BIG IDEA 65
God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts
Welcome to The Praise Factory curriculum!
The resources within every Big Idea are ordered in exactly the same way:

1. **Big Idea Overview**
   A one page overview of the Big Idea key concepts taught all three weeks of curriculum.

2. **The Take Home Sheet**
   Give this to your children to take home at the end of the session.

3. **The Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Resources**
   These are materials, used at the beginning of session all three weeks, to lead the children in a review of the Big Idea key concepts. They are all marked “Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt” along the edge.

4. **Music Resources**
   These are the lyrics, music and sign language for the Scripture Verse song and hymn used in small group activities, all three weeks of the curriculum.

5. **Week 1 Curriculum**
   - Session Schedule and Planning Sheet
   - Week 1 Lesson Plan for Regular Praise Factory Groups
   - Week 1 Lesson Plan for Kindergarten Groups
   - Week 1 Story
   - Week 1 Small Group Resources

6. **Week 2 Curriculum:**
   - Session Schedule and Planning Sheet
   - Week 2 Lesson Plan for Regular Praise Factory Groups
   - Week 2 Lesson Plan for Kindergarten Groups
   - Week 2 Story
   - Week 2 Small Group Resources

7. **Week 3 Curriculum:**
   - Session Schedule and Planning Sheet
   - Week 3 Lesson Plan for Regular Praise Factory Groups
   - Week 3 Lesson Plan for Kindergarten Groups
   - Week 3 Story
   - Week 3 Small Group Resources
Directions for Teachers:

1. Let the lesson plan be your guide! It tell you through exactly where to find the resources and teaching tips for the activities you are doing.

2. Read through the lesson plan for the week. Use the Session Schedule & Planning Sheet to plan your session.

3. Prepare for either the Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt review.

4. Read and prepare to tell the story for your children.

5. Prepare whatever activities you intend to use with your children. (Check the Small Group Activity Assignment Sheet your administrator may have given you with this binder.)

Directions for Administrators Preparing the Curriculum:

1. Use the pdf bookmarks to find the resources for the activities your teachers will be using.

2. Print out only what you need. There are a lot of resources since there are so many activities available for each week. You will help your teachers not feel overwhelmed if you give them only what they need.

   The curriculum is presented in color, but does not need to be printed out in color. Black and white is entirely acceptable and much cheaper! Remember that the curriculum is formatted for double-sided printing.

3. Note that many groups also use resources found in the Appendices. You will either want to also copy these for your teachers and include them with the other Small Group Resources, or make sure to include those appendices in your Teachers’ Binders. Below is a list of these other resources and the appendices in which they are found.

4. If using multiple small groups, you may want to include a Small Group Activity Assignment Sheet telling each of your teachers what activities they will be doing each week.

6. Read through the lesson plan for each week. It will tell you exactly what your teachers will need to teach their activities for any particular week.

Additional Resources Your Teachers May Need:
Appendix B Drama: Speaker Sheets (used in the play in Closing Large Group)
Appendix C Games: Directions for all Story Review, Big Idea, Scripture Verse Games
Appendix D Crafts: Presenter Sheets (used to present the craft in Closing Large Group)
Appendix E VIPP: VIPP Clue Cards and Games
Appendix F Songs: Song Games, Song Intro Sheets (used to present the songs in Closing Large Group)
Appendix G Kindergarten: VIPP Clue Cards, Song Games, Best Games for Kindergarteners
Big Idea Concept: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts

God is the Creator of all things. All things belong to Him. There is nothing that we have that God did not give to us: our bodies, our things, our money, our lives. God made people to be stewards of His good gifts to us. What is a steward? A steward is someone who takes care of someone else’s things. God wants His people to be good stewards of His gifts to them. He wants them to serve Him with their bodies—with their hands, their mouths and all of their strength. He wants them to freely share their things with others. He wants them to use their money generously to take care of our families, to help others and to spread the good news about Jesus. In heaven, God promises to reward each of His people according to how they stewarded God’s gifts to them during their lives on earth. God’s people know that they cannot be good stewards of God’s gifts on their own. They know that it is the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts, who helps them be the kind of stewards of God’s gifts that He desires them to be.

Scripture Verse

Meditation Version: 1 Peter 4:10-11
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

Shortened Memory/Games Version: 1 Peter 4:10
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve other.”

Stories

| Week 1     | What to Do with the Riches of Egypt | Exodus 3:11:1-3; 13:25-36; 15, 19-40 |
| Week 2     | What Came Out of the Missionary Box |
| Week 3     | The Treasure Seekers                | Luke 12:3-34                     |

Big Idea ACTS Prayer

A  Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.

C  Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

T  Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.

S  Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

Songs

Hymn Be Thou My Vision, v.2
Scripture Song Each of Us Should Use 1 Peter 4:10-11
**Big Idea Concept**
God is the Creator of all things. All things belong to Him. There is nothing that we have that God did not give to us: our bodies, our things, our money, our lives. God made people to be stewards of His good gifts to us. What is a steward? A steward is someone who takes care of someone else’s things. God wants His people to be good stewards of His gifts to them. He wants them to serve Him with their bodies—with their hands, their mouths and all of their strength. He wants them to freely share their things with others. He wants them to use their money generously to take care of our families, to help others and to spread the good news about Jesus. In heaven, God promises to reward each of His people according to how they stewarded God’s gifts to them during their lives on earth. God’s people know that they cannot be good stewards of God’s gifts on their own. They know that it is the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts, who helps them be the kind of stewards of God’s gifts that He desires them to be.

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**Big Idea ACTS Prayer**

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- **C** Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.
- **T** Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.
- **S** Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

**Bible Story & Supplemental Reading**
The Israelites Give of Their Riches and Skills to Make the Tabernacle
Exodus 31:1-3; 13:25-36; 15, 19-40
The Parable of the Rich Fool and Heavenly Treasures Luke 12:3-34
Leading Little Ones to God #56 God’s Children Give:

**Songs**

- **Hymn:** Be Thou My Vision, Verse 2
- **The Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs**

**Big Idea Hymn Connection:** God’s people want God to be their Wisdom, that they would know how to use their lives to please Him. They want Him to be their true Word, that they might believe His Word and obey all it tells them about how to use the good gifts He’s given them. They want His Holy Spirit to be dwelling in them so that even in their hearts they might have the wonderful fellowship with God He created them to have. They want Him to ever be with them, so that everything in their lives, from the thoughts of their hearts to their words and their actions, please Him and might be used as He wants them to be used. This is how they can be good stewards of all the gifts God has given them.

**Scripture Song:** Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

**Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs**

**Big Idea Scripture Song Connection:** This song reminds us that the gifts God gives to each of His people are to be used to bring praise to God and to encourage each other.
Each of us should use whatever gift, He has received to serve others, Faithfully administering God’s grace, In its various forms.

If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, So that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

Adapted from 1 Peter 4:10,11
### ECHO CHAMBER/FOLDER HUNT RESOURCES

The resources you will need for The Echo Chamber or the Folder Hunt are included on the next few pages. They are used all three weeks of the curriculum.

1. **Echo Chamber Schedule**  
   This provides a basic script of Echo Chamber and a rotation through which key concepts are spoken and which sung to keep things fresh.

2. **The WoGoLOA Rules**  
   The basic Praise Factory rules that help the children know how to act to help each other worship God and to love one another during the session.

3. **The WoGoLOA Rules Chant**  
   A chant of the WoGoLOA Rules that can be sung antiphonally between two groups of children, or between the leaders and the children. The music for this chant is found as the first song of every CD in the Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs.

4. **The Unit Big Question/Song**  
   Each of the 16 Praise Factory Units has a Unit Big Question Song into which the Big Ideas in a particular unit fit. A review of the Big Question reminds children of the overarching concept behind the particular Big Idea they are learning. This Big Question can be spoken or sung. The music for the Unit Big Question Song is found at the beginning of each unit’s songs in the Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs.

5. **The Unit Scripture Verse/Song**  
   Each of the 16 Praise Factory Units has a Unit Scripture Verse that goes along with the Unit Big Question. A review of this Unit Scripture Verse reminds the children that the truths they are learning come from God’s Word. This Scripture Verse can be spoken or sung. The music for the Unit Scripture Verse Song is found at the beginning of each unit’s songs in the Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs, immediately after the Unit Big Question Song.

6. **The Big Idea Concept Sign**  
   This is a sign of the meaning of the particular Big Idea you are learning. This provides the foundation for the story they hear.

7. **The Big Idea Scripture Verse**  
   This is the Scripture Verse that supports and clarifies the Big Idea the children are learning. It is important for the children to know that the Big Idea truths come from God’s Word, not just our own ideas.

### Other Resources You Will Need:  
- Folders (if you are doing the Folder Hunt)  
- CD player and The Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs
**Purpose of the Echo Chamber:** To briefly review key concepts in a way that gets out the wiggles! Keep this section short and active!

**Welcome and Transition into Echo Chamber** “Welcome to Praise Factory! Good morning, children! I’d like all the boys to sit down on the rug over here on my left; and all the girls to sit down on the rug over here on my right (or whatever groupings you choose.)”

**Introduce the Echo Chamber** “We’re starting out in our Echo Chamber…a place where important things are said and repeated, sometimes in some very unusual ways!”

**Review the Key Concepts** “Let review the key concepts we are learning in Praise Factory and get some wiggles out at the same time.” (Follow the schedule of activities listed below. For more interaction, choose a movement/sound for the children to make as they sing the song. See suggestions listed below and on the Big Question Song and Scripture Song sheets in your curriculum.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIG IDEA 65</th>
<th>Key Concepts Used in Echo Chamber</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WoGoLOA Rules</strong></td>
<td>Always the same, see Rules and Chant on following pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit Big Question</strong></td>
<td>Unit 12 Big Question: How Should God’s People Live Each Day? They Should Live Like Jesus!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unit Scripture Verse</strong></td>
<td>Unit 12 Scripture Verse: Live a Life of Love Just as Christ Loved You. Ephesians 5:2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Big Idea Concept</strong></td>
<td>Big Idea 65 Concept: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Big Idea Scripture Verse</strong></td>
<td>Big Idea 65 Scripture Verse: 1 Peter 4:10,11</td>
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**Activities for Each of the 3 Weeks Spent on a Big Idea Concept**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Week 1 of Big Idea</th>
<th>Week 2 of Big Idea</th>
<th>Week 3 of Big Idea</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WoGoLOA Rules</td>
<td>GROUP sings the Chant</td>
<td>LEADER says the Rules</td>
<td>LEADER says the Rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Big Question</td>
<td>LEADER says Big Question &amp; Answer</td>
<td>GROUP sings Big Question &amp; Answer</td>
<td>LEADER says Big Question &amp; Answer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Scripture Verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
<td>GROUP sings verse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Idea Concept</td>
<td>LEADER says concept</td>
<td>LEADER says concept</td>
<td>LEADER says concept</td>
</tr>
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<td>LEADER says verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All of the resources you need are found in the pages that follow this schedule.
How to do the singing portion:
• Sing/listen to the song through once without actions.
• Choose a movement (from the Movement Grab Bag, if using one) for the class to do while singing the
song through once/twice more. Make this an aerobic activity to help get the wiggles out!
• Music for the WoGoLOA Chant is always the first song on each CD of the Praise Factory Hymns &
Scripture Songs CDs. The music for the Big Question and Unit Scripture Verse songs are always the first
two songs of the music for each unit, also found on the Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs.

Prayer  “Let’s pray.” (Lead brief prayer of praise and ask for the Spirit’s work in hearts and minds.)

Transition to Story Time  “Ok, now, it’s to be dismissed for today’s Big Idea story. I have something I
want you to do. When I say the word. ‘---’ (choose a word, preferably a little bit random or silly), I want
everyone who is…. (choose a subset of the group, such as everyone who is six or who has pink on, etc.) to
stand up and (choose an action) as you walk SLOWLY to the other room, chairs, etc for story time.”
Say your cue word and dismiss them by subset until all have been dismissed.

Resources Needed:  Poster boards of Unit and Big Idea Concepts and WoGoLOA Rules & Chant
Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs
CD player

Prep Needed:  Review Concepts;
Find Correct CD Track for song;
Choose actions to use for song and transition to story time
WORSHIP GOD!
joyfully take part
listen to others
obey your teachers

LOVE ONE ANOTHER!
be kind
be encouraging
help others

THE WO GO LOA RULES
WoGoLOA means Worship God and Love One Another!

Part A:

WoGo means...
Sound off...
Joyfully....
Listen...
Obey...

Part B:

... Worship God!
... 1-2-3!
... take part!
... to others!
... Your teachers!

WoGoLOA means Worship God and Love One Another!

LOA means...
Sound off...
Be...
Be en...
Help...

... Love One Another!
... 1-2-3
... kind
... couraging
... others!

WoGoLOA means Worship God and Love One Another!
WoGoLOA means Worship God and Love One Another!
How should God’s people live each day?

They should live like Jesus!

How should God’s people live each day?

How should God’s people live each day?

How should God’s people live each day?

They should live like Jesus!

**Four Movement Ideas for the Big Question Song**

Add clapping, stomping, or one of these movement ideas after the children have learned the song. You may want to put these movement ideas and others in a Movement Grab Bag. Each session, either you or a child can draw a movement from the Grab Bag for everyone to do.

1. **Choose an action:** Give the children an action to do as they sing the song, such as patting head, rubbing stomach, marching in place, etc.

2. **Choose a voice:** Give the children a voice to imitate, such as baby voice, old person’s voice, whisper voice, opera voice, etc. to sing the song in.

3. **Choose an animal:** Give the children an animal to imitate AS THEY STAND IN PLACE, such as a gorilla, flapping wings of a bird, horse galloping in place, etc. You will need to remind the children that they are to stand in place (unless you have a lot of room or not a lot of children). If you do allow them to move around the room, make sure you tell them to sit down in place at the end of the song or some other direction that keeps everything under control at the end of the song.

4. **Tubas and Drums** Have one group of children do a “Om-pah-pah” tuba or a “boom-chick, boom-chick’ drum accompaniment while the other group sings. Then switch parts.
Big Question #12 Song
How Should God's People Live Each Day?

How should God’s people live each day? They should live like Jesus! How should God’s people live each day?

How should God’s people live each day? They should live like Jesus!
Live a life of love just as Christ loved you.

Live a life of love just as Christ loved you.

Live a life of love, Live a life of love,

Live a life of love,

Just as Christ loved you.

Ephesians Five, Two. O-le!

**Four Movement Ideas for the Scripture Song**

Add clapping, stomping, or one of these movement ideas after the children have learned the song.

#1 **Choose an action:** Give the children an action to do as they sing the song, such as patting head, rubbing stomach, marching in place, etc.

#2 **Choose a voice:** Give the children a voice to imitate, such as baby voice, old person’s voice, whisper voice, opera voice, etc. to sing the song in.

#3 **Choose an animal:** Give the children an animal to imitate AS THEY STAND IN PLACE, such as a gorilla, flapping wings of a bird, horse galloping in place, etc. You will need to remind the children that they are to stand in place (unless you have a lot of room or not a lot of children). If you do allow them to move around the room, make sure you tell them to sit down in place at the end of the song or some other direction that keeps everything under control at the end of the song.

#4 **Tubas and Drums** Have one group of children do a “Om-pah-pah” tuba or a “boom-chick, boom-chick’ drum accompaniment while the other group sings. Then switch parts.
Big Question #12 Scripture Song

Live a Life of Love

adapted from Ephesians 5:2

Live a life of love just as Christ loved you.

Live a life of love just as Christ loved you.

Live a life of love, live a life of love, live a life of love just as Christ loved you.

Ephesians Five, twelve. O-le!
God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts

God is the Creator of all things. All things belong to Him. There is nothing that we have that God did not give to us: our bodies, our things, our money, our lives.

God made people to be stewards of His good gifts to us. What is a steward? A steward is someone who takes care of someone else’s things.

God wants His people to be good stewards of His gifts to them. He wants them to serve Him with their bodies—with their hands, their mouths and all of their strength. He wants them to freely share their things with others. He wants them to use their money generously to take care of our families, to help others and to spread the good news about Jesus.

In heaven, God promises to reward each of His people according to how they stewarded God’s gifts to them during their lives on earth.

