

BIBLE TRUTH 7, LESSON 2: 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 7: The LORD Is Omnipotent

Bible Truth Hymn: This Is My Father's World *PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 29*

Bible Verse: Psalm 135:5-6

Bible Verse Song: I Know that the LORD Is Great *PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 30*
Extra Bible Verse Song: For I Know the Plans: Jeremiah 29:11-13, ESV PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 31

Lesson 2 Story of the Saints: The Case of the Heavenly Hopeful Boy

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: French Food and Peter Stuck in the Mud

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Storks

Bible Truth Hymn: This Is My Father's World *PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 29*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice **PFI ESV Songs 4 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: Psalm 135:5-6 Discussion Sheet and Game: Duck, Duck, Goose

Bible Verse Song: I Know that the LORD Is Great: Psalm 135:5-6 *PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 30*
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: Windsock Wall Ball

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: It Comes from Above

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (back of book) Game: Beanbag Toss In

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 7, Lesson 2 **PFI ESV Prontos 4 BOOK or ONLINE**

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

1. Who was the Heavenly Hopeful Boy? What did it mean that he was heavenly hopeful?
2. Why was he so heavenly hopeful? What kinds of things did heaven provide?

This story doesn't take place in Bible times. It takes place around 1800, in France.

A young boy named Peter sat quietly by the bed of his dying father. This poor boy had lost his mother and now he was losing his father, too. With no brothers or sisters or even aunts, uncles, or grandparents to take care of him, what would happen to him? Back then, the French government didn't do much to take care of orphans (children with no mother or father) like Peter. How would this little boy get food or clothes? Who would take care of him when he was sick? Who would be with him when he was lonely or scared?

The boy's father knew his son's mind must be filled with worried questions like this, so he spent his last moments reminding his boy about God, his Heavenly Father. "Little Peter, you will soon be alone in this world and you will have to face many troubles. But remember: 'All things come from above.' This will make it easier for you to endure all the hard times," he said.

What did Peter's father mean: "All things come from above"? Peter's father was a Christian. He believed that God was omnipotent. He always took care of His people's needs and He made all things in their lives work for their good. He wanted Peter to put his trust in the Lord to take care of him. If he did, then everything could be truly trusted as coming from the good and holy God above.

Little Peter was very little. He couldn't understand everything his father told him, but he understood enough to trust the Lord to take care of him. He repeated the words "It comes from Above" over and over to himself so he wouldn't forget them.

After his father died, Little Peter began to do what he could to survive. He had a beautiful voice and would often go door-to-door or stand in the street, offering to sing in return for food or money. Each time someone

adapted from Spiritual Stories for the Young and Old, Joel Beeke, editor

gave him something, he thanked them and said, "It comes from Above," as his father had told him to remember.

When Little Peter became older, he better understood the meaning of his father's words. He began to truly believe that he could trust God to take care of his needs. He believed God's promise to use all things for his good, since he trusted in Him as his Savior.

Not only did Peter just understand the meaning of the words, but he began to see God's omnipotent power and good plan at work in all things in his life. One day, as Peter walked through a town, suddenly a clay roof tile was snatched from a nearby house by a gust of wind. The wind lifted it through the air and then down, hitting Little Peter's shoulder and knocking him down to the ground. The first words he spoke after recovering from the blow were, "It comes from Above."

The people who had gathered around Peter laughed at his words, "Why, of course it came from above. The wind brought it down upon you!"

But Peter wasn't talking about the direction from which the tile came. He was talking about Who had allowed it to happen to him. Peter had learned to trust God to take care of him. He knew that God was in control of all things and at work in all things. He only used His omnipotent power to work all that His good and holy will desired. He knew that whatever the troubles came to him— even this painful one—the Lord allowed and somehow always used them for Peter's good and His own glory. Everything could be truly trusted as coming from the good and holy God Above.

Only a few minutes later, Little Peter was to see just

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.

how true this was. Suddenly another, far bigger gust of wind swept across the rooftops causing some houses only steps down from where Peter lay to crash down onto the sidewalk and in the street.

"Truly the tile did come from Above! God even used it for my good!" Peter exclaimed. "If it hadn't knocked me down, then I would have been caught in the middle of that house when it fell down! The tile hurt me, the house could have killed me!" Peter thanked God once more for His omnipotent power used for his good.

As Peter grew up, sometimes he was hired by businessmen as a messenger boy. One day a gentleman asked him to take a letter to another town for him. "You must hurry. This letter contains very important business that must be taken care of right now! Much depends upon this letter. Take it safely! Take it fast! Make sure that it gets in the hands of the businessman in the other town," the businessman told Peter.

"I will go as fast as I can," Little Peter.

So, rather than taking the road to the other town, Little Peter took a short cut across the countryside. Past farmers working their fields, over the water ditches, Little Peter went as fast as he could go, tightly onto the important letter the whole time. Peter sped along until he went to leap one particularly wide ditch. Instead of reaching the other side, he fell into the mud. When finally he had pulled himself out and up the other side of the ditch, he was one, big, muddy mess. Worst of all, Peter had lost the letter!

