

BIBLE TRUTH 9, LESSON 1: PLANNER/OVERVIEW

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

Welcome to Praise Factory: PFI: Praise Factory Investigators Theme Song *PFI NIV Songs 4 CD, Track 1*

Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love Others: WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song
PFI NIV Songs 4 CD, Track 2

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

Big Question Bible Verse: 1 Kings 8:23 Song *PFI NIV Songs 4 CD, Track 6*

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

Bible Truth 9: The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him

Bible Truth Hymn: Oh, How I Love Jesus, v.1 *PFI NIV Songs 4, Track 25*

Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 32:3-4

Bible Verse Song: I Will Proclaim *PFI NIV Songs 4, Track 26*

Lesson 1 Old Testament: The Case of the Unknown Name
Genesis 22; Exodus 2-5,12:31

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: Moses and the Burning Bush

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

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

Bible Truth Hymn: Oh, How I Love Jesus, v.1 *PFI NIV Songs 4, Track 25*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice **PFI NIV Songs 4 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: Deuteronomy 32:3-4 Discussion Sheet and Game: Hand Ball

Bible Verse Song: I Will Proclaim Deuteronomy 32:3-4 *PFI NIV Songs 4, Track 26*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean? **PFI NIV Songs 4 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Sticky Pad Search

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: A Burning Bush

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (back of book) and Game: Mix and Match

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 9, Lesson 1 **PFI NIV Prontos 4 BOOK or ONLINE**

OLD TESTAMENT STORY**P.1****The Case of the Unknown Name** Genesis 22; Exodus 2-5,12:31

by Connie Dever

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

1. Whose name was unknown? What nicknames was he given? Why those?
2. What was his real name? What did that name mean?

This story is an Old Testament story. It takes place about 2000 years before Jesus lived on earth, in one of the greatest lands on earth.

In the far off city of Haran, God spoke to a man named Abraham. "Leave your country and your relatives and go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and all nations through you," He promised.

Would Abraham believe this God? He had never even heard of Him before! Abraham had spent his life worshiping the gods of Ur, his home country. There was Anu, the sky god; Enlil, the god of air, wind and storms and Nannar, the moon god. Abraham knew the names of these gods from the time he was a little boy. Now he was seventy years old. Yet in all those years, never had those gods spoken to him or worked in his heart. Never had they shown any signs of life at all! Yet this new God—whose name he didn't even know—had spoken to him and worked in his heart already! Yes, here was the living God, and Abraham knew it. So Abraham put his faith in this God with the unknown name. Then he and his family set out for the new land He promised—Canaan!

Canaan was a wonderful land, but it was not an empty land. It was filled with people who worshiped other gods and treated Abraham as an enemy. Would God really take care of Abraham and bless him as He promised? Yes, He would and He did! Abraham praised and worshiped God for His faithfulness, but not by name. How could he? He didn't know it. So he praised Him using nicknames. "I praise You, El Elyon—God Most High! You are greater than all other gods," Abraham exclaimed. "I praise You, El Shaddai—God Almighty! You are more powerful than all my enemies. I praise You, El Olam—the Eternal God! You will never leave me."

and oh, how good God was to him! He blessed everything Abraham had and did. Abraham's son, Isaac, and then Isaac's son, Jacob also enjoyed the same special relationship and blessings that Abraham had with God. They praised and worshiped Him for His faithfulness, too; but like Abraham, it was only by nicknames. Never did God tell them what His real name was.

Over four hundred more years passed, and still none of Abraham's children, grandchildren or even great, great, great grandchildren—who we call the Israelites—knew the real name of their God. But while these great, great, grandchildren of Abraham may not have known the name of their God, oh, how they cried out to Him for help! They had become the slaves of the Egyptians and were suffering terribly. "O God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, rescue us from our slavery! What great promises You made to our fathers! What mighty acts You did for them! We are their children! Save us!" they pleaded. God heard their prayers and answered them through a man named Moses.

One day, as he was tending the flocks near Mt. Sinai, Moses saw a strange sight. There was a bush aflame with fire, but it didn't burn up! When Moses went closer to get a better look, things became even stranger! The angel of the LORD appeared to him in the flames and the God of the unknown name spoke to Moses through him, "Moses! I am the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Take off your sandals to show honor for My holiness."

Moses took them off, then hid his face. He was afraid to look at God!

"I've heard the cries of My people and I'm sending you to rescue them. You will lead them out of Egypt and

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.

OLD TESTAMENT STORY**P.2**

take them home to Canaan, the land I gave to Abraham long ago," God told him.