God’s people know that they cannot be good stewards of God’s gifts on their own. They know that it is the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts, who helps them be the kind of stewards of God’s gifts that He desires them to be.
Meditation Version: 1 Peter 4:10-11
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

Shortened Memory/Games Version: 1 Peter 4:10
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve other.”
Welcome to The Praise Factory curriculum!

The lyrics, music and sign language you will use in the Scripture Song and the Hymn Groups are included on the next few pages. They are used all three weeks of the curriculum.

1. Big Idea Scripture Song: Lyrics and Music
   The lyrics of the song are provided on one page and the piano and guitar music included on the next. The music to this song is included on the Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs by unit.

2. Big Idea Scripture Song: Sign Language Resources
   These are all the signs available for use with the Scripture Song. Choose as many or as few as you think appropriate for your children to learn.

SOMETIMES:

3. Alternate Big Idea Scripture Song: Lyrics and Music
   Sometimes an additional Scripture Song is included. This is either because it was a bit easier or simply because it fit the Big Idea so well. It is also included on the Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs, immediately after the regular Big Idea Scripture Song. Note: there is no discussion sheet of questions for this song.

4. Alternate Big Idea Scripture Song: Sign Language Resources
   Sign language for the alternate Scripture song.

5. Hymn: Lyrics and Music
   This is a hymn or portion of a hymn that reflects the Big Idea. Check the Hymn Discussion Questions in each week’s curriculum to see which verse/s are used with your Big Idea. It usually is just one or two of them.

6. Hymn: Sign Language Resources
   Sign language for the hymn.

Other Resources You Will Need:
CD player
The Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs
Scripture Song or Hymn Discussion Sheets (found in each week’s curriculum)
Each of Us Should Use
1 Peter 4:10

Each of us should use whatever gift,

He has received to serve others,

Faithfully administering God’s grace,

In its various forms.

If anyone serves,

He should do it with the strength,

God provides so that in all things,

God may be praised through Jesus Christ.
Each of Us Should Use
adapted from 1 Peter 4:10-11

Each of us should use what-ever gift.
Gift he has re-ceived.

to serve oth-ers.
Faith-ful-ly ad-min- is-tring

God’s grace, in its var-i-ous forms.
Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

**Each**
Strike knuckle side of right “A” hand (palm up) against thumb side of left “A” hand (palm down) several times.

**Us**
Move the right index finger from the right shoulder to the left shoulder.

**Whatever**
Place the right A hand, thumb on top, against the chest. Then turn and flip the hand so that palm is facing away from the body and knuckles are up.

**Gift**
Hold both A hands in front of body, palms facing each other. Move hands forward.

**He**
Start with right hand at forehead as if grasping the bill of a hat, and move right hand forward a short distance. Then point right index finger forward.

**Received**
Move open hands together while simultaneously forming S hands with right hands over left hand; then bring both hands towards body.

**Serve, Serves**
Move both upturned hands forward and backward a few times, in an alternating motion.

**Others**
Start with right thumb up. Turn hand to the right so thumb is pointing right.

**Faithfully**
Place the right index finger, palm facing left, on lower lip. Move finger up and then out making an arc.
Administering
Move the A hands, palms facing and knuckles forward, forward and backward a few times while pivoting the wrists slightly.

God's
Point the right G hand forward and up. Bring hand towards body while changing hand to a B position.

Grace
Place fingers of right open hand on the right side of the head. Pull hand up while also bringing fingers to close and touch.

Various, Forms
With right K hand, make a circle around left K hand.

If
With F hands, palms facing, in front of the body, move the left F hand down while moving the right F hand up.

Anyone
Hold right A hand in front of body, palm facing in. Rotate right wrist so that palm faces forward. Then, point right index finger up.

Do
Point C hands downward and move them from one side to the other, at the same time.

With
Bring fists together.

Strength
Move both S hands, palms facing together, downwards and outwards with force.
Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs

Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

Continued

Provides
Bring fingers of each hand together, holding them slightly up and facing towards chest. In unison, move both hand forward until horizontal, while opening up hands into flat palms.

So that
Start with index finger of right hand palm facing down touching right side of forehead. Bring hand up and to the right while changing hand to an A hand.

All
Rotate flat right hand, palm facing out around stationary flat left hand palm facing in.

Things
Move the curved, upturned right hand to the right in small arcs.

Praised
Clap hands, right hand on top of left hand.

Through
Slide the little finger side of the right hand through the index finger and middle finger of the left hand.

Jesus
Point the middle finger of each hand into the palm of the opposite hand.

Christ
Move right C hand from left shoulder to the right side of the waist.
Be Thou My Vision

Verse 1

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art:
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Verse 2

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

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.

Big Idea References
Big Idea #35: verse 3  Big Idea #65: verse 2  Big Idea #69: verse 1

Words  Ancient Irish; tr. Mary E. Byrne; versified, Eleanor H. Hull
Music  Traditional Irish Melody; harm. David Evans
Be Thou My Vision

Traditional Irish Melody; harm. David Evans

1. Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me save that Thou art;
2. Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord.
3. Riches heed not, or man's empty praise, Thou my inheritance, now and always,

Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,

Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

Ancient Irish; tr. Mary E Byrne
Thou, Thee
Place the upturned right hand to the sky, palm facing left.

My
Place the palm of the right flat hand on the chest.

Wisdom
Move the right X hand, palm down, up and down in front of the forehead.

True
Place the right index finger, palm facing left, on lower lip. Move finger up and then out making an arc.

Word
Bring palms of hands together above head, palms pointing upward. Then bring arms down to waist level and open up palms until the face upward, like opening a book.

I
Place the thumb side of the right I hand in the middle of the chest.

Ever
Right index finger of D hand points away from body, palm facing inward. Make clockwise movement with arm.

With
Bring fists together.

Lord
Move the right L hand from the left shoulder to the right waist.
Great
Move both flat hands facing outward, up and out a few times.

Father
Place right “A” hand on forehead, palm facing left and the left “A” hand in front of the forehead, palm right, move both hands up and out toward the left, while opening hands out into “5” hands, with palms facing out.

Son
Pull the right bent hand forward as if grasping the bill of a cap. Then place the right upturned hand near the left elbow.

Dwelling
Bring both A hands with thumbs pointing up from waist to chest simultaneously.

One
Hold both bent hands in front of the body with left fingers resting on the right fingers. Then bring right hand down a short distance.
SESSION SCHEDULE AND PLANNING SHEET

Time Activity

_____ Arrive no later than this to prepare for session
My preparations:

_______________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________

_____ Children arrive

_____ Concept Introduction/Review (The Echo Chamber or Folder Hunt)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Activities for Each of the 3 Weeks Spent on a Big Idea Concept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Week 1 of Big Idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WoGoLOA Rules</td>
<td>GROUP sings the Chant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Big Question</td>
<td>LEADER says Big Question &amp; Answer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Scripture Verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Idea Concept</td>
<td>LEADER says concept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Idea Scripture Verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How to do the singing portion:**
- Sing/listen to the song through once without actions.
- Choose a movement (from the Movement Grab Bag, if using one) for the class to do while singing the song through once/twice more. Make this an aerobic activity to help get the wiggles out!
- Music for the WoGoLOA Chant is always the first song on each CD of the Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs. The music for the Big Question and Unit Scripture Verse songs are always the first two songs of the music for each unit, also found on the Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs.

**Story time**
Drama Group (or other designated) teacher tells story in a dramatic fashion, having decorated area with lots of props to be able to point to as they tell it. Use outline as a guide, adding in interested details from the text. Practice story. Do not just read it! Do not let it run more than 15 minutes.
**SESSION SCHEDULE AND PLANNING SHEET**

**Activity**

Dismiss by group to Small Group Activities

---

**Snack and Discussion Time**

- Pray, thanking God for the time together. Ask God to help your group to learn more about Him during your small group time.
- Choose 6 questions that you want the children to think about, using the story and your discussion sheets as your guides. The first question is always: “What does the snack have to do with the story?”

1. What does the snack have to do with the story?

2. __________________________________________________________________________

3. __________________________________________________________________________

4. __________________________________________________________________________

5. __________________________________________________________________________

6. __________________________________________________________________________

- If doing the Scripture Verse, Big Idea or Hymn activity, you will want to read the Scripture Verse, Big Idea or Hymn before leading the children in a discussion about it.
- The Drama group will fill in the Speaker Sheets as their discussion questions.

---

**Activity Time**

Lead the children in the particular small group activity your group is doing. See the lesson plan for each activity for detailed instructions. Review tips for how to lead your activity, if necessary (found in introduction and appendices of the Teacher Binder). Always feel free to adapt or change an activity to fit the needs of your children. What about this activity might need to change to fit their attention span, reading ability or other particular needs? Note the changes here:

---

**ACTS Prayer Time** *(Exception: Drama group leader will incorporate a brief ACTS prayer into their opening prayer, instead)*

Lead the children in an ACTS prayer incorporating an ACTS related to the Big Idea, Scripture verse or story, (see lesson plan and discussion sheets for ideas) AS WELL AS any personal prayers. Ask for volunteers to pray the prayer, but never force a child to pray.

Note: Drama Group will probably want to do this before Activity time, instead of after Activity Time, as this schedule suggests)

---

**Small Group Presentations in Closing Large Group Time**

Have small groups present in the following order: Drama, Song/s Groups, Craft Group, then Games Groups.

Make sure the Big Idea Games and Scripture Verse Games groups READ the Big Idea/Scripture Verse BEFORE asking their questions. If extra time remains, play the Clean Up Game.
Week 1 Lesson Plan

Opening Large Group Time

All children gather together to review the key concepts and rules in Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt, listen to the story, close in prayer, then are dismissed to Small Group Activities.

Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt

**Activities:**
- Review the WoGoLOA Rules
- Review the Unit Big Question and Scripture Verse
- Review the Big Idea Concept and Scripture Verse

**Resources:**
All of these resources are found in the Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Review Resources at the front of this Big Idea

- Echo Chamber Schedule (Echo Chamber Only)
- WoGoLOA Rules
- WoGoLOA Rules Chant
- Unit 12 Big Question/Song
- Unit 12 Scripture Verse/Song
- Big Idea 65 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 65 Scripture Verse Sign

- Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs
- Folders for Folder Hunt (Only Folder Hunt)

Story

**Activities:**
- Tell story
- Close in Prayer
- Dismiss to Small Group Activities

**Resources:**
**Story: What to Do with the Riches of Egypt**

*Exodus 3, 5, 11, 12, 15, 19-40*

- Story Outline p.19
- Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
- Props, Costumes and Scenery

Don’t Forget!

Decorate story-telling area with props, costumes and scenery the Drama Group will later use in their play

Story-telling Refresher:
Introduction pp.23-25
Appendices A, B
**Snack**

Animal cracker “golden calf” with Teddy graham “Israelites” around it; or, add yellow sprinkles (when ready to serve) to the children’s water “gold dust” with round cheese circle “earrings” and Trisket “fine linen” crackers

**ACTS Prayer**

A  Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.

C  Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

T  Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.

S  Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us.

Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

**Drama**

**Activities:**
- Discuss story
- Fill in Speaker Sheets
- Practice Play

**Resources:**
- Plan-a-Play Story Guide, p.20
- Speaker Sheets  Appendix B, Drama Group

**Story Review Game: Go Fish**

**Activities:**
- Discuss story
- Play Game
- Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

**Resources:**
- Story Review Discussion Questions Sheet  pp.21-22
- Story Review Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups
**WEEK 1 LESSON PLAN**

Discussion and Activity Time, continued

**Big Idea Game: Bean Bag Scramble**

**Activities:**
- Discuss Big Idea
- Play Game
- Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

**Resources:**
- Big Idea Discussion Questions Sheet, pp. 23-24
- Big Idea Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups

**Big Idea Craft: The Beautiful Curtains with the Cherubim**

**Activities:**
- Discuss Story
- Fill in Presenter Sheets
- Make Craft

**Resources:**
- Big Idea-Craft Connection Guide, p.31
- Craft Directions, p.32
- Presenter Sheets, Appendix D: Craft Group

**VIPP Clue Cards, VIPP Game: Hit the Wall**

**Activities:**
- Discuss story
- Learn about VIPP/Play VIPP Game
- Decorate VIPP Clue Cards Pray for VIPP
- Decorate VIPP Prayer Letter

**Resources:**
- VIPP Game Directions: Appendix E: VIPP Group
- VIPP Prayer Letter

**Scripture Verse Game: Cross the Raging River**

**Activities:**
- Discuss Scripture Verse
- Play Game
- Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

**Resources:**
- Scripture Verse Discussion Questions Sheet, pp.25-26
- Scripture Verse Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups
WEEK 1 LESSON PLAN

Discussion and Activity Time, continued

Scripture Song: Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

Activities:
Discuss Scripture Verse and Song
Learn Song and Sign Language
Play Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean?
(and Scripture Verse Game, see above)
Fill in Song Intro Sheet

Resources:
Scripture Verse Song Discussion Questions Sheet p.25-26
Scripture Verse Lyrics and Sign Language, Music Resources in front of this Big Idea
Song Game Directions, Appendix F Songs Groups
Song Intro Sheet, Appendix F Songs Groups
Praise Factory Scripture Songs and Hymns CDs

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision: Verse 2

Activities:
Discuss Song
Learn Song and Sign Language
Play Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean?
Fill in Song Intro Sheet

Resources:
Hymn Discussion Questions Sheet, p.29-30
Hymn Lyrics and Sign Language, Music Resources in front of this Big Idea
Song Game Directions, Appendix F Songs Groups
Song Intro Sheet, Appendix F Songs Groups
Praise Factory Scripture Songs and Hymns CDs
Closing Large Group Time

The Small Groups make a presentation to the rest of the children related to their activity.

Activity Presentations

Drama
- The Play, Introduced by the Speakers

Story Review Game
- Ask Story Review Questions

Big Idea Game
- Read the Big Idea
- Ask Big Idea Quiz Questions

Big Idea Craft
- Present Craft, Using the Presenter Sheets

VIPP Game and Clue Cards
- Share Clues about VIPP
- Pray for the VIPP

Scripture Verse Game
- Read Scripture Verse
- Ask Scripture Verse Quiz Questions

Scripture Song
- Sing Scripture Verse Song with Sign Language

Hymn
- Sing Hymn with Sign Language

Closing Prayer

Play Clean Up Game, Appendix B, C

Give Out Take Home Sheets
Opening Large Group Time

All children gather together to review the key concepts and rules in Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt, listen to the story, close in prayer, then are dismissed to Small Group Activities.

**Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt**

**Activities:**
- Review the WoGoLOA Rules
- Review the Unit Big Question and Scripture Verse
- Review the Big Idea Concept and Scripture Verse

**Resources:**
- All of these resources are found in the Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Review Resources at the front of this Big Idea
- Echo Chamber Schedule (Echo Chamber Only)
- WoGoLOA Rules
- WoGoLOA Rules Chant
- Unit 12 Big Question/Song
- Unit 12 Scripture Verse/Song
- Big Idea 65 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 65 Scripture Verse Sign

Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs

Folders for Folder Hunt (Only Folder Hunt)

---

**Story**

**Activities:**
- Tell story
- Close in prayer
- Dismiss to Small Group Activities

**Resources:**
- **Story: What to Do with the Riches of Egypt**
  - Exodus 3, 5, 11, 12, 15, 19-40
  - Story Outline p.19
  - Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
  - Props, Costumes and Scenery

**Don’t Forget!**

Decorate story-telling area with props, costumes and scenery the Drama Group will later use in their play

---

**Story-telling Refresher:**
- Introduction pp.23-25
- Appendices A, B
Small Group Activities:
Snack and Discussion Time

All children have a story-related snack, pray an ACTS prayer before doing Small Group activities, listed on the next page.

Snack

Animal cracker “golden calf” with Teddy graham “Israelites” around it; or, add yellow sprinkles (when ready to serve) to the children’s water “gold dust” with round cheese circle “earrings” and Trisket “fine linen” crackers.

ACTS Prayer

A  Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.

C  Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

T  Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.

S  Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.
Small Group Activities:

Activity Time:

After snack and discussion time, each group of Kindergarteners take part in one or two activities, as time allows.

Group 1 Activities

Use Group 1 Activities if you have just one Kindergarten group; or, for half of your Kindergarten Groups, if you have more than one group.