"Oh, no! What will the businessman say?" Peter couldn't help but wonder. "What will happen if the letter is not delivered? Surely the man won't pay me for this job." Would Peter be without money to buy food now?

But as quick as these thoughts came to mind, so did the words of his father: "Remember: it comes from Above." Once more Peter trusted the Lord, even with this terrible situation.

Peter went straight back to the businessman and told him everything that had happened. The man was furious, especially when Peter tried to encourage him by telling him that "It comes from Above."

"How could something like this come from God, as if some good could come from it?" the man told Peter.

He chased Peter out of the room. Peter would not be hired by this man again, that was certain! But nonetheless, Peter kept trusting the Lord.

Sure enough, the next day but that very same gentleman found Little Peter and said: "Little Peter, I want to pay you well for what you did yesterday. It has turned out for the good that the letter was lost yesterday! Some things in my business changed so much from yesterday to today that I would have been ruined if that letter had been delivered. Thank you!"

Little Peter gratefully took the money and said once more to the man, "It comes from Above." And now even the man could see that it had.

Many more things like this happened in the life of Little Peter. As he grew to be a young man, Peter's trust in the Lord grew as he kept seeing the Lord's omnipotent hand at work in his life for his good. Not only that, but the Lord got great glory as more and more people watched Him work in Little Peter's life and could see how worthy He was of all Peter's trust.

One day a certain rich Englishman visited the town where Little Peter lived. He also had heard the story of this boy who trusted in God. He had come to see and meet him, himself. "Could it really be that such a young man who had lived such a hard life could really trust God to take care of him?" the rich Englishman thought to himself. "Could he really know that God was in control of all things and at work in all things for his good? "If Little Peter is truly like this, then I would love to help him," he decided.

When the Englishman met Little Peter he asked him, "Little Peter, why do you think I've asked to meet you?"

Little Peter had no real idea what to answer. How could he ever have guessed what the Englishman had in mind? But he trusted that somehow it must be part of God's good plan, so he answered, "It comes from Above."

How pleased the Englishman was with this answer! Everything he had heard about Little Peter was true!

"I agree!" he replied. "Peter, will you come home with me to England? I want to take care of you like you were my son," he asked. Little Peter happily agreed.

So the Englishman took Peter home with him to Birmingham, England. He took care of him and paid for

him to go to school. He taught him how to be a good businessman. And what good friends the two became!

The rich Englishman grew old and died. He left a lot of his money to Little Peter, making Peter one of the richest business men in Birmingham.

But even though Peter became a very great man, he never thought of himself as Great, Important Peter--only Little Peter. Why? Because he knew that everything he had came from Above. It was always God who gave him everything he needed. It was His omnipotent power that had worked all things for his good.

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who was the Heavenly Hopeful Boy? What did it mean that he was heavenly hopeful? Little Peter. It mean that he depended upon God to take care of his needs.

2. Why was he so heavenly hopeful? What kinds of things did heaven provide? He had no father or mother. He had learned from an early age to ask God to provide for his needs and God had always answered him. The Lord provided him with food, with a job, with help in times of trouble, and even with a new father and good life.

Something For You and Me

Our Bible Truth is:
The LORD Is Omnipotent

Our Bible Verse is: Psalm 135:5-6

"For I know the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps."

How could Little Peter trust God's power to work for his good and God's glory in all things? Because Peter knew that the Lord had already taken care of his greatest need: He had sent Jesus to save him from his sins. If we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior, God will make us His people, too. Like Little Peter we can know that He will use His great power for our good and His glory.

Let's praise God for His omnipotent power that He always and only uses to fulfill all His good and holy will.

Let's ask Him work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Let's ask Him help us to not complain or worry in hard times, but trust like Little Peter, that "It all comes from Above."

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being Omnipotent. You make everything to work for the good of Your people.

C God, we confess that many times we don't want God to do far more than use all things in our lives for our good and His glory. We just want Him to make everything easy for us.

T God, we thank You that always do what's best, even if it's something other than what we think we want. Thank You that You go ahead and give Your people what's best and use their lives for Your glory.

S God, we ask that You would work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, like Little Peter did. Help us to trust You when we go through hard things to use them for our good and Your glory.

Special Words

Orphan: A child whose mother and father have died and they have no one to take care of them.

Omnipotent: All-powerful.

For God's Glory: Something that shows how great the Lord is.

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 more powerful than anyone else. We praise You for always being able to do whatever You want to do.

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that many times we want to rebel against You and do things our own way. We confess that many times when we're in trouble, we doubt that You really are powerful enough to help us. We need a Savior to forgive us!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for being so powerful that You can always rescue those who turn from their sins and depend upon You. Thank You for all Your promises You give us in the Bible and for always having the power to fulfill them.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, use Your almighty power to work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to love You and live for You.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

Can you figure out how this snack relates to the story?

