

BIBLE TRUTH 4, 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 7, Track 1*

Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another: WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song
PFI NIV Songs 7, Track 2

Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 7 Songs *PFI NIV Songs 7, Tracks 3,4*

Big Question Bible Verse: Psalm 19:7,9,10,11 Song *PFI NIV Songs 7, Track 5*

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

Bible Truth 4: Jesus Kept God's Law Perfectly So by His Grace He Could Save God's People

Bible Truth Hymn: Amazing Grace, vs.1,2 *PFI NIV Songs 7, Tracks 14,15*

Bible Verse: 1 Peter 3:18

Bible Verse Song: For Christ Died for Sin *PFI NIV Songs 7, Track 16*

Extra Bible Verse Song: Observing the Law: Romans 3:20-23 *PFI NIV Songs 7, Track 17*

Lesson 1 Old Testament: The Case of the Torn Curtain
Exodus 25-31, 35-40 Leviticus, Numbers

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: Ark of the Covenant

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Beanbag Scramble

Bible Truth Hymn: Amazing Grace, vs.1,2 *PFI NIV Songs 7, Tracks 14,15*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean? **PFI NIV Songs 7 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: 1 Peter 3:18 Discussion Sheet and Game: Who's Got the Penny?

Bible Verse Song: For Christ Died for Sin: 1 Peter 3:18 *PFI NIV Songs 7, Track 16*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign **PFI NIV Songs 7 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Frisbee Toss n' 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: Linen Curtain Embroidered with Cherubim

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (back of book); Game: Ball Roll Review

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 4, Lesson 1 **PFI NIV PRONTOS 7 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Torn Curtain by Connie Dever Exodus 25-31, 35-40 Leviticus, Numbers**Our story is called:****The Case of the Torn Curtain.****As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

1. What was behind this special curtain? Who got to go behind it to do what?
2. Who tore this curtain? What did it mean?

This story takes place in Old Testament times, at Mt. Sinai, about 140 years before Jesus lived on earth.

It was New Year's Day and the people of Israel were celebrating! After months of hard work, all the parts to the Tabernacle were finished! Moses gathered all the people to watch this special tent go up. First Moses draped the huge sheet of beautiful, handmade fabric over the gold-covered wooden frame that made up the Tabernacle's walls and roof. How exquisite was the fabric, woven out of finely twisted linen and embroidered with mighty cherubim in blue, scarlet and purple! Then Moses covered up the beautiful fabric with protective layers of goat's hair, rams' skin dyed blood red, and finally the waterproof hides of sea cows. The Tabernacle was up! Now it was time to fill it with all the special things the LORD had commanded them to make.

First, there was the golden Ark of the Covenant, containing the covenant that the LORD had made with the Israelites. Moses carried it into the tent and set it in place in the very back. Then he put up a curtain woven with beautiful cherubim across the tent to separate the space where the Ark was from the rest of the tent. This tiny space was called the Most Holy Place. There, between the two golden cherubim that bent over the top of the Ark's cover, would the LORD's presence dwell especially with His people. Only the high priest would be allowed in there, and he only once a year with a special blood sacrifice. The LORD was holy; His people were sinful lawbreakers. His hatred of sin would break out in judgment against their sinfulness and they would die, if He did not stay separate from them. So He did. His special presence would dwell with them, but only from behind the curtain.

After putting up the shielding curtain, Moses filled the rest of the tent—called the Holy Place—with other things the LORD had them make. There was the golden

Table with the twelve, freshly baked loaves of the Bread of Presence (one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel). There was the golden Lampstand with its seven almond-bud-shaped lamps which must always stay lit; and, the golden Altar of Incense which would burn incense and oil as the priests prayed for the people.

Then Moses covered the entrance to the Holy Place with another curtain woven with cherubim. It must be shielded from the people, too. Now only the priests would be allowed to go in. The LORD was holy; His people were sinful lawbreakers. His hatred of sin would break out in judgment against their sinfulness and they would die, if He did not stay separate from them. His special presence would dwell with them, but only through priests, from behind the curtain.

There was still more to be done. Moses set up the two things that stood outside of the Tent. He placed the Altar of Burnt Offering near the entrance to the Tabernacle and offered burnt offerings and grain offerings on it, just as the LORD commanded him. Then he placed the Bronze Basin with special water for the priests and Moses to wash their hands and feet in before entering the tent or approaching the Altar of Burnt Offerings. Last of all, Moses set up the courtyard around the Tabernacle and the Altar. He put up a curtain at the entrance to the courtyard. Even the courtyard must be shielded. The people could come in the courtyard, but only according to certain rules the LORD gave them. His special presence would dwell with them, but according to certain rules, through priests and from behind the curtain.

At last the tabernacle was ready. It was time for the LORD's presence to dwell there among them. The people watched amazed as the cloud of God's Shekinah

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.

glory—his visible Presence— covered the Tent of Meeting and filled the Tabernacle. Not even Moses could enter the tent because the cloud had settled upon it and the glory of the LORD filled it. God's presence had really come to dwell among His people in a special way—but only, always, according to certain rules, through priests and from behind the curtain.

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Prepare the Tabernacle, the priests and the people so that they can worship Me and fellowship with Me. Make sure they prepare exactly as I tell them to. I am a holy God. My hatred of sin will break out in judgment against their sinfulness if they do not," He warned. Moses listened carefully to the LORD's instructions. There was much to be done! There were special washings in the Bronze Basin for the priests. Then, special clothes to wear. White linen for the priests. An special hat, blue robe and vest (called an ephod) with twelve beautiful jewels in it for Aaron, the high priest--one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. There were special sacrifices for the sins of the priests, too, so that they could enter the Tabernacle without God's hatred of sin judging them. The LORD accepted these sacrifices, given in repentance and faith, and counted the priests as acceptable in His holy sight. Now they were ready to make offerings to Him for the people.

When Moses had done everything the LORD commanded, the LORD began to speak to Aaron. "Now you and your sons are ordained as priests," the LORD told him. "In seven days, gather all the people together again right here at the entrance to the Tabernacle. On that day, you will offer sacrifices to dedicate the people to Me and I will appear to all of them. But, you must do exactly what I tell you to do if the people are to worship Me and have fellowship with Me from behind the curtain."