Group 1, First Activity: Story Review Game

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Play Game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resources:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Story Review/Big Idea Discussion Questions Sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Kindergarten Games: Story Review, Appendix G Kindergarten Group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Then, as time allows, followed by …

Group 1, Second Activity: Scripture Song: Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Discuss Scripture Verse and Song</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Resources:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scripture Verse Song Discussion Questions Sheet pp.71-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scripture Verse Lyrics and Sign Language, Music Resources in front of this Big Idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Song Game Directions, Appendix G Kindergarten Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Praise Factory Scripture Songs and Hymns CDs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Optional Kindergarten Group Format

Activity Time, continued

Group 2 Activities

Use Group 2 Activities for the other half of your Kindergarten Groups, if you have more than one group.

Group 2, First Activity: Act-It-Out

**Activities:**
Act out story all together

**Resources:**
Act-It-Out Sheet
Plan-a-Play Story Guide
The Story, pp. 61-63

Then, as time allows, followed by...

Group 2, Second Activity: Big Idea Game

(Choose Game from Best Kindergarten Games, Appendix G)

**Activities:**
Play Game
Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

**Resources:**
Big Idea Discussion Questions Sheet
Best Kindergarten Games:: Big Idea Games, Appendix G Kindergarten Group
Closing Large Group Time

The Small Groups can make presentation to the rest of the children related to their activity. These are optional for The Kindergarten groups.

Activity Presentations

**Story Review/Big Idea Game**
- Ask Story Review/Big Idea Questions

**VIPP Game and Clue Cards**
- Share Clues about VIPP
- Pray for the VIPP

**Act-It-Out**
- Act out a few actions from Beginning, Middle, End as teacher tells the story briefly

**Scripture Song**
- Sing Scripture Verse Song with Sign Language

**Scripture Verse Game**
- Read Scripture Verse
- Ask Scripture Verse Quiz Questions

**Closing Prayer**

**Play Clean Up Game, Appendix B, C**

**Give Out Take Home Sheets**
Our story today takes place about 3500 years ago out in the wilderness, south and east of Egypt. It was a lonely land, out there, south and east of Egypt. The ground was dry, flat and sun-scorched. Little but rocks, scorpions, snakes and scruffy, little grasses survived under the never-ending hot and cloudless days. But today something was different, for the sun was blocked out by a “cloud” of a sort; and a sound not unlike the low rumble of distant thunder filled the air. Was a storm coming to this rainless land? No, it was not. These were rain clouds. There was something far more incredible than rain was in that “cloud;” for this was the special cloud of the presence of the LORD! And the rumble was not the rumble of thunder, as the cloud moved across the desert. It was the pounding footsteps of thousands of people, mixed with the roar of their voices.

What was the meaning of this mass of people led by the LORD’s pillar of cloud? Why, it was the Exodus! The LORD had rescued the Israelites from 430 years of cruel slavery under the Egyptians and was Himself leading them to freedom, just as He had promised Moses He would.

“I have seen the misery of the Israelites and heard their cries,” the LORD had told Moses on Mt. Sinai, as he knelt before a bush aflame with the LORD’s presence. “I will rescue them from the Egyptians and then lead them out to the land of Canaan that I had promised to them through Abraham. It is a rich and spacious land... But that is not all I will do for My people. Even though they are but poor, penniless slaves, they will leave Egypt rich. For when it is time to leave Egypt, I will make the Egyptians want to give them the best things from their houses. They will start their new lives with everything they need and much more.”

That was just what had happened. After an incredible show of power in ten amazing plagues, the Pharaoh of Egypt was forced to confess the LORD’s surpassing power over him and as well as the Egyptian gods. He released the Israelites from slavery, and he and the other Egyptians gave the Israelites great riches.

And so now here was the LORD was leading all of His freed people out and away from Egypt, happy and laden with the riches of Egypt—gold, silver, bronze mirrors, precious jewels, skins of goat and ram’s hair, hides of sea cows (dolphins, many think), acacia wood, the finest linen cloth, and yarn of scarlet, blue and even rare purple.

“How amazing it is that this mighty God has done so much for us!” the Israelites exclaimed. “He has given us freedom, the promise of a new life and even the great riches of Egypt. Who is like our LORD?!” Their hearts were full of thankfulness and praise and so were their voices.

That day Moses’ sister Miriam led them in song as they traveled into the wilderness: “The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him...Your right hand,
O LORD, was majestic in power. Your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy. In the greatness of your majesty you threw down those who opposed you….In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed….The LORD will reign forever and ever.” (NIV Exodus 15:2,13,18)

On and on the LORD led the Israelites across the dry wilderness until they came to the foot of Mt. Sinai, the very mountain where Moses had met with the LORD before. The Israelites’ hearts had been filled with praise and thankfulness in song for what the LORD had done for them, but now it was time for more than just singing. He had brought them to Mt. Sinai to live out their praise and thankfulness by making a solemn promise to always love, worship and obey Him alone.

“You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself,” the LORD told them through Moses. “I want you to be my precious people and I will be your God. Make a covenant with Me—a solemn promise— to follow all my good laws, and serve and love Me only as your God. If you do obey Me fully and keep this covenant, then out of all nations you will be My treasured possession. I will promise to always protect you, love you, and bless you with the best of things.”

When the Israelites heard the LORD’s wonderful promise, they were filled with even more thankfulness and praise for Him. “How amazing it is that this mighty God would want to make a covenant with us!” they told Moses. “He has given us so much—freedom, the promise of a new life and even the great riches of Egypt. Now He offers us this everlasting covenant! Our hearts have been full of thankfulness and praise and so have our voices. Now we want to live our whole lives for Him. Tell the LORD that we will do everything He has said. We will obey all His laws and serve Him with all of our heart and with everything He has given us. Moses, speak to the LORD for us and tell us His laws so that we can obey them.”

The LORD was pleased with the Israelites’ answer. He called Moses back up Mt. Sinai to tell him everything He wanted the Israelites to know, and left Aaron, Moses’ brother in charge of the Israelites.

Up on the mountain the LORD revealed all of His good laws and wonderful plans for the Israelites. He wrote on stone the Ten Commandments of how they were to love Him and how to love others. He gave them many other good laws to obey. He told Moses how He planned to use all the skills the Israelites learned in Egypt and all the rich things of Egypt He had give them to allow them to make Him a special place—called the Tabernacle—where His presence would dwell with the people. The LORD had given them great gifts in skill. He had given them the riches of Egypt. Now He would give them the joy of using them to make something so wonderful. Moses was amazed at the LORD’s great love and kindness to the Israelites. Surely they would take great joy in expressing their praise and thanksgiving to Him by obeying His laws and using their skills and riches to build the Tabernacle.

But the LORD knew it was not so and told Moses. “While you have been up here with Me, the people have forgotten their praise and thankfulness for Me,” the LORD told Moses. “They have broken the covenant they just made with Me. They have taken the riches I gave them and used their skills to build a golden calf to worship instead of Me. Go down and see for yourself”
Moses turned and went down Mt. Sinai to find everything just like the LORD had said. The people worshiping and dancing around a giant golden calf, like they had seen the Egyptians make. Moses burned with anger. “What have these people done?!” he exclaimed in horror and disbelief. “How could they forget so quickly all the amazing things this mighty God has done so much for them. He has given us freedom, the promise of a new life and even the great riches of Egypt! Hadn’t they praised and thanked the LORD for all He had done? Hadn’t they promised to worship and serve Him only as their God? How could they take the things the LORD had given them and turn them into an idol?”

Moses threw down the stone tablets with God’s laws written on them and they shattered into pieces. The people had broken the covenant they had with the LORD. Moses then took the golden calf, ground it into gold dust, mixed it with water, and made all the people drink it. Many of the Israelites repented of this terrible thing they did, but those who did not were killed by the sword or by a terrible sickness.

The Israelites had already broken their promises to the LORD and He had every right to leave them, but He did not. Oh, how full of mercy towards His sinful people!

“I forgive the people their sins against Me,” the LORD told Moses. “I want to keep the covenant with them, even though they have broken it. Make another set of the stone tablets I gave you and go to the people and have them prepare to build My Tabernacle.”

So Moses gathered all the people together and told them of the LORD’s forgiveness and His wonderful plan of the Tabernacle.

“The LORD rescued you from slavery in Egypt and brought you out with the riches of that land,” Moses told them. “You have praised and thanked Him in your hearts and in song. You have even promised to obey Him with your lives. Now He is giving you a chance to use the rich things He’s given you for Him: From what you have, make an offering for the LORD. Everyone who is willing is to bring to the LORD an offering of gold, silver and bronze; blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen; goat hair; ram skins dyed red and hides of sea cows; acacia wood; olive oil for the light; spices for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense; and onyx stones and other gems to be mounted on the [high priest’s special clothes.]”

[“But that it not all,” Moses told them. “The LORD is also giving you the chance to use the skills you have to make the very dwelling place of the LORD’s presence! So] all who are skilled among you are to come and make everything the LORD has commanded: the tabernacle with its tent and its covering, clasps, frames, crossbars, posts and bases; the ark with its poles and the atonement cover and the curtain that shields it; the table with its poles and all its articles and the bread of the Presence; the lampstand that is for light with its accessories, lamps and oil for the light; the altar of incense with its poles, the anointing oil and the fragrant incense; the curtain for the doorway at the entrance to the tabernacle; the altar of burnt offering with its bronze grating, its poles and all its utensils; the bronze basin with its stand; the curtains of the courtyard with its posts and bases, and the curtain for the entrance to the courtyard; the tent pegs for the tabernacle and for the courtyard, and their ropes; the woven garments worn for ministering in the sanctuary-both the sacred garments for Aaron the priest and the garments for his sons...
when they serve as priests." Then the whole Israelite community withdrew from Moses' presence.

What would the Israelites do? It would take most of the riches they had been given in Egypt to make this Tabernacle? Would they give them up? It would take a lot of time and skill to make this Tabernacle. Would they really use all their skill and time to make this? Was their praise and thankfulness for the LORD just a feeling in their heart or something they sang in a song, like last time when so many worshiped the golden calf? Or was He someone they would give the best of their things and their skills and their time for?

“How amazing is this mighty God!” they told Moses. “He has given us so much—freedom, the promise of a new life and even the great riches of Egypt. He has offered us an everlasting covenant! Now He has even forgiven us for making and worshipping an idol. He is giving us the chance to give from our things and to use our skills to build a dwelling place so that His presence can always be with us. Our hearts have been full of thankfulness and praise and so have our voices. Now we want to give to the LORD from what He has given us. Tell the LORD that we will serve Him by making the Tabernacle.”

[So] everyone who was willing and whose heart moved him came and brought an offering to the LORD for the work on the Tent of Meeting, for all its service, and for the sacred garments. All who were willing, men and women alike, came and brought gold jewelry of all kinds: brooches, earrings, rings and ornaments. They all presented their gold as a wave offering to the LORD. Everyone who had blue, purple or scarlet yarn or fine linen, or goat hair, ram skins dyed red or hides of sea cows brought them. Those presenting an offering of silver or bronze brought it as an offering to the LORD, and everyone who had acacia wood for any part of the work brought it. Every skilled woman spun with her hands and brought what she had spun—blue, purple or scarlet yarn or fine linen. 26 And all the women who were willing and had the skill spun the goat hair. The leaders brought onyx stones and other gems to be mounted on the ephod and breast piece. They also brought spices and olive oil for the light and for the anointing oil and for the fragrant incense. 29 All the Israelite men and women who were willing brought to the LORD freewill offerings for all the work the LORD through Moses had commanded them to do.

[And then the skilled workers came forward. “It is not enough for us just to give things to show our praise and thankfulness. We want to use all our skills to make this dwelling place for the LORD’s presence.”]

Then Moses said to the Israelites, "See, the LORD has chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts- to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to work in wood and to engage in all kinds of artistic craftsmanship. And he has given both him and Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, the ability to teach others. He has filled them with skill to do all kinds of work as craftsmen, designers, embroiderers in blue, purple and scarlet yarn and fine linen, and weavers—all of them master craftsmen and designers…

[So] they received from Moses all the offerings the Israelites had brought to carry out the work of
constructing the sanctuary. [All the people continued to bring freewill offerings morning after morning until their gifts piled up and up and up. Finally Bezalel, Oholiab and the others had no place to do their work because of all the offerings!] So all the skilled craftsmen who were doing all the work on the sanctuary left their work and said to Moses, "The people are bringing more than enough for doing the work the LORD commanded to be done." Then Moses gave an order and they sent this word throughout the camp: "No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary." And so the people were restrained from bringing more, 7 because what they already had was more than enough to do all the work.

Day after day after day, Bezaleel, Oholiab and all the others worked with all their skill to make the Tabernacle just the way the LORD had commanded. They never gave up when the work went long and hard for the praise and thankfulness they had in their hearts for all the LORD had done for them made them happy to give the skills the LORD had given them to build His Tabernacle. At last it was all done: the curtains of the courtyard, the ark of the Covenant, the table for the showbread, the lampstand, the altar of incense, the altar of burnt offering, the basin for washing, the courtyard, and all the priestly garments. Moses inspected all the work that had been done and it was perfect!

"Everything has been made just exactly as the LORD planned it. Out of your hearts of praise and thankfulness for what the LORD has done for you, you have given from your best things just what was needed—and even more. You have used your skills and time to make everything just as the LORD planned. Now everything is perfect. Receive the blessing of the Lord for your offerings and hard work. Make the final preparations for the coming of the Lord's glory to His Tabernacle," Moses said to the people.

When everything in the Tabernacle was made ready and the priests dressed in their priestly garments, the great cloud of the Lord's presence that had led them from Egypt dropped down and covered the Tent of Meeting and the glory of the LORD filled the Tabernacle so completely that no one could enter it. And all the people praised and thanked the Lord, saying 'How amazing is this mighty God! He has given us so much—freedom, the promise of a new life and even the great riches of Egypt. He has offered us an everlasting covenant! He has even forgiven us for making and worshipping an idol. He has given us the chance to give from our things and to use our skills to build a dwelling place so that His presence can always be with us. Now His presence has come to dwell with us forever." (from Exodus 35-40, NIV)

And so it was, in all the travels of the Israelites, wherever they went, the LORD was with them, making His dwelling among them, and leading them where He wanted them to go.

Our Big Idea is: **God's People Are Good Stewards of God's Gifts**
Our Scripture Verse is: **1 Peter 4:10-11**

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through
Jesus Christ."

The LORD had done so much for the Israelites! He had given them so much, too. Yet they were all too quick to forget Him and use what He had given them to do sinful things. What about you and me? What has the LORD given us? Has He not blessed us with good things and with skills? Has He not offered us salvation through faith in Jesus? Yes, He has. Will we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior? Will we receive the salvation He offers us freely through Jesus?

And what will we do with what the LORD has given us? Be selfish and think only of ourselves? Forget that He has given them all to us? Or, will we remember each day that we are only stewards of all the good gifts that God has given us and try to use everything we have to love others and help them know about Jesus? Let’s praise God for all the good gifts He has given us. Let’s ask Him to make us good stewards of them all in the way we live.
1. The LORD promises Moses that He free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and will even give them the riches of their Egyptian masters to take with them.

2. The LORD leads them out of Egypt with a special pillar of cloud of His presence. They rejoice in their hearts and in song, with praise and thankfulness to the LORD.

3. The LORD takes them to Mt. Sinai where He tells them about the covenant He wants to make with them. They are to worship and obey Him only and He will be their God forever. They joyfully agree.

4. The LORD calls Moses up Mt. Sinai to give him all the laws and tell him His plans for the Tabernacle, so that His presence can dwell with the people always. He will use the riches of Egypt and the skills of the people to build the Tabernacle.

5. The LORD tells Moses that the people have taken some of the riches of Egypt He gave them and made a calf of gold to worship. They have already broken their covenant with Him!

6. When Moses see the people, he throws down the 10 commandments in anger, grinds the calf into gold dust and makes them drink it.

7. Many repent, but many do not. Those who do not are killed by sword or by a terrible sickness.

8. The LORD has every right to end His covenant with them, but He forgives them. Moses tells them about the Tabernacle.

9. The people freely give all that is needed to build the Tabernacle. The skilled workers, led by Bezalel and Oholiab begin work.

10. The people keep bringing so many things that the workers have to ask Moses to get them to stop.

11. At last the Tabernacle is done. The LORD is pleased with the work. Everything is done perfectly.

12. Everyone gets ready and the LORD—in the pillar of cloud—has His presence come down upon the Tent of Meeting and fill the Tabernacle.

