

BIBLE TRUTH 3, 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 4, Track 1*

Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another: WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song
PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 2

Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 4 Songs *PFI ESV Songs 4, Tracks 3,4*
Extra Song: Inspector Graff's Rap: The ABC's of God PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 5

Big Question Bible Verse: 1 Kings 8:23 In Heaven Above Song *PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 6*
Extra Unit 4 Bible Verse: In Heaven Above 1 Kings 8:23, ESV (short version) PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 7
Extra Unit 4 Bible Verse: In Heaven Above or Earth Beneath 1 Kings 8:23, ESV (other version) PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 8
Extra Unit 4 Bible Verse: O, O LORD 1 Kings 8:23, ESV (other version) PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 9
Extra Unit 4 Bible Verse: I Am God Deuteronomy 32:3-4, HSCB, PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 10

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

Bible Truth 3: The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Bible Truth Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy, v.1 *PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 17*

Bible Verse: 2 Corinthians 13:14, ESV

Bible Verse Song: May the Grace *PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 18*

Lesson 3 New Testament Story: The Case of the Singular Son
Matthew 3; Mark 1; Luke 3; John 2

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: : From Carpenter's Shop to Jordan River

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Bean Bag Grand March

Bible Truth Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy, v.1 *PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 17*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice **PFI ESV Songs 4 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: 2 Corinthians 13:14 Discussion Sheet and Game: Which Way Did It Go?

Bible Verse Song: May the Grace *PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 18*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean? **PFI ESV Songs 4 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Forceball

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 Holy Spirit Descending Like a Dove upon Jesus

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (back of book) & Game: Stop and Go

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 3, Lesson 3 **PFI ESV Prontos 4 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Singular Son Matthew 3; Mark 1; Luke 3: John 2

by Connie Dever

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

1. Who was the singular son? Why was he so unusual?
2. What is the most singular thing that the son delight to do for his father?

This story takes place in during New Testament times when Jesus lived on earth. It starts out in a carpenter's shop in the village of Nazareth.

With strong arms and able hands, Jesus the carpenter finished his work. Done! Not just that project, but also his time as a carpenter. For thirty years now, Jesus had known life as the son of Mary. He had grown up with Mary, his mother; Joseph, her husband; and their children—his half brothers and sisters. He grew in favor with his family and with the villagers: always kind, good, loving, wise...and an amazing knowledge and deep love for God. Growing up in a carpenter's family, He had grown to be a fine carpenter: how to make a sturdy cart, a perfectly round wheel, bowls, furniture and hand tools. Yes, no one would doubt that there was a finer man than Jesus, the Son of Mary.

But Jesus was more than the son of Mary: He was Jesus, the Son of God. He had known the Perfect Wonderfulness of love and fellowship of the Father and the Holy Spirit. He had lived in the splendor of glory long, long, long before the world had been created. And when it was created, it was He through whom it had all been created. It was not to become a carpenter that Jesus, the Son of God had left the riches of that fullest of glorious fellowship with the Father and Holy Spirit to live as a man. He had come to do a mighty work, that only God, Himself, could successfully complete:

For, the Father loved the world so much
that He sent His Son to earth,
The Holy Spirit filled His heart
with truth, grace and power,
So that the Son of God

who delighted to obey His Father,
Could save His people from their sins,
Give them the Holy Spirit to live in their hearts
and they could know all of the Perfect Wonderfulness
of fellowship with God they could know,
forever and ever.

There was no more time for making tables or fixing wagons. It was time for the Jesus, Son of God, the Messiah King, to bring God's kingdom to the world.

Saying goodbye, Jesus started on His way. Taking the south road out of Nazareth, He headed towards the towering mountains of Samaria, then turned east, making the great descent from the high hills down, down to the Jordan River, a twenty-mile walk away.

Green, grassy hills gave way to ones with only dry, scraggly brush, and then finally opened up into green thickets of trees and bushes as the road came to the sparkling waters of the Jordan River. Jesus made His way along the river's edge until He found what He was looking for: his cousin, John, the Baptizer: a wild-looking man dressed in camel's hair clothes, preaching to the crowd that had travelled out to the wilderness to hear him.

"Repent, for the Kingdom of God is near," John the Baptist told them. "It is time for the promised Messiah King to come to save His people. Turn from your sins and ask God for forgiveness so that your heart will be ready to receive Him when He comes. Come, be baptized as a sign to all and to God that you desire to live for Him."

"Are you the Messiah King, John?" the people wanted to know.

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.

"No, I am not the Messiah King. I am only one come to prepare you for Him. "I baptize you with water for repentance, that you might show your heart's desire to love and follow God, not your own sinful ways. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. He will purifying your hearts of sin and fill them with His Holy Spirit so that you will truly love and obey God. (fire here refers to being purified from sin.)"

Jesus made His way through the clumps of grasses and trees along the shore to where John was standing. As John saw Him, the Holy Spirit whispered in his heart that this was the Messiah King he had been preparing the people for.

"I have come to be baptized," Jesus told John.

John could not believe his ears. The Messiah King had no sin to turn from or be forgiven of. Why should He be baptized? He tried to stop Jesus, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?"

Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness. (to complete all of God's perfect plan so that He would be the perfect sacrifice given in the place of God's people to save them from their sins.)" For this Jesus was more than the son of Mary. He was the Son of God had come to do a mighty work:

For, the Father loved the world so much
that He sent His Son to earth,
The Holy Spirit filled His heart
with truth, grace and power,
So that the Son of God
who delighted to obey His Father,
Could save His people from their sins,
Give them the Holy Spirit to live in their hearts
and they could know all of the Perfect Wonderfulness
of fellowship with God they could know,
forever and ever.

