

BIBLE TRUTH 3, LESSON 3: PLANNER/OVERVIEW

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

Welcome to Praise Factory: PFI: Praise Factory Investigators Theme Song *PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 1*

Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another: WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song
PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 2

Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 12 Songs *PFI NIV Songs 6, Tracks 3,4*

Big Question Bible Verse: Romans 5:12 Song *PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 5*
(*Extra Bible Verse Song: You Must Not Eat, Eat, Eat: Genesis 2,3 PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 6*)

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

Bible Truth 3: All People Are Born Sinful, All People Need God's Mercy

Bible Truth Hymn: Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy, v.3 *PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 11*

Bible Verse: Romans 5:17

Bible Verse Song: For If by the Trespass *PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 12*
Extra Bible Verse: The LORD Looks Down: Psalm 14:2-3 PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 13

Lesson 3 New Testament: The Case of the Show and Tellers
Joel 2:28-32; Mark 16; Luke 24:36-49; Acts 1,2,8,9,14,19, 28

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: Food of the Gathered Disciples

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Silly Grand March

Bible Truth Hymn: Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy, v.3 *PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 11*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean? **PFI NIV Songs 6 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: Romans 5:17 Discussion Sheet and Game: Mr. Freezie Ball

Bible Verse Song: For If by the Trespass Romans 5:17 *PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 12*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign **PFI NIV Songs 6 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Obstacle Course Quiz

Case Replay, Jr: Drama Activity for Youngest Children (children do same story actions together)

Case Replay, Sr: Drama Activity for Most Children (children re-tell story with individual parts)

Craft: The Handkerchief Touched by Paul

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

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 3, Lesson 3 **PFI NIV Prontos 6 Book or ONLINE**

The Case of the Show and Tellers *Joel 2:28-32; Mark 16; Luke 24:36-49; Acts 1,2, 8,9,14,19,28*

by Connie Dever

The Case of the Show and Tellers.**As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

1. Who were the show and tellers?
2. How did they show? What did they tell? Why?

This story takes place in New Testament times, right after Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

Watch and wait! Watch and wait! That's what God's people had been doing for years and years, since the day Adam and Eve rebelled against God. What had they been watching and waiting for? For God's promises to send a Savior to crush Satan and bring salvation. Oh, how they longed for their enemies of sin and death to be defeated!

Now, at last, it seemed that the day they had been watching and waiting for had come. Jesus had died on the cross three days earlier, and now today--on the day we call Easter Sunday--there were all sorts of amazing stories that Jesus had risen from the dead. The disciples gathered together to eat their fish dinner and to talk about all that had happened. There was the empty tomb where Jesus' body had lay. There was the angel who told the women Jesus had risen. There was Mary Magdalene and Peter and Cleopas who all saw Him. Yes, as incredible as it was, it seemed true!

Then, while they were still talking about this, Jesus himself suddenly stood among them. "Peace be with you," He said to them all. "It's the ghost of Jesus!" the terrified disciples thought.

"Why are you worried? Why do you doubt," Jesus asked them. "Look at my hands and my feet. It's me!! Touch me and see; a ghost doesn't have flesh and bones, I have," He said, holding out his hands and feet. 'Do you have anything to eat?' Jesus asked them.

They gave him a piece of the broiled fish. He took it and ate it. No, this was no ghost! This was Jesus! He was really alive! They were filled with joy and amazement! But Jesus didn't just drop by to eat. He came to teach them. He came to show them all the Scriptures said about Him. "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about Me in God's Word," Jesus reminded them. Then He led them through the Bible, explaining all the promises about His coming. Yes, it was true! He had fulfilled them all! He was the one God's people had for years been

watching for and waiting to come. At last Satan had been crushed. At last the way out of sin and death and the way into fellowship with God forever had been opened up. It was God's free gift to all who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

Yes, now the years of watching and waiting were over. Now God was giving His people something new to do. Now it was time to show and tell the world the good news of salvation.

"Be My witnesses Show God's power! Tell others the good news of salvation! Tell them how to be My followers!" Jesus told His disciples. "Start here in Jerusalem, then keep on going: to Samaria, Judea and even the ends of the earth, that the whole world might know," Jesus said.

And how would they have the power to do this? Jesus told them that, too. "God, My Father, will send you the gift of the Holy Spirit inside your heart to help you. He will give you boldness to tell others about Me. The time of waiting and watching is over. Now is the time to show and tell so that God's people, the Church, will be built among all peoples on earth."

The disciples were overjoyed. This was wonderful! It was really true! Jesus died on the cross, but now He had risen from the dead! He, the Son of God, had crushed Satan! He had broken the power of sin and death that had held all people captive since the time of Adam and Eve. Now He was building His Church--God's people, from every people on earth. He was calling them to show and tell the world this good news!

