



## **BIBLE TRUTH 4 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 4 Concept: God Loves His People By Caring For Their Needs**

God is the most wonderful Father anyone could ever imagine. He is always good; always wise. He loves His children with the deepest of loves. He always takes care of their needs. When we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as Savior, God becomes our heavenly Father and we become His adopted children.

God's people know that God has already taken care of their greatest need of all: He sent Jesus to die for their sins. When they remember that their loving Father was willing to give up even His own dear Son to save them, they know they can trust Him to take care all the rest of their needs, too.

God delights to hear His people ask Him for what they need; and, He delights to provide them with what they need. He always gives them what He knows is the very best for them.

### **Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse**

**Meditation Version: Psalm 23:1-6**

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

**Shortened Memory/Games Version: Psalm 23:1,6**

"The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want...goodness and love will follow me all the day of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

### **Bible Truth 4 ACTS Prayer**

**A** God, we praise You for being so perfectly good, wise and powerful to always take care of all Your people's needs in the way that is best.

**C** God, we confess that we have worried that You cannot or will not take care of our needs. Confess that we have grumbled about ways that You has taken care of our needs that may be best for us, but that we don't like. We need a Savior!

**T** Thank You, God for all of our needs that You have taken care of already. Thank You for sending Jesus to take care of the greatest need of we have: forgiveness of sins through Jesus.

**S** God, take care of our needs, according to what will bring You the most glory and will be wisest and best for us. Work in our hearts. Help us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to love You and know You.

### **Bible Truth 4 Stories**

**Lesson 1: The Case of the Unbending Knees (Old Testament)**

*Daniel 3*

**Lesson 2: The Case of the Penniless, Rich Man (Story of the Saints)**

**Lesson 3: The Case of the Two Needy Men (New Testament)**

*2 Peter*

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

<p><b>Welcome</b></p>	<p>“Welcome to Praise Factory. We’re so glad you’ve joined us! Here at the PFI we are 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><b>Praise Factory Theme Song</b></p>	<p>“Let’s sing our Praise Factory Investigator’s theme song.”</p> <p><b>PFI: Praise Factory Investigators</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 1</i></span></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><b>Classroom Rules Song</b></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><b>WoGoLOA Rules Song</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 2</i></span></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**

<b>Opening Prayer</b>	"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>
<b>Big Question Under Investigation:</b>  <b>Big Question 8 and Songs</b>	<p>"Now it's time to turn to today's <b>Big Question Under Investigation</b>.</p> <p>It's: <b>What Is God's Love for His People Like?</b></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, '<b>What Is God's Love for His People Like?</b>' is:  <b>It's More than They Could Ever Deserve!</b></p> <p>"Let's sing our Big Question Song(s): <span style="float: right;"><i>choose one or both</i></span></p> <p><b>Big Q &amp; A 8 Song</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 3</i></span>  <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><b>Big Question 8 Song</b> <span style="float: right;"><i>PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 4</i></span>  <b>What Is God's Love for His People Like?</b>  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 4**

"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 have learned some already. Can you remember what they are? (God Blesses All People with Many Good Gift; ; God Loved His People Before They Loved Him; and, God Showed the Depths of His Love By Giving His Son Jesus to Save His People.)

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

**God Loves His People By Caring For Their Needs .**

God is the most wonderful Father anyone could ever imagine. He is always good; always wise. He loves His children with the deepest of loves. He always takes care of their needs. When we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as Savior, God becomes our heavenly Father and we become His adopted children.

God's people know that God has already taken care of their greatest need of all: He sent Jesus to die for their sins. When they remember that their loving Father was willing to give up even His own dear Son to save them, they know they can trust Him to take care all the rest of their needs, too.

God delights to hear His people ask Him for what they need; and, He delights to provide them with what they need. He always gives them what He knows is the very best for them. God has shown His love for His people in many ways, but the greatest way He has shown His love is by giving Jesus to save them. We can become God's people when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

**2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued****Bible Truth 4  
Hymn**

"Long ago, a man named Henry Baker was thinking about this Bible truth, too. He wrote the words to a hymn called "The King of Love" We're going to learn two verses from it."

**The King of Love***PFI ESV Songs 8, Tracks 14,15***Verse 1**

The King of love my shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never.  
I nothing lack if I am His  
and He is mine forever.

**Verse 4**

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
With Thee dear Lord beside me.  
Thy rod and staff, my comfort still,  
Thy cross before to guide me.

God's people praise God for being the King of love. He is their king who they obey. It is delightful having Him as their king because all that He does comes from His heart of love for them and for the glory of His name. He takes care of them like a good shepherd does his sheep. Sheep are very stupid and need someone to take care all of their needs or else they will die. God does this for His people. They lack nothing; His goodness never fails them; even when facing death, they still fear nothing "ill" because He is with them. God's people know God will care for them after death by taking them to heaven to be with Him forever. We can become God's people when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

**Bible Truth 4  
Bible Verse  
and Song**

"The Bible verse we are going to be digging down into for this Bible Truth is:

**Psalms 23:1-6**

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

These verses remind us that God loves His people and cares for their needs completely, just like a good shepherd loves and takes care of his sheep.

We've said our Bible verse, now let's sing it!

**The LORD Is My Shepherd***PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 16*

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul,  
He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the valley of death, I will fear no evil,

*Why? For You are with me. Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*

You prepare a table before me, in the presence of my enemies,  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy will follow me, All of the days of my life,  
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD, forever and ever and ever.  
Psalm Twenty-three.

*You might also enjoy  
these extra songs:*

Bible Verse:  
If God Is for Us  
Romans 8:31-32,35,38-39,  
*PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 17*

Bible Verse:  
Who Shall Separate Us?  
Romans 8:35,37-39  
*PFI ESV Songs 8, Track 18*

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

**Old Testament  
Story:**

**The Case of the  
Unbending Knees**  
*Daniel 3*

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Unbending Knees.**

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

**1. Whose knees would not bend? Why?**

**2. What happened because they would not bend? Who rescued them?** (*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. Whose knees would not bend? Why?** Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego's knees. They refused to bow down and worship the king's statue. They would only worship the LORD.

**2. What happened because they would not bend? Who did they trust to rescue them? Did he?** They were thrown into a fiery furnace to die. The LORD. Yes! He did!

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

**LESSON 2 STORY**

**Story of the Saints:**

**The Case of the  
Penniless Rich  
Man**

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Penniless, Rich Man.**

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

**1. Who was the Penniless, Rich Man? How did he choose to be penniless? Why?**

**2. Who made him rich? How?**

(*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 Penniless, Rich Man? How did he choose to be penniless? Why?** Hudson Taylor. He chose to ask God in prayer for what he needed in order to grow his trust in God's ability to provide all he needed when he would be all alone in China.

**2. Who made him rich? How?** God made him rich. Not rich with a lot of money, but rich by providing everything he needed when he needed it.

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

**2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued****LESSON 3****New Testament Story:****The Case of the Two Needy Men**  
*2 Peter*

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Two Needy Men.**

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

- 1. Who were the two needy men? Who did they rely upon to get what they needed?**
- 2. Which one only truly had all his needs met? Why?**

*(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 were the two needy men? Who did they rely upon to get what they needed?** Nero and Peter. Nero relied upon himself. Peter relied upon Jesus.

**2. Who looked like he had all his needs met? Who truly had all his needs met?**

**Why?** Nero seemed to get everything he wanted. But only Peter truly had all his needs met. Jesus gave him everything he needed to live the life God wanted him to live. And, Jesus also gave Peter forgiveness of sins and eternal life. Sadly, Nero never did.

*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.*