Jesus was to save His people by being the substitute for the sins of His sinful people. He must start with being baptized just as they needed to be.

So John and Jesus waded into the River Jordan.

Jesus grasped John's arm as he dipped Him back and down below the surface of the water, then forward, up and out.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, most amazing thing happened. As he came up from under the water, heaven was torn open, and the Holy Spirit came down from heaven like a dove and remained upon Jesus. Then the Father spoke from heaven saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased."

God the Father was proclaiming the good news about Jesus! This baptism was far more than just a baptism. It was an anointing of the promised Messiah King, announcing the beginning of the work He had been sent to do. For this Jesus was more than the Son of Mary. He was the Son of God, come at last to do the mighty work of salvation of God's people.

For, the Father loved the world so much
that He sent His Son to earth,
The Holy Spirit filled His heart
with truth, grace and power,
So that the Son of God
who delighted to obey His Father,
Could save His people from their sins,
Give them the Holy Spirit to live in their hearts
and they could know all of the Perfect Wonderfulness
of fellowship with God they could know,
forever and ever.

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who was the singular son? Why was he so unusual?

Jesus. He was the Son of God and the son of Mary.

2. What is the most singular thing that the son delight to do for his father? He chose to leave His home in heaven, come to earth as human, suffer and die on the cross to save God's people from their sins.

Something For You and Me**Our Bible Truth is:**

The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Our Bible Verse is: 2 Corinthians 13:14

“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

Can you imagine what it would have been like that day when all three persons of the Trinity made Themselves so clearly known? To be present when Jesus, the Son of God was announced by the very voice of God the Father and anointed by the Holy Spirit for the mighty work He had come to do. Will we ever have a chance to experience the Father, Son and Holy Spirit like this? This side of heaven we will never have that amazing experience. Yet, for all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus for forgiveness, there will be a time in heaven when they will experience not just a glimpse of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, but will be filled up as full as humans can be with Their Perfect Wonderfulness; and they will enjoy this Perfect Wonderfulness forever and ever.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being for being Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: one God, yet three persons. Amazing and more than we can understand.

C God, we confess that unlike Jesus, who was without sin and did not need to repent or be baptized, we are sinners! We need a Savior!

T God, we thank You for sending Jesus to be the Savior of all who turn from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.

S God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, just as John the Baptist hoped that the people who listened to him would. Work in us that we might be Your people and know some of the Perfect Wonderfulness of knowing You right now; and then in heaven, know all of Your Perfect Wonderfulness that we can know—forever and ever.

Special Words

Anoint: To choose someone for a special task, usually being sprinkled with water or oil.

Messiah: Special chosen one promised by God to save God’s people from their sins, overthrow God’s enemies, and bring in and rule over God’s Kingdom.

Kingdom of God: Where God and His good ways are obeyed and enjoyed by God’s people. Heaven is where the Kingdom of God is fully enjoyed already. God’s people enjoy a taste of God’s Kingdom in their hearts now as they know and love God. One day, Jesus will return and fully establish the Kingdom of God completely in the new heaven and earth, too.

Purified: Cleansed of something.

Perfect Wonderfulness: A made up description of the perfect fellowship of love, joy and peace that God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit enjoys.

Trinity: A word that people use to describe the idea that the LORD is one God, but three persons--Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

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:

Father, we praise You for Your wisdom; Jesus, we praise You for Your sacrifice,; and, Holy Spirit, we praise You for Your work in the hearts of God's people. How amazing You are to love sinful people like us as You have!

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that many times we do not appreciate how great a sacrifice it was for You, Jesus, to leave the perfect fellowship of the Trinity in heaven to come to earth to be the sacrifice for the sins of God's people.

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for sending Your Holy Spirit to live in the hearts of Your people. Thank You, Father for Your wonderful plans to save Your people. Thank You, Jesus, for being their Savior.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, help us to trust You about this great mystery that we cannot understand. Fill us with greater wonder over who You are. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts that we would turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

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

Snack: From Carpenter Shop to Jordan River

Serve sparkling "Jordan River" water (bubbly or plain); Chex mix "Carpenter shop" bits and pieces; or, round crackers with "Cheese Whiz" spokes made on them.

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

Case Tie-in: When it was time for Jesus to begin to proclaim God's kingdom, He left behind His work in the carpenter's shop and went down to the Jordan River to be baptized by John.

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.

The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

There is only one God; yet, He is God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God the Father reigns over everything according to His perfect wisdom and will. Jesus, God the Son, perfectly loves His Father and delights to obey Him. God, the Holy Spirit, does the will of the Father and the Son. He works in the hearts of God's people. They work together perfectly and they have always enjoyed perfect happiness and oneness in heaven.

The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are called the "Trinity" (Three as one) because they are three separate persons, but only one God. We cannot understand this easily because God is so different from anything else we know.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. What is a "person"? *We think someone has to be a human to be a person, but person really means someone who has a separate personality or characteristics. God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit each are persons. They have separate personalities, roles and characteristics. They are not like people "persons" who each live separately from one another. They exist together. They are just one God, eternal, all powerful, all knowing, infinitely wise, holy, loving, etc. This is more than human minds can understand.*
2. What does God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit each do? *God the Father reigns over everything according to His perfect wisdom and will. Jesus, God the Son, perfectly loves His Father and delights to obey Him. God, the Holy Spirit, does the will of the Father and the Son. He works in the hearts of God's people.*
3. How do they work together? What do they enjoy together? *They work together perfectly and they have always enjoyed perfect happiness and oneness in heaven.*
4. What do we call the Father, Son and Holy Spirit? What does it mean? *The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are called the "Trinity" (Three as one) because they are three separate persons, but only one God.*
5. Can something about God be true even though we don't understand it? Why? *Yes. Because He is so much greater than we are.*