Seven days came and went. All the people gathered together at the entrance to the Tabernacle. Once more sacrifices needed to be made. Sacrifices for the sins of the priests and for the sins of the people, too. Bulls, rams, goats, grain and olive oil were laid on the Altar as offerings to the LORD, exactly as He told them to.

Then Moses and Aaron went into the Holy Place to meet with the LORD, to ask Him to accept the sacrifices of the people and fulfill His promise to appear to the

people. When they finished praying, they came out and Aaron, the high priest faced the people and blessed them something like this: "May the LORD bless you and keep; May the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; The LORD [accept you] and give you peace."

As soon as Aaron finished speaking, the LORD answered his prayer of blessing for the people, for immediately glory of the LORD appeared in dazzling brilliance to all the people. Before their very eyes, blazing fire came out from the LORD's Presence and consumed the offering on the altar in one big blast! When the people saw it, they shouted for joy. The LORD had accepted their sacrifices, given in repentance and faith. They fell flat, face down on the ground and worshiped Him. He was the holy God; they were sinful lawbreakers. And yet, the LORD had made a way for them to worship Him and be in fellowship with Him. And on this very special day, had even shown a little of His splendid, glorious presence to them that was usually only hidden behind the curtain.

The bulls, rams, oxen and goats sacrificed for the priests and the people that day were the first of thousands and thousands of animals offered to the LORD over the years. But no matter how many animals were offered, it was never enough to pay for the people's sins and it was never enough to take away the curtain that stood between the holy God and His sinful people. No. There was only one sacrifice that could do that: the sacrifice of a perfect life given up in place of sinful people. There was no one on earth who could do this, but there was someone in heaven! God, Himself!

So God the Father sent His Son, Jesus into the world. He was human like all other people, yet He was no sinful lawbreaker. He lived a perfect life. He could be the sacrifice that was needed; and that's just what He chose to do. He offered up His lifeblood on the cross to His Father as the perfect substitute sacrifice for sinful people. God the Father poured out all of His wrath onto Jesus for His people's sins until Jesus had paid for every last one. And because He was fully God as well as fully human, there was no end to the power of His blood. His perfect blood was enough not just to save one of God's people, but ALL of God's people--all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as Savior.

And you know, the most amazing thing happened when Jesus died on the cross that Friday, two thousand years ago. Right when Jesus finished bearing all of His people's sins, He cried out, "It is finished!" and died. And at that very moment, the curtain that separated the Most Holy Place from the Holy Place was ripped in two by unseen hands. Why? Because no longer was the curtain needed to protect God's people from God's wrath against their sins. No longer could they only have fellowship with Him from behind the curtain through priests. He was still the holy God; and they were still sinful lawbreakers. But now Jesus had completely satisfied the holy wrath of God against His people's sin. They could have close fellowship with God because of what He had freely done for them.

The sins of God's people were now completely paid for by Jesus. Death could no longer hold Him in the grave! Jesus rose from the dead and went up to heaven to reign and to send the Holy Spirit to dwell in the hearts of God's people. No longer would there be fellowship from behind the curtain. Now it would be fellowship from inside the heart, and one day even face to face with God forever.

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. What was behind this special curtain? Who got to go behind it to do what? The Ark of the Covenant in the Holy of Holies--the special dwelling place of the LORD's presence with His people. Only the high priest, once a year, to make a special offering for the sins of the people.

2. Who tore this curtain? What did it mean? We don't know exactly, but God was the one who caused it to be torn. It meant that Jesus had given himself as the full payment for the sins of God's people and made the way of salvation.

Something for You and Me

Our Bible Truth is: Jesus Kept God's Laws Perfectly, So by His Grace He Could Save God's People

Our Bible Verse is: 1 Peter 3:18

"For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God."

Yes, as wonderful as the fellowship of God's Holy Spirit in their hearts, God's people look forward most of all to the day when they will see Him face to face. When they die, their spirits go to be with Him in heaven. Then on the wonderful day when Jesus comes back, He will give them all wonderful new bodies that rise up from their graves and join with their spirits. They will live in the new heaven and earth God will make for them. And there, they will not just have fellowship with Him in their hearts by His Holy Spirit. No. On that day, they will live with Him, face-to-face in His glorious presence. Perfectly happy forever and ever.

Let's praise God for sending Jesus as the once-and-for-all final sacrifice for the sins of His people. Let's ask Him to help us to trust Him as the only Substitute for our sins. Let's ask Him to send His Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts that we might have fellowship of His presence even now, and we might listen, do and walk in His holy ways all of our lives. And one day, go to be with Him forever. *Close in prayer.*

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the Maker of the way to true and everlasting fellowship with You through Jesus.

C God, we confess that we, like the Israelites, are sinners who cannot stand before You, the holy God. We need a Savior!

T God, we thank You that now sinners like us can have close fellowship with You, not behind a curtain, but in our hearts, by the Holy Spirit. Thank You for providing salvation through Jesus!

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. Give us close fellowship with You!

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 merciful! You, Yourself, provided the perfect sacrifice for sin.

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that we are lawbreakers who could never please You with our own keeping of Your laws. We need a Savior!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, Jesus for offering up Your life as the perfect sacrifice for all who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in You as their Savior.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, work in our hearts, that we might all turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

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

Snack: Ark of the Covenant

Ark of the Covenant: Purchase white icing (or whipped cream cheese) add powdered sugar to thicken it up some. Break 2 graham crackers into fourths along perforations. You will need 6 quarters per snack. Break one of the fourths into 2 halves. Use icing to cement crackers into the bottom and sides of the rectangular box, the quarters forming the long part of the box, the two halves of a quarter being the ends. Take another quarter and break in half to make two tablets of the Law of the Covenant. Place inside box. (You can also add a pretzel stick as Aaron's staff if you want.) Put a dollop of icing on the bottom of 2 Frito's and attach them to top of last quarter of cracker so that they bend over towards the middle. These are the cherubim. Put red food coloring in some of white icing. Add dollop of red icing between Frito cherubim on middle of "lid." Can also dribble a few drops of red food coloring down from of box. If desired, place a pretzel stick on either side of the box (the carrying poles for the Ark) Also, can put a hat-shaped coffee filter over top to represent the curtain. Easier version: Just make the lid of the Ark. Use store-bought Chex mix. Just buy little pretzel sticks and Chex cereal(s) and make your own nut-less version.) This is only a suggestion. Feel free to modify. Be mindful of allergy issues among your children!