Just six week later, on the day of Pentecost, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit into the hearts of the waiting disciples just as He had promised. "Suddenly a sound like the

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.

blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.” (Acts 2:2-4)

Now it was time. Time to show and time to tell the world the good news of Jesus. The disciples poured out of the house and into the street, and began telling the good news in Latin, in Egyptian, in Arabic, in Greek, in Persian, and in many other languages the disciples all began to tell the good news:

“Jesus died on the cross, but now has risen from the dead! Jesus, the Son of God, has crushed Satan!” disciples told all who would listen. “He has broken the power of sin and death that had held all people captive since the time of Adam and Eve. He is doing a new thing. He is setting up His Kingdom; His building His Church from every people on earth. Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus will be saved!”

Thousands of people, from many nations, listened to the disciples that day and were amazed. “How is it that each of us hears them declaring the wonders of God in our own language? What does this mean?” they wondered.

Peter stood up and told them: “These are all signs that the promised Savior we have watched and waited for has come. Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the LORD our God will call.”

Then God did something even more powerful than the signs that day. He worked in the hearts of many and about three thousand people turned from their sins and trusted in Jesus.

How the disciples rejoiced that night! God was working powerfully through them as they showed and told the good news of Jesus.

But Jesus had told His disciples not to just stay in Jerusalem, but to go out into Judea, Samaria and to the

ends of the earth; and so they did, each time showing and telling the good news of salvation.

In Joppa, a city in nearby Judea, Peter went to show and tell. He showed Jesus’ power over death as he raised Tabitha from the dead in Jesus’ name. He told the gathered crowd the good news of Jesus and God again worked in hearts and many turned from their sins and trusted in Jesus.

Philip went further away to the Jews’ hated neighbors, the Samaritans, to show Jesus’ power and to tell the good news of salvation. In the name of Jesus, Philip healed many people, showing them Jesus’ power over sin and evil. “These things that I do are signs from God that show Jesus is God’s Son, the Savior, come to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus—even you Samaritans,” he told them. Many saw the signs and heard Philip’s words, and again many believed on Jesus and were saved.

Further and further away from Jerusalem believers traveled, just like Jesus told them to. The whole world needed to hear about salvation through Jesus! Paul traveled to Turkey, to Malta, to Greece to Italy and even Spain. Everywhere he went he showed Jesus’ power through miracles and he told the people the good news of salvation through Jesus.

In Lystra, Turkey, Paul healed a lame man who had never ever walked, in the power of Jesus’ name. On the island of Malta, the LORD healed Paul from a poisonous bite of a deadly viper hiding in firewood. In Ephesus, God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured. Again God worked in hearts and many were saved. And in Rome, Italy Paul even got to tell the good news of Jesus to Caesar, the Roman king, himself.

On and on since then, God’s people keep on obeying Jesus’ command to Show and Tell. And on and on, God keeps working through His Holy Spirit and His people to free people from the terrible bondage of sin and death passed down to us all through Adam and Eve.

These days, God does not choose to use the great fireworks of incredible miracles to show His mighty power as much as He did in those first days of the disciples (though He is just as able to). But He does work

still, every bit as powerfully in the hearts of all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

And on one, amazing day, Jesus will come again and bring an end to all sin and death forever for God's people. On that day, the sin that began with Satan and Adam and Eve long ago, will be completely and finally done away with, never to spread again! Then, for God's people, there will only be eternal life, enjoying God and each other forever. How wonderful that will be!

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who were the show and tellers? The believers in Jesus who went out from Jerusalem.

2. How did they show? What did they tell? Why?

God did amazing miracles through them, healing the sick and even raising the dead. He gave them great love for each other. All these things helped point to the truth of their good news: repent and believe in Jesus and be saved! They knew all people are sinners in need of a Savior. They wanted all to know this and be saved.

Something For You and Me

**Our Bible Truth is: All People Are Born Sinful,
All People Need God's Mercy**

Our Bible Verse is: Romans 5:17

"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."

Show God's power! Tell the good news! Let the whole world know that God has sent Jesus to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior! That was what the disciples did! And that's what God's people are still doing today. Why, that's what I'm doing with you today! Showing and telling you the good news of Jesus, that you might turn from your sins and trust in Jesus as your Savior!

Let's praise God for sending Jesus to free from sin and death all who turn from their sins and trust in Him. Let's ask Him to send out His people into all the world, even now, and tell all who will hear the good news of salvation through faith in Jesus. Let's ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Him, too.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the Conqueror of Sin and Death through Jesus.

C God, we confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could! We care more about if they get mad at us or laugh at us than their salvation! Please forgive us!

T Jesus, we thank You for Your victory over sin and death! Thank You for sending Your people out so that the whole world might know how they can be saved. Thank You for sending someone to tell US how we can be saved!

S God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send out Your people into all the world, that all may know how they can be saved.

Special Words

Miracle: Something special God does in this world in a way that couldn't happen unless He did it; and, that He does to show His mighty power.

Disciples: A special name used for the first followers of Jesus.

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 so loving and merciful! You sent Your own Son, Jesus, to suffer and die in the place of sinful people like us!