Story Connection Questions

How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit**:

1. What did God the Father do at Jesus' baptism? *Pronounce that Jesus was His Son and that He was very pleased with Him.*
2. What did God the Holy Spirit do at Jesus' baptism? *Descend from heaven like a dove and rest on Him, preparing Him for the mighty work He was about to begin.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our Bible Verse: **2 Corinthians 13:14**: "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.?" *Each of these three things that Paul wants God's people to know and enjoy are gifts from each person of the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus gives them the free, undeserved gifts of salvation through faith in Him. The Father loves His people so much that He gave Jesus to die for them. And, He continues to love them every day of their lives. The Holy Spirit lives inside them, giving them closeness with God (fellowship). He helps them to know, love and obey God better.*

Life Application Questions

1. How can knowing about the Trinity be an encouragement to God's people? *When they are fearful or going through hard times, they can think of all that God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit has done for them already. They can think about the Perfect Wonderfulness they will get to enjoy forever in heaven when these hard days are over..*
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 the Father for His wisdom, God the Son for His sacrifice, God the Holy Spirit for His work in the hearts of God's people.

2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth? *Confess that we forget to appreciate how great a sacrifice it was for Jesus to leave the perfect fellowship of the Trinity in heaven to come to earth to be the sacrifice for the sins of God's people.*

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

Thank God for sending the Holy Spirit, Himself, to dwell in the hearts of His people.

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

Ask God to help us trust Him about this great mystery we cannot understand and to fill us with greater awe over who He is.

The Gospel

1. What was God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit's wonderful plan to save His sinful people? What's 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: Beanbag Grand Marck

Materials

Small bowl or bag
1 Bean Bag per child
CD and CD player
Bible Truth Questions

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Bible Truth Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Write the Bible Truth questions on small thin strips of paper (or make a photocopy of the Bible Truth Discussion Questions and Simply cut them into strips) and put them in the bag/bowl.

Playing the Game

Have the children form partners, then form a big double circle. Give each child a bean bag. Have them balance them on their heads. Tell the children that you will start the music and tell the children to move however you command them to move, such as march, walk, skip, tip toes, big knee bends, pat head, fly like a bird, etc. (BUT NOT RUN!!!) and try not to let their bean bag fall off their heads. When/if the bean bag falls off, a team is to sit down. When the music stops, all of the seated children are asked a question. If they get the right answer, then everyone is released to the march again. If not, then they must wait until the next time a question is asked and answered correctly.

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

NOTE: Have the children who are "out" help make up actions for the other children to do, put them in charge of the music, etc. along with you. This will keep them happily occupied as they continue.

Non-competitive Option

Let all the children whose beanbag fell join back into the march, even if the class misses the question. Add the missed question back into the bag for further review.

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.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Verse 1

Holy, holy, holy,
 Lord God Almighty,
 Early in the morning,
 Our song shall rise to Thee;
 Holy, holy, holy,
 Merciful and mighty!
 God in three Persons,
 Blessed Trinity!

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 17

Understanding the Song

1. What does "holy" mean? *Completely good and loving; completely set apart from anything that is sinful.*
2. What does the song say holy three times? *To say that He is very, very holy.*
3. What does "Lord God Almighty" mean? *"Lord" spelled with a little "o-r-d" means a ruler or master over others. But "LORD" with all capital letters is the name of God. It means "I Am Who I Am." Almighty means the LORD is mightier than anything or anyone else.*
4. What does "Thee" mean? *An Old English word that means "you", still used by some today to show special respect to God.*
5. What does it mean for our song to rise to God? *We think of heaven as up, so we say our song rises up for God to hear us.*
6. Why is the morning an especially good time to praise God? *Each day is a gift from Him, filled with plans He has for us. When we start the day worshipping God, we are remembering to seek after His will for the day, that we might please Him in all we do.*
7. What does "blessed" mean? *Knowing God's favor or pleasure.*
8. What does "Trinity" mean and who is the Trinity? *Unity of Three, or Three that is One. The Father, Son and Holy Spirit are the Trinity.*
9. What is the Trinity called blessed? *The Trinity is blessed because only God is perfect. He is pleased with Himself more than anyone else. No one is wonderful as He. Also, God's people call the Trinity blessed because there is no one or nothing more wonderful than Him for us to know. And, it is because of the amazing plan of the Trinity that they can know some of His Perfect Wonderfulness now, and will know it as completely as humans can when they go to heaven.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit?**

The LORD--Father, Son, and Holy Spirit-- is the Trinity. All that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is and does shows us His perfect holiness, mercy, and mightiness. He has shown such love and goodness to sinners by all that He has done that God's people cannot help but call Him the blessed Trinity.

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *At the baptism of Jesus, all three persons of the Trinity were clearly revealed: the Father pronouncing that Jesus was His Son and He was very pleased with Him; and the Holy Spirit, descending from heaven like a dove, resting upon Jesus and preparing Him for the mighty work He was about to begin.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **2 Corinthians 13:14**: "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!"

The Trinity--God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit--is blessed to God's people because of their gifts of grace, love and fellowship.

Life Application Questions

1. How can God's people be affected by the message of this song? *They can praise God for being completely holy, merciful and mighty. They can ask God to help them to know Him better that they might delight in Him most of all.*

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 three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Praise God for being holy.

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

While God is holy, we are not. We disobey God. We deserve God's punishment! We need a Savior!