Case Tie-in: Behind the curtain, inside the Holy of Holies, the LORD's presence dwelt in a special way over the Ark of the Covenant. Every year sacrifices were made by the high priest to maintain this fellowship, as the LORD commanded. Every year, until Jesus came and made the final, perfect sacrifice for the sins of God's people. Because of Him, we can have fellowship with God, without the curtain and the sacrifices. Jesus made the way to God for us.

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.

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

Jesus Kept God's Law Perfectly So by His Grace He Could Save God's People

From the time Adam and Eve became lawbreakers, people have offered sacrifices for their sins.

God's laws tell us there is no forgiveness of sin without the shedding of blood. God commanded the Israelites to offer up the blood of animals when they sinned, as a sign of their desire to turn from their sins and trust in Him to save them. God received their offerings, given in repentance and faith, and allowed them to remain in fellowship with Him.

But the blood of animals could never take away the sins of a human. Only the blood of a human who lived God's laws perfectly and offered up his life in the sinner's place could do that. God, in His mercy, did just this. He sent His Son Jesus to take on human flesh and be that perfect sacrifice for sins.

Jesus was fully God and fully human. He was perfect; He was not born with a sinful heart like us. Jesus kept all of God's laws. He loved God and others perfectly. He fulfilled all of God's Law with His life. He offered up His life on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for God's people's sins. He took upon Himself the punishment they deserved that they might be forgiven their sins once and for all. On the third day, God raised Jesus, showing that the power of sin and death had indeed been broken by His perfect sacrifice.

None of us will ever be able to earn salvation with a perfectly lived life, but each of us can have salvation through God's grace—His undeserved gift of salvation to sinners—if we come to Him in repentance and faith in Jesus.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. What did people offer from the time of Adam and Eve? *Sacrifices for sin.*
2. What do God's laws tell us must be shed for there to be forgiveness of sin? *Blood.*
3. Why did God command the Israelites to offer up the blood of animals when they sinned? *As a sign of their desire to turn from their sins and trust Him to save them.*
4. What did God look for in their hearts to go with their sacrifices for sin? *Repentance (turning from their sins) and faith in Him.*
5. What did God do when He accepted the offerings of animal blood? *He allowed them to remain in fellowship with Him.*
6. What couldn't the blood of animals take away? What could? *It could never take away sins. That could only be done by the blood of a human who lived God's laws perfectly and offered up his life in the sinner's place.*
7. Why did God accept Jesus' offering of His blood as payment for the sins of His people? *Jesus was perfect. He always loved God and others. He kept God's laws perfectly.*
8. What did Jesus take upon Himself on the cross? *All the punishment for God's people's sins.*
9. How do we know that Jesus made the perfect sacrifice and broke the power of sin and death? *God raised Him from the dead.*
10. Why can't we earn our own salvation? *We are all sinners. We do not live the perfect life God justly requires of us.*
11. How can we be saved? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus, receiving God's gift of salvation through Him.*

Bible Truth Story Connection Questions

1. Why did the thousands of sacrifices the priests and people made never enough to save them? *The blood of animals could never take away the guilt of sin.*
2. What did the torn curtain mean? *Jesus had made the final, perfect sacrifice. No longer did God's people sins keep them separate from God. They could know God in close fellowship by the Holy Spirit living in their hearts.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our **Bible Verse: 1 Peter 3:18**: "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God."?
For hundreds of years, the people of Israel sacrificed animals to stay in fellowship with the LORD, but they never could actually take away the sins of God's people. Only Jesus could do this, as the Son of God and a perfect human. He died once for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. This is how Jesus brought God's people into true and everlasting fellowship with God.

Life Application Questions

1. Can anyone be too sinful to be saved? Why or why not? *No. Any who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior can be saved—no matter what they have done.*

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for being so merciful that He, Himself, provided the perfect sacrifice for sin.

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

Confess ways that we have broken God's Law this week. Confess that we are lawbreakers who cannot save ourselves. We deserve God's punishment! We need a Savior!

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

Thank Jesus for offering up His life as the perfect sacrifice for His people's sins.

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

Ask God to work in our hearts, that we might all turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

The Gospel

1. We are all sinners who cannot please God with our lives. We deserve God's punishment. 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: Beanbag Scramble

Materials

Beanbags, enough for all the children, minus 1
Drum, guitar or just your hands!
Tape
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

Beanbags are placed in a circle on the floor, with children forming a circle just outside the beanbags. Tell the children that you will beat a beat on the drum, strum a strum on the guitar, or clap your hands and they are to march to the beat. As the beat gets faster, they march faster. As it gets slower, they march slower, etc. Suddenly stop the music and the children scramble for the beanbags. The child who has no beanbag picks a question for the class to answer.

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.

Amazing Grace

Verse 1

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now am found.
Was blind but now I see.

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 7, Tracks 14,15

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!

