

BIBLE TRUTH 1, 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 8, Track 1*

Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another: WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song
PFI NIV Songs 8, Track 2

Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 8 Songs *PFI NIV Songs 8, Tracks 3,4*

Big Question Bible Verse: 1 Chronicles 16:34 Song *PFI NIV Songs 8, Track 5*

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

Bible Truth 1: God Blesses All People with Many Good Gifts

Bible Truth Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, v.3 *PFI NIV Songs 8, Track 6*

Bible Verse: Psalm 145: 9-10,13,15-17

Bible Verse Song: The LORD Is Good to All *PFI NIV Songs 8, Track 7*

Lesson 1 Old Testament: The Case of the Gift-seeking General
2 Kings 5

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

Snack and Discussion Planner: Naaman's Leprous Skin

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

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

Bible Truth Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, v.3 *PFI NIV Songs 8, Track 6*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign **PFI NIV Songs 8 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: Psalm 145: 9-10,13,15-17 Discussion Sheet and Game: Jump for Joy

Bible Verse Song: The LORD Is Good to All: Psalm 145: 9,13,15-16 *PFI NIV Songs 8, Track 7*
Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Word Take Away **PFI NIV Songs 8 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Spin the Light

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: Chariot Full of Riches

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (Back of Book) and Game: Hit the Wall

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

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 1, Lesson 1 **PFI NIV Prontos 8 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Gift-seeking General 2 Kings 5 by Connie Dever**Our story is called:****The Case of the Gift-seeking General.****As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

1. Who was the general? What gift was he seeking? Why would it be odd if he received this gift?
2. What gift did he find that he wasn't looking for?

Our story today takes place in Old Testament times, in Aram, about 800 years before Jesus lived on earth.

The kingdom of Aram that lay just north and east of Israel. It was a land of shifting sands and dry wilderness, except for one high, flat plain surrounded in snow-capped mountains. Melted snow flowed down out of the mountains through the rivers Abana and Pharpar, and watered the plain. Here the people of Aram grew delicious almonds, dates, pomegranates, and wheat. And here they built their great capital city, Damascus.

The King of Aram, Ben Hadad II, lived in Damascus, too, and what a good life he enjoyed. He had the best food from the plain; tons of gold and silver; lots of servants; rich clothes and many fine things. His father, King Ben Hadad I, gave him some of these, but many of them he had taken from other countries--especially Israel! Now the two countries were fierce enemies.

General Naaman led King Ben Hadad's great army. He was clever, brave and a very, very good shot. Some say it was Naaman who killed King Ahab of Israel by shooting an arrow in the tiny space between the breastplate and his chain mail. Now that's a good shot!

King Ben Hadad II treated his great general very well. He gave him a beautiful chariot pulled by horses. He gave him many riches and slaves from the enemies he defeated. King Ben Hadad II, even let Naaman be his personal escort to offer worship gifts of thanks at the very Temple of Rimmon, the greatest of Aram's gods.

Like all the people of Aram, General Naaman believed that Rimmon was the god of Thunder. He believed Rimmon gave them water to grow good crops on the plain and gave them the power to beat their enemies. No wonder Naaman thought it an honor to present worship gifts with the king at Rimmon's Temple! Surely Rimmon have given him all the victories in battle and all the good things he enjoyed! How proud Naaman was of his riches, the favor of the king and the blessing

of Rimmon! He seemed to have everything.

Yet for all of Naaman's good things, there was one more he wanted very much that neither he, nor the king, nor even Rimmon could give: healing. You see, General Naaman had a disease called leprosy. He had flaky and patchy spots all over his skin. They swelled up and oozed out fluid. It looked awful, but it felt even worse. General Naaman was miserable.

Then one day, help came from a most unusual place—a little Israelite girl. Naaman had captured on a raid on Israel and made her his wife's servant. Can you imagine being taken from your home by soldiers and forced to work as a slave? It would be easy to hate Naaman, but that's not what this little girl did. There was one very good thing that had not been taken away from that little girl when she was captured. Something better than all the other good things that she had enjoyed at home: she knew the LORD, the one, true God. She knew He was still with her, right there, far from home, in Aram. She trusted His good plan for her life; and so this little girl chose to help her master and mistress however she could.

The little girl noticed how General Naaman suffered from his leprosy. One day as told Naaman's wife: "If only my master General Naaman would see the prophet [Elisha] who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy!"

Naaman's wife told the exciting news to her husband. Could Elisha really heal him? Would Elisha heal him? After all, wasn't he the great general who had been attacking Israel and taking away its riches and people? Perhaps a rich present, perhaps a letter from the king would be needed to persuade Elisha to help him. 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.

king was happy to help. What was good for his general was good for him and his armies. “Go,” the king told General Naaman. “Take this letter to the king of Israel, ordering him to make his prophet heal you. Take a rich present for the prophet, too.”

