



BIBLE TRUTH 1 OVERVIEW

Unit 8: The God Who Loves

Big Question and Answer: "What is God's love for His people like? It's more than they could ever deserve!"

Bible Verse: "Give thanks to the LORD for He is good. His steadfast love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34

Bible Truth 1 Concept: 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.

Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse

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

"The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made. All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless 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 in due season. You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all His works."

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

"The LORD is good to all...You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. The LORD is... kind in all His works."

Bible Truth 1 ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the Giver of everything good to us all, even people who do not love You or obey You.

C 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!

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

S 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.

Bible Truth 1 Stories

Lesson 1: The Case of the Gift-seeking General (Old Testament)

2 Kings 5

Lesson 2: The Case of the Father-like Love (Story of the Saints)

Lesson 3: The Case of the King Who Kept His Mouth Shut (New Testament)

Acts 12:20-35

LESSON PLAN: BIBLE TRUTH 1 (1 Lesson Plan for ALL 3 Lessons) **P.1**

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

<p>Welcome</p>	<p>“Welcome to Praise Factory. We’re so glad you’ve joined us! Here at the PFI, we’re investigators. (That’s what the “I” stands for!) Investigators look for answers to questions. In PFI, we look for answers to big questions about God. We dig deep down in the truths of God’s Word to find them.”</p>
<p>Praise Factory Theme Song</p>	<p>“Let’s sing our Praise Factory Investigator’s theme song.”</p> <p>PFI: Praise Factory Investigators <i>PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 1</i></p> <p>We’re PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word, That’s PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word, We’re looking for answers to very big questions, Big questions about God, If you’re looking for answers to very big questions ‘bout God, come along, Join PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word, That’s PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word. Deep down, diggin’ down, Let’s go diggin’ down, Deep down, diggin’ down, ‘Til answers to all our Big Questions we’ve found. We’re PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word, That’s PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin’ deep down for truths in God’s Word.</p>
<p>Classroom Rules Song</p>	<p>An important part of Praise Factory is helping us worship God and love one another. Our WoGoLOA song reminds us how we should act. Let’s sing it.”</p> <p>WoGoLOA Rules Song <i>PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 2</i></p> <p>Refrain: WoGoLOA means “Worship God and love one another,” WoGoLOA means “Worship God and love one another.”</p> <p>WoGo means “Worship God.” Sound off, 1,2,3, Joyfully take part, Listen to others, Obey your teachers. (<i>Refrain</i>)</p> <p>LOA means “Love One Another.” Sound off, 1,2,3, Be kind, Be encouraging, Help others, help others. (<i>Refrain twice</i>)</p>

1. GETTING STARTED, continued

Opening Prayer	"Let's ask God to help us obey these rules, and to help us worship Him and love one another as we learn more about Him today. Let's pray." <i>Pray.</i>
Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 8 and Songs	<p>"Now it's time to turn to today's Big Question Under Investigation.</p> <p>It's: What Is God's Love for His People Like?</p> <p>God knew and loved His people even before the world began, even though He knew they were sinners who would rebel against Him. He always planned to care for them and to save them from their sins through Jesus. He always planned to work in their hearts by His Holy Spirit so they would love Him and want to live for Him. He always planned to bring them home to live with Him in heaven forever.</p> <p>So the answer to our Big Question, 'What Is God's Love for His People Like? is: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve!</p> <p>"Let's sing our Big Question Song(s): <i>choose one or both</i></p> <p>Big Q & A 8 Song <i>PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 3</i> <i>(adapted version of "Baa. Baa. Black Sheep")</i> What is God's love for His people like? More than they could ever deserve! What is God's love for His people like? What is God's love for His people like? What is God's love for His people like? What is God's love for His people like? More than they could ever deserve!</p> <p>Big Question 8 Song <i>PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 4</i> What Is God's Love for His People Like? What is God's love for His people like? What is God's love for His people like? What is God's love for His people like? It's more than they could ever deserve.</p> <p>Verse 1 God loves His people from all places, from all times, with ev'ry kind of faces. God loves His people from ev'ry nation, And He loves them all through Jesus Christ</p> <p><i>Refrain</i> God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve. God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.</p> <p>Verse 2 God loved His people before the beginning, Even before they were repenting and believing, God loved His people from ev'ry nation, And He loved them all through Jesus Christ. <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>Verse 3 God loved His people, He sent Jesus, To save them, so forever they would be His, God loves His people from ev'ry nation, And He always will through Jesus Christ. <i>Refrain</i></p>

1. GETTING STARTED, continued**Unit 8
Bible Verse**

*You might also enjoy listening to:
The Steadfast Love of the LORD:
Lamentations 3:22,23,
ESV
PFI ESV Songs 8,
Track 6*

"How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

1 Chronicles 16:34 tells us: "Give thanks to the LORD for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever."

Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song
Oh, Give Thanks: 1 Chronicles 16:34

PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 5

Oh, give thanks to the LORD,
Oh, give thanks.
Oh, give thanks to the LORD,
Oh, give thanks.
For He is good,
And His steadfast love endures forever. (Repeat)

Forever and ever and ever and ever,
Forever and ever and ever and ever.
First Chronicles Sixteen, thirty-four.