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

We can thank God for not just being holy and punishing us as we deserve, but sending Jesus to save all those who would ever turn from their sins and trust Him as their own Savior.

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

That God would work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to forgive us our sins through Jesus. Help us to be holy, living our lives to please Him.

Gospel Question

1. God is holy: great and good. Nothing sinful can live in His presence. Yet, God made a way for His sinful people to live with Him forever. Can you tell me what it is? What is the gospel?

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

Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice

Materials

Song

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

Blindfold

Preparing the Game

None.

Playing the Game

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

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

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

Bible Truth 5 BIBLE VERSE**Meditation Version: 2 Corinthians 13:14**

“May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. What is “grace”? *Grace is receiving an undeserved gift; or being treated with favor that you don’t deserve.*
2. What is the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ? *The gift of His leaving the perfection of fellowship with the Father and the Holy Spirit to live as a human and offer up His life as the perfect payment for the sins of His people.*
3. What is the love of God like? *So great that He would send His Son to suffer and die as the perfect sacrifice for His people.*
4. What is fellowship? *Loving, caring, knowing someone as a close friend.*
5. What is the fellowship of the Holy Spirit? *His living in the hearts of His people, so that they know and love God closely.*
6. Who is the “you all” that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit will be with? *Christians: those who confess their sins to God, trusting in Jesus for forgiveness for them and who turn and live their lives in obedience to Him.*
7. Why would Paul (who wrote these words to the Corinthians) want them to have these three things? *These are the three greatest gifts of the Trinity to us: forgiveness for sins, for God to love them, and to know and love God.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit**? *Each of these things that Paul wants God’s people to know and enjoy are gifts from each person of the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus gives them the free, undeserved gifts of salvation through faith in Him. The Father loves His people so much that He gave Jesus to die for them. And, He continues to love them every day of their lives. The Holy Spirit lives inside them, giving them closeness with God (fellowship). He helps them to know, love and obey God better.*

Story Connection Questions

1. How does this verse relate to our story? *Jesus’ baptism by John marked the beginning of His time when He would tell about God’s amazing love and plan to save sinful men. All who would turn from their sins and believe in Him, would become God’s people. They would receive the gracious gift of forgiveness of sins, know the love of God, and would have the Holy Spirit live inside their hearts, knowing His fellowship.*

Life Application Questions

1. How can God’s people apply this verse to their lives? *They can praise God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit for giving His people all they need to know Him and love Him. They can praise Him that He would have chosen to include His people—just creatures—in the Perfect Wonderfulness of who He is through the grace of Jesus, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.*
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 the Father for His great love for His people, shown through Jesus’, God’s Son, gift of salvation for His people.*
2. What is something we can confess to God from this Bible Verse? *We can confess that many times we don’t think about how great God’s love for His sinful people is, that He would choose to send His Son to earth, where He would not enjoy all of the Perfect Wonderfulness of fellowship in heaven with God the Father and Holy Spirit.*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible Verse? *We can thank God for His great love for His people, choosing to save them even though they have rebelled against Him.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Bible Verse?
We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to turn away from disobeying Him and trust in this wonderful Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask His that we might know His love, receive the gift of salvation through Jesus, and know the Holy Spirit’s fellowship in our hearts.

Gospel Question

1. How did God show His love to His people? What is the undeserved gift that Jesus gave to His people: 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: Which Way Did It Go?

Materials

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

Coin

Beanbag or other small object

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:

Divide the children into two teams. Have the children sit or stand in a circle, alternating team members. Have everyone say the verse together. Explain to the children that they will pass the beanbag, stating clockwise, around the circle. Outside the circle one person, the Coin Flipper, will flip the coin. Each time the Coin Flipper gets a tails, he yells "Change" and the children in the circle change the direction they are passing the beanbag. After 5 changes whoever has the beanbag says the verse for their team. He gets 2 points for his team if he can say it by himself. One point, if he can say it with the help of another team member. If they can't say it, then the person next to him (on the other team) can try to say it for 1 point for his team. The child who correctly recited the verse is the next Coin Flipper. Have everyone say the verse again, then repeat steps.

Game continues until all children get to be the Coin Flipper, or as time and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Don't split the children into teams. Give the group a target number of points to make. Challenge the children to see how few turns it will take to reach the target number of points. Tally the number of points on a piece of paper. Continue until target number is reached. Repeat, seeing if they can do it in less turns 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.

May the Grace: 2 Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
And the love of God,
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.

May the grace of Lord (Jesus Christ),
And the love of God (God the Father)
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
Be with you all.

Second Corinthians Thirteen, fourteen. *Refrain*

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 18

Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean?

Materials

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

Bag or bowl

Preparing the Game

1. Cut out signs and put in bowl.

Playing the Game

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Then put all the signs we've learned in this bag/ bowl and mix them up.
2. Ask one of the children to choose a sign, but not show it to anyone...but you, if they need some help.
3. Ask the child to do the sign for the rest of the children and see if the other children can guess which one it is. Do the sign with the child, if desired.
4. When the children guess the sign, ask them the meaning of the word. If no one guesses the sign, put it back in the bowl to be picked again.
5. Choose another child to pick a new sign from the bag and continue.

NOTE: You might want to sing the song after you do each word or couple of words.