A rich treasure indeed was prepared. There were 750 pounds of silver, 150 pounds of gold, and enough exquisite, silky, colorful cloth to make 10 of the finest sets of clothes—it would take about 750 million dollars in today’s money to equal that rich treasure. It was a huge payment, but Naaman was worth it. He was a great man. He was a proud man. Favored by the king. Blessed by the god Rimmon. He enjoyed many good things. These riches given to pay for his healing was yet another one.

Across a hundred miles of wilderness Naaman and his servants rode, down to the palace of the King of Israel in Samaria. “Take this letter to your king,” Naaman told a servant.

The king was upset when he read the letter. He couldn’t heal Naaman or make Elisha heal him either. Only the LORD had the power to heal. He was the one, true God. who blessed all people with good things. He alone has the power to heal. “Would war break out because I can’t heal the general? What should I do?” the king wondered. The king was worried, but not Elisha. “Send the man to me,” he told the king. So away went Naaman, with his chariots full of treasure, to Elisha’s house.

Naaman waited for Elisha to come out quickly, bow before him and perform his healing magic, just like the prophets of Rimmon did. Surely the great treasure would make him eager to serve. But Naaman was wrong. Elisha refused to even appear before Naaman. He was making a point: The LORD was not like Rimmon. He was the one, true God. And Elisha wasn’t some fake magic-maker like Rimmon’s prophets who made up stuff to please their king. The LORD was the one who gave him power to heal. So Elisha sent a lowly servant to great general Naaman with a message: “Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan [River], and you will be healed.”

Naaman was furious! How dare Elisha treat him like a nobody! “I thought Elisha would call on the name of

the LORD, wave his hand over my leprosy and cure me,” he said. “If just wants me to wash in a river, I could have stayed home and washed in the Abana or the Pharparas,” he said. “I’m just going to go home!”

Naaman’s servants tried to calm their master. if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, ‘Wash and be cleansed!’ they said to him.

Naaman agreed. “So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan River seven times, as Elijah instructed and was completely healed! Now Naaman could see he had been wrong. He was not such a great man and Rimmon was not such a great god. Now he knew that the LORD was the one, true God. It was He who had been giving him all the good things he had enjoyed. And now this great, one true God, had given him two of the best gifts of all: healing of his leprosy and faith in Him! How loving the LORD had been to him, even him—a great enemy of His people!

“Naaman along with his servants went back to Elisha’s house. He stood before Elisha and said, “Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. Please accept now a gift from your servant.” But Elisha refused to take any of it, no matter how Naaman urged him. Elisha wanted to make sure that Naaman knew it was the LORD who was the giver of his healing, not him. He should not be paid for something he did not do.

“If you will not,” said Naaman, “please let me, your servant, be given as much earth as a pair of mules can carry [I will take it home to build upon it an altar to worship the LORD] for your servant will never again make burnt offerings and sacrifices to any other god but the LORD. But may the LORD forgive your servant for this one thing: When my master [King Ben Hadad] enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down and he is leaning on my arm and I bow there also—when I bow down in the temple of Rimmon, may the LORD forgive your servant for this.”

“Go in the peace of the LORD,” Elisha reassured the general. And that is just what he did. And now in Damascus there would be two who worshiped the LORD together: a humble little servant girl...and a once proud general.

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who was the general? What gift was he seeking?

Why would it be odd if he received this gift? General Naaman. Healing for his leprosy. He was the enemy of Israel. He had fought against and killed the people of Israel, God's people. Why would the LORD help him?

2. What gift did he find that he wasn't looking for?

He found faith in the LORD and salvation in Him.

Something for You and Me

Our Bible Truth is:

God Blesses All People with Many Good Gifts

Our Bible Verse is: Psalm 145: 9-10,13,15-17

"The LORD is good to all; He has compassion on all He has made. All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you... The Lord is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works... The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made."

Isn't it amazing that the LORD would choose to heal this great, proud man who killed so many Israelites? Isn't it amazing that He would give General Naaman not just healing, but forgiveness of sins and faith in Him? Who is like the LORD! He is so loving that He gives even the best of gifts, even to His enemies? That is great news for us, too. For we all have proud hearts. We all like to make ourselves great. We act like His enemies, too. Too often we want to do things our own way, not His way. Too often we forget that every one of the good things we enjoy are gifts from the LORD. Yet, in His mercy and kindness to us, He keeps giving us so many good things. And to all who confess their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, He forgives their sins and makes them His children to know Him and enjoy Him forever. Let's praise God for being the Giver of All Good Gifts to All People. Let's ask Him to help us to thank Him for all His good gifts to us. Let's ask Him to help us to turn from our sins and give us faith to believe in His Son Jesus as our Savior.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being so compassionate to all, even though we are rebels against You and Your good ways.

C God, we confess that like Naaman, we enjoy many good things, but many times fail to praise and thank You as the good giver of them.

T God, we thank You for seeking out sinners, like Naaman and like us. You have brought the good news of salvation to us, even when we weren't looking for it.

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. Make us thankful for all the good gifts You gives us each and every day of our lives.

Special Words

Aram: The name of a country that lay just north and east of Israel.

Leprosy: A skin disease that was very painful and had no cure.

General: The leader of an army.