Understanding the Song

1. What is grace? *Being treated with favor or given a gift that you could never deserve.*
2. What is a wretch? *A person who has done bad things and deserves nothing. A person who is bad trouble and can't get out of it.*
3. What was the wretch saved from? *From the punishment he deserved from God for the bad things he had done; and, from the trouble his sins had gotten him into.*
4. Who saved this wretch and how? *Jesus died on the cross to pay for his sins and the Holy Spirit worked in his heart that he might see his sins, turn from them and believe in Jesus.*
5. How is being a sinner like being "lost" and becoming one of God's people like being found? *All people were made to know and love God, yet they rebelled against Him and cut themselves off from Him. Now, unless God works in their hearts to help them believe in Jesus and receive forgiveness for sins, they will live their lives apart from God and His blessings, like someone lost out on their own away from their home. But, when someone does turn to God and believe in Jesus, they come to know God again and all the blessings that come with knowing Him. That is like being found and brought back to your wonderful home after being lost out on your own.*
6. What kind of "blindness" and "seeing" did the wretch have? *Spiritual blindness—not being able to know that you are a sinner or know God. Spiritual sight—being able to know that you are a sinner and able to know God.*
7. What three things did God in His grace "do" in the wretch's heart (verse 2)? *Made his heart to fear God's wrath against his sin; relieved his fears as he learned about Jesus' offer of forgiveness to those who believe in Him; and, worked in his heart that he would believe in Jesus as his Savior.*
8. How did God in His grace "do" these things in the wretch's heart? *By His Holy Spirit, working in his heart.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our **Bible Truth: Jesus Kept God's Laws Perfectly So That By His Grace, He Could Save God's People**? *We would all be lost in our sins and rebellion forever if it were not for God sending His Son Jesus. Jesus kept God's laws perfectly and offered up Himself as the perfect sacrifice needed for sin. Then He gives to all who repent of their sins and trust in Him the amazingly gracious gift of salvation. He first gives them "sight" to make them aware of their sinfulness and to fear His judgment, then as they turn to Him, He relieves their fears by taking away their guilt the hour they believe.*

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *The LORD was holy and the people were sinful. They could only stay in fellowship with God from behind the curtain. Thousands of animals were offered up to keep them able to worship the LORD, but none could take away the guilt in their heart and the fear of God's judgment upon them. Only in Jesus was their guilty fears relieved. He came as the final sacrifice for their sins. He broke down the curtain that kept them away from close fellowship with the LORD. By His grace, His gift of salvation to undeserving sinners, He saved them. How precious did that grace appear when at last they believed in Him.*

Bible Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **1 Peter 3:18**: *"For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God."*

God, in His kind grace, shows His people that they are "wretches" before Him—they are sinners deserving His punishment. When they see they deserve His punishment it causes them to fear. But God does not leave His people there. Through His Word and others sharing the good news of Jesus with them, they hear how God sent His Son Jesus to take the punishment for the sins of all those who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. They are forgiven! They will not face God's punishment! This relieves their fears from the hour they believe. How amazing is God's grace given to them through Jesus!

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn? *Praise God for being the Giver of Amazing Grace, enough to save His sinful people.*

2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn? *We can confess that many times we are blind to our sins, not even seeing them. We need God's grace! We need a Savior!*

3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn? *We can thank God for showing His people their sins, helping them fear His punishment, and then forgiving their sins through Jesus. We can thank God for the gift of faith, given to His people, by His grace.*

4. What is something we can ask God for from this hymn? *That God would work in our hearts that we might see our sins, turn from them and trust Jesus as our Savior*

Life Application Questions

1. How can our lives be affected by the message of this song? *We thank God for His amazing grace shown to sinners and ask Him to send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts that we might see our sins, turn from them and believe in Jesus as our own Savior, like the person in this song.*

Gospel Question

1. What is God's amazing grace that brings salvation? 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: 1 Peter 3:18

“For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.”

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. What does Christ mean? *Christ is the Greek word that means the same thing as Messiah in Hebrew. It means “Sent One” and is the name for the special anointed one who God would send to save His people.*
2. Who is the Christ? What did He die for? *Jesus. For sins.*
3. What does it mean that He died for sins “once for all?” *That no one had to die again for sins. His sacrifice was enough.*
4. What does righteous mean? *To love God and live according to His laws.*
5. Who is the righteous one who died for the unrighteous? *Christ.*
6. Who is unrighteous? *All of us. We do not love God or live according to His laws as we should.*
7. Why did Christ die for the unrighteous? *To bring us to God.*
8. What does it “bring you to God” mean? *In this life, to take away the barrier of your guilt and sin so that you can know and love God and have the Holy Spirit in your heart. After we die, it means that we are really brought to live with God in His glorious presence forever and ever.*
9. Why did we need Christ to bring us to God? *We are all lawbreakers. Our sins keep us from being able to come to God. Christ was without sin. He was righteous. Only He could offer up His life as the perfect substitute and sacrifice in our place. He is the only way we can come to God.*
10. Who is “you” in this verse? *This verse comes from a letter Peter wrote to Christians in Asia, but it applies to all believers. All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.*
11. Did anyone “make” Jesus die? *God the Father and God the Son (Christ) chose for Him to do this from before the creation of the world.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: Jesus Kept God’s Laws Perfectly So That By His Grace, He Could Save God’s People?** *Jesus chose to suffer and die on the cross as the perfect substitute for all who turn from their sins and trust in Him as Savior. He alone is righteous. He alone kept God’s laws perfectly, so he alone could bring us to God. He knew none of us could never pay for our own sins. We would never be able to come to God on our own. So He chose to give up His life to give them salvation by His grace--His free gift given to undeserving sinners, like you and me. Yes, He would bring us to God.*

Story Connection Questions

1. How does this verse relate to our story? *For hundreds of years animals were sacrificed according to God’s law to keep the people in fellowship with the LORD, but these sacrifices never took away guilt. Only the blood of a perfectly righteous human given as a substitute could do that. God sent His Son Jesus to be that perfect sacrifice. He died once for all. No more sacrifices were needed again. He brought His people into eternal fellowship with God.*

Life Application Questions

1. Is there anyone too unrighteous for Christ to be unable to save? Why? *No. Christ’s death was enough for anyone who turns from their sins and trusts in Him, no matter how much evil they have done. We have sinful hearts that want to turn away from God and live our own way.*
2. Is there anyone so righteous that they do not need to be saved? Why? *No. Even someone who does many good things is a sinner. They can never be perfect, so they will never be able to save themselves.*
3. How do you think of yourself as righteous or unrighteous? How does God think of you? *If you are not a Christian, God thinks of you as still unrighteous in your own sins. If you are a Christian, He thinks of you as righteous through Christ. He does not hold your sins against you any more.*
4. What can we receive God’s forgiveness for our unrighteous acts? *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 the Sender of Jesus to bring the unrighteous to God.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Bible Verse? *Ways that we have been unrighteous this week.. 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 not just giving His unrighteous people the punishment they deserve, but providing the righteousness of Jesus to pay for their sins.*
3. *We can thank God not just giving His unrighteous people the punishment they deserve, but providing the righteousness of Jesus to pay for their sins.*
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 unrighteousness—from disobeying Him and trust in this wonderful Jesus as our own Savior, that we might be brought (know) to God to live forever with Him.