13. Everyone praises the LORD.
Welcome to The Praise Factory curriculum! The resources within week of every Big Idea are ordered in exactly the same way:

1. **Drama Group Resources**
   - Plan-a-Play Story Guide
   - Act-It-Out Sheet

   *(Speaker Sheets are found in Appendix B: Drama Group)*

2. **Games Groups Resources**
   - Story Review Discussion Questions
   - Big Idea Discussion Questions
   - Scripture Verse Discussion Questions

   *(Directions to Games are found in Appendix C: Games Groups)*

3. **Songs Groups Resources**
   - Scripture Verse Song Discussion Sheet
   - Hymn Discussion Sheet

   *(Lyrics, Music and Sign Language for both songs found Big Idea Music Resources, at the front of the curriculum this Big Idea)*

   *(Song Intro Sheet is found in Appendix F: Songs Groups)*

4. **Craft Resources**
   - Craft Instructions and Resources

   *(Presenter Sheets found in Appendix E: Craft Group)*

5. **VIPP Resources**
   - VIPP Prayer Letter

   *(VIPP Clue Cards and Directions for VIPP Games are found in Appendix E: VIPP Group)*
1. Setting (Narrators 2-4)
When? About 3600 years ago
Where? South-east of Egypt in the Wilderness, near Mt. Sinai
What’s It Like? Dry, only rocks, scorpions, scruffy grasses, rainless

2. Who’s in It? (Narrator 5)
Moses
Aaron
The Israelites
The Egyptians
Pharaoh
The Riches of Egypt
Pillar of cloud
Mt. Sinai
10 Commandments
Golden Calf
Earrings
Stuff for Tabernacle
Bezalel, Oholiab and other skilled workers
Presence of the LORD

3. What about the Big Idea? (Narrator 6)
Today’s Big Idea is God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts. The Israelites were good stewards of God’s gifts when they freely gave of their Egyptian riches and their skills to build the Tabernacle.

4. What do we call it? (Narrator 1)
Bad Stewards, Good Stewards

5. What's it About? (Leader’s Narration Guide)
Beginning:
The LORD promises Moses that He free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and will even give them the riches of their Egyptian masters to take with them. The LORD leads them out of Egypt with a special pillar of cloud of His presence. They rejoice in their hearts & in song, with praise and thankfulness to the LORD. The LORD takes them to Mt. Sinai where He tells them about the covenant He wants to make with them. They are to worship & obey Him only & He will be their God forever. They joyfully agree.

Middle:
The LORD calls Moses up Mt. Sinai to give him all the laws and tell him His plans for the Tabernacle, so that His presence can dwell with the people always. He will use the riches of Egypt and the skills of the people to build the Tabernacle. The LORD tells Moses that the people have taken some of the riches of Egypt He gave them and made a calf of gold to worship. They have already broken their covenant with Him! When Moses see the people, he throws down the 10 Commandments in anger, grinds the calf into gold dust and makes them drink it. Many repent, but many do not. Those who do not are killed by sword or by a terrible sickness.

End:
The LORD has every right to end His covenant with them, but He forgives them. Moses tells them about the Tabernacle. The people freely give all that is needed to build the Tabernacle. The skilled workers, led by Bezalel and Oholiab begin work. The people keep bringing so many things that the workers have to ask Moses to get them to stop. At last the Tabernacle is done. The LORD is pleased with the work. Everything is done perfectly. Everyone gets ready and the LORD—in the pillar of cloud—has His presence come down upon the Tent of Meeting and fill the Tabernacle. Everyone praises the LORD.
Beginning:
The LORD promises Moses that He will free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt and will give them the riches of their Egyptian masters. The LORD leads them out of Egypt with a special pillar of cloud of His presence. They rejoice in their hearts and in song, with praise and thankfulness to the LORD. The LORD takes them to Mt. Sinai where He tells them about the covenant He wants to make with them. They are to worship and obey Him only, and He will be their God forever. They joyfully agree.

Middle:
The LORD calls Moses up Mt. Sinai to give him all the laws and tell him His plans for the Tabernacle, so that His presence can dwell with the people always. He will use the riches of Egypt and the skills of the people to build the Tabernacle. The LORD tells Moses that the people have taken some of the riches of Egypt He gave them and made a calf of gold to worship. They have already broken their covenant with Him! When Moses sees the people, he throws down the 10 Commandments in anger, grinds the calf into gold dust and makes them drink it. Many repent, but many do not. Those who do not are killed by sword or by a terrible sickness.

End:
The LORD has every right to end His covenant with them, but He forgives them. Moses tells them about the Tabernacle. The people freely give all that is needed to build the Tabernacle. The skilled workers, led by Bezalel and Oholiab, begin work. The people keep bringing so many things that the workers have to ask Moses to get them to stop. At last the Tabernacle is done. The LORD is pleased with the work. Everything is done perfectly. Everyone gets ready and the LORD—in the pillar of cloud—has His presence come down upon the Tent of Meeting and fill the Tabernacle. Everyone praises the LORD.
1. What did the LORD tell Moses He would do for the Israelites? *Free them from slavery and give them the riches of the Egyptians to take with them.*


3. How did the Israelites respond to God for freeing them from Egypt? *With thankful heart and songs of praise.*

4. What did the LORD want the Israelites to do in the covenant He made with them? *Worship and obey Him only.*

5. Why was agreeing to the covenant harder than just thanking and praising God with their hearts and in their song? *Because they had sinful hearts that would be tempted to not obey the LORD.*

6. How were the Israelites bad stewards with what they did with the golden calf? *They used the things the LORD gave them to make an idol to worship. They used their skills to make the golden calf. They praised it with their voices and worshiped it in their hearts.*

7. What did the Israelites deserve for the LORD to do to them for making the golden calf? *To break His covenant with them….even destroy them all.*

8. Why were only some of the Israelites killed? *Only those who would not turn from their sin of idol worship. God, in His great mercy, forgave all who turned away from their sin.*

9. How did were the Israelites good stewards of what God had given them when they built the Tabernacle? *They gave freely and generously of their riches, they worked hard with all their skills.*

**Big Idea Connections**

What does our story have to do with our Big Idea? *The Israelites were good stewards of God’s gifts when they freely gave of their Egyptian riches and their skills to build the Tabernacle.*

**Scripture Verse Connections**

What does our story have to do with the Scripture Verse: *1 Peter 4:10-11*

> “Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."

*The LORD gave the Israelites skills and riches to use to build the Tabernacle to the praise of His name.*

**Life Application**

1. Perhaps we don’t make golden idols, but how do we use the gifts God has given us in the wrong way? *When we use them to do things that are against God’s good laws or that bring glory to ourselves but not to God.*

2. What kinds of gifts has God given you to be a good steward of? *Answers vary.*

3. How can we receive the best gift of eternal life from God? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*
The Gospel
The LORD freed the Israelites from their slavery to the Egyptians. They celebrated the great way that He rescued them. But there is a greater slavery that all people need freedom from: the slavery to sin and death. How did people become slaves to sin and death? What has God done to rescue them from this? What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? Praise God for being the rescuer of His people from slavery to sin and death.
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? Confess that too many times, like the Israelites, we are sinners who choose to use the good things God has given us to do what we want to do instead of worship Him. We deserve His punishment! We all need a Savior!
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? We can thank God that even though we have often disobeyed His good ways and misused the good things He has given us, He offers us forgiveness through Jesus.
4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our story? We can ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to confess our sins, turn away from them and trust Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to help us to use all the good gifts He has given us to serve Him.

Playing the Game: Use the same questions in your story review game as you used in your discussion.
Optional Closing Activity: Make Your Own Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time
**Materials**
Broom stick or pole
String
U-shaped magnet
Paper clips, 1 per question
Construction paper
Scissors
Basket/Pail

**Story Review Discussion & Quiz Questions**

**Preparing the Game**
Supplement the Story Review Discussion & Quiz Questions to make up 20+ questions. See “A Guide through the Games Activities” in Appendix C at the back of this binder for more help on making up questions that challenge the children to understand and apply the Story Review concepts to their lives.

Cut out fish (different sizes and shapes, if desired), one per question. Write a question on each fish. And assign a point value to each fish based on difficulty. Attach a paper clip to the mouth of each fish. Place the fish in the basket. Attach the magnet to one end of the string and the pole to the other end.

**Playing the Game**
Divide the children into teams. Teams will take turns catching fish by hooking them with the magnet and the paper clip. The question is then read to the child/team. A correct answer is worth as many points as is indicated on the fish. If answered incorrectly, the question goes to the other team for a possible one point.

Play continues as questions last, or as time and attention span allow.

**Optional Closing Activity:**
**Make Your Own Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time.**
If you have time left over, you can do the other game; or, you can have the children think up their own Quiz Questions to ask the other children during Closing Large Group Time, instead of using the ones from discussion time and the game.
Big Idea Concept: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts

God is the Creator of all things. All things belong to Him. There is nothing that we have that God did not give to us: our bodies, our things, our money, our lives. God made people to be stewards of His good gifts to us. What is a steward? A steward is someone who takes care of someone else’s things. God wants His people to be good stewards of His gifts to them. He wants them to serve Him with their bodies—with their hands, their mouths and all of their strength. He wants them to freely share their things with others. He wants them to use their money generously to take care of our families, to help others and to spread the good news about Jesus. In heaven, God promises to reward each of His people according to how they stewarded God’s gifts to them during their lives on earth. God’s people know that they cannot be good stewards of God’s gifts on their own. They know that it is the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts, who helps them be the kind of stewards of God’s gifts that He desires them to be.

Understanding the Big Idea

1. Why do all things belong to God? Because He is their Creator.
2. What do we have that God has given to us? Everything! Our bodies, things, money, lives.
3. What is a steward? Someone who takes care of someone else’s things.
4. What are people stewards of? The things that God has given to each of them.
5. How can we be good stewards of God’s gifts to us? Serve Him with our bodies; share freely with others; give our money generously to help our families and others; use all we have to tell others about Jesus.
6. What difference does it make how we steward the things God has given us? How we use them pleases Him or not. He will reward us in heaven for how well we stewarded His gifts.
7. How will God reward each of His people in heaven? According to how they stewarded His gifts to them during their lives on earth.
8. Can God’s people be good stewards of God’s gifts to them on their own? Why or why not? No. They know that the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts must help them to be the kind of steward God wants them to be.

Big Idea Story Connection Questions

How were the Israelites bad stewards, how were they good stewards, of what God gave them? They were bad stewards when they used the riches from Egypt and their skills to make a golden calf to worship. They were good stewards when they generously gave their riches and their skills to build the Tabernacle.

Scripture Verse Connection

What does our Big Idea have to do with the Scripture Verse: 1 Peter 4:10-11

“This one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

This verse reminds us that the gifts God gives to each of His people are to be used to bring praise to God and to encourage each other.
Life Application Questions
1. How can we be good stewards of God’s gifts to us? (answers will vary)
2. What difference does it make to God’s people to know that everything they are and have is really God’s and He calls them to be a steward of them? It makes them think carefully about how they use what they have and are. They know that God is watching them and will reward them for serving Him well, even if no one else sees.
3. What is the best first step to being a good steward of the soul that God has given us to know and love Him? To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for because of this Big Idea?
Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Big Idea?
Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Big Idea?
Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.
4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Big Idea?
Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

Gospel Question
We are all born sinners. We have all chosen to use the good gifts and abilities God has given us to please ourselves, not to obey and glorify Him. We deserve His punishment, but God offers us hope. What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Have your small group ask some of the questions used in their discussion and game as their quiz questions for Closing Large Group Time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
Beanbag Scramble

Big Idea Game

Materials
Beanbags, enough for all the children, minus 1
Drum, guitar or just your hands!
Tape
Small bowl or bag
Big Idea Discussion & Quiz Questions

Preparing the Game
Supplement the Big Idea Discussion & Quiz Questions to make up 20+ questions. See “A Guide through the Games Activities in Appendix C at the back of this binder for more help on making up questions that challenge the children to understand and apply the Big Idea concepts to their lives.

Write the Big Idea questions on small thin strips of paper and put them in the bag/bowl.

Playing the Game
Beanbags are placed in a circle on the floor, with children forming a circle just outside the beanbags. Tell the children that you will beat a beat on the drum, strum a strum on the guitar, or clap your hands and they are to march to the beat. As the beat gets faster, they march faster. As it gets slower, they march slower, etc. Suddenly stop the music and the children scramble for the beanbags. The child who has no beanbag picks a question for the class to answer. If the class answers it correctly, then the child is added back into the march. If not, then the child stays out and another bean bag is removed.

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

NOTE: Have the children who are “out” be the Beatmakers with you. This will keep them happily occupied as the others march.

Optional Closing Activity
Make Your Own Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time
If you have time left over, you can do the other game; or, you can have the children think up their own Quiz Questions to ask the other children during Closing Large Group Time, instead of using the ones from discussion time and the game.
1 Peter 4:10-11

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

Understanding the Scripture
1. What kind of gifts do we receive from God? Why? *Everything from just being alive to the things we have to special skills and talents that we have. He gives them to serve others.*
2. What does it mean to “faithfully administer God’s grace in its various forms?” *To use all the different gifts that God has given us to love others and help them know & obey Jesus.*
3. How can someone who is speaking be a good steward of his words? *By saying only what God would want them to say (speaking the very words of God.) If God would not be pleased with something you want to say, then don’t say it.*
4. How can someone who is serving be a good steward of what he is doing? *Don’t serve to get people to think more highly of you. That’s serving in your own strength, with yourself in mind. Serve with the strength of Christ. That is, serve in the same loving, selfless way as Jesus did with the purpose of loving others and helping them know and obey God—just as Jesus did.*
5. What are ways that we can serve Christ? *Anything we do, from helping our family and friends, sharing our things, spending time reading the Bible and praying so that we love God more, telling others about Jesus, etc. is serving Christ when we do it with Him in mind.*
6. What happens when we speak and serve this way? *God will be praised through Jesus Christ. Others will see the way we are and see what Jesus is like. They will want to praise Him for doing such wonderful things through us and for being such a wonderful God.*

Big Idea Connection
What does this verse have to do with our Big Idea? *God wants His people to use all the good gifts He has given them to serve Him by loving others and helping them know Him.*

Story Connection
What does this verse have to do with today’s story? *The Israelites used the riches God gave them and their different skills to build the Tabernacle just as He desired. They brought praise to His name by doing this.*

Life Application
1. How can God's people apply this verse to their lives? *They can ask God to use the gifts He has given them to serve others as He desires.*
2. How can we become God’s people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? *Praise God for being the Giver of Good Gifts to His people.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? *Many times we want to use the gifts God gives us to bring praise to ourselves, instead of God. We deserve God’s punishment! We need a Savior!"
ACTS Questions, continued
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse?
   *We can thank God giving gifts to His people to use to bring praise to Him.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
   *We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to fill our hearts with the Holy Spirit that He might help us to use whatever gifts He has given us to bring praise to His name.*

Gospel Question
This verse encourages God’s people to speak as if speaking the very words of God. What are the best words that God has given us to speak to others? What is the gospel? *God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!*  

Preparing the Children for the Scripture Verse Game
Introduce and Practice Shortened Games version before playing game.

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Read the Scripture Verse to the Large Group & have your small group ask some of the Scripture verse questions used in discussion time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
CROSS THE RAGING RIVER
Scripture Verse Game

**Materials**
Scripture Verse Sign from the Big Idea Folder
Two yardsticks or long pieces of rope

**Preparing the Game**
Make up some questions about the verse and/or story.

**Learning the Verse**
Hold up the Scripture Verse sign from the Big Idea Folder for all the children to see. Read it slowly with them reading along with you. Remind them of the meaning of the verse, noting key words that may need explaining. Practice saying the verse with the children until they are fairly confident saying it from memory, probably 4 or 5 times.

**Playing the Game**
Have the children line up in a straight line behind the leader. Explain to them that there’s a river to cross and they get to jump the bank without getting wet. Each child will say the verse and then jump across the two yardsticks/ropes lying next to each other on the floor. After each round, the sticks/ropes will be separated by more space, making it a wider river to jump across. As the river gets wider, some children will not make it but “fall in”. Explain to them that they are stuck in the river unless they can answer a question (that you make up) about the Scripture Verse or the story.

Game continues as time and attention span allow.

Caution: Avoid accidents by not letting the “river” get too wide.