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that even this week we have sinned against You! We see that we disobey You in what we do, what we say and what we think. Our very hearts are sinful! We are children of Adam and Eve! We need a Savior!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for not just treating us as our sins deserve, but sending us a Savior, Your Son Jesus, to save us.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, help us to be honest before You and others about our sins. Work in our hearts, that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Have mercy on us!

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

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

Snack: Food of the Gathered Disciples

Goldfish or fish finger “fish” with traditional pita bread, like what the disciples would have been eating on Easter night.

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

Case Tie-in: On the night after Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to His disciples as they gathered together to eat. He ate some fish, too, showing that, indeed, He had risen from the dead. He was no ghost.

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.

All People Are Born Sinful, All People Need God's Mercy

Adam and Eve did not just disobey God once and stop. They had become sinners with sinful hearts that rebelled against God again and again. But sin didn't stop with Adam and Eve. They passed down the consequences of their sin to all their children.

Each and every one of us come from Adam and Eve's family--we are all their children. And because we are their children, we are all born sinners with sinful hearts and with bodies that will suffer and die. And also like Adam and Eve, we all deserve eternal punishment for our sins, too.

Yet God, in His great mercy, always planned to send His Son Jesus to save His sinful people by taking the punishment for their sins upon Himself. Jesus did this when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, He rose from the dead, showing He had beaten sin and death.

God promises to forgive all who confess their sins to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He will give them each a new heart, filled with His Holy Spirit--a heart that knows and loves Him more and more. And one day, when they die, they will not receive the eternal punishment they deserve for their sins, but eternal life with God forever. How great is God's mercy through Jesus to sinful people like us!

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. What did Adam and Eve become after they disobeyed God? *Sinners. People with sinful hearts and lives that keep disobeying God, over and over.*
2. To whom did Adam and Eve pass their sinfulness? *All of their children.*
3. What happens to all of us because we are sinners? *We all are born with sinful hearts and with bodies that suffer and die. We all deserve God's eternal punishment.*
4. How has God shown His mercy upon us? *By always planning to send His Son Jesus to save His sinful people by taking the punishment for their sins upon Himself.*
5. What is God's promise to all who confess their sins to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior? *To forgive their sins.*
6. What does God give to those who trust in Him? *A new heart that loves Him; He will raise them from the dead to live with Him as His special people forever and ever.*

Bible Truth Story Connection Questions

How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: All People Are Born Sinful, All People Need God's Mercy?**

1. What special ways did God make clear to all in first years after Jesus rose from the dead that He had fulfilled His promise of salvation and mercy through Jesus? *He performed amazing miracles through the first believers to show that Jesus really was the promised Messiah and was now establishing His kingdom in God's people, the Church.*
2. What was the message God gave the disciples to tell? *That Jesus was the Savior that God had promised to send from the time of Adam and Eve to crush Satan's power and free all who turn and trust in Him from being captives to sin and death.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with the Bible Verse: Romans 5:17: "For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ." ?
Adam and Eve passed on their sinful hearts to their children--all of us! That means that we all are born sinners. How terrible! But God promised to show mercy to all who look in faith to the Savior who would crush Satan's power. Yes! All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus are saved from the punishment they deserve from God for their sins. Sin came through one man, Adam. But Jesus, the Son of God and the son of man, gives His grace and perfect righteousness--everything they need to be saved!

Life Application Questions

1. How do we know that we need God's mercy, too? *Because like Cain and Abel, we have been born sinners. Only by trusting in Jesus will we ever be forgiven our sins and know eternal life with God.*

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for being so loving and faithful as to send His own Son to die for this world full of sinful people.

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

Confess ways this week we sinned against God in our hearts, with our words and actions.

3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Bible Truth? *Thank God for the forgiveness we can have through Jesus.*

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. We can ask Him to give us hearts that honor and love Him most of all.

The Gospel

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

Game: Silly Grand March

Materials

CD and CD player
Small bowl or bag
Bible Truth Questions

Preparing the Game

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

Playing the Game

Have the children form partners, then form a big double circle. Tell the children to move however you command them to move, such as march, walk, skip, tip toes, big knee bends, pat head, fly like a bird, etc. (BUT NOT RUN!!!) when you play the music. But when the music stops, they and their partner are to grab hands and sit down as quickly as possibly. The last pair to sit down become the Question Choosers for the class. If the class answers it correctly, then the pair is added back into the group immediately. If not, then the pair stays out until another round when a correct answer is given to a question. (Feel free to add back incorrectly answered questions into the bag).

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

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

Non-competitive Option

Don't exclude the Question Choosers from the game, even if class gets the wrong answer.

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.

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Verse 3

Come ye weary, heavy-laden,
Lost and ruined by the Fall;
If you tarry till you're better,
You will never come at all.