Moses was full of questions and fears. "Who am I to face Pharaoh and free the Israelites? And who do I tell them has sent me to do this? I don't even know Your name, God," Moses said.

"Moses, it's not about who you are. It's about who I am, and I will be with you. Tell them My name is Yahweh—I Am Who I Am. I am the Living God. I am the one who gives life and keeps it going," the LORD responded.

So that was the name of their God! Yahweh, the 'I Am Who I Am.' And what a name it was! It was like all His nicknames rolled into one...and more. He was more than just the Most High God, the Almighty God, the Eternal God, and the Provider, as Abraham had called Him. He was so great that He was more than anyone can completely understand or ever imagine. He was the Living God. He was the one who is. He gives life and keeps it going. Yes, He, Himself! How amazing!

Moses obeyed Yahweh. He and his brother Aaron set out through the Sinai wilderness to Goshen, Egypt, where the Israelite slaves lived. They called the leaders of the Israelites together and told them the wonderful news: "God has heard your prayers. He sends you this message: 'I am Yahweh, the 'I Am Who I Am,' I am the Living God. I am the one who is. I give life and keeps it going. I'm going to rescue you from the Egyptians by doing amazing things, then I'll take you home to Canaan.'" The elders bowed down and worshiped. Yahweh, their God had come to rescue them!

Before long, Moses and Aaron started off on the seventeen-mile journey from Goshen to Pharaoh's splendid palace in Zoan. What a big, scary task they had before them! They were going to tell to the mightiest king on earth that Yahweh, their God, demanded all the thousands (maybe even millions!) of Israelites be freed to worship Him. Wow! Yes, Moses and Aaron knew of God's great promises. They knew He planned mighty works. Now they even knew His great name—Yahweh, I Am Who I Am. But, Pharaoh had never heard of Yahweh. And he certainly didn't care about what Yahweh commanded. He made this quite clear to Moses and Aaron, when they went to talk to him.

"Who is this Yahweh that I should obey Him and let

Israel go?" Pharaoh said to them. "I do not know Yahweh and I will not let Israel go. Go tell your lazy people that now I will make their work harder than ever."

How Pharaoh made fun of the name of Yahweh and the very idea of freeing the Israelites to worship Him—at least at first, that is. But soon, Yahweh brought one terrible plague after another upon the Egyptians. These plagues showed how powerful Yahweh was...and that He should be obeyed.

"Go, take the Israelites to worship Yahweh their God," Pharaoh said to Moses at last, "but promise to pray to Yahweh for me."

News of Yahweh's great rescue spread throughout Egypt and beyond. It was all as the LORD had said it would be: the Israelites, the Egyptians, even the whole world, would see what Yahweh was like.

From that time on, the Israelites thought Yahweh's name too holy for them to say or write down. "All these years, our people didn't call God by His name because they didn't know it," they said. "Now that we know His name and understand who He really is, we can't bring ourselves to use it. We will change some of the letters of Yahweh and say it and spell it 'LORD' or 'Jehovah.' Yahweh heard our prayers when we didn't know His name at all. Surely He will still hear our prayers, if we call Him LORD/Jehovah, instead of Yahweh. He will know what we mean. He will know that we consider His name too holy for us to even use," they decided.

And even to this day, the Israelites still don't speak or write the real name of God out of reverence to Him.

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Whose name was unknown? What nicknames was he given? Why those? The LORD's. El Elyon--God Most High; El Shaddai--God Almighty; El Olam--the Eternal God. These nicknames all reflected what He was like.

2. What was his real name? What did that name mean? Yahweh (The LORD). I Am Who I Am. He is the living God, who always has lived and sustains all things.

Something For You and Me**Our Bible Truth is:****The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him****Our Bible Verse is: Deuteronomy 32:3-4**

"I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he."

So now when you read the words "LORD" or "Jehovah" in the Old Testament, you'll know they're really just a substitute, made-up word for Yahweh, that the Israelites made to honor the holiness of Yahweh's name. Perhaps that is one way to honor Yahweh.

But do you know what honors Him most of all? When we confess our sins to Him, knowing that He is the Living God who made us, but whom we have disobeyed. He is honored when we ask forgiveness for our sins, turn away from them, trusting in His Son Jesus to be our Savior. And. He is honored when we live our lives for Him, just as Abraham did, long ago: trusting Him, obeying Him and loving Him most of all.

Let's praise the great "I Am Who I Am." Let's ask Him to work in our hearts, helping us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Let's ask Him to help us honor Him with our whole lives.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being Yahweh, the I Am Who I Am. Eternal; unlike anyone else; source and sustainer of all life.