**Optional Closing Activity**
Make Your Own Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time
If you have time left over, you can do the other game; or, you can have the children think up their own Quiz Questions to ask the other children during Closing Large Group Time, instead of using the ones from discussion time and the game.
Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

Each of us should use whatever gift, He has received to serve others, Faithfully administering God’s grace, In its various forms. If anyone serves, He should do it with the strength, God provides so that in all things, God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs

Understanding the Scripture
1. What kind of gifts do we receive from God? Why? Everything from just being alive to the things we have to special skills and talents that we have. He gives them to serve others.
2. What does it mean to “faithfully administer God’s grace in its various forms?” To use all the different gifts that God has given us to love others and help them know & obey Jesus.
3. How can someone who is speaking be a good steward of his words? By saying only what God would want them to say (speaking the very words of God.) If God would not be pleased with something you want to say, then don’t say it.
4. How can someone who is serving be a good steward of what he is doing? Don’t serve to get people to think more highly of you. That’s serving in your own strength, with yourself in mind. Serve with the strength of Christ. That is, serve in the same loving, selfless way as Jesus did with the purpose of loving others and helping them know and obey God—just as Jesus did.
5. What are ways that we can serve Christ? Anything we do, from helping our family and friends, sharing our things, spending time reading the Bible and praying so that we love God more, telling others about Jesus, etc. is serving Christ when we do it with Him in mind.
6. What happens when we speak and serve this way? God will be praised through Jesus Christ. Others will see the way we are and see what Jesus is like. They will want to praise Him for doing such wonderful things through us and for being such a wonderful God.

Big Idea Connection
What does this verse have to do with our Big Idea? God wants His people to use all the good gifts He has given them to serve Him by loving others and helping them know Him.

Story Connection
What does this verse have to do with today’s story? The Israelites used the riches God gave them and their different skills to build the Tabernacle just as He desired. They brought praise to His name by doing this.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people apply this verse to their lives? They can ask God to use the gifts He has given them to serve others as He desires.
2. How can we become God’s people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
Scripture Song Discussion Questions

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? Praise God for being the Giver of Good Gifts to His people.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? Many times we want to use the gifts God gives us to bring praise to ourselves, instead of God. We deserve God’s punishment! We need a Savior!
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse? We can thank God giving gifts to His people to use to bring praise to Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse? We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to fill our hearts with the Holy Spirit that He might help us to use whatever gifts He has given us to bring praise to His name.

Gospel Question
This verse encourages God’s people to speak as if speaking the very words of God. What are the best words that God has given us to speak to others? What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

Closing Large Group Time
Sign and sing the song.
Materials
Sign Language signs used in song, printed out onto cards; particularly choose words with important meanings you want the children to learn, such as “grace”, “redeem”, etc.
Bag or bowl

Preparing the Game
Put the signs in the bag/bowl.

Playing the Game
Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Then put all the signs we’ve learned in this bag/bowl and mix them up. Ask one of the children to choose a sign, but not show it to anyone…but you, if they need some help. Ask the child to do the sign for the rest of the children and see if the other children can guess which one it is. Do the sign with the child, if desired. When the children guess the sign, ask them the meaning of the word. Choose another child to pick a new sign from the bag and continue.

NOTE: You might want to sing the song after you do each word.
Be Thou My Vision

Verse 2
Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Understanding the Song
1. What does “Thou” mean? Who is the “Thou” being spoken to? “Thou” is an old word meaning “You.”
   The Lord is the “Thou” in this song.
2. Was does it mean to ask God to be your “Wisdom”? To not depend on your own understanding but on
   God’s to know what is best. It also means asking God to show you what He thinks as wise, to help you believe it
   and to help you to do it.
3. What does it mean to ask God to be your “true Word”? It means to ask God to help you to believe in His
   Word., and help you desire to live by them in all you think, say and do.
4. Who does the writer of the song what to always be with Him? The Lord.
5. Who is God a great Father to? God is a great Father, not just to Jesus, but also to all of His people.
6. Who is like a “true son” to God? Not just Jesus, but all of God’s people.
7. How can we have God as our true Father? How can we be His true sons? By turning from our sins and
   trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.
8. Is true sons just talking about boys/men or does it include girls/women, too? Sons means both boys and
   girls; men and women.
9. How does God dwell in His people? The Holy Spirit lives inside their hearts.
10. What does it mean to be one with God? It means to be in happy fellowship with Him in your heart; and, in
    agreement with what He wants.

Big Idea Connection
How does this song relate to our Big Idea: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts?
God’s people want God to be their Wisdom, that they would know how to use their lives to please Him. They
want Him to be their true Word, that they might believe His Word and obey all it tells them about how to use
the good gifts He’s given them. They want His Holy Spirit to be dwelling in them so that even in their hearts they
might have the wonderful fellowship with God He created them to have. They want Him to ever be with them,
so that everything in their lives, from the thoughts of their hearts to their words and their actions, please Him
and might be used as He wants them to be used. This is how they can be good stewards of all the gifts God has
given them.

Story Connection
How does this song relate to today’s story? At Mt. Sinai, the Israelites made a covenant with the LORD. He
would be their God and they would obey His Word. They wanted Him to be their Wisdom and their true Word.
How sad it was that they quickly turned away from Him! They turned away from His wisdom and His Word and
worshipped a golden calf instead. They deserved only God’s punishment, but in His great mercy, He forgave
those who repented of their sins and turned back to Him. He gave them the opportunity to give their skills and
riches to make the Tabernacle: the place where God would dwell with them.
Scripture Verse Connection
How does this song relate to our Scripture Verse: 1 Peter 4:10-11
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

God’s people know that all the gifts they have are good gifts from God, their Father. They know that they need God’s wisdom and His Word to know how to use the gifts God has given them in ways that will bring praise to Him through Jesus Christ. They depend upon the Holy Spirit, dwelling in them to help them to believe and obey God’s wisdom as revealed in His Word; and, to do whatever God calls them to do with the gifts He has given them.

Life Application Questions
1. How can our lives be affected by the message of this song?
We can ask God to be our Wisdom and our true Word. We can ask Him to help us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. And, we can ask the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts, helping us to use all the good gifts God gives us for the praise of His name.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?
Praise God for the Wisdom and True Word of His People.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?
That many times, we do not want God’s wisdom or to be our true Word. We want to do things our own way, instead of God’s good and perfect ways.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?
We can thank God for making His people His true sons, even though they deserve nothing but His punishment for the way that have sinned against Him. We can thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to dwell in their hearts and giving them wonderful, close fellowship with Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
That God would make us His true sons by working in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to send the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts, that we might have wonderful, close fellowship with God.

Gospel Question
Why do none of us deserve to be God’s true sons? What has Jesus done so that we can be? What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

Closing Large Group Time
Sign and sing song.
Materials
Sign Language signs used in song, printed out onto cards; particularly choose words with important meanings you want the children to learn, such as “grace”, “redeem”, etc. Bag or bowl

Preparing the Game
Put the signs in the bag/bowl.

Playing the Game
Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Then put all the signs we’ve learned in this bag/bowl and mix them up. Ask one of the children to choose a sign, but not show it to anyone…but you, if they need some help. Ask the child to do the sign for the rest of the children and see if the other children can guess which one it is. Do the sign with the child, if desired. When the children guess the sign, ask them the meaning of the word. Choose another child to pick a new sign from the bag and continue.

NOTE: You might want to sing the song after you do each word.
# The Beautiful Curtains with the Cherubim

## 1. What Is it? (Presenter 1)

The Beautiful Curtains with the Cherubim

## 2. What Does It Have to Do With the Story? (Presenter 2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where?</th>
<th>Near Mt. Sinai,</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who?</td>
<td>Bezalel, Oholiab and the Israelites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did What?</td>
<td>Gave the riches and used the skills that the LORD had given them to build all the parts of the Tabernacle, including The beautiful curtains with cherubim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why?</td>
<td>In obedience to the LORD’s command to make a dwelling place for Himself among them.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 3. What Does It Have to Do with the Big Idea? (Presenter 3)

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts. The Israelites were good stewards of the riches and skills the LORD gave them when they used them to build the Tabernacle.

## 4. What Can It Help Us Remember? (Presenter 4)

God wants us to use the riches and skills He has given us to please Him.
Description
The children will color a curtain with cherubim, like what was in the Tabernacle, adding optional extra decorations.

Materials
Template of curtain
White Cardstock
Markers, Crayons or colored pencils
Optional craft jewels, sequins and glitter/glitter glue and glue sticks
Long kebab stick and 1.5’ of string per child. (optional)
Hole punch

Preparing the Craft
1. Make a copy of the curtain for each child.
2. Set out colorings supplies.
3. If using the long kebab sticks, cut off the sharp end with scissors.
3. Make a sample for the children to see.

Making the Craft
1. Show children your sample.
2. Have the children color in their curtains.
3. When they are done coloring, they may add extra ornamentation with the other decorating supplies.
4. If desired, punch holes about ½” from the top of the curtain and weave the kebab stick back and forth through the holes.
5. Tie the ends of the strings near each end of the kebab stick with a knot. This will keep the curtain from sliding and give the child a way to hold up the curtain.
Dear______________________________________________

You are a Very Important Prayer Person!

I decorated this card for you during Praise Factory today. The Big Idea we learned about today was: God's People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts. God is the Creator of all things. All things belong to Him. There is nothing that we have that God did not give to us: our bodies, our things, our money, our lives. God made people to be stewards of His good gifts. What is a steward? A steward is someone who takes care of someone else's things. God wants His people to be good stewards of His gifts to them. He wants them to serve Him with their bodies—with their hands, their mouths and all of their strength. He wants them to freely share their things with others. He wants them to use their money generously to help others and to spread the good news about Jesus. In heaven, God promises to reward each of His people according to how they stewarded God's gifts to them during their lives on earth. God's people know that they cannot be good stewards of God's gifts on their own. They know that it is the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts, who helps them be the kind of stewards of God's gifts that He desires them to be.

We thought about 1 Peter 4:10-11: "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."

I also prayed for you during ACTS time. Here are 4 things related to the Big Idea we prayed for in our ACTS prayer time. Maybe they will be helpful for you to pray, too.

A Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts He has given us.

C Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others.

T Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.

S Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God's gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

Yours Sincerely,_____________________________________

Dear______________________________________________

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Yours Sincerely,_____________________________________

8

VIPP Prayer Letter Big Idea 65
**VIPP Game**

**Materials**
The VIPP information sheets and Clue Cards for one of VIPPS.
8 Letter sized Envelopes or folders
8 Category Pictures from the Guess Who Box Game (e.g., “What do I do for fun? What’s my favorite animal?” etc), excluding the picture of the person and their name. These are all found at the end of the listing of VIPP games in this Appendix.
Nerf Ball or other soft ball for indoor use

**Preparing the Game**
Fill in the clue sheets for the VIPPs you are using. If desired, use a photocopier to reduce down the size of each clue sheet to a smaller size for easier use. Put the clue sheets for the VIPPS in a bag, except for the sheets with the names and pictures. Mix up.

Put one of the nine pictures in each of the envelopes.

Tape each to wall.

**Playing the Game**

**Reveal, then Review Version:**

**Reveal:** Tell them about the VIPP you are using in the game, showing them the clues and reading the blurb on the VIPP information sheet.

**Review:** Have the children take turns trying to hit an envelope with the ball. When an envelope is hit, open it up, revealing the category. See if the child/the children can recall the right answer to the question.

**Get Clues, Then Guess Version:**

**Get Clues:** Have the children take turns trying to hit an envelope with the ball. When an envelope is hit, open it up, revealing the category and show them the corresponding VIPP clue.

**Guess:** When the clues are all chosen, have the children guess who is the VIPP. Show them the picture and name. Read them the VIPP information blurb.
SESSION SCHEDULE AND PLANNING SHEET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_____</td>
<td>Arrive no later than this to prepare for session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>My preparations:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>____________________________________________________</td>
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<td>____________________________________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>____________________________________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td>_____</td>
<td>Children arrive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____</td>
<td>Concept Introduction/Review (The Echo Chamber or Folder Hunt)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Activities for Each of the 3 Weeks Spent on a Big Idea Concept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Week 1 of Big Idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WoGoLOA Rules</td>
<td>GROUP sings the Chant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Big Question</td>
<td>LEADER says Big Question &amp; Answer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Scripture Verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Idea Concept</td>
<td>LEADER says concept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Idea Scripture Verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How to do the singing portion:**
- Sing/listen to the song through once without actions.
- Choose a movement (from the Movement Grab Bag, if using one) for the class to do while singing the song through once/twice more. Make this an aerobic activity to help get the wiggles out!
- Music for the WoGoLOA Chant is always the first song on each CD of the Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs. The music for the Big Question and Unit Scripture Verse songs are always the first two songs of the music for each unit, also found on the Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs.

**Story time**
Drama Group (or other designated) teacher tells story in a dramatic fashion, having decorated area with lots of props to be able to point to as they tell it. Use outline as a guide, adding in interested details from the text. Practice story. Do not just read it! Do not let it run more than 15 minutes.
**SESSION SCHEDULE AND PLANNING SHEET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>____</td>
<td>Dismiss by group to Small Group Activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Snack and Discussion Time**

- Pray, thanking God for the time together. Ask God to help your group to learn more about Him during your small group time.
- Choose 6 questions that you want the children to think about, using the story and your discussion sheets as your guides. The first question is always: “What does the snack have to do with the story?”

1. What does the snack have to do with the story?

2. ______________________________________________________________________

3. ______________________________________________________________________

4. ______________________________________________________________________

5. ______________________________________________________________________

6. ______________________________________________________________________

- If doing the Scripture Verse, Big Idea or Hymn activity, you will want to read the Scripture Verse, Big Idea or Hymn before leading the children in a discussion about it.
- The Drama group will fill in the Speaker Sheets as their discussion questions.

**Activity Time**

Lead the children in the particular small group activity your group is doing. See the lesson plan for each activity for detailed instructions. Review tips for how to lead your activity, if necessary (found in introduction and appendices of the Teacher Binder). Always feel free to adapt or change an activity to fit the needs of your children. What about this activity might need to change to fit their attention span, reading ability or other particular needs? Note the changes here:

**ACTS Prayer Time** *(Exception: Drama group leader will incorporate a brief ACTS prayer into their opening prayer, instead)*

Lead the children in an ACTS prayer incorporating an ACTS related to the Big Idea, Scripture verse or story, (see lesson plan and discussion sheets for ideas) AS WELL AS any personal prayers. Ask for volunteers to pray the prayer, but never force a child to pray. Note: Drama Group will probably want to do this before Activity time, instead of after Activity Time, as this schedule suggests.

