



BIBLE TRUTH 5 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 love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16:34

Bible Truth 5 Concept: God Uses Everything in His People's Lives for Their Good and His Glory

When we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, God becomes our Heavenly Father and we become His adopted children.

God promises His children to use everything that happens to them in their life on earth for their good and His glory. Ahead of time, God prepared special good works for each of them to do. He has also planned to carefully allow hard times and suffering in their lives for His special, good purposes.

What are these special, good purposes? To bring glory to His name, showing the world what He is like. And, to change them so that they become more like Jesus, who loves His Father completely and delights in Him and His perfectly good will. These are the two things God's people want most of all!

No one likes to suffer--not even for the best of purposes! But, God's people are so happy to know that there is nothing in their lives--from the easiest, most enjoyable thing to the very saddest, hardest thing--that their loving Father has not chosen very carefully to use for their good and His glory.

Bible Truth 5 Bible Verse

Meditation Version: Romans 8:28-30

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. For those God foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those He predestined, He also called; and those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified."

Alternate Memory/Games Version: Romans 8:28

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Bible Truth 5 ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being so powerful and wise to make all things work for Your people's good and Your own glory.

C God, we confess that we grumble when hard things happen to us, forgetting that if we are Your people, You are using even these hard things for our good and Your glory. We need a Savior!

T Thank You, God for all the good things You promise to do in Your people's lives. Thank You for planning every single thing in their lives to be for their good and Your glory.

S God, work in our hearts, that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make all the things in our lives for our good and Your glory. Transform us into people who love You and delight in You the way Jesus does.

Bible Truth 5 Stories

Lesson 1: The Case of the Man and the Diving Pigs (New Testament)

Matthew 9; Mark 4-5; Luke 8

Lesson 2: The Case of the Blind, Cliff-Walker (Story of the Saints)

Lesson 3: The Case of the Ancient Mummy (Old Testament)

Genesis 37, 49-50; Exodus 1, 6-11, 13; Joshua 24

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 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>Praise Factory Theme Song</p>	<p>“Let’s sing our Praise Factory Investigator’s theme song.”</p> <p>PFI: Praise Factory Investigators <i>PFI NIV 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 NIV 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 NIV 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? More than they could ever deserve!</p> <p>Big Question 8 Song <i>PFI NIV 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**

"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
Forever and Ever: 1 Chronicles 16:34

PFI NIV Songs 8, Track 5

Forever and ever,
 The LORD's love endures forever.
 Forever and ever,
 The LORD's love endures forever.
 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 5**

"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; God Showed the Depths of His Love By Giving His Son Jesus to Save His People; and, God Loves His People by Caring for Their Needs.)

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

God Uses Everything in His People's Lives for Their Good and His Glory .

When we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, God becomes our Heavenly Father and we become His adopted children.

God promises His children to use everything that happens to them in their life on earth for their good and His glory. Ahead of time, God prepared special good works for each of them to do. He has also planned to carefully allow hard times and suffering in their lives for His special, good purposes.

What are these special, good purposes? To bring glory to His name, showing the world what He is like. And, to change them so that they become more like Jesus, who loves His Father completely and delights in Him. These are the two things God's people want most of all!

No one likes to suffer--not even for the best of purposes! But, God's people are so happy to know that there is nothing in their lives--from the easiest, most enjoyable thing to the very saddest, hardest thing--that their loving Father has not chosen very carefully to use for their good and His glory.

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued**Bible Truth 5
Hymn**

"Long ago, a man named John Rippon was thinking about this Bible truth, too. He wrote the words to a hymn called "How Firm a Foundation" We're going to learn two verses from it.

How Firm a Foundation

PFI NIV Songs 8, Tracks 16,17

Verse 3

"When thro' fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

Verse 4

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, tho' all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake!"

God's people know all God has an unbreakable plan to use all things in their lives for their good. He has planned that even their "fiery trials"—the hardest things that happen to them—that God will use them all to make them like Jesus. They do not have to like the fiery trials, but they can praise God for how He will use them for their good and His glory.

**Bible Truth 5
Bible Verse
and Song**

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

Romans 8:28-30

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. For those God foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those He predestined, He also called; and those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified."

God's people are those who love Him. In His great love, He has called them to turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins. This is what it means to be justified. But being justified in just the beginning of God's good, forever plans for His people. He also planned for all things in their lives—both enjoyable things and hard things—for the good purpose of making them more like Jesus. Yes, He would use all of them to prepare them for life with Him in heaven, where they would be glorified: forever freed from sin and a pure reflection of God's glory. This is God's wonderful plan for making everything in His people's lives for their good and His glory.

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

All Things

PFI NIV Songs 8, Track 18

All things, yes, all things,
And we know that in all things, God works for the good,
Of those who love Him, Who have been called,
Called according to His purpose. *(But why? What was God doing for His people?)*

For those God foreknew, He also predestined, He predestined,
To be conformed, to be conformed,
To the likeness of His Son. *(But why? What was God doing for Jesus?)*
That He, That He might be, The firstborn among many, many,
Of many, brothers, so He might be, Firstborn of many brothers.
Romans Eight, twenty-eight and twenty-nine.

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued**LESSON 1 STORY****New Testament Story:****The Case of the Man and the Diving Pigs**Matthew 9;
Mark 4-5; Luke 8

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Man and the Diving Pigs.**

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

- 1. What was wrong with man? How did this cause the pigs to dive?**
- 2. How did Jesus use this man's struggles for God's glory and for the good of this man and many more?** (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. What was wrong with man? How did this cause the pigs to dive? The man was troubled by many demons. When Jesus healed the man, he let the demons go into the pigs and that made them dive over the edge of the cliff.

2. How did Jesus use this man's struggles for God's glory and for the good of this man and many more? Jesus showed that He was God's Son, powerful enough to make all the powers of evil obey. Nothing or no one is too strong for Him! This poor man's struggle was over. He came to believe in Jesus and be saved. Many others heard what Jesus did for him and they also put their faith in Jesus.

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

LESSON 2 STORY**Story of the Saints:****The Case of the Blind Cliff-Walker**

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Blind Cliff-Walker.**

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

- 1. Who was the Blind Cliff-Walker? How did he become blind? What cliffs did he walk on?**
- 2. How did God use the boy's blindness for his good? How did God use the boy's cliff-walking for His own glory?**

(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 Blind Cliff-Walker? How did he become blind? What cliffs did he walk on? An orphan named Titus. From an illness when he was twelve years old.

2. How did God use the boy's blindness for his good? How did God use the man's cliff-walking for His own glory? Titus was sent to a special school to learn Braille and there he learned about Jesus and became a Christian. Titus' brave trust in God to guide him even along the steep, cliff-roads of Nepal showed many just how great God is to take care of His people.

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

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

The Case of the Ancient Mummy
Genesis 37, 49-50;
Exodus 1, 6-11, 13;
Joshua 24

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

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

1. Who was the ancient mummy? What hard thing did he endure in his life and how did God use it for his good?

2. What did God promise him? How did God answer this promise for His own glory?
(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 Ancient Mummy? What hard thing did he endure in his life and how did God use it for his good? Joseph. He was sold into slavery in Egypt and lived as a slave and as a prisoner in jail for many years. God used it to save his entire family from death by starvation.

2. What did God promise him? How did God answer this promise for His own glory? God promised Joseph that he would bless his family in Egypt and many years later take them back to the Promised Land to live. The people would carry his bones home with them.

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.