C God, we confess that many times we don't trust God to be as good as His names tell us He is. We need Jesus to save us.

T God, we thank You for showing us what You are like through Your names.

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. Help us to truly believe You are who Your names tell us You are and live joyfully because of who we know You are.

Special Words

LORD: The nickname of the one, true God. His real name is Yahweh, but the people of Israel thought His name too holy to say or even write, so they put the word LORD everywhere His real name is mentioned.

Angel of the LORD: This is the LORD's special angelic messenger who represents Him and speaks for Him. Sometimes, it can also mean the LORD, Himself.

Pharaoh: The title of the king of Egypt.

Canaan: The good land that the LORD promised to give Abraham and his family.

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 Yahweh, the "I Am Who I Am," Eternal, the Source and Sustainer of Life, unlike anyone or anything else.

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that many times we forget what Your names tell us about You. Many times we do not honor You, trust You or live for You as we should. We need a Savior!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for choosing to tell us so much about Himself through His names. Thank You for always being true to Your names.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, help us to spend time thinking about Your names and knowing You better. Help us to believe that You are faithful to be as good as Your names tell us You are. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, just as His name tells us He is. Help us to trust in Your faithful care of us every day.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

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

Snack: Moses and the Burning Bush

Teddy Graham “Moses” falling face down before broccoli “bush” with candy corn “fire” inside of it.

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

Case Tie-in: For hundreds of years, God’s people worshiped Him only through His nicknames. But at last, He revealed His real name--Yahweh--to Moses, from out of the burning bush.

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's Names Tell Us about Him

When we are born, our parents name us. Sometimes we are named after someone in our family or someone in the Bible. Besides our real names, many times our family or friends give us a nickname that describes something about us.

The Bible tells us that God has a real name and many nicknames, too. All His names tell us something about Him. God's real name is "Yahweh," which means "I Am Who I Am." It means that God is eternal, with no beginning or end. It means that no one else is like Him. He alone is the source and sustainer of all life. When we read the word "LORD" in the Bible that is like saying "Yahweh."

God has many nicknames, too, such as Savior; God Most High, Almighty God, the Everlasting God, the Rock and the Good Shepherd. God commanded Mary and Joseph to give His Son the name, Jesus, because it means "Yahweh saves." At the end of time when Jesus returns, the Bible tells us that every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

God's name and nicknames tell us how great He is and how completely worthy of all of our love, trust, obedience and praise.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. How did our parents choose our names? How do we get a nickname? *We are named after someone or a name they like. Many times we are given a nickname that describes something about us.*
2. What is God's real name? What does it mean? "Yahweh". *It means 'I Am Who I Am.' He is eternal, like no one else, the source and sustainer of life.*
3. Why is "LORD" written in the Bible? *Jews thought the name Yahweh too holy to write or read. They changed some of the letters and wrote LORD instead.*
4. What are some of God's nicknames? *God Most High, Almighty God, Everlasting God, Rock, the Good Shepherd.*
5. What does the name Jesus mean? *Why was that a good name for Jesus? "Yahweh Saves". Jesus really was Yahweh, come to save His people from their sins.*
6. What will everyone call Jesus when He returns? *King of Kings and Lord of Lords.*
7. What do God's name and nicknames show us He is worthy of? *All of our love, trust, obedience and praise.*

Story Connection Questions

1. How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him**? What were some of the nicknames Abraham called God and why didn't he call Him by His real name? *God Most High, Almighty God, and the Eternal God He didn't know God's real name.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our Bible Verse: **Deuteronomy 32:3-4**: "I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he."?
Each day the LORD displays His wonderful ways and perfect care of His people. He is the LORD—the I Am Who I Am, who is eternal, like no one else, and the source and sustainer of life. He is like a Rock they can always depend on. They have nothing but praise for His name.

Life Application Questions

1. How can thinking about God's names help God's people today? *They can remind them about all the great ways He is. They can give them comfort in times of trouble and help them to keep trusting and obeying Him.*
2. How can we become one of God's people? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*

BIBLE TRUTH 9 REVIEW**P.2****ACTS Questions**

1. What is something we can praise God for because of this Bible Truth?

Praise God for being Yahweh, the "I Am Who I Am," Eternal, the Source and Sustainer of Life, unlike anyone or anything else.

2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth?

Confess that many times that we forget what His names tell us about Him by not honoring Him, trusting Him or living for Him as we should.

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

Thank God for choosing to tell us so much about Himself through His names; and for always being true to His names.

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

Ask God to help us spend time thinking about His Names and growing in trusting and obeying Him because of who He is.