**Small Group Presentations in Closing Large Group Time**

Have small groups present in the following order: Drama, Song/s Groups, Craft Group, then Games Groups. Make sure the Big Idea Games and Scripture Verse Games groups READ the Big Idea/Scripture Verse BEFORE asking their questions. If extra time remains, play the Clean Up Game.
**WEEK 2 LESSON PLAN**

### Opening Large Group Time

*All children gather together to review the key concepts and rules in Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt, listen to the story, close in prayer, then are dismissed to Small Group Activities.*

**Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt**

**Activities:**
- Review the WoGoLOA Rules
- Review the Unit Big Question and Scripture Verse
- Review the Big Idea Concept and Scripture Verse

**Resources:**
*All of these resources are found in the Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Review Resources at the front of this Big Idea*

- Echo Chamber Schedule (Echo Chamber Only)
- WoGoLOA Rules
- WoGoLOA Rules Chant
- Unit 12 Big Question/Song
- Unit 12 Scripture Verse/Song
- Big Idea 65 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 65 Scripture Verse Sign

- Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs
- Folders for Folder Hunt (Only Folder Hunt)

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**Story**

**Activities:**
- Tell story
- Close in Prayer
- Dismiss to Small Group Activities

**Resources:**

- **Story: What Came Out of the Missionary Box**, pp. 39-41
- Story Outline p.41
- Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
- Props, Costumes and Scenery

---

*Don’t Forget! Decorate story-telling area with props, costumes and scenery the Drama Group will later use in their play*
WEEK 2 LESSON PLAN

Discussion and Activity Time
All children have a story-related snack, pray an ACTS prayer, and do one or more Small Group Activities

Snack

Lemonade and Gingerbread or a potato product

ACTS Prayer

A  Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.
C  Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.
T  Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.
S  Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

Drama

Activities:
Discuss story
Fill in Speaker Sheets
Practice Play

Resources:
Plan-a-Play Story Guide, p. 42
Speaker Sheets Appendix B, Drama Group

Story Review Game: Windsock Wall Ball

Activities:
Discuss story
Play Game
Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

Resources:
Story Review Discussion Questions Sheet pp. 43-44
Story Review Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups
## Week 2 Lesson Plan

### Discussion and Activity Time, continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Big Idea Game: Storks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Activities:</strong> Discuss Big Idea, Play Game, Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Resources:</strong> Big Idea Discussion Questions Sheet, pp. 45-46, Big Idea Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Big Idea Craft: The Missionary Box</strong></td>
<td><strong>Activities:</strong> Discuss Story, Fill in Presenter Sheets, Make Craft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Resources:</strong> Big Idea-Craft Connection Guide, p.53, Craft Directions, p.54, Presenter Sheets, Appendix D Crafts Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VIPP Clue Cards, VIPP Game: Bean Bag Toss In</strong></td>
<td><strong>Activities:</strong> Discuss story, Learn about VIPP/Play VIPP Game, Decorate VIPP Clue Cards Pray for VIPP, Decorate VIPP Prayer Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Resources:</strong> VIPP Game Directions: Appendix E: VIPP Group, VIPP Prayer Letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture Verse Game: Duck, Duck, Goose</strong></td>
<td><strong>Activities:</strong> Discuss Scripture Verse, Play Game, Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Resources:</strong> Scripture Verse Discussion Questions Sheet, pp. 47-48, Scripture Verse Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Week 2 Lesson Plan

Discussion and Activity Time, continued

Scripture Song: Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

**Activities:**
Discuss Scripture Verse and Song
Learn Song and Sign Language
Play Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign
(and Scripture Verse Game, see above)
Fill in Song Intro Sheet

**Resources:**
Scripture Verse Song Discussion Questions Sheet p.47-48
Scripture Verse Lyrics and Sign Language, Music Resources in front of this Big Idea
Song Game Directions, Appendix F Songs Groups
Song Intro Sheet, Appendix F Songs Groups
Praise Factory Scripture Songs and Hymns CDs

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision: Verse 2

**Activities:**
Discuss Song
Learn Song and Sign Language
Play Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign
Fill in Song Intro Sheet

**Resources:**
Hymn Discussion Questions Sheet, p. 49-50
Hymn Lyrics and Sign Language, Music Resources in front of this Big Idea
Song Game Directions, Appendix F Songs Groups
Song Intro Sheet, Appendix F Songs Groups
Praise Factory Scripture Songs and Hymns CDs
### Activity Presentations

#### Drama
- The Play, Introduced by the Speakers

#### Story Review Game
- Ask Story Review Questions

#### Big Idea Game
- Read the Big Idea
- Ask Big Idea Quiz Questions

#### Big Idea Craft
- Present Craft, Using the Presenter Sheets

#### VIPP Game and Clue Cards
- Share Clues about VIPP
- Pray for the VIPP

#### Scripture Verse Game
- Read Scripture Verse
- Ask Scripture Verse Quiz Questions

#### Scripture Song
- Sing Scripture Verse Song with Sign Language

#### Hymn
- Sing Hymn with Sign Language

#### Closing Prayer

- Play Clean Up Game, Appendix B, C

- Give Out Take Home Sheets
**WEEK 2 LESSON PLAN**

## Opening Large Group Time

All children gather together to review the key concepts and rules in Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt, listen to the story, close in prayer, then are dismissed to Small Group Activities.

### Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt

**Activities:**
- Review the WoGoLOA Rules
- Review the Unit Big Question and Scripture Verse
- Review the Big Idea Concept and Scripture Verse

**Resources:**

*All of these resources are found in the Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Review Resources at the front of this Big Idea*

- Echo Chamber Schedule (Echo Chamber Only)
- WoGoLOA Rules
- WoGoLOA Rules Chant
- Unit 12 Big Question/Song
- Unit 12 Scripture Verse/Song
- Big Idea 65 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 65 Scripture Verse Sign

- Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs
- Folders for Folder Hunt (Only Folder Hunt)

## Story

**Activities:**
- Tell story
- Close in prayer
- Dismiss to Small Group Activities

**Resources:**

*Story: What Came Out of the Missionary Box, pp. 39-41*
- Story Outline p.41
- Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
- Props, Costumes and Scenery

*Don’t Forget! Decorate story-telling area with props, costumes and scenery the Drama Group will later use in their play*
Optional Kindergarten Group Format

### Small Group Activities:
**Snack and Discussion Time**

All children have a story-related snack, pray an ACTS prayer before doing Small Group activities, listed on the next page.

#### Snack

- Lemonade and Gingerbread or a potato product

#### ACTS Prayer

- **A** Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.
- **C** Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.
- **T** Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.
- **S** Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.
Week 2 Lesson Plan

Optional Kindergarten Group Format

Activity Time

After snack and discussion time, each group of Kindergarteners take part in one or two activities, as time allows.

Group 1 Activities

Use Group 1 Activities if you have just one Kindergarten groups; or, for half of your Kindergarten Groups, if you have more than one group.

Group 1, First Activity: Scripture Verse Game
(Choose Game from Best Kindergarten Games, Appendix G)

Activities:
Discuss Scripture Verse
Play Game
Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

Resources:
Scripture Verse Discussion Questions Sheet, pp. 69-70
Scripture Verse Game Directions: Appendix G Kindergarten Group

Then, as time allows, followed by …

Group 1, Second Activity: VIPP Clue Cards, VIPP Game or VIPP Prayer Letter
(Choose Game from Best Kindergarten Games, Appendix G)

Activities:
Discuss story
Learn about VIPP/Play VIPP Game
Decorate VIPP Clue Cards
Pray for VIPP
VIPP Prayer Letter

Resources:
VIPP Game Directions: Appendix G: Kindergarten Group
VIPP Prayer Letter
VIPP Clue Cards
Week 2 Lesson Plan

Optional Kindergarten Group Format

Activity Time, continued

Group 2 Activities
Use Group 2 Activities for the other half of your Kindergarten Groups, if you have more than one group.

Group 2, First Activity: Story Review Game
(Choose Game from Best Kindergarten Games, Appendix G)

Activities:
- Play Game
- Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

Resources:
- Story Review/Big Idea Discussion Questions Sheet
- Best Kindergarten Games: Story Review, Appendix G Kindergarten Group

Then, as time allows, followed by …

Group 2, Second Activity: Scripture Song: Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

Activities:
- Discuss Scripture Verse and Song
- Learn Song and Sign Language
- Play Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign

Resources:
- Scripture Verse Song Discussion Questions Sheet pp.71-72
- Scripture Verse Lyrics and Sign Language, Music Resources in front of this Big Idea
- Song Game Directions, Appendix G Kindergarten Group
- Praise Factory Scripture Songs and Hymns CDs

Scripture Song Refresher:
Introduction pp. 33-34
Appendix F

Story Review Game Refresher
Introduction pp.35-36
Appendix G
Closing Large Group Time

The Small Groups can make presentation to the rest of the children related to their activity. These are optional for the Kindergarten groups.

Activity Presentations

**Story Review/Big Idea Game**
- Ask Story Review/Big Idea Questions

**VIPP Game and Clue Cards**
- Share Clues about VIPP
- Pray for the VIPP

**Act-It-Out**
- Act out a few actions from Beginning, Middle, End as teacher tells the story briefly

**Scripture Song**
- Sing Scripture Verse Song with Sign Language

**Scripture Verse Game**
- Read Scripture Verse
- Ask Scripture Verse Quiz Questions

**Closing Prayer**

**Play Clean Up Game, Appendix B, C**

**Give Out Take Home Sheets**
What Came Out of the Missionary Box

Adapted from How Cyrus Hamlin Came Out of a Missionary Box, My Life and Times, Cyrus Hamlin D.D.

Our story takes place about 184 years ago, in America.

Have you ever heard of a missionary box? Perhaps it sounds like a box with a missionary in it; or perhaps a box that belongs to a missionary. But the truth is, it is neither. A missionary box is a little box with a little slot to put money in on the top. Many churches used to keep these by the door to collect money for missionaries who had gone to faraway places to help others and tell them about Jesus. Money goes into the box until it fills up and then it all comes out of the box and gets sent to the missionaries. That is the way that missionary boxes worked. But our story today is the story of what happened when a little boy named Cyrus put his money into a missionary box, only to find years later that something far more than just money came out of the box.

It was about the year 1820 when a proposal was made to Cyrus' little church to help out missionaries working in India who were starting a school to teach young boys how to read and tell them about Jesus. “Just twelve dollars a year will educate a boy!” Cyrus and the others were told. “That's a dollar a month, boys and girls. Any amount is welcome, but why don't you try to bring in one cent a week and we shall do nicely.”

Now perhaps one cent a week sounds like only a very, very small amount of money to you, but back then, 184 years ago, even a penny was hard to come by for a couple of reasons. First of all, most people didn’t even use money, they simply traded and swapped things (this is called bartering). Perhaps you grew corn and your neighbor had chickens and eggs. You wouldn’t use money to buy eggs from your neighbor, you would just trade your corn for their eggs.

But not only that, pennies went a long way back then. Nowadays there is almost nothing you could buy with a penny, but then you could buy many things with one. It would take a lot of hard work and sacrifice if a boy or girl would make a penny a week, but Cyrus and his friends at church were willing to do it. Why? Because they knew that the best thing they could do with their hands and feet, their hearts and their minds, their money and their time, any day, was something that loved others and might help them to know about Jesus. When they were using all they had and were this way, then they knew they were being good stewards of the good gifts that God had given them.

So how did the children try to raise money? Some of the boys got big, heavy shovels and gathered ashes from fireplaces to sell at the potash (fertilizer) factory. By the end of the day, they were covered in grey ash and their muscles were tired, but they had made a little money. Other boys grew potatoes to sell at the market. Each day they worked hard in their little plots of land: clearing a new patch of ground with a hoe, planting deep holes in which to plant the little potato eyes (seeds), then day after day of pulling out weeds, killing potato bugs, and lugging water in heavy buckets to water the little plants in dry spells.

It was hard work! and sixty pounds of good potatoes sold for just 10 cents. Girls braided straw for hats or...
knitted woolen clothing that they could sell. They worked their fingers long and hard. Adults helped the children by putting some of their few spare cents into the box, as well. What came of all their hard work? Every month, by hook and by crook, the missionary box collected its dollar a month.

Cyrus, like the other children, worked hard month after month to put in his share in the missionary box. But there was one fine morning, when what Cyrus put in the missionary box was to change his life. This particular day happened to be Cyrus’ favorite day of the whole year: “Muster” Day, as they called it in his little town. All the men of the town would dress up like soldiers and re-enact a battle. Cyrus rushed through his chores that morning then reported to his mother, looking for her final approval of his work and permission to go off to watch the Muster.

“Cyrus, you’ve done a good job on your chores. Now be off to the Muster,” his mother told him. “I know you won’t be back until dark, so here is seven cents for you to buy lunch and some of that special gingerbread you love, plus whatever else you need all day. That’s a lot of money, Cyrus, perhaps you will want to think about sparing a cent or two for the missionary box.”

As Cyrus started off to the Muster, he began to think about the missionary box. “Shall I drop in one cent or two? I wish mother hadn’t said one or two. Let’s see, how much can I spare? Well, five cents should be enough to cover everything I could eat, more. Perhaps, I can give two cents.” But as Cyrus kept walking along, more thoughts came to him: “Five cents for me and only two cents given away to help those who have never heard about Jesus? Five cents for gingerbread and only two for Jesus? That can’t be right. Let’s make it four for gingerbread and three for Jesus”, Cyrus decided.

But soon even that did not seem like enough, by the time he reached the missionary box. “Hang it all!” Cyrus exclaimed, “ I’ll dump them all in and have no more bother about it. Don’t I know that the best thing I can do with hands and feet, my heart and my mind, my time and even my gingerbread money, any day, is something that loves others and might help them to know about Jesus? When I am using all I have and am for Jesus, then I know I am being a good steward of the good gifts that God had given me.” So that is just what Cyrus did and went away contented.

All day Cyrus enjoyed the glories of the Muster: the men in their bright uniforms with shiny buttons and old-fashioned guns, acting out a battle just as Cyrus and his little friends often did. All around the field were refreshment stands with lemonade and gingerbread and all sorts of other good things to eat. The other children were enjoying the food as much as the muster, but Cyrus stayed clear away of the stands for even the smell of the freshly baked goodies seemed to tease his nose and make his stomach grumble.

Yet even with pangs of hunger, never did Cyrus doubt that he did the right thing with his seven cents. “I love gingerbread and lemonade just as much as everyone else,” thought Cyrus to himself, “but the best thing I can do with hands and feet, my heart and my mind, my time and even my gingerbread money, any day, is something that loves others and might help them to know about Jesus. When I am using all I have and am for Jesus, then I know I am being a good steward of the good gifts that God had given me. Today
that means doing without a little gingerbread and lemonade.”

By four o’clock, Cyrus was starting to feel a little weak he was so hungry. He had been up on his feet since dawn with nothing to eat since breakfast. He left the muster and started the long walk home.

When he got there, he burst into the house and cried out, “Mother, I’m as hungry as a bear! I haven’t had a mouthful to eat today.”

“Why, Cyrus, have you lost the money I gave you?” she asked him.

“No, mother; but you didn’t give it to me right,” Cyrus answered. “If you had given me eight cents, or six cents, I would have divided it half and half between me and the missionary box. But you gave me seven. I couldn’t divide it, and so I dropped it all into the box together!”

“You poor boy!” she said, smiling in tears. And soon Cyrus had a huge bowl of milk and bread that Cyrus thought was fit for a king.

But why do you think Cyrus’ mother cried? Did she think he had done something bad by giving the money all away? No, not at all. It was because she, like Cyrus, knew that the best thing anyone could do with their hands and feet, their heart and mind, their time and even their gingerbread money, any day, was something that loves others and might help them to know about Jesus. Her son had even chosen to deny his own needs that day to do this. She knew that he wanted to use all that he had and was for Jesus, because he knew that then he was being a good steward of the good gifts that God had given him.

But remember I told you that on this day, Cyrus put his money in the missionary box, but that years later something very different came out? Now it’s time to tell you what came out. Well, you see, Cyrus never ever forgot that day when he chose to deny himself to help the missionaries tell others about Jesus. As he grew up, there were many more times when he weighed his desires for smaller things against the great need of telling others about Jesus, deciding their needs were more important than his. Finally one day, Cyrus thought, “You know, it’s not enough for me anymore just to give money to help the missionaries. I really do believe that the best thing I can do with my hands and feet, with my heart and mind, my time as well as my money, is to love others and help them know about Jesus! When I am using all I have and am for Jesus, then I know I am being a good steward of the good gifts that God had given me. For me, that means being a missionary! I never realized that when I put that money in the missionary box, what would come out of it would be a new missionary—me!!!

Our Big Idea is:

**Big Idea:** **God’s People Are Good Stewards of God’s Gifts**

Our Scripture Verse is: 1 Peter 4:10-11

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”
Cyrus was not the only missionary that came out of that little missionary box. Five of the other children from that one little church also grew up to be missionaries to different parts of the world. And they all said that it was learning to work and give and even sacrifice for that little missionary box that made the difference.

What about you and me? Do we think about being stewards of the gifts God has given us? Do we ever work hard or consider sacrificing so that the good news about Jesus might spread to new places and to more people who have never heard about Him? What do we think is the best thing to do with our hands and feet, our hearts and minds, our time and money? Let’s praise God for the good gifts He has made us stewards of. Let’s ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Let’s ask Him to work in our lives that we might use everything we have and everything we are for Jesus. Let’s ask Him to make us good stewards of all the good gifts He’s given us.
1. An announcement is made at Cyrus’ church that they are going to try to raise one dollar a month to help missionaries in India educate one boy at their school so he could learn to read and hear about Jesus. The boys and girls are challenged to try to earn one cent a week.

2. One cent a week was a lot of money, but Cyrus and the other children did all sorts of hard work to try to earn it. The boys did things like shovel ashes and sell them to be used in fertilizer or grow and sell potatoes. The girls braided straw to make into hats and knitted woolen clothing to sell.