The Gospel

1. What did Jesus do so that sinners can be forgiven their sins instead of facing God's eternal punishment? 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: Who's Got the Penny?

Materials

Verse written up in large print so that all can see
a Penny or other small object

Preparing the Game

None.

Learning the Verse

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

Directions

1. If desired, lead the children in a discussion of a **FEW** of the most important questions before beginning game.
2. Explain the game to them as follows:
Have the children spread out in a circle. Explain to them that you are the Penny Detective and you have come to find the missing penny. Have everyone say the verse together. Blindfold yourself, count to 10, while the children quietly and quickly pass the penny around the circle. At the count of 10, tell the child who has the penny to hold onto. Take off the blindfold and tell them that you have 2/3 guesses to guess who has the penny. If you guess correctly, then the child who has the penny says the verse, and you will stay the Penny Detective. If you did not guess correctly, then you have to say the verse and the person with the penny identifies himself and becomes the new Penny Detective. Everyone says the verse together, then repeat. (All players can have one other person help them say the verse, if desired.)

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

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

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

Directions:

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

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

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

For Christ Died for Sins

For Christ died for sins, once for all,
 The righteous for the unrighteous,
 To bring you to God,
 Bring you to God,
 For Christ died to bring you to God.
 First Peter Three, eighteen..

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 7, Track 16

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.

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 coverings for the Tabernacle? *Cherubim-covered linen cloth, goat's skin, dyed ram's skins, and sea cow skins.*
2. What did Moses do New Year's Day that was so special? *Set up Tabernacle for first time.*
3. What was in the Most Holy Place? *Only the Ark of the Covenant containing the covenant the LORD made with the Israelites.*
4. What was in the Holy Place? *Bread of Presence on table; Altar of Incense; golden Lampstand.*
5. What was outside of the Tabernacle? *The Altar of Burnt Offering and the Bronze Sea.*
6. What did the high priest have to bring with him to enter the Most Holy Place? *Special offering for sins.*
7. Why was there a curtain between the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place? *Holy Place was where the LORD's presence dwelt. He was holy; the priests and the people were sinful. His wrath would break out against their sinfulness if they fellowshipped together. The LORD had the curtains set up so this would not happen.*
8. What happened when the Tabernacle was complete? *The LORD's Shekinah glory filled the Tabernacle so that not even Moses could enter it.*
9. What did the LORD tell Moses to do before the priests could enter it? *Make special sacrifices for the Tabernacle and the sins of the priests. Make special white linen clothes for the priests to wear.*
10. Who was the high priest? What was special about his clothes? *Aaron, Moses' brother. He wore a special ephod, a special robe, a special breastplate with 12 jewels standing for the 12 tribes of Israel; and a special hat with the words "Holy to the LORD" written on it.*
11. What offerings were made for the people of Israel? *Sacrifices of animals and grain for their sins and as signs of the fellowship/peace they desired to have with the LORD.*
12. Why did Moses and Aaron go into the Tabernacle after making the offerings for the people? *To ask the LORD to accept their sacrifices.*
13. How did the LORD show He heard Moses' and Aaron's prayers for the people and accepted the sacrifices? *His glory came down from heaven and consumed the sacrifices on the altar.*
14. What could the blood of animals never do? *Take away guilt or bring people in close fellowship with the LORD.*
15. What only could finally take away sins? *The blood of a human who perfectly kept all God's law who was willing to die in their place.*
16. Who did God send to be the perfect sacrifice? *His Son Jesus.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our Bible Truth? *Sacrifices of animals had to be made over and over, but never could they take away people's sins. People are lawbreakers. They could never keep God's law perfectly as He requires. God sent Jesus to live the perfect life His people couldn't live and offer the perfect sacrifice that animals could never be. He took their sins upon Himself so that He could give them salvation through Him as a gift.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: 1 Peter 3:18**: "For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God."?
For hundreds of years, the people of Israel sacrificed animals to stay in fellowship with the LORD, but they never could actually take away the sins of God's people. Only Jesus could do this, as the Son of God and a perfect human. He died once for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. This is how Jesus brought God's people into true and everlasting fellowship with God.

Life Application Questions

1. How are we like the Israelites? *We cannot approach God on our own because we are lawbreakers.*
2. What does Jesus' sacrifice on the cross show us about God? *He is holy and completely serious about punishing sin. Nothing less than perfect will do. Also, the depths of His love for His people that He would suffer so His people could be forgiven.*
3. How can we become one of His forgiven people? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story?

Praise God for being the Maker of the Way to True and Everlasting Fellowship with Him, through Jesus.

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

Confess that like the people of Israel we are sinners who cannot stand before a holy God. We need a Savior!

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

We can thank God that now His people can have close fellowship with Him, not behind a curtain, but in their hearts by the Holy Spirit. Thank God for salvation through Jesus!

4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our story?

We can ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to give us close fellowship with Him.

The Gospel

1. We are all born sinners. We are unrighteous. We cannot pay for our own 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 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: Frisbee Toss 'n' Quiz

Materials

Frisbee
Paper and Marker
Masking Tape
Story Review Questions

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Tape sections on the floor and designate each with a point value that you write on a piece of paper and tape to each section. Make the higher point sections smaller and more difficult to hit; the lower point sections easier. You may even decide to make a target shape.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into teams. Teams will take turn having one of their members toss the Frisbee into the sectioned areas. A correct answer to a question wins the designated points for the team. If the person is unable to answer the question correctly, the other team can try to answer it for a point.

Game continues until all children get to toss the Frisbee, or as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

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

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

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

CASE REPLAY ACTIVITIES

Use this guide to review the Case Story and act it out for others to enjoy!