God's people are sinners. Their love for God is never the same. They do not seek Him or obey Him as they should. Yet, the LORD's love for them is always steadfast. It never changes. That's because it's based on Jesus' perfect life and love, not on sinful life and unsteady love. God's people rejoice in how good God is to them! They give thanks to Him for His always faithful love. It will never, ever end. It truly is more than they could ever deserve.

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN: Key Concept and Story (*introduce the Bible Truth and tell the related story*)**Bible Truth 1**

"It's time for us to dig down deeper for answers to our Big Question. We're learning **SIX** Bible Truths that all tell us something about God's love for His people. We are learning our first one today.

The Bible Truth we are going to be thinking about today is:
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.

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued

<p>Bible Truth 1 Hymn</p>	<p>“Long ago, a woman named Mary Byrne was thinking about this Bible truth, too. She wrote the words to a hymn called “Be Thou My Vision” We’re going to learn a verse from it.</p> <p>Be Thou My Vision <i>PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 7</i></p> <p>Verse 3 Riches I heed not, or man’s empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always; Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.</p> <p>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 (“empty”) in comparison.</p>
<p>Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse and Song</p>	<p>“The Bible verse we are going to be digging down into for this Bible Truth is:</p> <p>Psalms 145:9,13,15-17 “The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made. All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless 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 in due season. You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in all his ways and kind in all His works.”</p> <p>The LORD is our creator. He made us and provides for us all. Out of His goodness, love and kindness, the LORD pours out blessings of many good things on all people as well as everything else He has made.</p> <p>We’ve said our Bible verse, now let’s sing it!</p> <p>The LORD Is Good to All <i>PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 8</i></p> <p>The LORD is good to all, His mercy’s over all He’s made. The LORD is faithful in all His words, And kind in all His works. The LORD is good to all, His mercy’s over all He’s made. The LORD is faithful in all His words, And kind in all His works. The eyes of all look to You, The eyes of all look to You, You open Your hand, You satisfy the desire. Of ev’ry living thing. Psalm One-forty-five, nine through sixteen.</p>

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued**LESSON 1 STORY**

**Old Testament
Story:**

**The Case of the
Gift-seeking
General**
2 Kings 5

"Now it's time for today's story 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?

(If desired, write these questions on a sheet of paper to refer to when the story is finished.)

Read story.

After reading story, ask for the children's answers to the 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.

2. What gift did he find that he wasn't looking for? He found faith in the LORD and salvation in Him.

Close in prayer. (prayer suggestions included at end of story)

LESSON 2 STORY

**Story of the
Saints:**

**The Case of the
Father-like
Love**

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Father-like Love.**

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who showed the Father-like love? Which father was her love like?

2. Who did she show this father-like love to? Why was that so hard?

(If desired, write these questions on a sheet of paper to refer to when the story is finished.)

Read story.

After reading story, ask for the children's answers to the questions.

1. Who showed the Father-like love? Which father was her love like? Corrie ten Boom (and her family). Her Heavenly Father: God.

2. Who did she show this father-like love to? How was her love like God's? She showed it to the Jews who needed a safe place to hide as well as to the Germans who took her prisoner and treated her and her family so cruelly. God gives good gifts to all, even those who do not love or obey Him. Corrie treated the Germans, who were so cruel to her, with kindness and love. She wanted them to come to know Jesus as their Savior, too.

Close in prayer. (prayer suggestions included at end of story)

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued**LESSON 3****New Testament Story:**

The Case of the King Who Kept His Mouth Shut
Acts 12:20-35

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the King Who Kept His Mouth Shut.**

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

- 1. Who was the king? Over what was he made king?**
- 2. What did he keep shut about? What should he have done instead?**

(If desired, write these questions on a sheet of paper to refer to when the story is finished.)

Read story.

After reading story, ask for the children's answers to the questions.

1. Who was the king? Over what was he made king? King Agrippa. He was made king over all of Judah.

2. What did he keep shut about? What should he have done instead? The people praised him for being a god. He should have instead turned their praise to the Lord instead of keeping it for himself.

Close in prayer. (prayer suggestions included at end of story)

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

- **ACTS Prayer Activity:** Add your own prayer requests to the ACTS prayer
- **Sneaky Snack:** Story-related snack
- **Bible Truth Review Activity:** Game with questions related to the Bible Truth
- **Bible Truth Hymn:** Music activities to learn a portion of a Bible Truth-related hymn
- **Bible Verse Review Activity:** Game with questions related to Bible Truth Bible verse
- **Bible Verse Song:** Music activities to learn the Bible Verse song
- **Story Review Activity:** Game with questions related to the Bible Truth and Case
- **Case RePlay, Jr. and Sr.:** Two drama activities that review the story: one for younger children, one for older children.
- **Craft:** Story-related craft
- **VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person):** Game and a coloring activity to help children learn about people in your church and how to pray for them.

(VIP resources: found online or at back of this book)

4. TAKING IT TO OTHERS *Optional presentations for the last few minutes of class***Presenting to Other Children**

If you split the children into different response activities, you can gather the children together again and have each small group make presentations to show the other children what they learned. Presentation ideas are included in the resources for each activity.

Presenting to Parents

If you keep your children together for response activities, you can have them make a presentation of something they have learned to their parents when they come to pick them up from class. Presentation ideas are included in the resources for each activity.

5. TAKING IT HOME *(Take Home Sheet)***PFI Pronto**

Give out the PFI Pronto for the case story as well as any other materials as the children are dismissed.