3. Each month, with a lot of hard work and help from adults, the children managed to make the needed one dollar.

4. Cyrus’ mother gave Cyrus 7 cents to spend on gingerbread, lemonade and other food at “The Muster”, a pretend battle that the men in the town did once a year.

5. As Cyrus left the house, she suggested he give a penny or two to the missionary box.

6. Cyrus kept trying to decide how much to give. Each time, giving more to the missionary box and keeping less for himself. He couldn’t bring himself to think that the gingerbread he could buy that day was as important and helping out the missionaries. Finally Cyrus decided to put all seven cents in.

7. At The Muster, Cyrus enjoyed the men’s battle, but stayed away from the refreshment stands because everything looked so good and he was so hungry. Still, he did not regret his gift.

8. Cyrus went home at four, asked for food.

9. When his mom heard what he had done, she was so happy that he would even sacrifice to help others know about Jesus, that she cried.

10. When they grew up, Cyrus and five other of the children who had worked so hard to fill the missionary box all decided to give their lives to serve as missionaries. They all said that while they only put money in the missionary box, they each “came out” of it. They had all learned to love to give all of themselves for Jesus because of what they learned from raising money for the missionary box.
Welcome to The Praise Factory curriculum!
The resources within week of every Big Idea are ordered in exactly the same way:

1. Drama Group Resources
   - Plan-a-Play Story Guide
   - Act-It-Out Sheet
   
   *(Speaker Sheets are found in Appendix B: Drama Group)*

2. Games Groups Resources
   - Story Review Discussion Questions
   - Big Idea Discussion Questions
   - Scripture Verse Discussion Questions
   
   *(Directions to Games are found in Appendix C: Games Groups)*

3. Songs Groups Resources
   - Scripture Verse Song Discussion Sheet
   - Hymn Discussion Sheet
   
   *(Lyrics, Music and Sign Language for both songs found Big Idea Music Resources, at the front of the curriculum this Big Idea)*

   *(Song Intro Sheet is found in Appendix F: Songs Groups)*

4. Craft Resources
   - Craft Instructions and Resources
   
   *(Presenter Sheets found in Appendix E: Craft Group)*

5. VIPP Resources
   - VIPP Prayer Letter
   
   *(VIPP Clue Cards and Directions for VIPP Games are found in Appendix E: VIPP Group)*
2. Who’s in It? (Narrator 5)

Missionary Box
The missionaries in India
Indian boy they would raise money for
Cyrus & other children
Potatoes
1 dollar
1 penny
Ashes & Shovel
Straw and hat
Knitting needles & yarn

Sweater
7 pennies
Cyrus’ mother
Gingerbread
Lemonade
Refreshment stands
Food at home
Cyrus as a missionary

3. What about the Big Idea? (Narrator 6)

Today’s Big Idea is: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts. Cyrus and his friends were good stewards of the bodies and money that the LORD had given them. They worked hard and gave to help others know about Jesus.

4. What do we call it? (Narrator 1)

Gingerbread or The Gospel?

5. What’s it About? (Leader’s Narration Guide)

Beginning:
An announcement is made at Cyrus’ church that they are going to try to raise one dollar a month to help missionaries in India educate one boy at their school so he could learn to read and hear about Jesus. The boys and girls are challenged to try to earn one cent a week. One cent a week was a lot of money, but Cyrus and the other children did all sorts of hard work to try to earn it. The boys did things like shovel ashes and sell them to be used in fertilizer or grow and sell potatoes. The girls braided straw to make into hats and knitted woolen clothing to sell. Each month, with a lot of hard work and help from adults, the children managed to make the needed one dollar.

Middle:
Cyrus’ mother gave Cyrus 7 cents to spend on gingerbread, lemonade and other food at “The Muster”, a pretend battle that the men in the town did once a year. As Cyrus left the house, she suggested he give a penny or two to the missionary box. Cyrus kept trying to decide how much to give. Each time, giving more to the missionary box and keeping less for himself. He couldn’t bring himself to think that the gingerbread he could buy that day was as important and helping out the missionaries. Finally Cyrus decided to put all seven cents in. At The Muster, Cyrus enjoyed the men’s battle, but stayed away from the refreshment stands because everything looked so good and he was so hungry. Still, he did not regret his gift. Cyrus went home at four, asked for food.

End:
When his mom heard what he had done, she was so happy that he would even sacrifice to help others know about Jesus, that she cried. When they grew up, Cyrus and 5 other of the children who had worked so hard to fill the missionary box all decided to give their lives to serve as missionaries. They all said that while they only put money in the missionary box, they each “came out” of it. They had all learned to love to give all of themselves for Jesus because of what they learned from raising money for the missionary box.
Beginning:
An announcement is made at Cyrus’ church that they are going to try to raise one dollar a month to help missionaries in India educate one boy at their school so he could learn to read and hear about Jesus. The boys and girls are challenged to try to earn one cent a week. One cent a week was a lot of money, but Cyrus and the other children did all sorts of hard work to try to earn it. The boys did things like shovel ashes and sell them to be used in fertilizer or grow and sell potatoes. The girls braided straw to make into hats and knitted woolen clothing to sell. Each month, with a lot of hard work and help from adults, the children managed to make the needed one dollar.

Middle:
Cyrus’ mother gave Cyrus 7 cents to spend on gingerbread, lemonade and other food at “The Muster”, a pretend battle that the men in the town did once a year. As Cyrus left the house, she suggested he give a penny or two to the missionary box. Cyrus kept trying to decide how much to give. Each time, giving more to the missionary box and keeping less for himself. He couldn’t bring himself to think that the gingerbread he could buy that day was as important and helping out the missionaries. Finally Cyrus decided to put all seven cents in. At The Muster, Cyrus enjoyed the men’s battle, but stayed away from the refreshment stands because everything looked so good and he was so hungry. Still, he did not regret his gift. Cyrus went home at four, asked for food.

End:
When his mom heard what he had done, she was so happy that he would even sacrifice to help others know about Jesus, that she cried. When they grew up, Cyrus and 5 other of the children who had worked so hard to fill the missionary box all decided to give their lives to serve as missionaries. They all said that while they only put money in the missionary box, they each “came out” of it. They had all learned to love to give all of themselves for Jesus because of what they learned from raising money for the missionary box.
1. What was a missionary box? A missionary box is a little box with a little slot to put money in on the top. Many churches used to keep these by the door to collect money for missionaries who had gone to faraway places to help others and tell them about Jesus. Money goes into the box until it fills up and then it all comes out of the box and gets sent to the missionaries.

2. What did the church want to use the money in the missionary box to do? To help out missionaries working in India who were starting a school to teach young boys how to read and tell them about Jesus.

3. How much a year, a month, a week did the children try to earn? Twelve dollars a year or a dollar a month was needed, altogether. Each child tried to earn a penny a week.

4. Why was it hard to earn even just one cent a week? Because people had so little money. They mainly traded things they had for other things that they needed without using money at all.

5. What did the children do to earn money? The boys did things like shovel ashes and sell them to be used in fertilizer or grow and sell potatoes. The girls braided straw to make into hats and knitted woolen clothing to sell.

6. What big day was Cyrus excited about? What happened on that day? Muster Day. It was the day when soldiers re-enacted a battle from a war. It was fun to watch and there was yummy food to eat and drink.

7. Why did Cyrus’ mother give him seven cents? To buy food to eat and drink.

8. What did Cyrus’ mother suggest that Cyrus do? Put a cent or two in the Missionary Box.

9. Why did Cyrus have such a hard time deciding how much money to put in the missionary box? He kept thinking that it was more important for the money to go to help the missionaries rather than be used to buy him gingerbread and lemonade, etc.

10. How did Cyrus feel at The Muster? Was he sorry for what he did with his money? Why or why not? He felt hungry, thirsty and a little weak, but he was not sorry for putting all his money in the Missionary Box. He would rather do without treats so that others might hear the good news of Jesus.

11. What did Cyrus’ mother do when she found out what he had done with his money? Why did she do that? She cried b/c she was happy to see that he was willing to sacrifice his own desire to do something for the LORD.

12. What happened to Cyrus when he grew up? He became a missionary.

13. Why did he say that he and five other of the children “came out” of the missionary box? Because what they learned about using their lives to love other and help them know about Jesus was first learned through raising money for the missionary box.

Big Idea Connections
What does our story have to do with our Big Idea? Cyrus and his friends were good stewards of the bodies and money that the LORD had given them. They worked hard and gave to help others know about Jesus.

Scripture Verse Connections
What does our story have to do with the Scripture Verse: 1 Peter 4:10-11
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

Used their skills to work hard to make money to put in the missionary box in order to help the missionaries help the children in India to know about Jesus. Some, like Cyrus, even sacrificed their own needs to give more money. It was hard, but they did it in the strength God provided. Six of them grew up to give their whole lives to tell others about Jesus. They did this so that in all things God might be praised.
Life Application
1. Are there still places in the world that need to hear about Jesus? Yes!
2. How can we become God’s people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
3. Does our church support missionaries? What could we do to help them?

The Gospel
What was the good news of Jesus that Cyrus and the other children worked so hard to be told to the children in India? What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? Praise God for being the Sender of His people to tell others about Jesus.
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? Confess that many times we do not act like Cyrus and the other children. We would rather keep all our money for ourselves rather than giving it away to help tell others about Jesus.
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? We can thank God that He gives His people the desire and strength to even sacrifice their own needs that others might hear and believe the good news of Jesus.
4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our story? We can ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to confess our sins, turn away from them and trust Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to make us like Cyrus: willing to even sacrifice our own wants and sometimes needs so that others might hear about Jesus.

Playing the Game: Use the same questions in your story review game as you used in your discussion.

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Have your small group ask some of the questions used in their discussion and game as their quiz questions for Closing Large Group Time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
**Story Review Game**

**Materials**
- Small ball such as a tennis ball, Nerf or foam ball
- The bottom half of a pantyhose leg
- 16 sheets of variously colored construction paper
- Paper and marker
- Masking Tape
- 20+ Story Review Discussion & Quiz Questions or other story review questions

**Preparing the Game**
Supplement the Story Review Discussion & Quiz Questions to make up 20+ questions. See “A Guide through the Games Activities” in Appendix C at the back of this binder for more help on making up questions that challenge the children to understand and apply the Story Review concepts to their lives.

Make a windsock ball by placing the ball in the pantyhose leg and tying a knot right above the ball. Choose three different point values for questions and write each value on three sheets of the construction paper. On the last four sheets draw a question mark shape. Tape these sheets of paper to the wall (or on the floor, if no wall is available) in the shape of a square, mixing up all of the point values. Make a shooting line with the masking tape.

**Playing the Game**
Divide the children into 2 teams and have them line up at the throw line. Ask a child from Team A to come up to the throw line. Hand him the windsock ball and let him throw it at the point cards on the wall. If he hits a point value, then the leader reads a Story Review question to his team. If they answer it correctly, they get the points. If not, then Team B can get the points for a correct answer. If he hits a star instead of a point value, then Team B gets to think up a question to ask Team A. If Team A gets it right, then they get double the highest point value on the board. If Team B stumps them—and can answer the question, themselves—then THEY get the double point value. Play then resumes as the first player for Team B throws the windsock ball.

Read him one of the statements and ask him to give his answer: true, false, not in the story by throwing the ball into the basket with the right answer card on it. If correct, then he scores 2 points for his team. If incorrect or accidentally goes into the wrong basket, the statement is read to the first person in line for the other team. If he tosses the ball into the right basket, then he scores one point for his team.

Play continues until everyone gets a chance to toss the windsock ball, as Story Review questions last; or, as time and attention span allow.

**Optional Closing Activity:**
**Make Your Own Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time.**
If you have time left over, you can do the other game; or, you can have the children think up their own Quiz Questions to ask the other children during Closing Large Group Time, instead of using the ones from discussion time and the game.
**Understanding the Big Idea**

Why do all things belong to God? Because He is their Creator.

What do we have that God has given to us? Everything! Our bodies, things, money, lives.

What is a steward? Someone who takes care of someone else’s things.

What are people stewards of? The things that God has given to each of them.

How can we be good stewards of God’s gifts to us? Serve Him with our bodies; share freely with others; give our money generously to help our families and others; use all we have to tell others about Jesus.

What difference does it make how we steward the things God has given us? How we use them pleases Him or not. He will reward us in heaven for how well we stewarded His gifts.

How will God reward each of His people in heaven? According to how they stewarded His gifts to them during their lives on earth.

Can God’s people be good stewards of God’s gifts to them on their own? Why or why not? No. They know that the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts must help them to be the kind of steward God wants them to be.

**Big Idea Story Connection Questions**

How were the children good stewards, of what God gave them? Used their skills to work hard to make money to put in the missionary box in order to help the missionaries help the children in India to know about Jesus. Some, like Cyrus, even sacrificed their own needs to give more money. Six of them grew up to give their whole lives to tell others about Jesus.

**Scripture Verse Connection**

What does our Big Idea have to do with the Scripture Verse: 1 Peter 4:10-11

“This verse reminds us that the gifts God gives to each of His people are to be used to bring praise to God and to encourage each other.

**Life Application Questions**

1. How can we be good stewards of God’s gifts to us? (answers will vary)
2. What difference does it make to God’s people to know that everything they have is really God’s and He calls them to be a steward of them? It makes them think carefully about how they use what they have and are. They know that God is watching them and will reward them for serving Him well, even if no one else sees.
3. What is the best first step to being a good steward of the soul that God has given us to know and love Him? To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.
ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for because of this Big Idea?
   Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Big Idea?
   Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Big Idea?
   Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.
4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Big Idea?
   Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

Gospel Question
We are all born sinners. We have all chosen to use the good gifts and abilities God has given us to please ourselves, not to obey and glorify Him. We deserve His punishment, but God offers us hope. What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Have your small group ask some of the questions used in their discussion and game as their quiz questions for Closing Large Group Time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
Materials
Three large, but soft balls
Tape
Big Idea Discussion & Quiz Questions

Preparing the Game
Supplement the Big Idea Discussion & Quiz Questions to make up 20+ questions. See “A Guide through the Games Activities” in Appendix C at the back of this binder for more help on making up questions that challenge the children to understand and apply the Big Idea Concepts to their lives.

Write the Big Idea questions on small thin strips of paper and put them in the bag/bowl.

Playing the Game
Divide the children into teams, each on opposite sides of the room, facing each other. One team is “The Hunters”. The other team is “The Storks.” The hunters have three balls and they are to stand about twenty feet away from the storks, who are lined up, similarly to ten bowling pins. Storks are to balance on one leg without leaning on anything. They can switch from leg to leg, but must not stand on both at the same time. Read a question to the hunters. If they get it right, then one of the hunters gets three chances (3 balls) to roll the ball at the storks FAIRLY GENTLY and try to get them to put their other foot down. The Hunters score as many points as storks who lost their balance and put their foot down. Sides get switched when all the Hunters have had a turn: or, when they have been stumped by a question.

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

Optional Closing Activity
Make Your Own Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time
If you have time left over, you can do the other game; or, you can have the children think up their own Quiz Questions to ask the other children during Closing Large Group Time, instead of using the ones from discussion time and the game.
1 Peter 4:10-11
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

Understanding the Scripture
1. What kind of gifts do we receive from God? Why? Everything from just being alive to the things we have to special skills and talents that we have. He gives them to serve others.
2. What does it mean to “faithfully administer God’s grace in its various forms?” To use all the different gifts that God has given us to love others and help them know & obey Jesus.
3. How can someone who is speaking be a good steward of his words? By saying only what God would want them to say (speaking the very words of God.) If God would not be pleased with something you want to say, then don’t say it.
4. How can someone who is serving be a good steward of what he is doing? Don’t serve to get people to think more highly of you. That’s serving in your own strength, with yourself in mind. Serve with the strength of Christ. That is, serve in the same loving, selfless way as Jesus did with the purpose of loving others and helping them know and obey God—just as Jesus did.
5. What are ways that we can serve Christ? Anything we do, from helping our family and friends, sharing our things, spending time reading the Bible and praying so that we love God more, telling others about Jesus, etc. is serving Christ when we do it with Him in mind.
6. What happens when we speak and serve this way? God will be praised through Jesus Christ. Others will see the way we are and see what Jesus is like. They will want to praise Him for doing such wonderful things through us and for being such a wonderful God.

Big Idea Connection
What does this verse have to do with our Big Idea? God wants His people to use all the good gifts He has given them to serve Him by loving others and helping them know Him.