CASE REPLAY, JR: YOUNGEST CHILDREN

Description: The children will act out the story together, everyone doing the same action/sound effect at the same time. This activity is most suitable for kindergarteners.

Materials

The Case RePlay, Jr. script for younger children

Preparation

1. Read through the script and write in the blanks along the side possible actions/sound effects the children could do to act it out.

Instructions

1. Tell the children that they will be re-enacting the story together as you tell it.
2. As you read the script, lead the children in actions/sound effects to do with you.
3. If desired, you can read the script and stop at certain sentences and ask them what a good action/sound effect would be to act out what you just read.
4. Repeat the re-enactment one or two times more.

CASE REPLAY, SR: OLDER CHILDREN

Description: The children act out the story as a three-scene play. You will narrate it using the Case RePlay, Sr. script and they will act it out (no spoken words, for the most part), with each child assuming a different character's role. This activity is most suitable for first grade and up. You will review the story, then practice it a few times before performing it for others.

Materials

The Case RePlay, Sr. script
White board or other large format paper
Costumes and props

Preparation

1. Prepare for the play by choosing costumes and props for each character in the story. Decorate the area with any scenery props.
2. Write the words "Beginning," "Middle," "End" on a large piece of paper/whiteboard with plenty of space under each heading. You will use this paper to help the children think about the story as a three-scene play, as it is presented in the script.

Instructions

1. Tell the children that they will get to act out the story as a three-scene play, with a beginning, middle and end section. Tell them that before they can act it out, they need to think it out. as you narrate it with your script.
2. Take the children's answers as they recount the story, helping them put key incidents in the right order.
3. If desired, when they have filled in their Beginning, Middle, End, read through your whole (real) script, so they hear exactly what you will have them act out.
4. Then tell the children that it's time to practice acting out the story.
5. Assign parts to each child. If you are using costumes, do NOT give them out at this point. They will be a distraction.
6. Have all the children sit on the floor or in chairs on one side of the "stage," then call the characters up in place as their part in the story comes.
7. As you read the script, guide the children in where you want them to move or do to act it out.
8. After going through the whole script once, give out any costumes and props and act out the script once or twice more.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Re-enacting the Story

Read the script as the children act out together (younger) or assuming different roles (older) as the other children or the parents watch.

CASE REPLAY, JR--YOUNGER KIDS (KINDERGARTEN) P.2

“Welcome to our play! The name of our story is called: The Case of the Torn Curtain.

This is an Old Testament story, that starts out about 1400 years before Jesus lived on earth.

And now we present: “The Case of the Torn Curtain.”

Actions:

Scene 1:

On New Year’s Day, Moses gathered all the Israelites to watch as he assembled the Tabernacle. After covering the frame with the cherubim-covered linen cloth, goat’s skin, dyed ram’s skins, and sea cow skins, Moses put the Ark of the Covenant in the very back and separated it off with a curtain. This special part of the Tabernacle was called the Most Holy Place. It was the place where God’s Presence would especially dwell near His people. Only the high priest would be allowed to go in there once a year, and only with a special blood offering. Next, Moses filled the Holy Place with the Table of the Bread of Presence, the Lampstand, and the Altar of Incense. He put up another curtain to close it off from the people. Only the priests would be able to go in there, and only when they purify themselves as God told them to in His law. Then, Moses set the Altar of Burnt Offering and the “Sea” for washing out in the courtyard and put up another curtain. The people could only go in there when they had prepared themselves as God told them to in His laws. When Moses did all these things, the Tabernacle was ready. The people watched as the LORD’s glory came down from heaven and fills the Tabernacle. It was so filled with His glory that Moses could not even go in!

Scene 2:

Next, Moses prepared the people and the priests so they could have fellowship with the LORD through using the Tabernacle. It took seven days to prepare everything. When everyone was prepared, Moses offered bull and ram for the priests. Then the priests offered up sacrifices of animals and grain for the people. Aaron and Moses met with the LORD in the Holy Place. Aaron blessed the people when they came out of the Tabernacle. The LORD’s glory came down and burned up the sacrifices. All the people fell down and worshiped the LORD.

Scene 3

Rarely did the people of Israel ever see the LORD’s glory again. He was the holy God. They were His people, but they were sinful. So He dwelled with them, but only behind the curtain in the Most Holy Place. And always, only, it was just the high priests who could go there, and only once a year. 100’s and 1000’s of years of sacrifices didn’t change that. The sacrifices also never took away the people’s sin and guilt. Only the blood of a human who lived perfectly according to God’s Law given as a Substitute could do that. There was no one on earth like that. That’s why God sent Jesus: to live a perfect life and offer it up as the perfect, complete payment for God’s people’s sins on the cross. When He finished taking the punishment for their sins, the curtain across the Most Holy Place tore in two. At last God’s people could have close fellowship with the LORD. on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory and went to heaven. Sent the Holy Spirit into His people’s hearts made clean of sin by His sacrifice. Now enjoy God’s Presence in their hearts. Heaven will be even better: live face-to-face with the LORD forever.

Bible Truth Tie-In: The Bible Truth we are learning is: **Jesus Kept God’s Law Perfectly So by His Grace He Could Save God’s People** . The sins of God’s people always kept them separate from their holy God. The blood of animals kept them in fellowship with Him, but they would never take away people’s sins. Jesus offered up His perfect life as the final sacrifice for God’s people’s sins so they could be saved.

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 Torn Curtain.

This is an Old Testament story, starts out about 1400 years before Jesus lived on earth.

The characters in our story are: Moses, Aaron, Abihu, Nadab, the Israelites and Jesus.

And now we present: "The Case of the Torn Curtain."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

On New Year's Day, Moses gathered all the Israelites to watch as he assembled the Tabernacle. After covering the frame with the cherubim-covered linen cloth, goat's skin, dyed ram's skins, and sea cow skins, Moses put the Ark of the Covenant in the very back and separated it off with a curtain. This special part of the Tabernacle was called the Most Holy Place. It was the place where God's Presence would especially dwell near His people. Only the high priest would be allowed to go in there once a year, and only with a special blood offering. Next, Moses filled the Holy Place with the Table of the Bread of Presence, the Lampstand, and the Altar of Incense. He put up another curtain to close it off from the people. Only the priests would be able to go in there, and only when they purify themselves as God told them to in His law. Then, Moses set the Altar of Burnt Offering and the "Sea" for washing out in the courtyard and put up another curtain. The people could only go in there when they had prepared themselves as God told them to in His laws. When Moses did all these things, the Tabernacle was ready. The people watched as the LORD's glory came down from heaven and fills the Tabernacle. It was so filled with His glory that Moses could not even go in!