Snack: French Food and Peter Stuck in the Mud

French bread or crescent rolls (from refrigerator section of grocery store); or, sugar-free chocolate pudding “mud” with a Teddy graham “Little Peter” and a piece of white cracker “letter” stuck in the “mud.”

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

Case Tie-in: Little Peter lived in France and would have often eaten French bread. Little Peter lived each day trusting that the Lord was all-powerful and would provide for him everything he needed. Even when bad things happened and he wasn’t sure how things would work out, he kept on trusting that the Lord was in control of everything and would use everything for Peter’s good and His (God’s) glory.

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 Omnipotent

“Omnipotent” means “all” (omni) “powerful” (potens). The LORD is all powerful. There are no limits on God’s power to do what He wants to do. God uses His omnipotent power to carry out all His holy will and rule perfectly over all His creation.

In the beginning, God used His omnipotent power to create everything He wanted to create, just the way He wanted it created. By His omnipotent power, He sustains everything He’s made so that it keeps on living as He wants it to and to carry out His wonderful plans.

This doesn’t mean that we have no control over the things we do. God created all living creatures with a will. They make decisions and carry them out. This is especially true of people, to whom God has given a spirit to know Him and to know what is right and wrong. We are each responsible for our own actions. And yet at the same time, God uses His omnipotent power to work in and through all His creations so that His good plans are perfectly fulfilled.

God is all-powerful, yet there is something He will not and cannot do. He will not use His omnipotent power to do anything that is evil. He always acts according to the perfectly holy way He is.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. What does “omnipotent” mean? *All powerful.*
2. What does He use His omnipotent power to do? *All His holy will. Create things just as He wants them created; Sustains everything so it keeps living just as He wants; and uses His power in and through all His creations so that they all fulfill His plans just as He desires.*
3. Does God’s omnipotent power mean that we have no control over what we do? Why not? *No. God created us with a will. We make our own choices and are responsible for them.*
4. Even though we have a will and make our own choices, what does God work in and through us all? *He uses His omnipotent power to bring about His good plans so that they are perfectly fulfilled.*
5. What is it that God cannot and will not do with His omnipotent power? *Anything that is against the perfectly, holy way He is. He will never use it to do anything evil.*

Story Connection Questions

1. How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: The LORD Is Omnipotent**? How did the LORD show that He was omnipotent over Little Peter’s troubles?
He always provided for his needs (sustained him), so that he had food to eat. He allowed in Little Peter’s life only what would be for his good and His own glory, whether it was a roof tile to save him from being harmed when the houses fell over, or being rewarded for the letter he accidentally let fall in the mud when the businessman’s business changed over night. He even provided him with a wonderful new “father” to take care of him the rest of his life.
2. What was Peter trusting that God was like, when he said that all things “Come from Above?”
That the Lord would never use His omnipotent power to do anything evil or against the perfectly holy way He is. He could trust the Lord was working out His good plan in everything.

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our Bible Verse: **Psalms 135:5-6**: “For I know the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all depths.”?
Omnipotent means all powerful. The LORD is all powerful. He is greater than all gods. He is all powerful over all His creation. That is why in the heavens, the earth, and the seas, He will always do whatever pleases Him.

Life Application Questions

1. Why is it frightening to people who rebel against the LORD that He does whatever pleases Him? *They are choosing to rebel against Him, but one day He will finally use His power to judge and punish them justly if they do not confess their sins and turn for forgiveness through Jesus.*
2. Why is it encouraging to God's people that the LORD does whatever pleases Him? *They know that it doesn't matter how terrible their problems, the LORD is always working in the to do good for them and bring glory to His name. They know that He is always able to deliver them.*
3. 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 more powerful than anyone else and always being able to do what He wants to do.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth?
Confess that many times we want to rebel against His ways, His power and do things our own way. Confess that many times when we're in trouble, we doubt that God is really powerful enough to help us. We need a Savior!!
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Bible Truth?
Thank God for being so powerful that He can always rescue His people and always keep all His promises to them.
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 turn away from disobeying Him and trust in this wonderful Jesus as our own Savior. Work in our hearts so that we are people who trust Him and His great power to do good and bring glory to His name, in everything that happens to us.

The Gospel

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

Game: Storks

Materials

Three large, but soft balls

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.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams, each on opposite sides of the room, facing each other. One team is "The Hunters". The other team is "The Storks." The hunters have three balls and they are to stand about twenty feet away from the storks, who are lined up, similarly to ten bowling pins. Storks are to balance on one leg without leaning on anything. They can switch from leg to leg, but must not stand on both at the same time. Read a question to the hunters. If they get it right, then one of the hunters gets three chances (3 balls) to roll the ball at the storks FAIRLY GENTLY and try to get them to put their other foot down. The Hunters score as many points as storks who lost their balance and put their foot down. Sides get switched when all the Hunters have had a turn: or, when they have been stumped by a question.

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.