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 the Giver of everything good to us all, even people who do not love You or obey You.

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

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that we forget all the good things You give us each day. Many times we do not use them to glorify You. We need a Savior!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for blessing us with so many good gifts: food, family, life, and the offer of salvation through Your Son, Jesus.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, work in our hearts. Remind us each day of the good things You give us. Help us to be grateful for them and glorify You in the way we use them. Give us the best gift of all: the gift of being one of Your dearly loved people, when we turn 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: Naaman's Leprous Skin

Granola bar "leper's" skin. If you get ones with red fruit or chocolate chips in it the "spots" are more obvious.

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

Case Tie-in: Naaman suffered from leprosy. He went to Israel seeking for the LORD to cure him. The LORD not only gave Naaman the good gift of healing, but He gave him the far better gift of salvation.

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.

God Blesses All People with Many Good Gifts

God has given many good gifts to all people--whether they love and obey Him or not. He made this beautiful world for all to enjoy. He has given each of us a heart to know and love Him and others. He has given each of us a body to do many different, wonderful things. He provides the sun and rain, the hot and cold, to grow the food we need. He keeps all living things alive each day. These are just some of the many good gifts God has blessed us with.

Why did God give us these good gifts? To enjoy them, to understand what He is like, and to glorify Him for giving them to us. Everyone should glorify God for His many good gifts given to them, but especially God's people. They enjoy the same good gifts as everyone else and far, far more. God is their Heavenly Father and they are His dearly loved children. Jesus died to save them from their sins. The Holy Spirit lives inside them and helps them to love, obey and enjoy God. And one day, they will get to live with Him forever. These are the very best gifts of all. They are gifts that can be ours even today, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. Who does God bless with many good gifts? *All people.*
2. Does God bless people who do not love or obey Him with good gifts? *Yes.*
3. What kinds of good gifts does He give all people? *He gives them life, food, families, friends. He gives them many good things to enjoy. He gives them talents. He gives them bodies to use; minds to think with. He gives them the world full of amazing creatures to enjoy. He gives them a heart to know and love Him and others. He keeps the whole universe going. He gives rain, sun, hot and cold, so they can grow food.*
4. Why does God give us these good gifts? *To enjoy them and to glorify Him.*
5. What should everyone give to God for all His good gifts? *Glorify Him (praise and thank Him).*
6. Who should praise and thank God most of all? Why? *God's people. Because they enjoy the same good gifts as everyone else and far more. God is their heavenly Father; Jesus died to save them from their sins. The Holy Spirit lives in their heart to help them enjoy, love and obey God; one day, they will get to live with Him forever. These are the best gifts of all.*
7. How can we receive the best gifts of knowing God and living with Him forever? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Bible Truth Story Connection Questions

1. What kinds of good gifts did the LORD give Naaman before he went to Israel to be healed? *Lots of riches; great skills as a general and soldier; good wife; lots of servants; favor of King Ben Hadad.*
2. What was the best good gift the LORD gave Naaman? *Faith in the LORD and salvation.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our **Bible Verse: Psalm 145:9-10, 13,15-17**: "The LORD is good to all; He has compassion on all He has made. All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you... The Lord is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works... The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made."?

The LORD is good to all: His people and even those who are not His people. He gives them the good things they need and enjoy. He gives them the food they need and is the one who satisfies all our desires.'

Life Application Questions

1. What good gifts has God given us? *(answers vary.)*
2. What does the LORD want us to give Him? *Praise and thanks for His good gifts.*
3. How does He want us to use the good gifts He's given us? *For our enjoyment; and to bring glory to His name.*
4. What is the greatest gift that God offers to us? What must we do to receive it? *Eternal life: knowing and enjoying Him forever. We must confess our sins to God; turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible Truth? *Praise God for being the Giver of everything good to us all, even people who do not love Him or obey Him.*
2. What is something we can confess to God from this Bible Truth? *Confess that we forget all the good things God gives us each day. Many times we enjoy His good gifts, but do not praise Him for them or thank Him for them. We deserve His punishment. We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible Truth? *Thank God for specific good things that He gives us. Thank Him for offering us forgiveness of our sins and eternal life with Him, through Jesus--the greatest gift of all.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Big Idea? *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. Ask God remind us each day of the good things He gives us. Ask Him to make us grateful for them and thank Him for them and help us to glorify Him in the way we use them.*

The Gospel

1. What is the best good thing that God gives to people? What is the gospel?
God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who 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: Help the Blind Man

Materials

Blindfold

Cane

Bible Truth Questions

Bag/Bowl

Preparing the Game

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

Playing the Game

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

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

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

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

Directions:

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

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

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

Be Thou My Vision

Verse 3

O grant us grace, almighty Lord,
To read and mark your holy Word;
Its truths with meekness to receive,
And by its holy precepts live.