The Gospel

1. One of the names for God that God's people love most of all is the Savior Jesus. That's because we all are sinners who deserve God's forever punishment. Who can be saved by Jesus? What do they have 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: Help the Blind Man

Materials

Blindfold

Cane

Bible Truth Questions

Bag/Bowl

Preparing the Game

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

Playing the Game

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

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

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

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

Directions:

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

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

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

Oh, How I Love Jesus**Verse 1**

There is a name I love to hear,
 I love to sing it's worth;
 It sounds like music in my ear,
 The sweetest name on earth.
 Oh, how I love Jesus,
 Oh, how I love Jesus,
 Oh, how I love Jesus,
 Because He first loved me.

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 4, Track 25

Understanding the Song

1. What does is the name the singer loves to hear? *The name of Jesus.*
2. What does the singer love to sing about and what does that mean?
The worth of the name of Jesus. Worth means what is good and valuable about it.
3. What does Jesus' name mean and how does that tell us of its worth?
It means 'Yahweh saves.' It is of greatest worth because we all are sinners, deserving eternal punishment for our rebellion against God. We never can never save ourselves from this punishment. Only Yahweh, who sent His Son, Jesus to live a perfect life and offer it up on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for sins could do what was needed to save us. Jesus' name tells us of this greatest act of love that Yahweh did for all who would ever turn and trust in Him. There is nothing worth more than the name of Jesus!
4. What does it mean that Jesus' name sounds like music in the ear?
Not that it sounds like someone singing. It's an expression meaning something is really good news.
5. What does 'sweetest name on earth' mean? *Not sweet-tasting like sugar. Sweetest also mean the best. Jesus' name is the best name on earth.*
6. What makes Jesus' name the best on earth?
He alone could save sinful people from the eternal punishment they deserve.
7. What does the singer love Jesus? Why is that so important to him? *Because Jesus first loved him. The Bible tells us that God loved us while we still were sinners, living in rebellion and hatred of Him. HE sent Jesus to die for His sinful people before they loved Him. When the Holy Spirit worked in their hearts, they each came to believe in Him, love Him, and turn and live their lives for Him. Without Him first loving us, we would never have chosen to love Him! The singer is so grateful for God's loving him first!*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him?**
Jesus' name means 'Yahweh Saves.' It tells us about the LORD and how He, Himself, saved His people from their sins.

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story?

While Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the other Israelites all did not know Jesus' name, they praised Yahweh for making them His special people and for saving them from the Egyptians. By faith, they looked forward to the day when God would fulfill His promises made to them to save them from their sins and bless all the peoples of the earth through one of Abraham's great, great, great grandchildren—Jesus.

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 32:3-4:** "I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he?"

God's people think that the name of Jesus is the sweetest name on earth because it reminds them that Yahweh Saves. Without Jesus, they would still face God's punishment for their sins. Without Jesus, they would never get to know God. How great are the works that the LORD worked by sending Jesus to save sinners! He does no wrong. He is just and upright. So, He hates sin. Yet, He Himself, did the great work of saving sinners through Jesus.

Life Application Questions

1. How can God's people be affected by the message of this song? *They can praise God for loving them first when they were still sinners in rebellion against Him. They can ask Him to fill their hearts with greater delight in Him and all He's done for them. They can ask Him to help them to live obedient lives that please Him.*

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

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for loving His people before they loved Him. He sent Jesus to save them while they were still sinners.

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

Confess that many times we do not act like we love God in our hearts or in our lives, even though He has sent Jesus to be our Savior. He needed to love us first, because we would never choose to love Him first. Oh, how we need a Savior!

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

We can thank God for sending Jesus to be the Savior for God's people—all those that confess their sins to God, turn from them and ask Jesus to be their Savior.

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

Ask God to work in our hearts and help us to confess our sins to Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to give us a great love for Jesus, understanding what He has done for sinners. Help us to live out that love in all we do.

Gospel Question

1. Why do God's people love to hear Jesus' name so much? 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.

BIBLE VERSE REVIEW

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

Meditation Version: Deuteronomy 32:3-4

"I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he."

Alternate Memory Version: Deuteronomy 32:3

"I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God!"