This Is My Father's World

Verse 3

This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget,
That though the wrong
Seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world.
The battle is not done.
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 29

Understanding the Song

1. Who can call the Lord his/her Father?
All who confess their sins to Him and trust in Him for forgiveness through Jesus' death on the cross.
2. What belongs to "my Father"? *The world.*
3. What does it mean that "wrong seem oft so strong" in this world? *There are many bad and painful things that happen. When we look just at them, it can seem like they are stronger than God and His plan.*
4. Even though wrong seems often so strong, what should believers remember?
That God is the Ruler of the world still.
5. What battle isn't done yet? *The Lord's battle over all that is evil in this world.*
6. What does it mean that Jesus shall be satisfied? *Jesus died for the sins of all who would ever turn and trust in Him for forgiveness. He rose again and then ascended into heaven as the conqueror over sin and death for His people. For now, until all of God's plan on earth is complete and all His people from every nation and people have come to Him in faith, the battle against sin and death will continue. But one day, when all of God's plan for this earth is finished, the Lord Jesus will come back, bring an end to of sin, death and Satan in a final and everlasting victory. Then all that He had planned to accomplish with His death, will be completed, satisfied.*
7. What does it mean for heaven and earth to be one? *God's will is perfectly done here on earth as it is in heaven. This will happen when Jesus is satisfied, when there is the final end to sin and death.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **The LORD Is Omnipotent?**
This world does belong to God, because in His omnipotence He created it all, just as He desired; and He sustains it and all the creations in it by His omnipotent power. While sin and death are still allowed for now, one day, He will accomplish all He has planned for this world and will bring an end all that is evil. He will win the battle once and for all, at just the perfect time He has planned.

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *Little Peter's father warned him that there would be many hard things he would have to suffer after he died, but to remember that the Lord was always ruler over the world and everything that happened to him. He could always trust in Him. Little Peter remembered and lived by this his whole life. Whether it was a falling tile, a lost letter, or anything else, he learned to see it as coming from the Lord, above and trust in His good plan.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Bible Verse: Psalm 135:5-6:** "For I know the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps:"?

This is God's world. He made it and sustains it. He makes sure that His plans for it will succeed. Why is this so? Because God is omnipotent—all powerful. He is able to do all that He, in His perfect good and wise plan, has decided.

Life Application Questions

1. How can God's people be affected by the message of this song?

They can praise God for being omnipotent. They can ask Him to help them trust that no matter how big the problems they are in, how evil are plans that are made against them, that the Lord will finally win the battle. He will use His omnipotence to care for His people and bring Him glory.

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

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for being the Ruler of this world who will overcome all evil.

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

Confess that many times we, like all people, do evil that God will one day finally punish and get rid of. 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 that He has beaten death through Jesus, for all who turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. We can thank Him for His promise to do away with sin and evil forever one day.

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. That we might be not be discouraged by the evil in the world and the sin in our hearts, but remember that He saves all those who trust in Him and that one day all evil will be gone for good.

Gospel Question

1. God is the Ruler of this world who will one day will punish and do away with all evil and sin. What hope is there for sinners like you and me? 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

Sign Language Signs and Song
White board and marker
Eraser

Preparing the Game

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

Playing the Game

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

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

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

Meditation Version: Psalm 135:5-6

“For I know the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.”

Alternate Memory Version: Psalm 135:5,6

“For I know the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the LORD pleases, he does...”

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. Who is the LORD greater than? *All gods.*

2. What does the LORD do? *Whatever pleases Him.*

3. What will it never please the LORD to do?

Anything that is against His perfectly holy, good will and self. The LORD may transform the evil schemes of men and Satan to bring about His good will, but He never use His power to do evil.

4. Where does the LORD do whatever pleases Him? *In the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths.*

5. How does the LORD use His omnipotent power in the world? *He uses it to create all things; to sustain all things; to work in all things to bring about His good and holy plan.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: The LORD Is Omnipotent?**

Omnipotent means all powerful. The LORD is all powerful. He is greater than all gods. He is all powerful over all His creation. That is why in the heavens, the earth, and the seas, He will always do whatever pleases Him.

Story Connection Questions

1. What does this verse have to do with our story? *From even the time Little Peter was just a boy, he trusted that everything that happened to him was always part of the Lord's good plan for him. He could believe this because he knew that the Lord was Omnipotent—He did whatever pleased Him, in the heavens, on the earth, in the seas and all their depths. Nothing could limit His power to do His good and holy will.*

Life Application Questions

1. Why is it frightening to people who rebel against the LORD that He does whatever pleases Him?

They are choosing to rebel against Him, but one day He will finally use His power to judge and punish them justly if they do not confess their sins and turn to Him for forgiveness through Jesus.

2. Why is it encouraging to God's people that the LORD does whatever pleases Him?

They know that it doesn't matter how terrible their problems, the LORD is always working in the to do good for them and bring glory to His name. They know that He is always able to deliver them.

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

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for being so great that He does whatever pleases Him.