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

STORY REVIEW

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

General Story Questions

1. Where did Jesus grow up for most of the first thirty years of his life? *Nazareth.*
2. With whom did Jesus grow up? *His mother and her husband, Joseph. His step-brothers and sisters.*
3. What did his family and the villagers think of Him? *He was good, obedient, godly.*
4. What did Jesus learn to do as a trade (job)? *What sorts of things did he do? Carpenter's work.*
5. Whose son did the people of Nazareth think Jesus was? Were they right? *Joseph (and Mary's). Wrong about Joseph. Right about Mary.*
6. Why did Jesus stop doing carpentry? *Because it was time to tell the good news of salvation and to be the Savior of God's people.*
7. Why did Jesus go to the River Jordan? *To be baptized.*
8. What was John the Baptist telling people to do? Why? *To repent of their sins and be baptized, to ready their hearts for the Kingdom of God that was soon to be coming.*
9. Who did the people wonder that John might be? *The Messiah*
10. What did John say he was not even worthy to do for the Messiah? *Carry his sandals!*
11. What did John tell the people that the Messiah would do when He came? *Baptize them with the Holy Spirit and with fire.*
12. What did John mean when he said that the Messiah would baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire? *Baptism means to be immersed. It is a sign of the end of an old sinful way of life and beginning a new life lived to please God. The Messiah would not just give them a sign of their repentance—like baptism with water. If they truly repented of their sins and trusted in Him, He would purify their hearts (like fire purifies gold) and fill them with His Holy Spirit, bringing the end of their old, sinful way of life and giving them the Holy Spirit's strength to live a new life, pleasing to God.*
13. Why did John think he should not baptize Jesus? *Because Jesus had no sins to be forgiven or repent of. He was perfect.*
14. Why did Jesus say He needed to be baptized? *Not because He had sinned, but to fulfill all righteousness. Jesus was to save His people by being the substitute for the sins of His sinful people. He must start with being baptized just as they needed to be.*
15. What did the Holy Spirit do when Jesus was baptized? *The heavens were torn open and the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus like a dove and remained upon Him. He was anointing Him in preparation for the mighty work He was about to do.*
16. What did God the Father do when Jesus was baptized? *He spoke in a loud voice, "This is My Son, with whom I am well pleased."*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit**? How do we see the three persons of the Trinity all at work at the same time in this story? *God the Father proclaims that Jesus is His Son. God the Holy Spirit descends from heaven and anoints Jesus for the mighty work He is about to start. God the Son is being baptized.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: 2 Corinthians 13:14**: "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all."?
Jesus' baptism by John marked the beginning of His time when He would tell about God's amazing love and plan to save sinful men. All who would turn from their sins and believe in Him, would become God's people. They would receive the gracious gift of forgiveness of sins, know the love of God, and would have the Holy Spirit live inside their hearts, knowing His fellowship.

Life Application Questions

1. How can knowing about the Trinity be an encouragement to God's people? *When they are fearful or going through hard times, they can think of all that God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit has done for them already. They can think about the Perfect Wonderfulness they will get to enjoy forever in heaven when these hard days are over..*
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 being that we learned in our story? *Praise God for being Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: one God, yet three persons. Amazing and more than we can understand.*
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? *Confess that unlike Jesus, who was without sin and did not need to repent or be baptized, we are sinners! We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? *We can thank God for sending Jesus to be the Savior of all who turn from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.*
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, just as John the Baptist hoped that the people who listened to him would. We can ask Him to work in us that we might be His people and know some of the Perfect Wonderfulness of knowing Him right now; and then in heaven, know all the Perfect Wonderfulness that we can know—forever and ever.

The Gospel

1. What was Jesus being anointed to do when He was baptized? 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: Forceball

Materials

One kick ball or other rubber ball
Masking tape
Yard stick
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 the tape to mark 2 lines about 3 yards apart.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams and have each team line up behind one of the lines.

Players should stand side to side, with legs apart and feet touching. The two teams are facing each other. Play starts as one team rolls (with their hands) the ball to the other team, trying to get it through the other team's legs without being blocked. The defending team cannot move their feet to block the ball. They can only block it with their hands. If the ball gets through their legs, the other team can get 2 points if they can answer a Story Review question correctly. If they do not say it correctly, then the defending team can try for 1 point. The defending team then bats the ball and tries to get it through the other team's legs. The team with the most points wins.

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

Non-competitive option

This game is difficult to make completely non-competitive. You can, however, not keep track of points.

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 Singular Son.

Our story takes place in during New Testament times when Jesus lived on earth. It starts out in a carpenter’s shop in the village of Nazareth.

And now we present: “The Case of the Singular Son.”

Scene 1:

Jesus grew up in Nazareth. He lived with His mother, Mary, her husband Joseph (until he died), and His (half) brothers and sisters--the children Mary and Joseph had together. Everyone in the village was pleased with Jesus, the son of Mary. He was loving, kind, caring, and good. He loved God. Jesus learned to be a carpenter, just like Joseph. He made many useful things for the people of the village-- wheels, tools, furniture, carts, and other things like that.

Actions:

Scene 2:

When Jesus was thirty years old, it was time for Him to begin preaching about God. Everyone knew Jesus was the son of Mary. But now Jesus would show the world who His Father was. He wasn’t just Jesus, the son of Mary. He was Jesus, the Son of God. He had come to save God’s people. Jesus left Nazareth and headed down the road to the River Jordan. There, Jesus found John preaching to the people. He listened to John urge the people to prepare their hearts for the Kingdom of God by repenting and being baptized. The people ask John if he’s the Messiah, but he tells them that he is not. He tells them that the Messiah is coming soon and He is someone so great that he (John) isn’t even worthy of the honor to carry His dirty sandals. The Messiah, John tells them, won’t just baptize them with water, He will baptized them with the Holy Spirit so that they have new hearts that desire to follow the Lord.