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. What is being proclaimed? *The name of the LORD.*
2. What does it mean to proclaim the name of the LORD? *It means more than just saying His name. It means thinking about what that name means and praising Him for the way He is.*
3. What are some of the things that could be proclaimed about the name of the LORD?
He is eternal, like no one else, the source and sustainer of all life.
4. How is the LORD great? *He is all-knowing, all-powerful, completely holy and good. He loves His people perfectly and always orders everything in their lives for their good and His glory. He always is faithful.*
5. What does it mean for God to be "the Rock"? *A big rock can't be moved from its place. It is unshakable in a big storm or lots of rain. God is the Rock of His people because He is so powerful that nothing can stop Him from doing all of His perfectly good plan. His people can always count on Him to take care of them and do exactly what He says.*
6. What does it mean that His works are perfect? *There will never be a better way to do things than how the LORD has done them. He never messes up or never is unable to do what He wants to do.*
7. What does it mean that God is faithful? *He will always keep all of His promises.*
8. What three things can be said about this faithful God, and what do they mean? *He does no wrong, He is upright, and He is just. 'No wrong' means He never makes mistakes and never does anything evil. 'Upright' means that He is righteous, without sin. 'Just' means He is so wise that He always makes the good, right, fair decisions.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him?**

Each day the LORD displays His wonderful ways and perfect care of His people. He is the LORD—the I Am Who I Am, who is eternal, like no one else, and the source and sustainer of life. He is like a Rock they can always depend on. They have nothing but praise for His name.

Story Connection Questions

1. What does this verse have to do with our story? *Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and even their children's, children's children saw the LORD's wonderful and perfect ways. They gave Him nicknames that reflected His mighty works.*

Life Application Questions

1. How does it help God's people today to know that He is faithful and does no wrong? *Even today, God's people face hard things in their lives. They suffer sickness, they have sad things happen to them and those they love; they can be afraid about the future. There are even times when people hurt them just because they believe in Jesus. During these times, God's people think about how faithful God promises to be to them. They know He will take care of them. They think about how just they are. They know that in His perfect timing, He will see that they even get justice for ways that people have mistreated them because they love Him.*
2. How can we become God's people? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for being Perfect, Just and Upright in all His ways.

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

Confess that we are not like the LORD in so many ways. We are not perfect, just or upright. We are sinners who need a Savior.

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

Thank God for sending Jesus to be the perfectly just and upright offering for the sins of all God's people, that they could be saved from God's punishment. Instead, all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus can have eternal life with God!

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

Ask God to work in our hearts and help us to confess our sins to Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to help us to send the Holy Spirit to live in us and change us so that we would reflect more of His perfect justice and uprightness. Ask Him to be our Rock--the one we depend upon.

Gospel Question

1. God is perfect, just and upright in all His ways, but we are not. We are all sinners who have disobeyed God and doubted His faithfulness. We all deserve His forever punishment for our sins. What hope has God given for people like us? 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.

BIBLE VERSE REVIEW: GAME**P.3****Game: Hand Ball****Materials**

Bible verse written up in large print so that all can see
A soft-surfaced, medium sized ball, such as a foam ball

Masking tape

paper and markers

helpful, but optional: colored team “pennies” (jerseys) to identify members of each team.

Team A Player	Team B Player	Team A Player	Team B Player	Team A Player
Team B Player	Team A Player	Team B Player	Team A Player	Team B Player

Preparing the Game

1. Clearly print out the words to the verse on paper and cut it into 10+ sections. Number each section in sequence. Place each section in Easter eggs of the same color. Print out another copy of the verse, also numbered sequentially on another piece of paper. Repeat for each team.
2. Partition the floor into even sections as shown in the diagram above.

Learning the Verse

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

Directions

1. If desired, lead the children in a discussion of a ***FEW*** of the most important questions before beginning game.
2. Explain the game to them as follows:
Divide the children into two teams and have them put on pennies. Give each child a section and alternate players from each team. Explain to them that everyone will say the verse together, then when you say “go,” they are to roll the ball out of their sections each time it rolls in until time is called. The person who has the ball in his section when time is called can win 2 points for his team if he can say the verse by himself. If he asks someone else from his team to help him, then he can earn 1 point. If he does not get it right, then someone from the other team can try to say it for 1 point.

If desired, you can have less but bigger sections and put 2 team members in each section, that way two children will work together to keep the ball out and recite the verse.

Game continues as time and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Don’t split the children into teams. Give the children a group target amount of points to earn and challenge them to try to make the target amount in as few turns as possible. Always give two points to the class for getting the verse right, even if they have a partner help them.

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.

I Will Proclaim

I will proclaim the name of the LORD,
 Oh, praise the greatness of our God!
 I will proclaim the name of the LORD,
 Oh, praise the greatness of our God!
 He is the Rock! (He's the rock!)
 His works are perfect! (His works are perfect!)
 His ways are just! (His ways are just!)
 A faithful God who does no wrong.
 A faithful God who does no wrong.
 Upright and just is He.
 Upright and just is He.