2. What is something we can confess to God from this Bible verse?

That even though we know that the LORD does whatever pleases Him—all His good and perfect plans—that we have all chosen to disobey Him and His good ways. We deserve His punishment! We need a Savior!

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

We can thank God for being pleased to send Jesus to save His people from their sins! And not just being pleased to do it, but doing it perfectly and completely—even defeating death itself!

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 Him to work in our hearts and do in our lives whatever pleases Him, according to His great power and perfect plans.

Gospel Question

1. What is the greatest show of God's power on behalf of His sinful people, that God has pleased to do? 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: Duck, Duck, Goose

Materials

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

Preparing the Game

None.

Learning the Verse

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

Directions

1. If desired, lead the children in a discussion of a **FEW** of the most important questions before beginning game.
2. Explain the game to them as follows:
Have the children sit in a circle, cross-legged on the floor. Choose a child to be "it". "It" will walk around behind the seated children, tapping each one on the head, the whole group recites the verse, saying one word for each head tap. The child whose head is the last one to be tapped must get up and chase "It", hoping to tag "It" before "It" can get around the circle and sit down in the open spot in the circle. If the child does tag "It" then he may take his place in the circle. If not, then the new child is "It." Repeat as frequently as desired.

Game continues until all children are out; or, as time and attention span allow.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

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

Directions:

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

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

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

I Know that the LORD Is Great

I know that the LORD is great,
That our Lord's above all gods.
Whatever the LORD pleases, He does,
In heaven and on earth,
The seas and all deeps.
Whate'er the LORD pleases He does.
I know that the LORD is great,
That our Lord's above all gods.
Whatever the LORD pleases, He does,
In heaven and on earth,
The seas and all deeps.
Whate'er the LORD pleases He does.
Psalm One-thirty-five, five and six.

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 4, Track 30

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. What did Little Peter's father tell him as he was dying? *That he would have many troubles, but to remember that everything comes from Above—the good hand of the Omnipotent Lord.*
2. Why would Little Peter have so many troubles when his father died?
Because everyone else in his family had died, too, leaving Little Peter all alone to take care of himself.
3. What did Little Peter do at first to take care of himself? *Sing in the streets and at people's houses for money or food.*
4. What did Little Peter say each time someone gave him something? *"It comes from Above."*
5. What does "It comes from Above" mean?
That the Omnipotent Lord was in control over everything in his life. As Peter trusted in Him, he could be sure that the Lord would be at work in everything that happened to him, for Peter's good and His own glory.
6. What happened to Peter in the windstorm that encouraged him that the Lord was even at work in the troubles he faced?
The tile that hit him and knocked him to the ground was used by the Lord to protect Peter from being crushed when the wind blew over the houses.
7. How did Peter react when he lost the businessman's letter in the ditch in the mud?
He trusted that the Lord would use it for his good and His own glory somehow. He also did not hide what happened from the businessman, but went straight to him and took responsibility for what happened.
8. What happened to the businessman that showed him that Little Peter was right to trust that the Lord had allowed the letter to be lost for a good reason? *A change in business meant it was actually very good that the letter was lost.*
9. How did the Lord use Little Peter's trust in His goodness in everything that happened to him?
People from the town and from other places began to hear about Little Peter and hear stories of how faithful the Lord had been to him, even in all his troubles.
10. How did the Englishman hear about Little Peter?
Stories that people told about Little Peter and how he trusted God's omnipotent, good hand in everything in his life.
11. What did the Englishman say he believed like Little Peter did?
That everything comes from Above, the Omnipotent, good hand of the Lord.
12. What did the Englishman offer to do for Little Peter? *Have him live w/ him and take care of him.*
13. What happened to Little Peter when he went to England? *He learned how to read, he became like a son to the Englishman, he became a great businessman, he inherited much money from the Englishman when he died.*
14. Why do you think Little Peter never became prideful after he became so rich and successful?
He never forgot that everything came from Above—from the Lord.

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: The LORD Is Omnipotent?** How did the LORD show that He was omnipotent over Little Peter's troubles?
He always provided for his needs (sustained him), so that he had food to eat. He allowed in Little Peter's life only what would be for his good and His own glory, whether it was a roof tile to save him from being harmed when the houses fell over, or being rewarded for the letter he accidentally let fall in the mud when the businessman's business changed over night. He even provided him with a wonderful new "father" to take care of him the rest of his life.
2. What was Peter trusting that God was like, when he said that all things "Come from Above?"
That the LORD would never use His omnipotent power to do anything evil or against the perfectly holy way He is. He could trust the LORD was working out His good plan in everything.

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Psalm 135:5-6:** "For I know the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the LORD pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.?"
Peter believed that the LORD does whatever pleases Him. He believed all the things that happened to him were part of God's good plan for him. Even things that were bad or difficult, Peter believed that the LORD could and would use them for his own good and God's own glory. That is why he thanked God for them all as things that came "from Above." Each time God showed Himself faithful to Peter and this made Peter praise God even more.