Refrain:

I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 11

Understanding the Song

1. What does heavy-laden mean? *To be carrying something too heavy for you.*
2. What kind of weary and heavy-laden is the songwriter talking about? *Being tired and weighed down by sins.*
3. What is sin and how does it weigh us down? *Sin is thinking, saying and acting in ways that do not please God. Sin brings suffering, pain and guilt. It separates us from the wonderful fellowship with God we were created to have. It makes our lives miserable.*
4. What is "the Fall"? *The Fall is what we call when sin and death entered God's perfect world through Adam and Eve's rebellion. Adam and Eve "falling" from their wonderful lives of perfectly sinless fellowship with God in a perfect, sinless world to a life filled with sin and death.*
5. How are we lost and ruined by The Fall? *This kind of lost means to be completely separated from God and unable to make our own way back to Him. We have all been "ruined" through the Fall because now our lives are spoiled with sin and death.*
6. What does it mean to tarry? *To tarry means to wait and put something off until later.*
7. What shouldn't we tarry about doing? Why? *We should not wait to come to Jesus for forgiveness of our sins. We should never wait to accept God's gift of eternal life because we love sin and it is easy to put off turning away from sin until later. But if we do tarry, there is a chance that we will never come at all because of our own hard hearts or because we do not know when we will die and then it will be too late.*
8. Who is the song writer going to? How will He receive him? *Jesus. He will embrace him in His arms.*
9. What he mean when he says *Jesus will embrace him in His arms?* *Not that Jesus will really give him a hug, but that He will rejoice that he has come to Him for salvation, and that He loves him tenderly. In heaven, though, Jesus very well WILL really hug him!*
10. What does it mean that there are ten thousand charms in the arms of Jesus? *A charm is something that delights you. Knowing Jesus' love and forgiveness, being in His family, are so wonderful that it is like getting ten thousand of the things that delight you most, all rolled up into one. There is nothing as wonderful as knowing and being loved by Him.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our **Bible Truth: All People Are Born Sinful, All People Need God's Mercy?** *We all are weary and heavy-laden with sin; but God, in His great mercy, offers all who are ruined by the Fall to find forgiveness of sins and eternal life through Jesus.*

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *The first believers obeyed Jesus' command to go out into all the world and tell the good news of salvation through faith in Him. God did amazing miracles through them to confirm their message and to encourage people not to tarry in their sins, but believe in Jesus. Further and further out into the world they went, that all who were weary and heavy-laden by sin; all who were lost and ruined by the Fall, might hear the good news, be freed from the burden of sins and be saved.*

Bible Connection Question

1. What does this song have to do with our **Bible Verse: Romans 5:17:** "For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.?" *All people were ruined by the Fall, when Adam and Eve chose to disobey God. Sin has been passed down to us through Adam and Eve. We are all heavy-laden with sin and there is no way we can make ourselves better. But, we can go to Jesus. He offers abundant grace and righteousness through faith in Him. When we turn from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as our Savior, He will give us the gift of eternal life.*

Life Application Questions

1. How can our lives be affected by the message of this song? *We can praise God who has not left the children of Adam and Eve in their sins, but offers mercy and forgiveness through Jesus. We can ask God to help us not to tarry, but come to Him even today for salvation.*

2. How can we know the mercy and forgiveness through Jesus that God offers sinners? *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 being the merciful God who calls sinners to Himself for forgiveness of their sins!

2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?
That many times we think we can make ourselves better. We can somehow please God by our good deeds, when there is really no way for us to please God except through Jesus.

3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn? *We can thank God sending Jesus to save His people from their sins.*

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. We can ask Him to help us to come to Him and be forgiven.

Gospel Question

1. We are heavy-laden with sins. Is there any hope for 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.

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.

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

Meditation Version: Romans 5:17

"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. What is a trespass? *A breaking of a law.*
2. Who is the "one man" who trespassed against God's law, bringing death to the world? *Adam.*
3. What law did Adam break? *God's law to not eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.*
4. What is another word for trespass? *Sin.*
5. What is sin? *Saying, doing, thinking, being anything that does not please God.*
6. What is death? *Death is not just our bodies dying. It is also something that happens in our hearts. We are cut off from the fellowship of God that He made us to enjoy with Him. If we do not turn from our sins, confess them to Jesus and trust in Him to save us from our sins, then our final punishment will be eternal death. It will punishment that never ends, away from God and everything that is good.*
7. How does death now reign in our world? *All people are sinners. Only people without sin—as Adam and Eve were in the beginning—can be accepted by God on their own merit. Since people are only sinners, they all deserve death. Death "reigns" here, because there is nothing we can do on our own to get out of dying.*
8. If death "reigns" here on earth, how will anyone know eternal life with God? *By God's abundant provision of grace and the gift of righteousness through Jesus Christ.*
9. What is God's "abundant provision of grace"? *Grace means a free gift we do not deserve. An abundant provision means to provide someone with more than they need. Through Jesus' death on the cross, God gives to all the free gift of forgiveness of sins even more than we need.*
10. How is righteousness and how does the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ? *Righteousness is being completely without sin before God. We are all sinners. We can never be righteous before God on our own. But Jesus, the Son of God, came to earth to live as a man—fully God and fully man. He is the only human to ever live a completely perfect life. He offered it up on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who will ever turn and trust in Him. He gives it to them as a gift. No longer will they have to suffer the punishment of death like others. They will "reign" in life—eternal life—with God forever because of what Jesus has done for them.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does the verse have to do with our Bible Truth? *Adam and Eve passed on their sinful hearts to their children--all of us! That means that we all are born sinners. How terrible! But God promised to show mercy to all who look in faith to the Savior who would crush Satan's power. Yes! All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus are saved from the punishment they deserve from God for their sins. Sin came through one man, Adam. But Jesus, the Son of God and the son of man, gives His grace and perfect righteousness--everything they need to be saved!*