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 4, Track 26

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**P.1**

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 gods had Abraham grown up worshiping? *The gods of Ur: Enlil, Nannar, Anu.*
2. What did God tell Abraham to do? *To leave his country and his relatives and go to the land He would show him.*
3. What promises did the LORD make to Abraham? *To bless him with many children, to give his children the land of Canaan, and to bless all nations through one of his children's children.*
4. What was different about Abraham's God from the rest?
He was not made of wood or stone. He spoke to Abraham. He worked in Abraham's heart, giving him faith to believe in Him. And, He had never told Abraham His real name.
5. What was Canaan like? *A beautiful land, but there were lots of people who lived there already. These people worshiped other gods and some treated Abraham and his family like enemies.*
6. Did God keep His promises to Abraham? *Yes, He did. He took care of him and his family. He blessed him with many good things. He cared for his son, Isaac, his grandson, Jacob, and many, many of his family.*
7. What nicknames did Abraham use to worship God?
El Shaddai: God Almighty; El Elyon: God Most High; El Olam: the Eternal God.
8. What kind of trouble did the Israelites have in Egypt? *Pharaoh had made them into his slaves. They were forced to build his big buildings with bricks made of mud and straw. They were treated terribly.*
9. Who did the Israelites turn to for help?
The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—whose name they still did not know.
10. What man did God send to rescue them? How did He reveal Himself to that man?
Moses. In a burning bush that did not burn up.
11. Why did Moses want to know God's name?
So he could tell the Israelites who was sending him and rescuing them.
12. What does "Yahweh" mean?
"I Am Who I Am." He is eternal, like no one else, and the source and sustainer of all life.
13. Why was Moses scared to go and what did the LORD tell him he need not be scared?
Moses knew he was no match for the great Pharaoh. The LORD told him that he should not be scared because HE was Yahweh and He would be with him.
14. What did the Israelite elders and people do when they heard about the LORD's name and His promise to rescue them? *They bowed down and worshiped Him.*
15. What did the LORD tell Pharaoh he must do? *Let His people go to the desert to worship Him.*
16. What did Pharaoh say to Moses and Aaron about the LORD? *"Who is the LORD that I should listen to Him?"*
17. What punishment did the Pharaoh give the Israelite slaves?
Make bricks without being given straw—a much harder job.
18. What did the Pharaoh think about the LORD after the plagues? *That He was supreme.*
19. Why did the Israelites not want to say the word "Yahweh" and what did they say instead?
They thought it was too holy to say or even read. They changed some of the letters and would say/read LORD instead.

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him?**
For hundreds of years, the Israelites gave their God nicknames that fit the wonderful ways He had loved them and cared for them. At last, God told them His real name was Yahweh, the I Am Who I Am. His real name told them that He was eternal, like no one else, and the source and sustainer of life.

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 32:3-4:** "I will proclaim the name of the LORD. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he."
Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and even their children's, children's children saw the LORD's wonderful and perfect ways. They gave Him nicknames that reflected His mighty works.

Life Application Questions

1. How was God's promise to bless Abraham even a blessing to you and me?

Jesus was the blessing God promised would come through Abraham's family that would bless all peoples. When we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, we can be saved!

ACTS Questions

1. What's something we can praise God for from this story?

We can praise God for being Yahweh'—I Am Who I Am. Eternal, unlike anyone else, source and sustainer of life.

2. What's something we can confess from this story?

Confess that many times we do not trust God to be as good as His names show us He is. We doubt that He will be Jehovah Jireh, the provider for His people.

3. What's something we can thank God for from this story?

Thank God for revealing Himself to us through His names: Yahweh and El Shaddai. And, that He is not at all like any other god. He is so good and holy.

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

We can ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask God to help us to truly believe that He is all the great things His name and nicknames tell us He is. We can ask Him to help us to live joyfully before Him, trusting in Him to take care of us, just as His names tell us that He will when we trust in Jesus as our Savior.

The Gospel

1. One of the names for God that God's people love most of all is the Savior Jesus. That's because we all are sinners who deserve God's forever punishment. Who can be saved by Jesus? What do they have 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: Sticky Pad Search

Materials

Re-stickable scratch pad sheets

Paper and marker

20+ Story Review Questions and 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. On the sticky pads write various point values, from 1 to 4...with perhaps two 10's thrown in for fun. Make perhaps 50 of these point values. Stick these all over the room, high, low, unusual places. Place the two 10 point sticky pad sheets in the most unusual spots.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams and have them sit in two lines. At the leaders signal the first child from Team A will get up and have 10 seconds to gather as many point values as he can and get back to his spot. If successful, then that will be the point value for the Story Review question you ask the team. If the team answers the question correctly, they get the point values. If not, then the other team can try to answer it for half the point value. If a player doesn't get back to his spot before time is called, then he loses all his points (they are replaced to their spots) and it is the other team's turn. Play then resumes with the first player from Team B, etc.