Life Application Questions

1. What is a difficulty people like you and me face that it will help to remember that "It comes from Above?"

Answers will vary. You may actually want to add these to ACTS time.

2. When is it especially helpful for God's people to think about the Lord being omnipotent?

When they or someone they love are facing problems that seem so very hard, they can remember that the Lord is completely able to work all of His good and holy will. He is able to rescue them, He is able to take care of them. They don't ever have to worry or be afraid.

3. 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 His omnipotent power that He always and only uses to fulfill all His good and holy will.

2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story?

Confess that many times we do not want God's good and holy will. We want to do things our own way. We like things to always be easy and just the way we want them to be. We deserve God's punishment. We need a Savior!

3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story?

We can thank God for everything that comes from Above, even this past week.

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, like Little Peter did. We can ask Him to help us to not complain or worry in hard times, but trust like Little Peter, that "It all comes from Above."

The Gospel

1. What is the good news of Jesus that Little Peter heard and believed? 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: Windsock Wall Ball

Materials

Small ball such as a tennis ball, Nerf or foam ball
 The bottom half of a pantyhose leg
 16 sheets of variously colored construction paper
 Paper and marker
 Masking Tape
 Story Review Questions or other 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. Make a windsock ball by placing the ball in the pantyhose leg and tying a knot right above the ball.
3. Choose three different point values for questions and write each value on three sheets of the construction paper. On the last four sheets draw a question mark shape. Tape these sheets of paper to the wall (or on the floor, if no wall is available) in the shape of a square, mixing up all of the point values. Make a shooting line with the masking tape.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams and have them line up at the throw line. Ask a child from Team A to come up to the throw line. Hand him the windsock ball and let him throw it at the point cards on the wall. If he hits a point value, then the leader reads a Story Review question to his team. If they answer it correctly, they get the points. If not, then Team B can get the points for a correct answer. If he hits a star instead of a point value, then Team B gets to think up a question to ask Team A. If Team A gets it right, then they get double the highest point value on the board. If Team B stumps them—and can answer the question, themselves—then THEY get the double point value.

Play then resumes as the first player for Team B throws the windsock ball. Read him one of the statements and ask him to give his answer: true, false, not in the story by throwing the ball into the basket with the right answer card on it. If correct, then he scores 2 points for his team. If incorrect or accidentally goes into the wrong basket, the statement is read to the first person in line for the other team. If he tosses the ball into the right basket, then he scores one point for his team.

Play continues until everyone gets a chance to toss the windsock ball, as Story Review questions last; or, as time and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Don't split into teams. Have the children take turns throwing the ball and answering the questions together. Tally up the points as a group number.

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 Heavenly Hopeful Boy.

Our story takes place around 1800, in France.

And now we present: "The Case of the Heavenly Hopeful Boy."

Scene 1:

Little Peter sits at his father's side as he is dying. The rest of Little Peter's family have already died and he will be left alone when his father dies. His father tells his son that he will have many troubles, but to always remember "It Comes from Above"—the Lord is in control over everything that happens to him. He can trust in the Lord to help him. Little Peter does not really understand his father's words, but keeps repeating them with everything that happens to him. He gets enough food to live on by singing for people in the streets or at their door. God takes care of his needs.

Actions:

Scene 2:

As Little Peter grows up, he begins to understand what it really means that everything Comes from Above. He begins to trust deeply in God's good, omnipotent control over what happens to him, good or bad. He knows that it is always pray of God's good plan. Walking down a street on a windy day, a roof tile strikes his shoulder and knocks him to the ground. Little Peter says, "It Comes from Above," meaning that even it was part of God's good plan. The people around him don't understand and laugh that of course the tile came from above. Only moments later a stronger gust of wind knocks down some houses near where Little Peter was. He realizes that he would have been seriously injured in that crash, if the tile hadn't hit him down to the ground. It shows Peter God's omnipotent goodness in even the tile falling on him. When he grows older, Peter is hired by a businessman to rush a letter from his town to another. Peter crosses the fields as a short cut, only to fall into one of the muddy ditches and lose the letter. The man is furious with Little Peter, especially when he tried to tell the man that the Lord had allowed this for some good reason—It came from above. The man fires Peter and sends him away. Yet the next day the man comes to Little Peter's hut to give him money and to tell him that it was best for his business that the letter was lost. Peter sees again the Lord is in control over every situation.

Scene 3

Many people hear about Little Peter and his trust in the Lord, including a rich, Christian Englishman. He meets Little Peter and invites him to come home to England with him so he could take care of him. Little Peter is surprised and praises God saying, "It comes from Above," The Englishman treats Little Peter as his own son. He pays for him to get an education, he works in business and becomes one of the most famous businessmen in Birmingham. The Englishman dies and leaves Little Peter lots of money. Even still, Little Peter never becomes proud. He always remembers that everything he has comes from Above.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **The LORD Is Omnipotent.** Little Peter lived each day trusting that everything that happened to him came as part of the good plan of the Omnipotent LORD above.