Story Connection Questions

1. What does the verse have to do with our story? *Jesus brought the reign of life by His death on the cross and His rising from the dead. He sent His disciples out into the world to show and tell that no longer must death reign the lives of all people. All who turn and trust in Him, will receive the abundant provision of His grace and righteousness. Eternal life can reign in them through the gift of Jesus.*

Life Application Questions

1. What can we do to fight the "reign of death" in ourselves? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*
2. What can we do to help fight the reign of death in our world? *Tell others the good news of Jesus that they might be saved.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible Verse? *Praise God for being the Giver of Grace and Righteousness to sinners.*

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

That we have all turned away from God. We deserve God's punishment! We need a Savior!

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

We can thank God for sending Jesus to bring God's abundant grace and righteousness to all who turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their own Savior.

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 give us His abundant grace and righteousness through faith in Jesus.

The Gospel

1. Why do we need God's abundant grace and righteousness? How can we receive it? What is the gospel?

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

Game: Mr. Freezie Ball

Materials

Bible verse written up in large print so that all can see
Medium size foam or other soft surfaced ball, or tennis ball

Preparing the Game

None.

Learning the Verse

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

Directions

1. If desired, lead the children in a discussion of a **FEW** of the most important questions before beginning game.
2. Explain the game to them as follows:
Have the children spread out around the leader, who will be the first Mr. Freezie. Everyone says the Bible verse together. Then, Mr. Freezie throws the ball up in the air as he calls out the name of one child. That child runs to get the ball, while everyone else spreads out. When the child gets the ball, he yells "freeze" to the other children. He then rolls the ball to gently hit another child. That child tries to say the memory verse, getting the assistance of one other person if desired. If he says it correctly, he becomes the new Mr. Freezie and will be the next to toss the ball. If not, then the child who rolled the ball remains Mr. Freezie for another turn. The person who rolled the ball would then become the new Mr. Freezie and be next to toss the ball. Class says verse together each time before Mr. Freezie says the next child's name.

Game continues 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 song ties in with the Bible Truth.

For If by the Trespass

“For if, by the trespass of the one man,
 death reigned through one man,
 For if, by the trespass of the one man,
 death reigned through one man,
 Then how much more will those who receive
 God’s abundant grace and righteousness
 Reign in life, Reign in life,
 Through one man, Jesus Christ.”
 Romans Five, seventeen.

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 12

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

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

Bag or bowl

Blindfold

Preparing the Game

1. Cut out signs and put in bowl.

Playing the Game

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

STORY REVIEW

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

General Story Questions

1. What were the disciples discussing on Easter night? *The stories the women, Peter, Cleopas and his friend told about seeing Jesus, risen from the dead.*
2. What did Jesus' disciples think Jesus was when they first saw Him? What did He do to show them it wasn't so? *A ghost. He showed them His hands, feet, side; and, he ate fish.*
3. What did Jesus show them from the Bible? *That everything that happened to Him was foretold in the Bible.*
4. Where did Jesus tell the disciples to go? Why? *Into all the world, starting with Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth. Because He was establishing His Church from people of every nation, just like God had said in the Bible that He would.*
5. What were they to receive to help them do this? *The Holy Spirit to give them courage and power to do this.*
6. What was the first amazing wonder that people noticed in the disciples? *That they could speak in many different languages that they had never learned.*
7. What other kinds of miracles did the disciples do in Jesus' name? *Healed people; raised the dead; endured great suffering; poison from viper didn't affect Paul when he should have died; handkerchiefs and aprons that Paul touched healed the sick.*
8. Why did God do such amazing wonders through those early disciples? *Because He was confirming that Jesus had really risen from the dead and had broken the power of sin and death. He was showing that at last the Kingdom of God had come and He was establishing His Church from people of every nation. This was completely different from anything that had happened before.*
9. What was the message that the disciples told? *Jesus died on the cross as payment for sin and rose from the dead, showing that He had broken the power of sin and death. All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as Savior will be forgiven their sins, have the Holy Spirit give them new hearts, and be once more in fellowship with God. They will be God's special people forever and ever.*
10. Why doesn't God do so many amazing wonders as His people tell the good news of Jesus now? *It is NOT because God is unable to do these things. It is because He was making it clear that the power of sin and death had at last been broken. He was making it clear that a new day had come. He was building His people, the Church, from every people of every nation, not just the Jews. When God finished establishing His church in those early days, He chose to do less signs and wonders as His people spread the good news of Jesus. Now God's Church has been established in many places. But even today, in parts of the world where the gospel is being told for the first time, God sometimes performs amazing signs and wonders to confirm the good news of Jesus.*
11. What do God's people show and tell today? *The same good news that the disciples long ago did: that He offers forgiveness of sins to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.*
12. How has Jesus already defeated sin and death? *What will He do when He returns to earth again? He broke the power of sin and death and crushed Satan's power when He died on the cross. When He comes back, He will completely do away with sin, death and Satan forever. God's people will get to enjoy eternal life with God forever in the new heavens and earth.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What special ways did God make clear to all in first years after Jesus rose from the dead that He had fulfilled His promise of salvation and mercy through Jesus? *He performed amazing miracles through the first believers to show that Jesus really was the promised Messiah and was now establishing His kingdom in God's people, the Church.*
2. What was the message God gave the disciples to tell? *That Jesus was the Savior that God had promised to send from the time of Adam and Eve to crush Satan's power and free all who turn and trust in Him from being captives to sin and death.*