Words: Ancient Irish; tr. Mary E. Byrne; versified, Eleanor H. Hull

Music: Traditional Irish Melody; harm. David Evans

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 8, Track 6

Understanding the Song

1. What does "heed" mean? *To pay care attention to.*
2. What does it mean NOT to heed riches? *To not care too much about them.*
3. What is "man's praise"? *When someone praises something you do as good or important.*
4. What is "empty" about man's praise? *We usually talk about a container being empty when what was in it has been finished off. But empty can also mean that something is worthless. That's how the songwriter is using empty here. It means that man's praise is worthless. Not that we shouldn't praise people when they do something good or important, but that many times people think things are good/important that God doesn't. That kind of praise is empty.*
5. What does it mean NOT to heed man's empty praise? *That it is nice when people think what we do is good/important; we should thank people for their praise; but, that we shouldn't pay too much attention to it. God's praise for what we do is what really counts.*
6. What is an inheritance? *It's something you get or will get one day because you're born into a certain family.*
7. The songwriter says that God is his inheritance, now and always. What does that mean? *It means that when he confessed his sins to God; turned away from wanting to keep sinning; and trusted Jesus as his Savior, he was born into God's family, as one of His people. There is a rich inheritance that God gives to everyone who is born into His family. Not only are they saved from God's eternal punishment for their sins, but they are filled with the Holy Spirit. They get to know and enjoy God while they still live here on earth, and face to face with Him forever, after they die. This is how God is his inheritance.*
8. What does it mean for God to be "first in our hearts?" *For us to love Him most of all and to want to do what pleases Him more than anything else.*
9. What does "art" mean? *Old English word that means "are."*
10. Who is the songwriter's treasure? *The LORD. He loves and enjoys God more than anything or anyone else.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our **Bible Truth: God Blesses All People with Many Good Gifts?** *Riches are a good gift from God. We use them to buy many good things that we enjoy. When people praise us for good/important things we do, that is a good gift from God, too. We all like to be encouraged and valued. These are good gifts, but they are not the best gift. The best gift we can have is when we become one of God's people and God, Himself, is our treasure and inheritance. That makes riches and people's praise worth almost nothing in comparison.*

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *Though a great general, with many riches, and even healed of leprosy, General Naaman's greatest treasure became knowing the LORD when he came to believe in Him. On that day, Naaman became one of God's people. He was born into God's family. The LORD became his inheritance, both right then and always. Right now, he is in heaven enjoying the LORD!*

Bible Connection Question

1. What does this song have to do with our **Bible Verse: Psalm 145: 9-10,13,15-17:**"The LORD is good to all; He has compassion on all He has made. All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you... The Lord is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works... The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made."?

God's people know that even in "scenes of deepest gloom" (hard or sad times) that God's plans stand firm. They do not need to murmur or repine (complain or stay sad) because the Lord is leading them. His plans are good and they are unfulfilling. God's people can be content because they know that His plans will succeed and one day they will see just what great things He was doing, even through their hardest or saddest of days.

Life Application Questions

1. How can our lives be affected by the message of this song? *We can praise God for giving Himself as the rich inheritance for all who confess and turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. We can ask Him to make Him the best treasure of our heart, loving Him and enjoying Him so much, that it makes riches and people's praise almost nothing in comparison.*

ACTS Questions

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

Praise God for being the High King of Heaven. We can praise Him for being the true treasure of His people.

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

That many times we love God's gifts better than Him. We want to enjoy the good things He can give us, but do not want to take time to know and enjoy Him, even though He is far better than all His gifts.

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

We can thank God for the good gifts of riches and even the praise of men. We can thank God most of all for the great gift of being able to know and enjoy Him.

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 enjoy Him and know Him as our greatest treasure.

Gospel Question

1. How can we know God as our great Treasure? 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: Mimic Me!

Materials

Sign Language

Song

Preparing the Game

None.

Playing the Game

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Choose a person to be the leader and let them decide upon an action for everyone to do as they sing the song, such as jump on one foot, etc.
2. Sing the song while doing the chosen action.
3. Select another child to be the leader.
4. If desired, you can choose a different action for different important words in the song, such as jump on one foot when you sing the word "grace", but clap your hands when you sing the word "Jesus". Ask the children the meaning of each of the words before adding in their action.

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

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

Meditation Version: Psalm 145:9-10,13,15-17

"The LORD is good to all; He has compassion on all He has made. All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you... The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works... The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made."

Alternate Memory Version: Psalm 145: 9,16, 17

"The LORD is good to all...You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. The LORD is ... loving toward all he has made."

