy their cities, the Temple and to take them to Babylon to be slaves for 70 years.*
7. What did the Babylonians take with them back to Babylon? *Many of the beautiful things from the Temples as well as the best people to be their slaves.*
8. What kind of people did King Nebuchadnezzar want Ashpenaz to train? *The most promising young men from the best families in Judah.*
9. What kind of training did the King plan to give the Jewish young men? *Training so that they would leave behind the customs and the LORD for those of Babylon. He would make them important advisers in his kingdom.*
10. Why didn't Daniel want to have the King's training? *He wanted to love the LORD and His people, not the Babylonian gods and their ways.*
11. Why did Daniel go ahead and take the King's training? *Because the LORD commanded them to seek the prosperity of Babylon.*
12. What special gift did the LORD give Daniel? *The gift of knowing and interpreting dreams.*
13. How did Daniel show he loved the LORD all his years in Babylon? *He kept on praying to Him and worshiping Him, even at the risk of his own life.*
14. Why did the other advisers want to kill Daniel? *They were envious of the high position that the king had given him.*
15. Why did the other advisers have to choose to make a law against praying to get Daniel in trouble? *Because he was such a good man that there was nothing else to get him in trouble for.*
16. What did Daniel try to do every day of his life? *Ask how he could love the LORD.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our Bible Truth: God's People Love Him with All of Themselves? *Every day Daniel prayed that he would love God with all his heart, mind, soul and strength. He showed his love for God by even being willing to face death rather than denying Him.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our Bible Verse: **Deuteronomy 6:4-5**: "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."? *Daniel had many chances to turn away from the LORD and love other gods, but he chose to love the LORD his God instead. Not just in his heart, but with all his strength, too. He was willing even to die to stay faithful to the LORD.*

Life Application Questions

1. Why do you think that God has given you the gifts that He has given you? *To use them to love the LORD by serving others and knowing Him better, bringing glory to His name.*
2. How can we love the LORD today, with our hearts, our minds, our strength? *The first thing we can do is to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. With everything we do each day, we can ask God to help us to do them in a way that loves Him.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? *Praise God for being the one true God, alone worthy of our worship.*
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? *Confess that we too many times we choose to not love God when things are hard. We want to please ourselves, not God. We deserve God's punishment. We all need to confess our sins to Him and ask His forgiveness! We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? *We can thank God for giving His people the courage to live for Him and to love Him, even when it is very hard. We can thank Him for sending the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts.*
4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our story? *We can ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts so that we would love and live for God, even when it is very hard.*

The Gospel

1. Daniel lived before Jesus' day, but knew of the LORD's promise to send a Messiah and 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 have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.*

Game: Basketball Toss

Materials

Small basketball or other ball
3 (or 4) baskets
Paper and Marker
Masking Tape
Story Review Questions

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Use tape to mark a free throw line. On the paper make three point values, (starting with two points and going up), one for each basket, and tape them to the corresponding basket. Set out the baskets with the one worth least points, the closest to the free throw line. The one worth the most points, set the farthest out. With younger children, make sure to set one basket so close in that they are almost guaranteed to get a basket. If desired, use the extra fourth basket to make a long bomb basket that is almost unreachable, but worth a lot of points.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams. Teams will take turns having one of their members make a shoot. Each child gets three tries. The highest point value being what the question will be worth. Then ask the child a Story Review question. If he gets it right, then he earns those points for his team. If the person is unable to answer the question correctly, the other team can try to answer it for half the point values. If a child does not make a basket, he can still answer a question for 1 point.

Game continues until all children get to try to make a basket, or as number of questions, time, and attention span allow. The team with the most points at the end wins.

Non-competitive Option

Don't split into teams. Set a target point number for the group, telling them that together they are going to see how many turns it takes to reach the target number. Have the children take turns tossing the basketball (three tries each). Tally number of turns on a piece of paper. When the target number has been reached, start over and try to reach the target number in fewer turns.

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: The Case of the Man Who Lived "No".

Our story takes place in Old Testament times, during the times of the last kings of Judah, about 600 years before Jesus lived on earth.