Life Application Questions

1. Can you think of someone you know who needs to hear the good news of Jesus? *Let's pray for that person and for God to give you a chance to tell them about Jesus.*
2. How can they—and we—be saved by God from our sins? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*

Bible Verse Connection

1. What does our story have to do with the **Bible Verse: Romans 5:17**: "For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."?

Jesus brought the reign of life by dying on the cross and rising from the dead. He sent His disciples out into the world to show and tell that no longer must death reign the lives of all people. All who turn and trust in Him, will receive the abundant provision of His grace and righteousness. Eternal life can reign in them through the gift of Jesus.

ACTS Questions

1. What's something we can praise God for from this story? *Praise God for being the Conqueror of Sin and Death through Jesus.*

2. What's something we can confess from this story? *Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could.*

3. What's something we can thank God for from this story? *We can thank God for Jesus' victory over sin and death. Thank Him for sending His people out so that the whole world might know about salvation through Jesus. Thank Him for sending someone to us to tell us how we can be saved.*

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 away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to send out His people into all the world, that all may know about Jesus. We can ask Him to work in the hearts of others who need to hear about Jesus.

The Gospel

1. What is the good news of Jesus that Jesus commanded His disciples to tell to the whole world?

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

Game: Obstacle Course Quiz

Materials

Various materials, such as jump ropes, balls, inner tubes, carpet squares, boxes, tunnels made from chairs and bedspreads, etc. to make a simple obstacle course for each team.

Masking Tape

20+ Story Review Questions and other story review questions, 1+ per child

Paper/post-it notes & marker/pencil

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Set up two identical obstacle courses, one for each team, that both end up at the same wall of your room.
3. Write a question on the back of a post-it note. On the front, write a point amount, such as 5, 10, 25 points, depending upon the difficulty of the question. Place these questions on the wall at the end of the obstacle courses.
4. Use the masking tape to make starting lines.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams and have them sit down in a line. Demonstrate how they are to go through the obstacle course. At the leader's command, the first person in each line goes through the obstacle course. Whoever reaches the question wall first wins 1 point for their team and gets to take down one question to give to the teacher. The teacher will ask the question to both teams, calling on the team who raises their hand first. If that team is correct in their answer, they get 2 points. If not, then the question goes to the other team. Process is repeated with next 2 children in line, etc.

Game continues until all have had a chance to run the course, or as question cards, time and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Send the children through two at a time, each child choosing a question from the wall. Have the children ask their question to the whole group and work together on the answer. Have the two children come back through the obstacle course and go to the back of their own lines. Repeat with next two children.

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 Show and Tellers.

This story takes place in New Testament times, around when Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

And now we present: "The Case of the Show and Tellers."

Scene 1:

For many years God's people had been watching and waiting for the promised Savior to come. At last He came! Jesus! But when Jesus died on the cross, many were confused. They didn't realize the Savior was to die for their sins!. Then came the third day--Easter day. Jesus' body was gone. Peter, Mary Magdalene and Cleopas all said they saw Him. Could it be true? On Easter night, Jesus' disciples gathered together in Jerusalem, eating their fish dinner and talking about all these stories. As they were talking, Jesus suddenly appeared to them. They thought He was a ghost. He showed them His hands and feet and ate some fish to show them that He was truly alive. He showed them all the promises from the Bible He fulfilled. Then He told them they were to preach the good news to all nations, from Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth, as soon as they received the Holy Spirit.

Actions:

Scene 2:

On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon them as they were praying. He filled their hearts and helped them to tell the good news of Jesus. They even spoke in languages they had never learned to peoples from other countries who had come to Jerusalem for Pentecost. Everyone wanted to know how these Galileans could suddenly speak to them in their own language. Peter told them it was God's power. He urged them to turn from their sins, believe in Jesus and be saved. The Holy Spirit worked powerfully in the hearts of those listening and 3000 people were saved that day! God's Church was growing!