Scene 2: (Middle)

Next, Moses prepared the people and the priests so they could have fellowship with the LORD through using the Tabernacle. It took seven days to prepare everything. When everyone was prepared, Moses offered bull and ram for the priests. Then the priests offered up sacrifices of animals and grain for the people. Aaron and Moses met with the LORD in the Holy Place. Aaron blessed the people when they came out of the Tabernacle. The LORD's glory came down and burned up the sacrifices. All the people fell down and worshiped the LORD.

Scene 3: (End)

Rarely did the people of Israel ever see the LORD's glory again. He was the holy God. They were His people, but they were sinful. So He dwelled with them, but only behind the curtain in the Most Holy Place. And always, only, it was just the high priests who could go there, and only once a year. 100's and 1000's of years of sacrifices didn't change that. The sacrifices also never took away the people's sin and guilt. Only the blood of a human who lived perfectly according to God's Law given as a Substitute could do that. There was no one on earth like that. That's why God sent Jesus: to live a perfect life and offer it up as the perfect, complete payment for God's people's sins on the cross. When He finished taking the punishment for their sins, the curtain across the Most Holy Place tore in two. At last God's people could have close fellowship with the LORD. on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory and went to heaven. Sent the Holy Spirit into His people's hearts made clean of sin by His sacrifice. Now enjoy God's Presence in their hearts. Heaven will be even better: live face-to-face with the LORD forever.

Bible Truth Tie-In: The Bible Truth we are learning is: **Jesus Kept God's Law Perfectly So by His Grace He Could Save God's People** . The sins of God's people always kept them separate from their holy God. The blood of animals kept them in fellowship with Him, but they would never take away people's sins. Jesus offered up His perfect life as the final sacrifice for God's people's sins so they could be saved.

Linen Curtain Embroidered with Cherubim

Description

Children will decorate a piece of fabric with cherubim and attach it to a dowel to make a curtain.

Materials

12" square of white, loose-weave fabric (can be easily frayed), one per child
 Red, Blue and Purple markers
 OR Red, Blue and Purple embroidery floss/yarn and blunt embroidery needles
 1 12" kebab stick per child
 Scissors
 2 thin, medium rubber bands per child

Preparing the Craft

1. Cut fabric into 12" squares
2. Lightly trace Pattern #1 onto each fabric square with a pencil. This can be done by placing Pattern #1 behind the fabric, placing the two up to a window with direct light and tracing the picture.
3. Decide to use markers or embroidery floss. You will want to definitely choose markers for the younger children as they will probably find the sewing too difficult.
4. If sewing, cut double strands of embroidery floss/yarn and thread needles, knotting the ends together.

Making the Craft

1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
2. Have the children use markers or needles and floss/yarn to go over outline and fill in (if you have time) the cherubim. They can decorate around the edges and the cherubim, too. Optional: If desired, the children can fray around the sides and bottom of the curtain.
3. Weave the sharp end of the kebab stick in and out along top of curtain.
4. Teacher only: Cut off sharp end of kebab stick.
5. Have children wind a rubber band tightly around each end of the "curtain rod" to hold curtain in place.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Craft Presentation

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

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

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

Discussion Questions

1. Where did the LORD's presence especially dwell with His people, long ago before Jesus? *In the Tabernacle in the Most Holy Place.*

2. What separated the Most Holy Place from the rest of the Tabernacle?

Linen curtains, beautifully embroidered with cherubim.

3. Why did the LORD's presence have to be shielded from the people?

Because He was perfectly holy and they were sinners. They could only fellowship with Him from behind the curtain.

4. What is the Bible Truth that we are learning?

Jesus Kept God's Law Perfectly So by His Grace He Could Save God's People.

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: Jesus Kept God's Law Perfectly So by His Grace He Could Save God's People?

For hundreds of years, the people could only worship the LORD from behind the curtain. Their sinfulness kept them separated from His holiness. But on the cross Jesus offered His perfect life up as a substitute for His people. God accepted His offering and tore the curtain to the Most Holy Place in two. Jesus had made the way for God's people to have close fellowship with God.

6. What can this craft help us remember?

Jesus gave His life to make the way for sinful people like you and me to enjoy close fellowship with God forever and ever.

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: Linen Curtain Embroidered with Cherubim.

2. In the Tabernacle, the LORD's presence had to be shielded from the people in the Most Holy Place. Huge linen curtains, beautifully embroidered with cherubim, separated them from His presence because He was perfectly holy and they were sinners. They could only fellowship with Him from behind the curtain.