And now we present: "The Case of the Man Who Lived "No".

Scene 1:

King Jehoiakim and the people of Jerusalem lived a good life, but most worshiped Baal instead of the LORD. Daniel was from one of the best families in Jerusalem. He was very handsome, rich and smart. He served in King Jehoiakim's palace, but unlike many others--including the king--he loved the LORD. Three times a day, Daniel would pray the Shema like the LORD's faithful followers had done for years. He wanted to love the LORD with all his heart, mind, soul and strength. Because the people would not turn from worshiping Baal, the LORD sent the Babylonian army to attack Jerusalem. The soldiers took the gold from the Temple, and carried the king and the best of the rich families into captivity, including Daniel. Even as a captive, Daniel remembered the LORD and trusted in Him.

Actions:

Scene 2:

In Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar had his chief official, Ashpenaz, to select the best men from the captives to be trained to be his servants. Daniel was chosen. All of these young men were to be treated well. They were even to eat the best food found on the king's table. But Daniel refused to eat the food. He knew the meat from the King's table had probably been offered to idols. He did not want to dishonor the LORD in any way. But Daniel did obey the LORD's command to work for the Babylonians. The LORD blessed Daniel as he trained to serve the Babylonians. He even gave him the gift of interpreting dreams. King Nebuchadnezzar and then later King Darius the Mede both chose Daniel to be their chief advisor, because of the great wisdom the LORD gave him. Yet never in all those years or with all that honor, did Daniel forget the LORD.

Scene 3:

The other advisers were jealous of Daniel. They hated that the king favored him. They made a plan to get rid of Daniel. They tricked the king into passing a law that would punish anyone who prayed to another god. Any person found doing this would be thrown into the lions' den, never to be seen again. Daniel heard about the new law, but it didn't stop him from loving the LORD most of all. He still stood before his window and prayed to Him, even though he knew he would be punished. The advisors seize Daniel as he is praying. They bring him before the King and have him thrown to the lion's. They think they will never see him again, but they are wrong! The LORD rescues Daniel. He sends an angel to shut the lions' mouths. The King releases Daniel from the lion's den and proclaims all the people in his kingdom to praise the LORD.

Bible Truth Tie-In: The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God's People Love Him with All of Themselves.** Every day Daniel prayed that he would love God with all his heart, mind, soul and strength. He showed his love for God by even being willing to face death rather than denying Him.

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

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is: The Case of the Man Who Lived "No".

Our story takes place in Old Testament times, during the times of the last kings of Judah, about 600 years before Jesus lived on earth.

The characters in our story are: King Jehoiakim; Daniel; Babylonian soldiers; Prophet Jeremiah; King Nebuchadnezzar; Ashpenaz; Young, smart, handsome Jewish men; Other Advisors; Angel; and, King Darius the Mede.

And now we present: "The Case of the Man Who Lived "No"."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

King Jehoiakim and the people of Jerusalem lived a good life, but most worshiped Baal instead of the LORD. Daniel was from one of the best families in Jerusalem. He was very handsome, rich and smart. He served in King Jehoiakim's palace, but unlike many others--including the king--he loved the LORD. Three times a day, Daniel would pray the Shema like the LORD's faithful followers had done for years. He wanted to love the LORD with all his heart, mind, soul and strength. Because the people would not turn from worshiping Baal, the LORD sent the Babylonian army to attack Jerusalem. The soldiers took the gold from the Temple, and carried the king and the best of the rich families into captivity, including Daniel. Even as a captive, Daniel remembered the LORD and trusted in Him.

Scene 2: (Middle)

In Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar had his chief official, Ashpenaz, to select the best men from the captives to be trained to be his servants. Daniel was chosen. All of these young men were to be treated well. They were even to eat the best food found on the king's table. But Daniel refused to eat the food. He knew the meat from the King's table had probably been offered to idols. He did not want to dishonor the LORD in any way. But Daniel did obey the LORD's command to work for the Babylonians. The LORD blessed Daniel as he trained to serve the Babylonians. He even gave him the gift of interpreting dreams. King Nebuchadnezzar and then later King Darius the Mede both chose Daniel to be their chief advisor, because of the great wisdom the LORD gave him. Yet never in all those years or with all that honor, did Daniel forget the LORD.