Scene 3

These new believers began to go into the world to show and tell the good news of Jesus, just as Jesus had told them to. God did amazing miracles through them as they told about salvation through Jesus to show that He was the Messiah who had broken Satan's power. He was using them to establish God's people, the Church. In Joppa, Judea, Peter told the good news of Jesus and raised Tabitha from the dead. Many saw and heard and believed. In Samaria, Philip told about Jesus and healed many people. God worked in their hearts and many Samaritans believed. On the island of Malta, Paul told about Jesus and when bit by a poisonous viper, the Lord healed him. Many Maltese saw and believed. In Ephesus, Paul told about Jesus and God healed people who were touched by handkerchiefs and aprons that Paul had touched. God worked in their hearts and believed. In Rome, he even got to tell Caesar about Jesus. God used these early believers to show His mighty power and tell many people the good news: Jesus had broken the power of sin and death that held all people captive since Adam and Eve. Now He was calling His people from every nation and establishing them as the Church. Even today, God's people still are showing and telling the good news of Jesus to the people of the world. And they will keep on doing this until the day Jesus comes back a second time, to end sin and death forever and to bring all God's people to live with Him in the new heaven and earth forever.

Bible Truth Tie-In: The Bible Truth we are learning is: **All People Are Born Sinful, All People Need God's Mercy.** Jesus appeared to His disciples and showed them that He had indeed crushed Satan's power. They were to go into all the world so that sinners from every people and nation could hear the good news, believe and be freed from being captives to sin and death.

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 Show and Tellers.

This story takes place in New Testament times, around when Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

The characters in our story are: Jesus, Peter, Philip and the other disciples, Women, Cleopas and friend, People from many nations, Paul, and Caesar.

And now we present: "The Case of the Show and Tellers."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

For many years God's people had been watching and waiting for the promised Savior to come. At last He came! Jesus! But when Jesus died on the cross, many were confused. They didn't realize the Savior was to die for their sins!. Then came the third day--Easter day. Jesus' body was gone. Peter, Mary Magdalene and Cleopas all said they saw Him. Could it be true? On Easter night, Jesus' disciples gathered together in Jerusalem, eating their fish dinner and talking about all these stories. As they were talking, Jesus suddenly appeared to them. They thought He was a ghost. He showed them His hands and feet and ate some fish to show them that He was truly alive. He showed them all the promises from the Bible He fulfilled. Then He told them they were to preach the good news to all nations, from Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth, as soon as they received the Holy Spirit.

Scene 2: (Middle)

On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon them as they were praying. He filled their hearts and helped them to tell the good news of Jesus. They even spoke in languages they had never learned to peoples from other countries who had come to Jerusalem for Pentecost. Everyone wanted to know how these Galileans could suddenly speak to them in their own language. Peter told them it was God's power. He urged them to turn from their sins, believe in Jesus and be saved. The Holy Spirit worked powerfully in the hearts of those listening and 3000 people were saved that day! God's Church was growing!

Scene 3: (End)

These new believers began to go into the world to show and tell the good news of Jesus, just as Jesus had told them to. God did amazing miracles through them as they told about salvation through Jesus to show that He was the Messiah who had broken Satan's power. He was using them to establish God's people, the Church. In Joppa, Judea, Peter told the good news of Jesus and raised Tabitha from the dead. Many saw and heard and believed. In Samaria, Philip told about Jesus and healed many people. God worked in their hearts and many Samaritans believed. On the island of Malta, Paul told about Jesus and when bit by a poisonous viper, the Lord healed him. Many Maltese saw and believed. In Ephesus, Paul told about Jesus and God healed people who were touched by handkerchiefs and aprons that Paul had touched. God worked in their hearts and believed. In Rome, he even got to tell Caesar about Jesus. God used these early believers to show His mighty power and tell many people the good news: Jesus had broken the power of sin and death that held all people captive since Adam and Eve. Now He was calling His people from every nation and establishing them as the Church. Even today, God's people still are showing and telling the good news of Jesus to the people of the world. And they will keep on doing this until the day Jesus comes back a second time, to end sin and death forever and to bring all God's people to live with Him in the new heaven and earth forever.

Bible Truth Tie-In: The Bible Truth we are learning is: **All People Are Born Sinful, All People Need God's Mercy.** Jesus appeared to His disciples and showed them that He had indeed crushed Satan's power. They were to go into all the world so that sinners from every people and nation could hear the good news, believe and be freed from being captives to sin and death.

The Handkerchief Touched by Paul

Description

Children will fringe the edges of burlap or other loosely woven cloth and decorate with marker and glitter glue or by sewing designs/letters.

Materials

Burlap or other loosely woven cloth that is easy to fringe
Yarn and Blunt tapestry needles, one per child
OR Markers, glitter glue, etc.

Preparing the Craft

1. Cut a 12"x12" square out of burlap for each child.
2. Set out needle and yarn (better for older children) or markers and glitter glue (better for younger children).