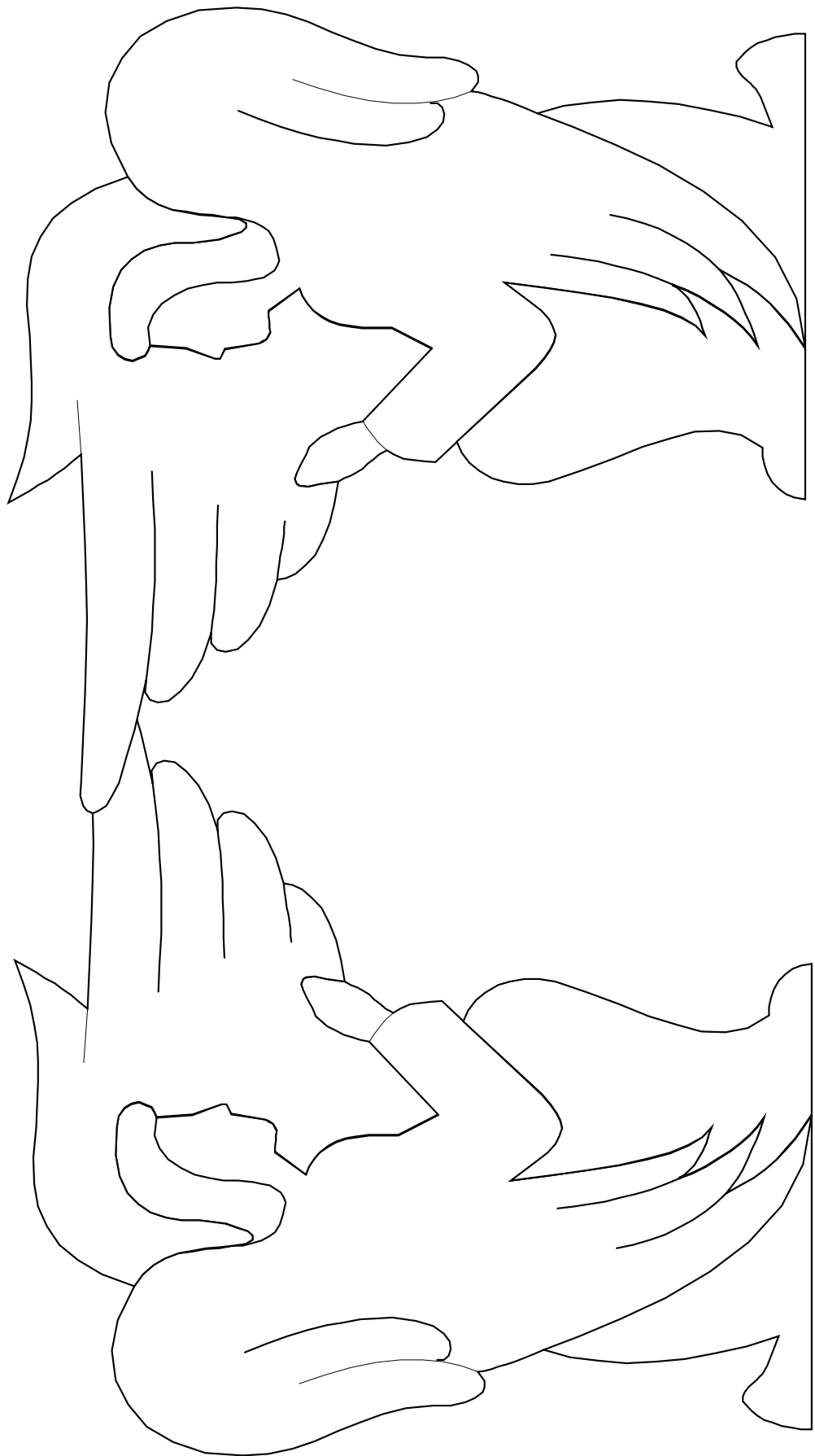
3. Bible Truth 4 is: Jesus Kept God's Law Perfectly So by His Grace He Could Save God's People.

4. For hundreds of years, the people could only worship the LORD from behind the curtain. Their sinfulness kept them separated from His holiness. But on the cross Jesus offered His perfect life up as a substitute for God's people. God accepted His offering and tore the curtain to the Most Holy Place in two. Jesus had made the way for God's people to have close fellowship with God.

5. Our craft can help us remember that Jesus gave His life to make the way for sinful people like you and me to enjoy close fellowship with God forever and ever.

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.

Craft Pattern #1
Cherubim



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

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

2. GATHER YOUR FACTS

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

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

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

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

2. PRAY!

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

3. CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY

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

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

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

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

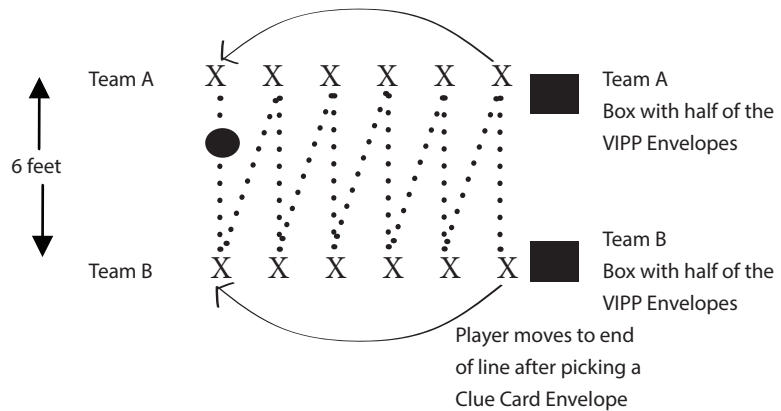
Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Introduce and Pray for the VIPP

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

Game: Ball Roll Review

Materials

Information Sheet for one VIPP
 2 Set of Clue Cards
 Ball
 8 8.5" x 11" Manilla Envelopes
 Tape
 Pen and Markers
 2 Boxes



Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for the VIPP you are using.
2. Tape the other (blank) set of Clue Cards to the outside of the manilla envelopes.
3. Put the filled-in clue cards in the corresponding envelope.
4. Put half the Clue Card Envelopes in one box and the other half in the other box. These are the Team A and Team B Boxes.

Playing the Game

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

Review: Have the children break into two even groups and sit down on the floor facing each other, with about a 6' spread between the 2 lines (see diagram above). For Round 1, Give the ball to the first child in Team A and have them roll it across to the child on Team B directly across from them. Then, that Team B child rolls it back across to the next child on Team A, etc. all the way down the line to the last child on Team B. The last child to get the ball will then pick a Clue Card envelope out of their team's box. They (or the teacher) will tell the group and the Clue Card category by looking at the picture of the Clue Card on the outside of the envelope. Have the children try to remember the VIPP's answer to the category. If the class gets it right, the category is "retired". If they get it wrong, then it gets put back in the pile of category envelopes. The child who picked the Clue Card, then takes their place at the other end of the line. They begin Round 2 by rolling the ball to the first person on Team A, etc. This time, the ball will end up with the last child in the Team A line. ending with the last child in the other line, who gets up and chooses a clue from their Clue Card box. Continue until all the clues have been chosen/answered correctly.

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**