Scene 3: (End)

The other advisers were jealous of Daniel. They hated that the king favored him. They made a plan to get rid of Daniel. They tricked the king into passing a law that would punish anyone who prayed to another god. Any person found doing this would be thrown into the lions' den, never to be seen again. Daniel heard about the new law, but it didn't stop him from loving the LORD most of all. He still stood before his window and prayed to Him, even though he knew he would be punished. The advisers seize Daniel as he is praying. They bring him before the King and have him thrown to the lions. They think they will never see him again, but they are wrong! The LORD rescues Daniel. He sends an angel to shut the lions' mouths. The King releases Daniel from the lion's den and proclaims all the people in his kingdom to praise the LORD.

Bible Truth Tie-In: The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God's People Love Him with All of Themselves.** Every day Daniel prayed that he would love God with all his heart, mind, soul and strength. He showed his love for God by even being willing to face death rather than denying Him.

Daniel in a Den of Lions

Description

The children will make a scene of Daniel in the pit of lions using various decorating supplies.

Materials

Cardstock/regular paper

Markers or colored pencils

As desired, also:

Gray or light brown craft sand and craft glue (to decorate rocks)

Brown/yellow yarn and jiggly eyes (to decorate the lions)

Silver and gold glitter/glitter glue (to decorate the angel)

Glue

Preparing the Craft

1. Print out a copy of the picture onto cardstock (better if using additional decorations) or regular paper (fine if just coloring).
2. Set out any other decorating supplies you plan to use.

Making the Craft

1. Show children your sample,
2. If just coloring in the pictures, then have the children color them in.

If adding additional decoration, follow these instructions:

Rocks: Smear craft glue on rocks and sprinkle craft sand on top. Glue rocks as desired onto the scene.

Lions: Color in with markers then add jiggly eyes and pieces of yarn to mane. Stick in place on scene.

Daniel: Color in and stick in place.

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 was Daniel from? Where was he taken to live? *He was from Jerusalem. He was taken to Babylon.*

2. What did King Nebuchadnezzar think of Daniel? *He made him his most trusted advisor.*

3. What did the jealous advisors do to get Daniel in trouble? How did this work? How did it not work? *They made a law that would get Daniel in trouble if he kept worshiping the LORD. Daniel loved the LORD and would not stop. He was thrown in the lions' den, but the LORD rescued.*

4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning? *God's People Love Him with All of Themselves.*

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: God's People Love Him with All of Themselves?
Daniel chose not to hide or stop praying to the LORD, even though he that he would risk his life if he kept doing so. He sought to love the LORD with all of himself. Not even death in a pit of lions would stop him for worshiping Him!

6. What can our craft help us remember?
God can give His people the courage to keep of loving Him, even when they might lose their life! By His Holy Spirit, He can even give us that kind of courage, too!

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: Daniel in a Den of Lions.