Making the Craft

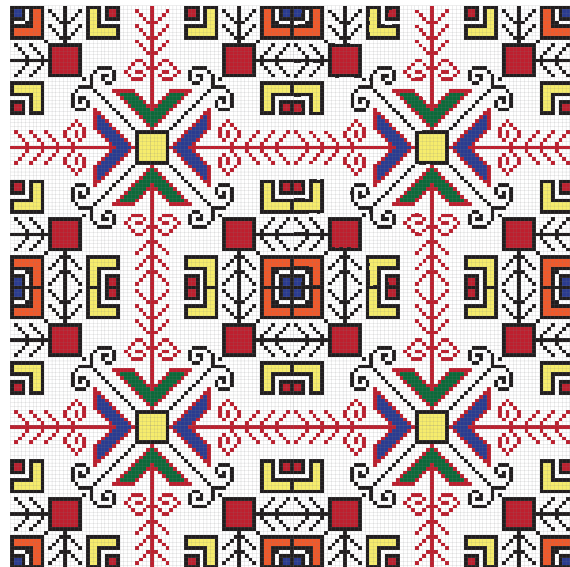
1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
2. Have the children fringe all of the edges of the fabric by singling out a horizontal thread of the weave and gently nudging it out. Repeat until fringe is desired length, perhaps $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2". Repeat process on all four sides. (If fringe the edges to 2" you can divide segments into even bunches and tie them into knots on the end.)
3. Children can then either sew or use the markers/glitter glue to decorate the rest of their handkerchief. Children who are sewing may first want to mark a simple design faintly on the fabric with marker, then sew over the markings.

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.

here are some pattern ideas, especially good for the older children doing this 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. What miracle did God do through Paul in Ephesus with a handkerchief? *God healed people who simply touched a handkerchief that had been touched by Paul.*

2. Why did God do this? *To show that the message Paul was preaching really was from God.*

3. What was the message that Paul was preaching? *That all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior can be saved from the punishment they deserve from God for their sins and become God's people.*

4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning? *All People Are Born Sinful, All People Need God's Mercy.*

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: All People Are Born Sinful, All People Need God's Mercy?

Since Adam and Eve rebelled against God, all people have been born sinners, too. God did such amazing wonders through his disciples to show that at last the promised Savior had come and crushed Satan's power. Now all who believed in Jesus would be saved. God was establishing them as His people, the Church.

6. What can our craft help us remember? *God did amazing miracles through the first believers to establish His people, the Church. But none of those miracles are greater than the new heart He puts in every person who believes in Him; nor the day when He raises the bodies of all His people from the dead to live with Him forever.*

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

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

Presentation:

1. Our craft is: *The Handkerchief Touched by Paul.*

2. In Ephesus, the Lord did such amazing miracles through Paul that people were healed who simply touched a handkerchief. He did these things through Paul to show that Jesus really was the Messiah who had crushed Satan's power over sin and death, and was not establishing His Church, through faith in Him. No human could do something like this. Many saw these signs and put their faith in Jesus.

3. Our Bible Truth is: *All People Are Born Sinful, All People Need God's Mercy.*

4. Since Adam and Eve rebelled against God, all people have been born sinners, too. God did such amazing wonders through his disciples to show that at last the promised Savior had come and crushed Satan's power. Now all who believed in Jesus would be saved. God was establishing them as His people, the Church.

5. Our craft can help us remember that God did amazing miracles through the first believers to establish His people, the Church. But none of those miracles are greater than the new heart He puts in every person who believes in Him; nor the day when He raises the bodies of all His people from the dead to live with Him forever.

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

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

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

2. GATHER YOUR FACTS

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

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

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

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

2. PRAY!

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

3. CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY

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

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

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

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

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

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

Game: Hot and Cold Hide

Materials

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

Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for the VIPP you are using.
2. Tape the other (blank) set of Clue Cards to the outside of the manilla envelopes.
3. Put the filled-in clue cards in the corresponding envelope.

Playing the Game

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

Review: Choose one child to be "The Finder" and cover his eyes with the blindfold. Choose one of the Clue Card envelopes. Choose another child to be "The Hider". This child will hide the envelope somewhere in the room. When the clue is hidden, the Finder takes off his blindfold and begins to look for the envelope. The other children say "hot, cold, etc" as the child gets closer or further from the envelope to help the child find it. When the folder is found, the teacher (or the child) tells the Clue Card category. The other children try to remember what the VIPP's answer was. Open it up and see if they got it right. If they did, the Clue Card is retired. If not, it can be added back into the Clue Cards to be hidden.

VIPP INFORMATION SHEET

VIPP NAME:

WHAT VIPP LOOKS LIKE

Man or Woman? _____

Hair color? _____

Eye color? _____

FAVORITE ANIMAL

FAVORITE FOOD

FAVORITE FREE TIME ACTIVITY

WHAT VIPP DOES DURING WEEK

VIPP GROUP OF SERVICE:

Church Member

Deacon

Elder

Church Staff

Special Volunteer

Supported Worker
(Missionary)

3 WAYS VIPP SERVES CHURCH

3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR THE VIPP