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. How is the LORD good to all? *He blesses all people (and other creatures) with life and many good things to enjoy.*
2. What is "compassion"? *To care about what someone is feeling and going through and want to do something about it.*
3. Who does the LORD have compassion on? *All He has made.*
4. Who praises God? *All He has made.*
5. What is a saint and what does it mean that they extol the LORD? *A saint has been misunderstood by some to be only certain special Christians. But the Bible calls a saint anyone who has turned from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior. It is a word used for each of God's people.*
6. What does it mean that saints extol the LORD? *Extol is another word for praise. God's people praise Him for His goodness to them.*
7. What does it mean that the LORD is faithful in all His words? *We can trust Him to keep all His promises. We can trust that what He has told us in the Bible is always true. He never lies.*
8. What does it mean that the LORD is kind in all His works? *The LORD only does good, in everything He plans and does.*
9. What does it mean for the eyes of all to look to God? *Not that they really see God, but that they depend upon Him to give them what they need to live. No one would have food if God didn't give it to them.*
10. What does it mean to give someone food at the proper time? Who does God do this for? *To give them the food they need each day as they need it. He does this for all creatures.*
11. What is a desire? Whose desires does God satisfy? *To want or hope for something. Every living thing's.*
12. Does that mean that God always gives us just what we want when we want it? *No. We are all sinful. Many times we want things that aren't best for us. God made us. He knows the perfect timing to give us good things. Sometimes we have to wait a very long time for God to give us something we desire. Sometimes He doesn't give it to us at all. But God's people trust that He knows what is best for us and really satisfies us. They know He loves them and has a good and perfect plan. They want that most of all.*
13. Does the LORD really open His hand to satisfy our desires? *No. God is a spirit. He doesn't have hands like us. This is a way of saying that God is the one who gives us the good things that satisfy our desires, just like we open our hand and give to someone else something good we have for them.*
14. What does it mean that the LORD is righteous in all His ways? *He is all good with no sin in anything He ever does. He is always loving. He never does evil in anything He gives to us.*
15. Who is God loving towards? *All He has made.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: God Blesses All People with Many Good Gifts?** *The LORD is our creator. He made us and provides for us all. Out of His goodness, love and compassion, the LORD pours out blessings of many good things on all people as well as everything else He has made.*

Story Connection Questions

1. How does this verse relate to our story? *Naaman did not worship the LORD. He was the enemy of Israel. He suffered from leprosy. He would die in his sins. But the LORD, in His goodness and love, showed great compassion on Naaman. He healed his leprosy and gave him faith to believe in Him and be saved.*

Life Application Questions

1. What should we do when we don't get what we want, when we want it? *We should keep asking God for it or for whatever He knows will truly satisfy our desire. We should also trust in God's goodness, love and compassion. He tells us that He cares for us and that He promises to only give us what is best for us, at the best time. We shouldn't grumble, but we should praise Him for His kindness to us, even when we don't have what we want.*
2. What is the best good gift God can give us? *How can we get it? Forgiveness of our sins and eternal life. God will give this to us when we turn away from our sins and trust 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 Giver of all good things. For being compassionate on all He has made.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Bible Verse?
That many times we are not thankful for the good things that God gives us. Many times we just enjoy them without even thinking of Him. 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 being good to all He has made, not just those who please Him. We can thank Him for His good gifts we have received even this past week.
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 grateful hearts that remember to thank Him each day for the good gifts He gives us.

The Gospel

1. What is the **best** good thing that God has given people? What is the gospel?
God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who 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: Jump for Joy

Materials

Bible verse written up in large print so that all can see
A very long rope or jump rope

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 form a line. Have two people be the Rope Turners for the jump rope. While the entire group recites the verse, have the children take turns trying to jump through the whole verse without stopping. For children adept at jumping rope, you can even have them try running in and jumping, jumping with a partner, etc. or other variations the children come up with.

Game continues until all children get to jump, 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 the song in large print on a white board or some large paper 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 the sign language sheet for your song. Use as few or as many as you think the children can learn.
5. Sing and sign the song. Sign language as well as large format lyrics and sheet music are found in the PFI Unit Songbook or online.
6. If desired, play the Song Game.

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

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

The LORD Is Good to All

The LORD is good to all,
He has compassion on all He's made,
He is faithful to all His promises and loving to all
He's made.

The LORD is good to all,
He has compassion on all He's made,
He is faithful to all His promises and loving to all
He's made.

And the eyes of all look to You,
And the eyes of all look to You,
For You open Your hand,
And satisfy the desires of ev'ry living thing.
Psalm One-forty-five, nine through sixteen.