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

Non-competitive Option

Don't split into teams. Set a target point value for the children to reach together. Tell the children that they are going to work together and see how many turns it takes to reach the target point value. Have the children take turns gathering the point values and everyone together answering the question. If they get it right, then the group keeps the points. If not, then they are returned to their spots. Keep track of how many turns it takes to reach the target point value. Replace all of the sticky pads and play again, seeing if the group can make the target in less turns.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

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

CASE REPLAY ACTIVITIES**P.1**

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 Unknown Name.

This is an Old Testament story. It takes place in Haran, about 2000 years before Jesus lived on earth.

And now we present: "The Case of the Unknown Name."

Scene 1:

God called Abraham to leave behind his country, his relatives and the gods of Ur and go to a new land He would give him. Abraham never even heard of this God before, but God worked in his heart, helping him to believe in Him and obey Him. Abraham, Sarah, and Lot headed to Canaan, the land God promised. It was a beautiful land, but it was filled with peoples who worshiped other gods. Abraham lived almost 100 years in Canaan and God always cared for him, just as He promised. He kept him safe. He blessed Him with many good things. God promised to keep on blessing Abraham's family through his son, Isaac. Abraham didn't know God's real name, so he praised Him by nicknames: El Elyon—God Most High, El Shaddai—God Almighty, El Olam—the Eternal God. After Abraham died, God cared for Abraham's son, Isaac, his grandson, Jacob and his great grandchildren after him, as He promised He would. They all worshiped God, but only by His nicknames. They still didn't know His real name.

Actions:

Scene 2:

400 years go by, but still the people of Israel (as Abraham's family became known as) didn't know the real name of God. Even so, they cry out to Him to help them. They are in terrible trouble. Pharaoh has made them his slaves. God hears their cries. High up on Mt. Sinai in the wilderness, God speaks to Moses from a bush that is aflame but doesn't burn up. Moses falls down in worship before Him. When God tells Moses that he is to deliver the Israelites from Egypt, Moses doesn't think he could do it. God tells Moses He will be with him. Moses asks God's name so he can tell the Israelites. God at last reveals His name: it is 'Yahweh' —I Am Who I Am. Eternal, unlike anyone else, the source and sustainer of life.

Scene 3

Moses meets Aaron and they go across the desert back to Goshen, Egypt where the Israelites live. Through Aaron, Moses tells the elders and the people the name of their God and that He will deliver them from the Egyptians. They all bow down and worship the LORD. Moses and Aaron go to Zoan to Pharaoh's palace. They tell him the LORD's demand to let His people go to the desert to worship Him. Pharaoh scorns the LORD and His request, saying that he knows nothing of Him. He orders the Israelites make bricks without straw now, as punishment. The LORD sends many plagues until at last Pharaoh admits the LORD's supremacy over himself and the Egyptian gods. He lets the Israelites go. The Egyptians and all the other nations feared the name of the LORD after seeing His mighty rescue of His people. The Israelites decide to call Yahweh 'LORD' —a special made-up word—because His name is too holy to say or write.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him.** For many years the Israelites only worshiped God with nicknames that told about the wonderful things He had done for them. At last, God revealed His true name—the LORD—to Moses on Mt. Sinai.

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 Unknown Name.

This is an Old Testament story. It takes place in Haran, about 2000 years before Jesus lived on earth.

The characters in our story are: Abraham, his relatives and family, including Sarah and Lot; people of Canaan; Abraham's son, grandsons, great-grandchildren (the people of Israel), Egyptians and Pharaoh, Moses and Aaron.

And now we present: "The Case of the Unknown Name."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

God called Abraham to leave behind his country, his relatives and the gods of Ur and go to a new land He would give him. Abraham never even heard of this God before, but God worked in his heart, helping him to believe in Him and obey Him. Abraham, Sarah, and Lot headed to Canaan, the land God promised. It was a beautiful land, but it was filled with peoples who worshiped other gods. Abraham lived almost 100 years in Canaan and God always cared for him, just as He promised. He kept him safe. He blessed Him with many good things. God promised to keep on blessing Abraham's family through his son, Isaac. Abraham didn't know God's real name, so he praised Him by nicknames: El Elyon—God Most High, El Shaddai—God Almighty, El Olam—the Eternal God. After Abraham died, God cared for Abraham's son, Isaac, his grandson, Jacob and his great grandchildren after him, as He promised He would. They all worshiped God, but only by His nicknames. They still didn't know His real name.