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 Heavenly Hopeful Boy.

Our story takes place around 1800, in France.

The characters in our story are: Peter and his father, townspeople, businessman, and a rich, Englishman.

And now we present: "The Case of the Heavenly Hopeful Boy."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

Little Peter sits at his father's side as he is dying. The rest of Little Peter's family have already died and he will be left alone when his father dies. His father tells his son that he will have many troubles, but to always remember "It Comes from Above"—the Lord is in control over everything that happens to him. He can trust in the Lord to help him. Little Peter does not really understand his father's words, but keeps repeating them with everything that happens to him. He gets enough food to live on by singing for people in the streets or at their door. God takes care of his needs.

Scene 2: (Middle)

As Little Peter grows up, he begins to understand what it really means that everything Comes from Above. He begins to trust deeply in God's good, omnipotent control over what happens to him, good or bad. He knows that it is always pray of God's good plan. Walking down a street on a windy day, a roof tile strikes his shoulder and knocks him to the ground. Little Peter says, "It Comes from Above," meaning that even it was part of God's good plan. The people around him don't understand and laugh that of course the tile came from above. Only moments later a stronger gust of wind knocks down some houses near where Little Peter was. He realizes that he would have been seriously injured in that crash, if the tile hadn't hit him down to the ground. It shows Peter God's omnipotent goodness in even the tile falling on him. When he grows older, Peter is hired by a businessman to rush a letter from his town to another. Peter crosses the fields as a short cut, only to fall into one of the muddy ditches and lose the letter. The man is furious with Little Peter, especially when he tried to tell the man that the Lord had allowed this for some good reason—It came from above. The man fires Peter and sends him away. Yet the next day the man comes to Little Peter's hut to give him money and to tell him that it was best for his business that the letter was lost. Peter sees again the Lord is in control over every situation.

Scene 3: (End)

Many people hear about Little Peter and his trust in the Lord, including a rich, Christian Englishman. He meets Little Peter and invites him to come home to England with him so he could take care of him. Little Peter is surprised and praises God saying, "It comes from Above," The Englishman treats Little Peter as his own son. He pays for him to get an education, he works in business and becomes one of the most famous businessmen in Birmingham. The Englishman dies and leaves Little Peter lots of money. Even still, Little Peter never becomes proud. He always remembers that everything he has comes from Above.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **The LORD Is Omnipotent.** Little Peter lived each day trusting that everything that happened to him came as part of the good plan of the Omnipotent LORD above.

It Comes From Above

Description

Children will make a mosaic picture of Little Peter's saying, "It Comes from Above."

Materials

Construction paper of different colors OR scraps of wrapping paper with interesting designs

Optional:

Sequins

Glue

White paper or card stock

Markers or Crayons

Preparing the Craft

1. Cut the construction or wrapping paper into tiny squares, $\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ " (Smaller squares for older children, larger squares for younger children.)
2. If using sequins, too. Set them out.
3. Copy Template #1 onto paper, one per child.

Making the Craft

1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
2. Have children color in the frame with markers/crayons.
3. Then, glue the paper and/or sequins around the words inside the frame to make the mosaic.

Optional **TAKING IT TO OTHERS** Activity: Craft Presentation

If you are presenting the craft to other children or parents the children can hold up their crafts (or your model craft) and read their Bible Truth Connection answers to explain the importance of the craft.

CASE CRAFT**Discussion Guide****Instructions:**

As the children are settled into making their craft, ask them these questions to help them understand the craft's significance. Use the answers provided to guide the children's answers.

Discussion Questions

1. Where did Little Peter live?

France.

2. What happened to his father? What did his father tell him to always remember? His father died, leaving Little Peter all alone. He told Little Peter to always remember "It Comes from Above."

3. What did Little Peter come to fully understand about what his father taught him?

He could always trust in God's omnipotent power to use all things for his own good and God's own glory.-even the worst things.

4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning?

The LORD Is Omnipotent.

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: The LORD Is Omnipotent?

Little Peter believed God was omnipotent and loved him. He trusted that even things that seemed bad, the LORD in His omnipotent power had allowed for a good purpose.

6. What can our craft help us remember?

God's people can always trust that whatever happens to them "Comes from above," because God loves them and is all powerful.

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: It Comes from Above.