Listen to it on PFI NIV Songs 8, Track 7

Song Game: Word Take Away

Materials

Sign Language Signs and Song
White board and marker
Eraser

Preparing the Game

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

Playing the Game

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

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

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

General Story Questions

1. What did General Naaman have to feel so proud about? *He was a clever, brave and a very good shot. He was favored by Ben Hadad and (seemingly) by Rimmon, their god.*
2. What good things did General Naaman enjoy? *Lots of nice things, he was clever, brave, and a good shot; he had a good wife; he had a nice home and good food; he had friends; he was alive, etc.*
3. Who did the people of Aram think gave them the good things they enjoyed? *Rimmon, the god of thunder.*
4. What one thing did Naaman want that he didn't have? *To be healed.*
5. How did he find out about the prophet Elisha in Samaria? *The Israelite servant girl.*
6. Why was it surprising that the servant girl would want to help General Naaman? What would you expect her to do? Why? *She had been taken from her family, friends and home by this man. He was their enemy. You would expect her to hate him and not want to help him or his wife.*
7. Why did the little Israelite girl try to help Naaman? *She trusted God and His plan for her life. She chose to please the LORD by being loving toward her enemies.*
8. Why did General Naaman go to King Ben Hadad for help? *He needed his permission to go to Samaria. He was the hated enemy general, he felt he would need the king's help to get the King of Israel and the prophet to help him.*
9. What did General Naaman take with him to Samaria? *A letter from Ben Hadad and chariots full of gold, silver and fine cloth.*
10. Why was the King of Israel so upset with Ben Hadad's letter? *He knew that he couldn't heal Naaman. He thought it was a trick from Ben Hadad to start another war.*
11. Why didn't Elisha come out to Naaman when he came to his house? *He didn't want Naaman to think that the LORD was a fake god like Rimmon. He didn't want him to think that he, the prophet of the LORD, was a fake prophet like the prophets of Rimmon.*
12. Why was Naaman angry with Elisha? *Because he didn't treat him with honor. He didn't come out and wave his hands in a show of magic to heal him.*
13. What happened to Naaman when he obeyed Elisha's instructions? *He was healed AND the LORD gave him saving faith in Him.*
14. Why did Elisha come out to Naaman when he came back to his house? *Now Naaman knew the LORD was the one, true God. He sincerely wanted to talk about the LORD.*
15. What was the greatest gift that Naaman received? *Faith in the LORD.*
16. Why is it so surprising that the LORD would heal Naaman and give him faith? *Naaman had killed many Israelites. He had worshipped Rimmon. He was the enemy.*
17. What was Naaman concerned about doing as part of his job? *Bowing before Rimmon in the Temple, because he didn't want to worship him.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our Bible Truth? *All the good things Naaman had were his only because the LORD gave them to him. Naaman enjoyed all those good things, but when God gave him faith to see He was the only true God and to believe in Him, he knew that this was the greatest gift from God of all.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Psalm 145:9-10: 13,15-17**: "The LORD is good to all; He has compassion on all He has made. All you have made will praise you, O LORD; your saints will extol you... The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works... The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving toward all he has made."?
Even though Naaman had raided Israel and worshiping Rimmon, the LORD was good to him. He had compassion on him by telling him how he could be healed through the little Israelite girl he had captured. And even more amazing, He gave him saving faith in Him.

Life Application Questions

1. If God only gave good gifts to His friends, which people would receive good gifts? *No one! We all have rebelled against God and His good ways. That makes us all enemies of God.*
2. What is God's greatest good thing He offers to us? *Forgiveness of sins and the delight of knowing and enjoying Him forever, when we turn from our sins and trust 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 so compassionate to all, even though we are rebels against Him and His good ways.
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story?
Confess that many times, like Naaman, we enjoy many good things, but fail to acknowledge that the LORD is the good giver of them. We deserve God's punishment. We need a Savior!
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story?
We can thank God for seeking out sinners, like Naaman and like us. He brings to us the good news of salvation, even when we weren't looking for it.
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 make us thankful for all the good gifts He gives us.

The Gospel

1. Like Naaman we are sinners, deserving God's punishment. We need to know the good news of Jesus. What is the gospel?
God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who 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: Spin the Light

Materials

Flashlight

Paper and Marker

Story Review Questions

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams. Have them sit in a close circle, alternating Team A and Team B players. Have the children sit in a circle. Put the light in the middle of the circle. Spin the light. Whoever the light points to, answers the question. If it points to a Team A player and he gets it right on his own, it is worth 2 points for his team. If he needs help from another team member, then it is worth 1 point. The question goes to the Team B player on his right for a possible 1 point if the Team A player fails to answer correctly.

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. Have the children sit in a circle and spin the light, asking whoever it points to a question. If desired, you can let each child choose another child to help them answer the question.

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 Gift-seeking General.

This is an Old Testament story. It takes place in Aram, about 800 years before Jesus lived on earth.

And now we present: “The Case of the Gift-seeking General.”

Scene 1:

Actions:

King Ben Hadad of Aram was rich from all his father had given him and from what he gained in war. He had a great general, General Naaman, who bravely led his armies to victory. They often fought Israel, taking their lands, their good things, and their people as slaves. King Ben Hadad rewarded his general greatly for his victories with lots of riches, and with things and even the people he defeated in battles. The king even let Naaman have the honor of escorting him to Rimmon’s Temple when presenting worship gifts of thanks to their god for the good things they enjoyed. General Naaman was very great and became very proud. He was blessed by Ben Hadad and Rimmon. But Naaman had a big problem, too. He was a Leper and no one could heal him. But then a little, Israelite girl who Naaman gave her to his wife to be her servant said something amazing: the prophet Elisha in Samaria could heal General Naaman. How excited Naaman was when he heard this news!