Scene 3

When John sees Jesus, the Holy Spirit whispered to him that this was the Messiah who he had been preparing the people for. Jesus asked John to baptize Him, but John did not want to because he knew that Jesus had no sin to have forgiven or repent of. He thought Jesus should baptize him, instead! Jesus explained that He was supposed to do this to fulfill all of God’s righteous plan for Him as the substitute for the sins of His people. John agrees, takes Jesus in the water and baptizes Him. When Jesus comes up out of the water, the heavens are torn open and the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus like a dove. God the Father declares: This is My Son, with whom I am well-pleased. It is now time for Jesus, the son of Mary, to begin His ministry as the Son of God: telling others about the Kingdom of God and urging them to repent and believe in Him.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.** When Jesus went to be baptized by John, God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit were clearly at work. God the Father proclaimed aloud that Jesus is His Son who He is pleased with. God the Holy Spirit descended from heaven and anointed Jesus for the mighty work He is about to start after He, God’s Son, is baptized.

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 Singular Son.

Our story takes place in during New Testament times when Jesus lived on earth. It starts out in a carpenter's shop in the village of Nazareth.

The characters in our story are: Mary, Joseph, Jesus, Half-brothers and sisters, villagers, John the Baptist, people listening to John, God the Father (voice), God the Holy Spirit (portrayed as a dove)

And now we present: "The Case of the Singular Son."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

Jesus grew up in Nazareth. He lived with His mother, Mary, her husband Joseph (until he died), and His (half) brothers and sisters--the children Mary and Joseph had together. Everyone in the village was pleased with Jesus, the son of Mary. He was loving, kind, caring, and good. He loved God. Jesus learned to be a carpenter, just like Joseph. He made many useful things for the people of the village-- wheels, tools, furniture, carts, and other things like that.

Scene 2: (Middle)

When Jesus was thirty years old, it was time for Him to begin preaching about God. Everyone knew Jesus was the son of Mary. But now Jesus would show the world who His Father was. He wasn't just Jesus, the son of Mary. He was Jesus, the Son of God. He had come to save God's people. Jesus left Nazareth and headed down the road to the River Jordan. There, Jesus found John preaching to the people. He listened to John urge the people to prepare their hearts for the Kingdom of God by repenting and being baptized. The people ask John if he's the Messiah, but he tells them that he is not. He tells them that the Messiah is coming soon and He is someone so great that he (John) isn't even worthy of the honor to carry His dirty sandals. The Messiah, John tells them, won't just baptize them with water, He will baptized them with the Holy Spirit so that they have new hearts that desire to follow the Lord.

Scene 3: (End)

When John sees Jesus, the Holy Spirit whispered to him that this was the Messiah who he had been preparing the people for. Jesus asked John to baptize Him, but John did not want to because he knew that Jesus had no sin to have forgiven or repent of. He thought Jesus should baptize him, instead! Jesus explained that He was supposed to do this to fulfill all of God's righteous plan for Him as the substitute for the sins of His people. John agrees, takes Jesus in the water and baptizes Him. When Jesus comes up out of the water, the heavens are torn open and the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus like a dove. God the Father declares: This is My Son, with whom I am well-pleased. It is now time for Jesus, the son of Mary, to begin His ministry as the Son of God: telling others about the Kingdom of God and urging them to repent and believe in Him.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.** When Jesus went to be baptized by John, God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit were clearly at work. God the Father proclaimed aloud that Jesus is His Son who He is pleased with. God the Holy Spirit descended from heaven and anointed Jesus for the mighty work He is about to start after He, God's Son, is baptized.

The Holy Spirit Descends Like a Dove upon Jesus

Description

Children will make a scene of the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus like a dove.

Materials

White cardstock
Markers/Crayons
Gold/Silver Glitter Glue
Metallic Gold or Silver Gel Pens

Preparing the Craft

1. Make one copy of Templates #1 and #2 for each child.
2. Cut slit in Template #1 where the dove piece will be inserted.

Making the Craft

1. Show the children your sample of the craft.
2. Color the scene with markers/crayons.
3. Fill in the dove with glitter glue. Color the lines on the rest of the dove piece with gel pens (Could use glitter glue, but it may be difficult to move piece up and down).
4. Insert dove piece in the slot.

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 was Jesus going when He left Nazareth?
To the Jordan River, where John was.
2. What was John doing at the Jordan River? What did Jesus ask John to do? *Urging people to prepare for the coming Messiah by repenting of their sins and being baptized. Jesus came to be baptized, too. (Though He had no sins to repent of, He did it as part of His work of salvation for God's sinful people.)*
3. What did God the Father and God the Holy Spirit do when God the Son was baptized?
God the Father announced that Jesus was His Son and sent the Holy Spirit who like a dove descended upon Jesus, anointing Him for His work as the Messiah King who would save God's People.
4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning?
The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit work together to do all of His holy, wonderful will.
6. What can our craft help us remember?
God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit work together to do all of His holy, wonderful will.