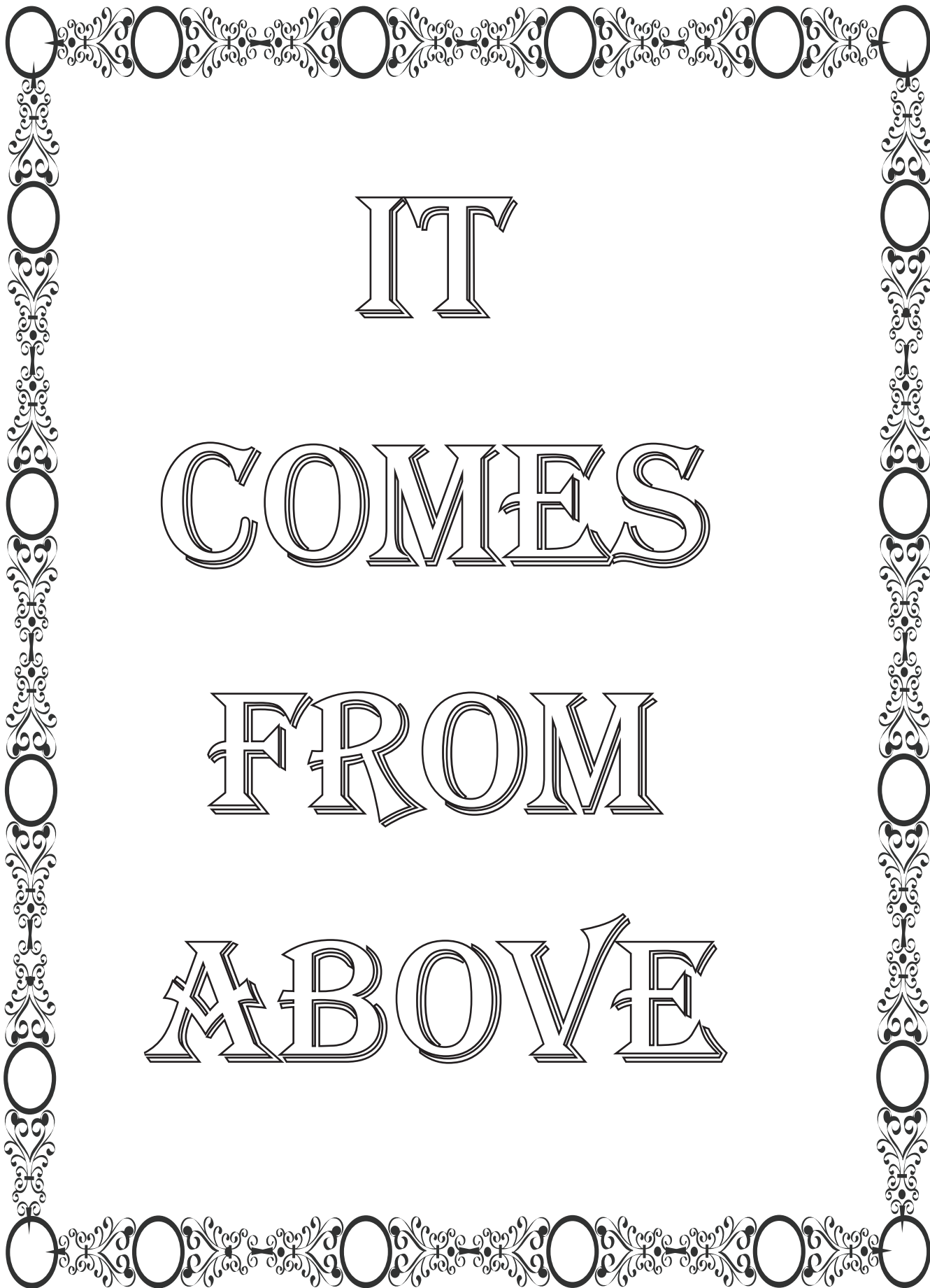
2. In France, Little Peter always said, "It Comes from Above" no matter what happened to him, because he had faith that all things would always turn out to be used by God for his good.

3. Our Bible Truth is: The LORD Is Omnipotent.

4. Little Peter believed God was omnipotent and loved him. He trusted that even things that seemed bad, the LORD in His omnipotent power had allowed for a good purpose.

5. Our craft can help us remember that God's people can always trust that whatever happens to them "Comes from above," because God loves them and is all powerful.

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.



IT
COMES
FROM
ABOVE

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 the 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: Beanbag Toss In

Materials

Information for one VIPP

2 Sets of Clue Cards

8 Letter-sized Envelopes or folders

Bean Bag(s), one per child

Tape

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 manila envelopes.
3. Put the filled-in clue cards in the corresponding envelope.
4. Tape each down to the floor, fairly close together.

Playing the Game

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

Review: At your signal, have the children take toss their bean bags onto the envelopes. Then one that has the most bean bags on it./near it is the one you will open. (The children may have fun taking turns designating one as the target before tossing.) 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 tossed at.

VIPP INFORMATION SHEET

VIPP NAME:

WHAT VIPP LOOKS LIKE

Man or Woman? _____

Hair color? _____

Eye color? _____

FAVORITE ANIMAL

FAVORITE FOOD

FAVORITE FREE TIME ACTIVITY

WHAT VIPP DOES DURING WEEK

VIPP GROUP OF SERVICE:

Church Member

Deacon

Elder

Church Staff

Special Volunteer

Supported Worker
(Missionary)

3 WAYS VIPP SERVES CHURCH

3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR THE VIPP