Scene 2:

Naaman went to King Ben Hadad to get his permission to go to Israel. He asked the king to help him get the prophet to heal him. The king agreed. He wrote a letter to the King of Israel telling him to cure his general. A great reward in gold, silver and rich cloth was loaded into a train of chariots. Naaman drove to the King of Israel’s palace and gave Ben Hadad’s letter to the king’s servant. When the king read the letter, he was very upset and tore his clothes. He knew he couldn’t heal Naaman. He thought it was a trick to start a war with Israel. The king was worried and told Elisha. Elisha wasn’t worried. The LORD would use Elisha to heal the general. The king sent Naaman to his Elisha’s house. Naaman arrived outside Elisha’s house, expecting Elisha to come out, serve him and heal him by waving his hands and do magic, like the fake prophets of Rimmon did. But Elisha refused to come out. He wanted Naaman to see that the LORD was the one, True God. The LORD was not like the fake god, Rimmon. His prophet was not like Rimmon’s prophets. Elisha sent out his servant with a message for Naaman to go dip himself seven times in the Jordan River, then his skin would be healed.

Scene 3

Naaman didn’t like this. At first, he just stormed off when he heard Elisha’s directions. What point was there to go wash in the river? Elisha wasn’t treating him with honor. But Naaman’s servants talked Naaman into doing what Elisha told him to do. When he did, he was completely healed. Best of all, the LORD changed Naaman’s heart and Naaman believed in Him. Naaman went back to Elisha and confessed that the LORD was the one, true God. He wanted to pay Elisha, but Elisha refused. Naaman asked to take some earth from Israel back to Aram to build an altar to the LORD upon it. He asked Elisha if it would be ok to bow in Rimmon’s Temple when he escorted the king there, but not to worship him, because it was part of his job. Elisha told him to go in peace. And Naaman did.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Blesses All People with Many Good Gifts.** The LORD blessed General Naaman many good things, even though he did not worship Him and had killed many Israelites. He healed him and then gave him the best gift of all: salvation through faith in Him.

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 Gift-seeking General.

This is an Old Testament story. It takes place in Aram, about 800 years before Jesus lived on earth.

The characters in our story are: King Ben Hadad and his father; General Naaman and his soldiers; Israelite girl, Naaman's wife; Elisha and the King of Israel.

And now we present: "The Case of the Gift-seeking General."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

King Ben Hadad of Aram was rich from all his father had given him and from what he gained in war. He had a great general, General Naaman, who bravely led his armies to victory. They often fought Israel, taking their lands, their good things, and their people as slaves. King Ben Hadad rewarded his general greatly for his victories with lots of riches, and with things and even the people he defeated in battles. The king even let Naaman have the honor of escorting him to Rimmon's Temple when presenting worship gifts of thanks to their god for the good things they enjoyed. General Naaman was very great and became very proud. He was blessed by Ben Hadad and Rimmon. But Naaman had a big problem, too. He was a Leper and no one could heal him. But then a little, Israelite girl who Naaman gave her to his wife to be her servant said something amazing: the prophet Elisha in Samaria could heal General Naaman. How excited Naaman was when he heard this news!

Scene 2: (Middle)

Naaman went to King Ben Hadad to get his permission to go to Israel. He asked the king to help him get the prophet to heal him. The king agreed. He wrote a letter to the King of Israel telling him to cure his general. A great reward in gold, silver and rich cloth was loaded into a train of chariots. Naaman drove to the King of Israel's palace and gave Ben Hadad's letter to the king's servant. When the king read the letter, he was very upset and tore his clothes. He knew he couldn't heal Naaman. He thought it was a trick to start a war with Israel. The king was worried and told Elisha. Elisha wasn't worried. The LORD would use Elisha to heal the general. The king sent Naaman to his Elisha's house. Naaman arrived outside Elisha's house, expecting Elisha to come out, serve him and heal him by waving his hands and do magic, like the fake prophets of Rimmon did. But Elisha refused to come out. He wanted Naaman to see that the LORD was the one, True God. The LORD was not like the fake god, Rimmon. His prophet was not like Rimmon's prophets. Elisha sent out his servant with a message for Naaman to go dip himself seven times in the Jordan River, then his skin would be healed.

Scene 3: (End)

Naaman didn't like this. At first, he just stormed off when he heard Elisha's directions. What point was there to go wash in the river? Elisha wasn't treating him with honor. But Naaman's servants talked Naaman into doing what Elisha told him to do. When he did, he was completely healed. Best of all, the LORD changed Naaman's heart and Naaman believed in Him. Naaman went back to Elisha and confessed that the LORD was the one, true God. He wanted to pay Elisha, but Elisha refused. Naaman asked to take some earth from Israel back to Aram to build an altar to the LORD upon it. He asked Elisha if it would be ok to bow in Rimmon's Temple when he escorted the king there, but not to worship him, because it was part of his job. Elisha told him to go in peace. And Naaman did.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Blesses All People with Many Good Gifts.** The LORD blessed General Naaman many good things, even though he did not worship Him and had killed many Israelites. He healed him and then gave him the best gift of all: salvation through faith in Him.

Chariot Full of Riches

Description

Children will make a plastic cup chariot filled with silver and gold paper riches and fabric scraps rich cloth.