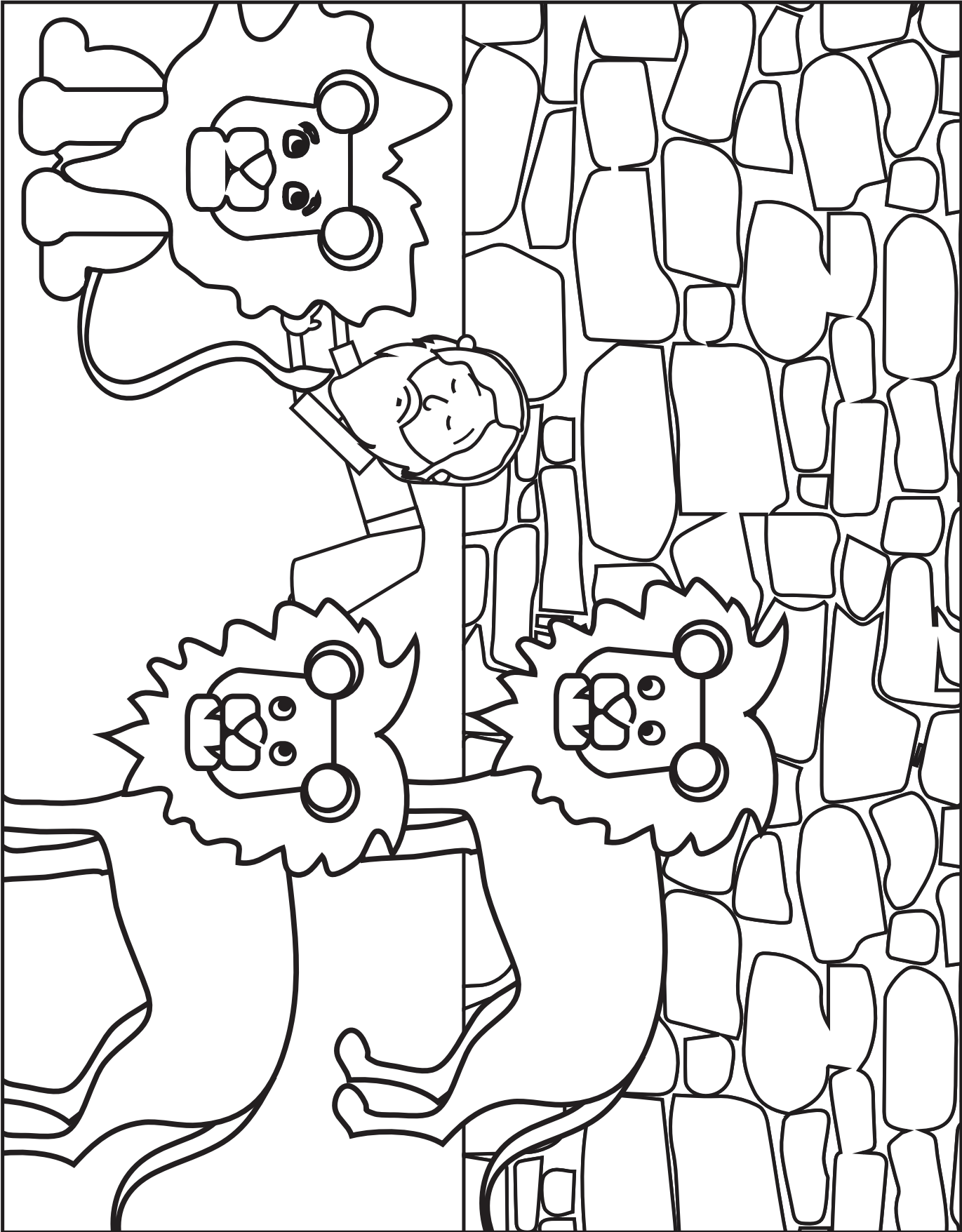
2. In Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar threw Daniel in a Den of Lions because Daniel would not stop worshiping the LORD, even when it was against the law. But the LORD was greater than the plans of the jealous advisors. He rescued Daniel from the hungry lions.

3. Our Bible Truth is: God's People Love Him with All of Themselves.

4. Daniel chose not to hide or stop praying to the LORD, even though he that he would risk his life if he kept doing so. He sought to love the LORD with all of himself. Not even death in a pit of lions would stop him for worshiping Him!

5. Our craft can help us remember that God can give His people the courage to keep of loving Him, even when they might lose their life! By His Holy Spirit, He can even give us that kind of courage, too!

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 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: Hot and Cold Hide

Materials

Information Sheet for one VIPP
2 Set of Clue Cards
8 8.5" x 11" Manilla Envelopes
Blindfold

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.

Playing the Game

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

Review: Choose one child to be "The Finder" and cover his eyes with the blindfold. Choose one of the Clue Card envelopes. Choose another child to be "The Hider". This child will hide the envelope somewhere in the room. When the clue is hidden, the Finder takes off his blindfold and begins to look for the envelope. The other children say "hot, cold, etc" as the child gets closer or further from the envelope to help the child find it. When the folder is found, 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 hidden.

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