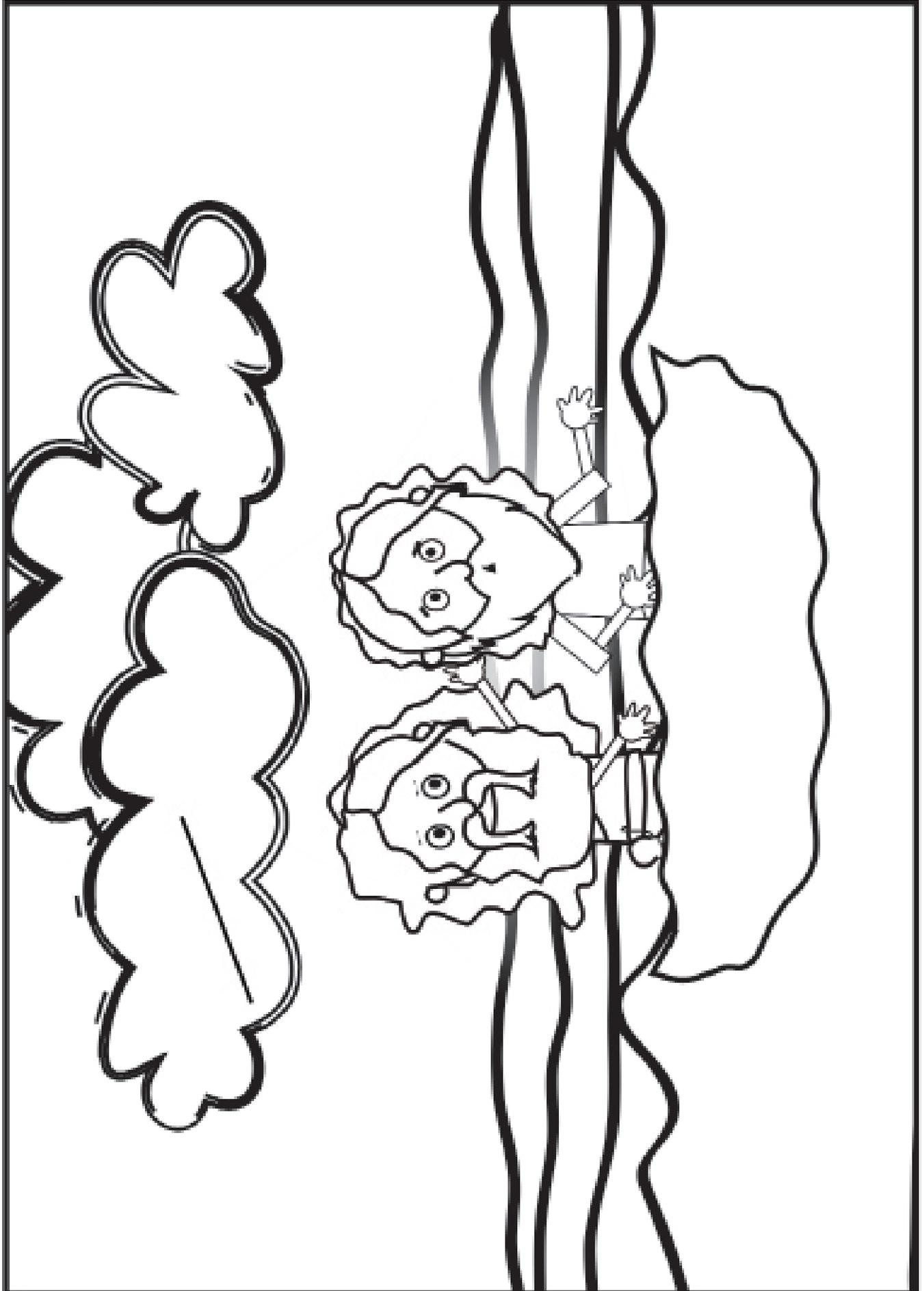
TAKING IT TO OTHERS**Craft Presentation****Instructions:**

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:

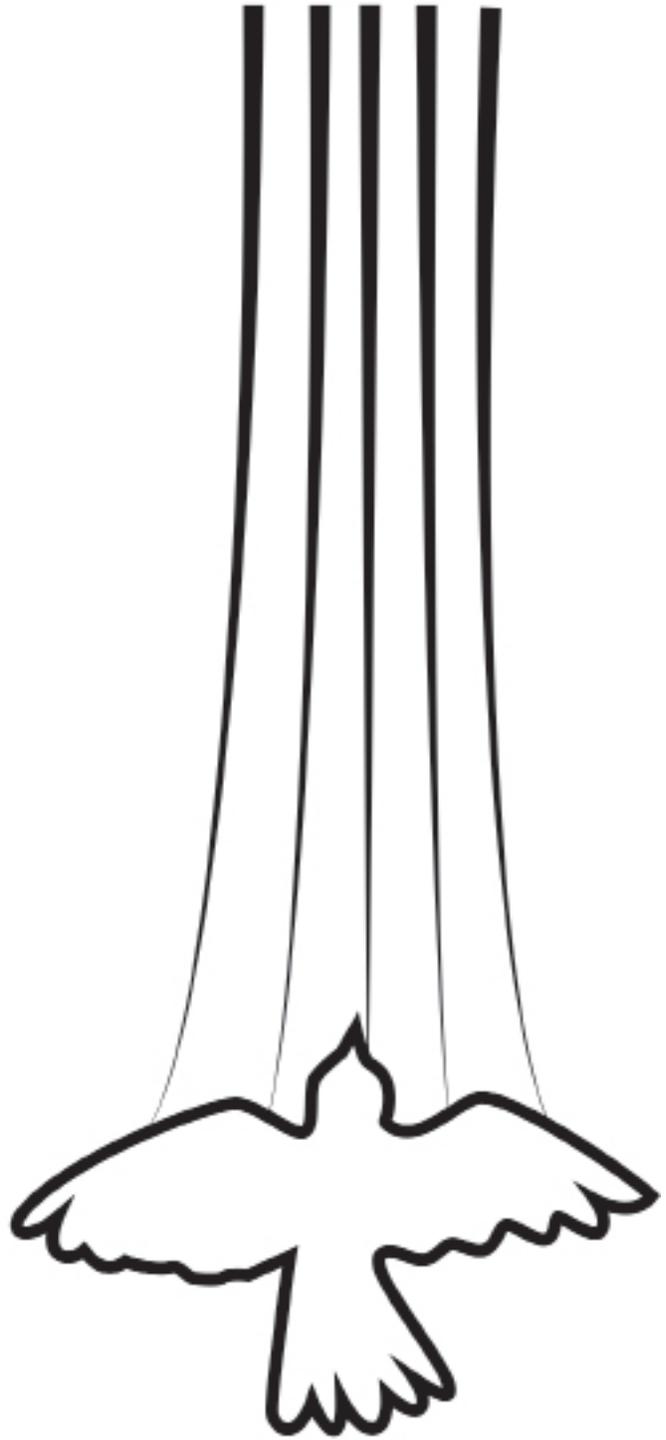
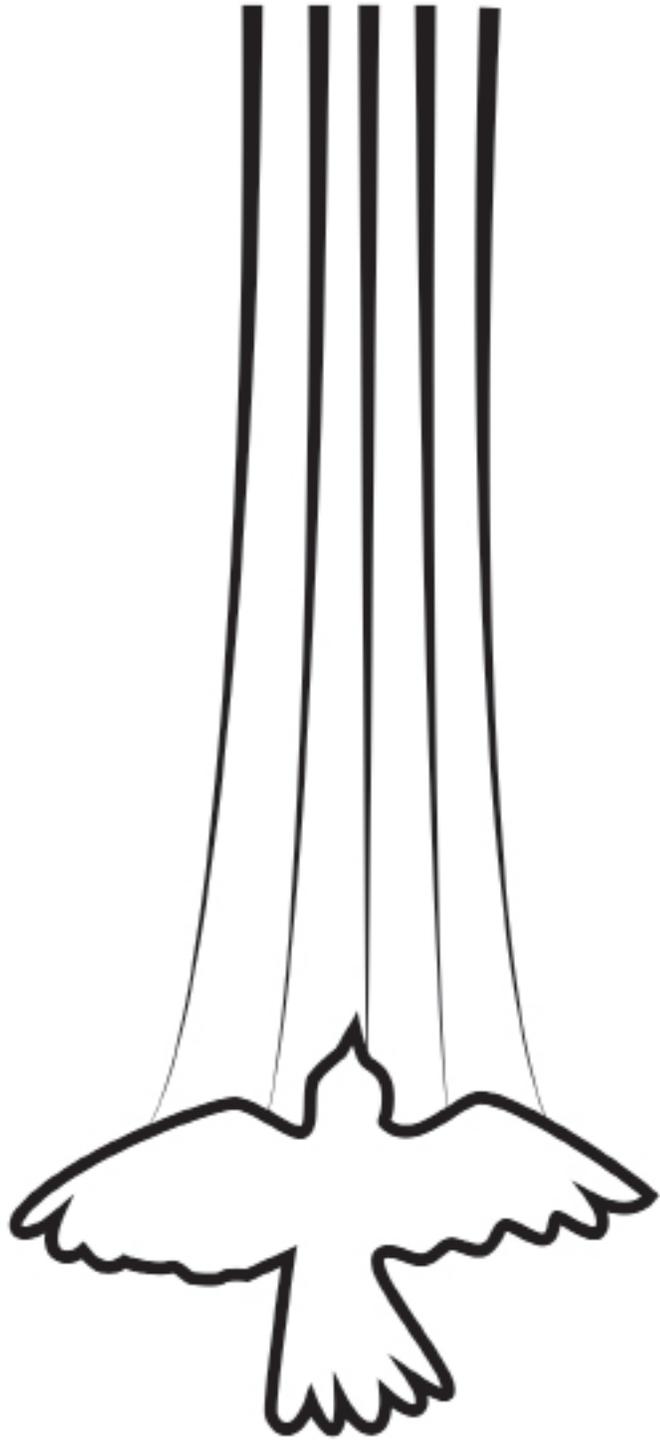
1. Our craft is: The Holy Spirit Like a Dove Descends upon Jesus.
2. At the Jordan River, the crowd heard God the Father announced that Jesus was His Son and sent the Holy Spirit who like a dove descended upon Jesus, anointing Him for His work as the Messiah King who would save God's People.
3. Our Bible Truth is: The LORD Is One God, Yet Three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
4. God the Father proclaimed Jesus as His Son at His baptism and the Holy Spirit prepared Him for the work of preaching and salvation ahead of Him.
5. Our craft can help us remember that God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit work together to do all of His holy, wonderful will.

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.



Template #1 (previous page)

Template #2 (to right)



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.

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: Stop and Go

Materials

Information for one VIPP
2 Sets of Clue Cards
8 8.5" x 11" Manilla Envelopes
Ball
Blindfold
Bag

Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for the VIPP you are using.
2. Tape the other (blank) set of Clue Cards to the outside of the manilla envelopes.
3. Put the filled-in clue cards in the corresponding envelope.
4. Put all the Clue Cards envelopes in a bag, except for the ones with the names and pictures of the VIPPs.

Playing the Game

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

Review: Have the children stand or sit in a circle. Choose one child to be the Caller. The Caller stands in the center of the circle, blindfolded. Hand the ball to a child in the circle. At the Caller's "Go" command, the ball is passed around the circle. It is passed around until the Caller says "Stop." Whoever has the ball when the Caller says stop chooses a Clue Card envelope. The child (or the teacher) tells the class the Clue Card category and asks them if they can remember the answer for the VIPP. The envelope is opened to see what the answer is. If the children get it right, the category is retired. If they get it wrong, it goes back into the pile of envelopes.

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