Materials

1 Red 16 oz. plastic cup per child
 Decorating supplies, such as sequins, glitter, craft jewels
 Plain white paper
 White poster board or cardstock
 Markers
 Gold and silver foil wrapping paper
 Scissors
 Fabric Scraps, silky, shiny ones if possible
 Glue sticks
 Baggies and twisty ties

Preparing the Craft

1. Cut each plastic cup into chariot shape as shown in Template #1. Poke holes where indicated.
2. Cut out two wheels from poster board, using Template #2 as guide. Poke holes where indicated.
3. Set out rest of supplies.

Making the Craft

1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
2. Have children cut small pieces of silver and gold wrapping paper and stuff in baggies. Tie with twisty ties. These are bags of the silver and gold pieces
3. Have the children cut pieces of cloth out of the fabric scraps and put in another baggie. This is the fine cloth.
4. Have the children decorate their chariot with the glitter, etc. Some may want to draw shapes on the plain white paper, color in and glue onto sides of chariot.
5. Attach the wheels to chariot by poking a paper fastener through a wheel, then the side of the chariot. Open up wings on the inside to secure.

NOTE: For smallest children, you may want to cut out fabric scraps ahead of time. Have these on hand if someone is having difficulty cutting through the fabric

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 King Ben Hadad and Naaman live? Where did Elisha live? *In Aram; in Samaria, Israel.*

2. What did King Ben Hadad load up in chariots? *Riches of silver, gold and fine clothing.*

3. What did the king do with the riches? *He gave them to his general, Naaman, to take to Israel to pay for the prophet Elisha to heal his leprosy.*

4. What is the Bible Truth that we are learning? *God Blesses All People with Many Good Gifts.*

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: God Blesses All People with Many Good Gifts? *Elisha refused Naaman's gift. He wanted him to know that the LORD had healed him not because of his money, but as another of His good gifts to him. He gave Naaman faith to believe in Him as the one, true God—the best gift of all. How loving the LORD was to Naaman, the enemy of His people, Israel!*

6. What can this craft help us remember? *Even chariots full of riches are nothing compared with the greatest gift God gives: knowing and enjoying 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: Chariot Full of Riches.

2. In Aram, King Ben Hadad loaded up chariots full of riches in hopes he could pay for his general, Naaman to be healed by the prophet Elisha in Israel.

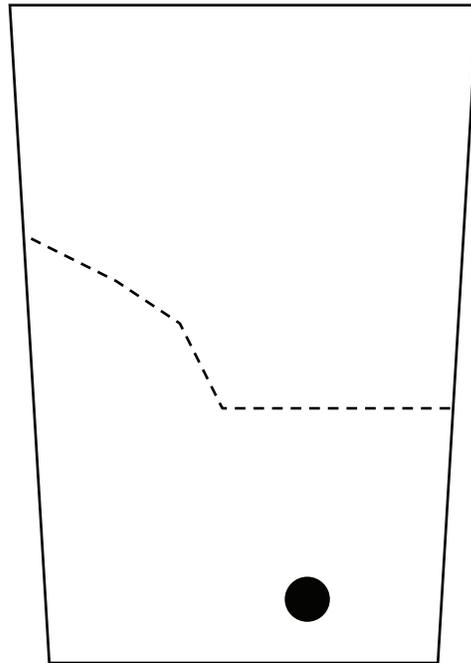
3. Bible Truth 1 is: God Blesses All People with Many Good Gifts.

4. Elisha refused Naaman's gift. He wanted him to know that the LORD had healed him not because of his money, but as another of His good gifts to him. He gave Naaman faith to believe in Him as the one, true God—the best gift of all. How loving the LORD was to Naaman, the enemy of His people, Israel!

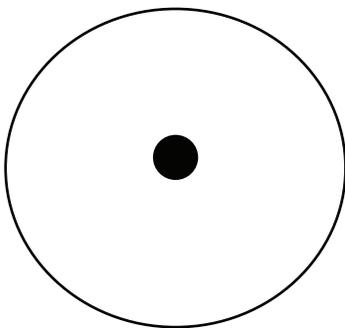
5. Our craft can help us remember that even chariots full of riches are nothing, compared with the greatest gift God gives: knowing and enjoying Him forever!

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.

Craft Pattern #1
Chariot Side View



Craft Pattern #2
Chariot Wheel Pattern



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. Clue Cards found at the back of this book.

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: Hit the Wall

Materials

Information Sheet for one VIPP

2 Set of Clue Cards

8 8.5" x 11" Manilla Envelopes

Nerf Ball or other soft ball for indoor use

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. Tape the envelopes to the wall.

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 take turns trying to hit an envelope with the ball. 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 aimed at.

VIPP INFORMATION SHEET

VIPP NAME:

WHAT VIPP LOOKS LIKE

Man or Woman? _____

Hair color? _____

Eye color? _____

FAVORITE ANIMAL

FAVORITE FOOD

FAVORITE FREE TIME ACTIVITY

WHAT VIPP DOES DURING WEEK

VIPP GROUP OF SERVICE:

Church Member

Deacon

Elder

Church Staff

Special Volunteer

Supported Worker
(Missionary)

3 WAYS VIPP SERVES CHURCH

3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR THE VIPP