Scene 2: (Middle)

400 years go by, but still the people of Israel (as Abraham's family became known as) didn't know the real name of God. Even so, they cry out to Him to help them. They are in terrible trouble. Pharaoh has made them his slaves. God hears their cries. High up on Mt. Sinai in the wilderness, God speaks to Moses from a bush that is aflame but doesn't burn up. Moses falls down in worship before Him. When God tells Moses that he is to deliver the Israelites from Egypt, Moses doesn't think he could do it. God tells Moses He will be with him. Moses asks God's name so he can tell the Israelites. God at last reveals His name: it is 'Yahweh' —I Am Who I Am. Eternal, unlike anyone else, the source and sustainer of life.

Scene 3: (End)

Moses meets Aaron and they go across the desert back to Goshen, Egypt where the Israelites live. Through Aaron, Moses tells the elders and the people the name of their God and that He will deliver them from the Egyptians. They all bow down and worship the LORD. Moses and Aaron go to Zoan to Pharaoh's palace. They tell him the LORD's demand to let His people go to the desert to worship Him. Pharaoh scorns the LORD and His request, saying that he knows nothing of Him. He orders the Israelites make bricks without straw now, as punishment. The LORD sends many plagues until at last Pharaoh admits the LORD's supremacy over himself and the Egyptian gods. He lets the Israelites go. The Egyptians and all the other nations feared the name of the LORD after seeing His mighty rescue of His people. The Israelites decide to call Yahweh 'LORD'—a special made-up word—because His name is too holy to say or write.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him.** For many years the Israelites only worshiped God with nicknames that told about the wonderful things He had done for them. At last, God revealed His true name—the LORD—to Moses on Mt. Sinai.

A Burning Bush

Description

Children will make a crayon resist picture of the burning bush.

Materials

Crayons

Thick, black tempera or poster paint

White card stock or paper for painting

Thick paintbrushes

Short kebab sticks

Preparing the Craft

1. Draw thick stripes of various colors of crayons over each sheet of paper.

2. Paint over crayons with black tempera. Allow to dry.

NOTE: Some craft stores now sell these ready made in packs. You might be able to buy what you need instead of preparing them as directed above.

Making the Craft

1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.

2. Have children use the kebab stick to etch a burning bush (and any other part of the scene of the story) onto the paper. As they scratch the surface, the black comes away and the colors of the crayons show through.

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. By what did God's people call God for hundreds of years? *By nicknames that described what He was like.*
2. Who did God first reveal His real name to? Where did He do this? *Moses, up on Mt. Sinai.*
3. What did Moses see on Mt. Sinai that was so unusual? What did God use this unusual thing to do?
He saw a bush that was aflame with fire, but never burned up. He spoke to Moses from out of this bush that was aglow with this sign of His presence..
4. What is the Bible Truth that we are learning?
The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him.
5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him?
God and His People gave Him many nicknames that described the wonderful ways He was; but on Mount Sinai, God finally told Moses His real name, Yahweh.
6. What can this craft help us remember?
The Israelites thought God's name "Yahweh" was so special that they did not think themselves even worthy to say it. We should treat God's name with great respect, too.

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

Have children hold up your model craft/their crafts. Choose five children (or you say) the five sections below to explain the craft's importance.

Presentation:

1. Our craft is: A Burning Bush.
2. For hundreds of years, God's people only knew Him by the nicknames that described what He was like. But on Mt. Sinai, God spoke to Moses from a burning bush revealing His real name, "Yahweh," for the first time to His people.
3. Bible Truth 9 is: The LORD's Names Tell Us about Him.
4. God and His People gave Him many nicknames that described the wonderful ways He was; but on Mount Sinai, God finally told Moses His real name, Yahweh.
5. Our craft can help us remember that the Israelites thought God's name "Yahweh" was so special that they did not think themselves even worthy to say it. We should treat God's name with great respect, too.

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

TREAT SOMEONE LIKE A VIPP

Pray for a Very Important Prayer Person

P.1**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: Mix and Match

Materials

Information for two VIPPs

2 Set of Clue Cards

Bag

Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for each of the VIPPs you are using.
2. Put all the Clue Cards in a bag, except for the ones with the names and pictures of the VIPPs.

Playing the Game

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

Review: Put all the Clue Cards for both VIPPS in the bag. Mix up. Have children take turns pulling clues out and have the class try to remember which clue goes with which VIPP. You can make this a team game by splitting the children into two teams and giving points when their team players correctly put a clue in the right place.

VIPP INFORMATION SHEET

P.3

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**