Story Connection
What does this verse have to do with today’s story? The children used their gifts of gardeners, shovel ashes, knit and braid straw serve the missionaries in India by making money for their school.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people apply this verse to their lives? They can ask God to use the gifts He has given them to serve others as He desires.
2. How can we become God’s people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? Praise God for being the Giver of Good Gifts to His people.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? Many times we want to use the gifts God gives us to bring praise to ourselves, instead of God. We deserve God’s punishment! We need a Savior!
ACTS Questions, continued

3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse?
   *We can thank God giving gifts to His people to use to bring praise to Him.*

4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
   *We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to fill our hearts with the Holy Spirit that He might help us to use whatever gifts He has given us to bring praise to His name.*

Gospel Question

How did people become sinners in need of God’s forgiveness? How can they receive His forgiveness? What is the good news of Jesus? What is the gospel? *God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!*

Preparing the Children for the Scripture Verse Game

Introduce and Practice Shortened Games version before playing game.

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time

Read the Scripture Verse to the Large Group & have your small group ask some of the Scripture verse questions used in discussion time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
Materials
Scripture Verse Sign from the Big Idea Folder

Preparing the Game
None.

Learning the Verse
Hold up the Scripture Verse sign from the Big Idea Folder for all the children to see. Read it slowly with them reading along with you. Remind them of the meaning of the verse, noting key words that may need explaining. Practice saying the verse with the children until they are fairly confident saying it from memory, probably 4 or 5 times.

Playing the Game
Have the children sit in a circle, cross-legged on the floor. Choose a child to be “it”. “It” will walk around behind the seated children, tapping each one on the head, the whole group recites the verse, saying one word for each head tap. The child whose head is the last one to be tapped must get up and chase “It”, hoping to tag “It” before “It” can get around the circle and sit down in the open spot in the circle. If the child does tag “It” then he may take his place in the circle. If not, then the new child is “It.” Repeat as frequently as desired.

Game continues until all children are out; or, as time and attention span allow.

Optional Closing Activity
Make Your Own Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time
If you have time left over, you can do the other game; or, you can have the children think up their own Quiz Questions to ask the other children during Closing Large Group Time, instead of using the ones from discussion time and the game.
Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

Each of us should use whatever gift, He has received to serve others, Faithfully administering God’s grace, In its various forms. If anyone serves, He should do it with the strength, God provides so that in all things, God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

Understanding the Scripture
1. What kind of gifts do we receive from God? Why? Everything from just being alive to the things we have to special skills and talents that we have. He gives them to serve others.
2. What does it mean to “faithfully administer God’s grace in its various forms?” To use all the different gifts that God has given us to love others and help them know & obey Jesus.
3. How can someone who is speaking be a good steward of his words? By saying only what God would want them to say (speaking the very words of God.) If God would not be pleased with something you want to say, then don’t say it.
4. How can someone who is serving be a good steward of what he is doing? Don’t serve to get people to think more highly of you. That’s serving in your own strength, with yourself in mind. Serve with the strength of Christ. That is, serve in the same loving, selfless way as Jesus did with the purpose of loving others and helping them know and obey God—just as Jesus did.
5. What are ways that we can serve Christ? Anything we do, from helping our family and friends, sharing our things, spending time reading the Bible and praying so that we love God more, telling others about Jesus, etc. is serving Christ when we do it with Him in mind.
6. What happens when we speak and serve this way? God will be praised through Jesus Christ. Others will see the way we are and see what Jesus is like. They will want to praise Him for doing such wonderful things through us and for being such a wonderful God.

Big Idea Connection
What does this verse have to do with our Big Idea? God wants His people to use all the good gifts He has given them to serve Him by loving others and helping them know Him.

Story Connection
What does this verse have to do with today’s story? The children used their gifts of gardeners, shovel ashes, knit and braid straw serve the missionaries in India by making money for their school.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people apply this verse to their lives? They can ask God to use the gifts He has given them to serve others as He desires.
2. How can we become God’s people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? *Praise God for being the Giver of Good Gifts to His people.*

2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse?
*Many times we want to use the gifts God gives us to bring praise to ourselves, instead of God. We deserve God’s punishment! We need a Savior!*

3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse?
*We can thank God giving gifts to His people to use to bring praise to Him.*

4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
*We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to fill our hearts with the Holy Spirit that He might help us to use whatever gifts He has given us to bring praise to His name.*

**Gospel Question**

This verse encourages God’s people to speak as if speaking the very words of God. What are the best words that God has given us to speak to others? What is the gospel? *God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!*
**PASS THE SECRET SIGN**

Song Game

**Materials**
Sign Language signs used in song, printed out onto cards; particularly choose words with important meanings you want the children to learn, such as “grace”, “redeem”, etc.
Bag or bowl
Blindfold

**Preparing the Game**
Put the sign language in the bag/bowl and mix up.

**Playing the Game**
Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Have all the children stand in a tight circle, except one, “It” who will stand in the middle of the circle, blindfolded. Have the children in the circle to put their hands behind their backs. Choose a sign from the bag and hand to a child in the circle, still keeping hands behind their backs, not looking at the sign. When “It” says “Pass the Secret Sign”, the children will begin to pass the sign around behind their backs. When “It” says “Stop the Passing!” the child who has the sign freezes with the sign behind his back. The child with the sign brings it around and looks at it. You can help the child practice the sign. Then take the blindfold off of “It”, watch the child with the card do the sign, then guess the name of the sign. If desired, “It” can ask another child in the circle for help with their guess. The holder of the sign then becomes “It.” Sing the song with all the signs, then repeat.
Be Thou My Vision

Verse 2
Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Understanding the Song
1. What does “Thou” mean? Who is the “Thou” being spoken to? “Thou” is an old word meaning “You.”
The Lord is the “Thou” in this song.
2. Was does it mean to ask God to be your “Wisdom”? To not depend on your own understanding but on
   God’s to know what is best. It also means asking God to show you what He thinks as wise, to help you believe it
   and to help you to do it.
3. What does it mean to ask God to be your “true Word”? It means to ask God to help you to believe in His
   Word, and help you desire to live by them in all you think, say and do.
4. Who does the writer of the song what to always be with Him? The Lord.
5. Who is God a great Father to? God is a great Father, not just to Jesus, but also to all of His people.
6. Who is like a “true son” to God? Not just Jesus, but all of God’s people.
7. How can we have God as our true Father? How can we be His true sons? By turning from our sins and
   trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.
8. Is true sons just talking about boys/men or does it include girls/women, too? Sons means both boys and
   girls; men and women.
9. How does God dwell in His people? The Holy Spirit lives inside their hearts.
10. What does it mean to be one with God? It means to be in happy fellowship with Him in your heart; and, in
    agreement with what He wants.

Big Idea Connection
How does this song relate to our Big Idea: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts?
God’s people want God to be their Wisdom, that they would know how to use their lives to please Him. They
want Him to be their true Word, that they might believe His Word and obey all it tells them about how to use
the good gifts He’s given them. They want His Holy Spirit to be dwelling in them so that even in their hearts they
might have the wonderful fellowship with God He created them to have. They want Him to ever be with them,
so that everything in their lives, from the thoughts of their hearts to their words and their actions, please Him
and might be used as He wants them to be used. This is how they can be good stewards of all the gifts God has
given them.

Story Connection
How does this song relate to today’s story? At church, Cyrus and the other children learned from God’s Word
about Jesus’ command for His people to go into all the world to tell others the good news of salvation through
Jesus. They showed that they wanted God to be their Wisdom and their true Word by believing the Bible and
wanting to give their money to help God’s people be able to go into other parts of the world to tell the good
news of Jesus.
Scripture Verse Connection
How does this song relate to our Scripture Verse: 1 Peter 4:10-11
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

God’s people know that all the gifts they have are good gifts from God, their Father. They know that they need God’s wisdom and His Word to know how to use the gifts God has given them in ways that will bring praise to Him through Jesus Christ. They depend upon the Holy Spirit, dwelling in them to help them to believe and obey God’s wisdom as revealed in His Word; and, to do whatever God calls them to do with the gifts He has given them.

Life Application Questions
1. How can our lives be affected by the message of this song?
   We can ask God to be our Wisdom and our true Word. We can ask Him to help us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. And, we can ask the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts, helping us to use all the good gifts God gives us for the praise of His name.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?
   Praise God for the Wisdom and True Word of His People.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?
   That many times, we do not want God’s wisdom or to be our true Word. We want to do things our own way, instead of God’s good and perfect ways.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?
   We can thank God for making His people His true sons, even though they deserve nothing but His punishment for the way that have sinned against Him. We can thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to dwell in their hearts and giving them wonderful, close fellowship with Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
   That God would make us His true sons by working in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to send the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts, that we might have wonderful, close fellowship with God.

Gospel Question
Why do none of us deserve to be God’s true sons? What has Jesus done so that we can be? What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

Closing Large Group Time
Sign and sing song.
**Pass the Secret Sign**

**Song Game**

**Materials**
Sign Language signs used in song, printed out onto cards; particularly choose words with important meanings you want the children to learn, such as “grace”, “redeem”, etc.
Bag or bowl
Blindfold

**Preparing the Game**
Put the sign language in the bag/bowl and mix up.

**Playing the Game**
Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Have all the children stand in a tight circle, except one, “It.” who will stand in the middle of the circle, blindfolded. Have the children in the circle to put their hands behind their backs. Choose a sign from the bag and hand to a child in the circle, still keeping hands behind their backs, not looking at the sign. When “It” says “Pass the Secret Sign”, the children will begin to pass the sign around behind their backs. When “It” says “Stop the Passing!” the child who has the sign freezes with the sign behind his back. The child with the sign brings it around and looks at it. You can help the child practice the sign. Then take the blindfold off of “It”, watch the child with the card do the sign, then guess the name of the sign. If desired, “It” can ask another child in the circle for help with their guess. The holder of the sign then becomes “It.” Sing the song with all the signs, then repeat.
1. What Is it? (Presenter 1)

The Missionary Box

2. What Does It Have to Do With the Story? (Presenter 2)

Where? Somewhere long ago in America,

Who? Cyrus Hamlin and the other children

Did What? Worked hard to make money to put in

With the Big Idea Object? The Missionary Box

Why? To help raise $12 a year to pay for a boy in India to go to school and hear the good news of Jesus.

3. What Does It Have to Do with the Big Idea? (Presenter 3)

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts. Cyrus and the other children used the skills they had to raise money to send to missionaries. They were good stewards of the gifts of skills and money that God had given them.

4. What Can It Help Us Remember? (Presenter 4)

God has given us skills and things that He was us to be good stewards of. He can even use us to do great things for His Kingdom.
**The Missionary Box**

**Description**
The children will make and decorate a missionary box that they can take home and fill with money to give to missions.

**Materials**
- Template for gift box
- White cardstock
- OR, purchase white gift boxes from an office supply store (about .50 each)
- Markers, colored pencils or crayons
- Other decorating supplies (glitter glue, sequins, stickers, craft feathers, even colored dots from hole punches)
- Scissors and tape, if constructing your own gift boxes

**Preparing the Craft**
1. Print out a copy of the gift box template, 1 per child (if making own boxes).
2. At least for younger children, cut out the boxes along the outer edges. Pre-fold along the dashed lines, but DO NOT make into box shape. (Keep flat). Cut slit in top of box as indicated as directed on next page.
3. Set out other decorating supplies.
4. Make a sample for the children to see.

**Making the Craft**
1. Show children your sample.
2. Have the children use markers to color in their boxes.
3. If constructing your own boxes, help the children fold up the ends and make into box. Use tape to secure. Refer back to box construction directions on next page as needed.
4. Let the children add additional decorations to their boxes.
1. Cut along all outer edges
2. Cut from Points A to B on Bottoms E,F,G, H
3. Fold on all the rest of the lines.
4. Line up and tape Flap C to Side D, Side C.
5. Fold up Bottom pieces E,F,G,H and tape securely.
6. Cut Slit in Top Flap J.
7. Secure Top Flap J with Tape.
Dear______________________________________________

You are a Very Important Prayer Person!

I decorated this card for you during Praise Factory today. The Big Idea we learned about today was: God's People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts. God is the Creator of all things. All things belong to Him. There is nothing that we have that God did not give to us: our bodies, our things, our money, our lives. God made people to be stewards of His good gifts He has given us.

What is a steward? A steward is someone who takes care of someone else's things. God wants His people to be good stewards of His gifts to them. He wants them to serve Him with their bodies—with their hands, their mouths and all of their strength. He wants them to freely share their things with others. He wants them to use their money generously to take care of our families, to help others and to spread the good news about Jesus. In heaven, God promises to reward each of His people according to how they stewarded God's gifts to them during their lives on earth. God's people know that they cannot be good stewards of God's gifts on their own. They know that it is the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts, who helps them be the kind of stewards of God's gifts that He desires them to be.

We thought about 1 Peter 4:10-11 "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ." I also prayed for you during ACTS time. Here are 4 things related to the Big Idea we prayed for in our ACTS prayer time. Maybe they will be helpful for you to pray, too.

A Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.

C Coness that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, sharing them to bring praise to God and help others.

T Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.

S Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God's gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

Yours Sincerely,_____________________________________

Dear______________________________________________

You are a Very Important Prayer Person!

I decorated this card for you during Praise Factory today. The Big Idea we learned about today was: God's People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts. God is the Creator of all things. All things belong to Him. There is nothing that we have that God did not give to us: our bodies, our things, our money, our lives. God made people to be stewards of His good gifts He has given us.

What is a steward? A steward is someone who takes care of someone else's things. God wants His people to be good stewards of His gifts to them. He wants them to serve Him with their bodies—with their hands, their mouths and all of their strength. He wants them to freely share their things with others. He wants them to use their money generously to take care of our families, to help others and to spread the good news about Jesus. In heaven, God promises to reward each of His people according to how they stewarded God's gifts to them during their lives on earth. God's people know that they cannot be good stewards of God's gifts on their own. They know that it is the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts, who helps them be the kind of stewards of God's gifts that He desires them to be.

We thought about 1 Peter 4:10-11 "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ." I also prayed for you during ACTS time. Here are 4 things related to the Big Idea we prayed for in our ACTS prayer time. Maybe they will be helpful for you to pray, too.

A Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.

C Coness that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, sharing them to bring praise to God and help others.

T Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.

S Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God's gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

Yours Sincerely,_____________________________________

Dear______________________________________________

You are a Very Important Prayer Person!
Materials
The VIPP information sheets and Clue Cards for one of VIPPS.
8 Letter sized Envelopes or folders
8 Category Pictures from the Guess Who Box Game (e.g., “What do I do for fun? What’s my favorite animal?” etc), excluding the picture of the person and their name. These are all found at the end of the listing of VIPP games in this Appendix.
Bean Bag(s), one per child
Tape

Preparing the Game
Put one of the nine pictures in each of the envelopes.
Tape each down to the floor, fairly close together.

Playing the Game
Reveal, then Review Version:
Reveal: Tell them about the VIPP you are using in the game, showing them the clues and reading the blurb on the VIPP information sheet.

Review: At your signal, have the children take toss their bean bags onto the envelopes. Then one that has the most bean bags on it/near it is the one you will open. (The children may have fun taking turns designating one as the target before tossing.) Open the envelope/folder revealing the category. See if the children can recall the right answer to the question.

Get Clues, Then Guess Version:
Get Clues: At your signal, have the children take toss their bean bags onto the envelopes. Then one that has the most bean bags on it/near it is the one you will open. (The children may have fun taking turns designating one as the target before tossing.) Open the envelope/folder revealing the category, then show them the corresponding clue for the VIPP.

Guess: When the clues are all chosen, have the children guess who is the VIPP. Show them the picture and name. Read them the VIPP information blurb.
SESSION SCHEDULE AND PLANNING SHEET

**Time** | **Activity**
--- | ---
| | Arrive no later than this to prepare for session
My preparations:

| | |
--- | ---

| | |
--- | ---

Children arrive

Concept Introduction/Review (The Echo Chamber or Folder Hunt)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Activities for Each of the 3 Weeks Spent on a Big Idea Concept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Week 1 of Big Idea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WoGoLOA Rules</td>
<td>GROUP sings the Chant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Big Question</td>
<td>LEADER says Big Question &amp; Answer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Scripture Verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Idea Concept</td>
<td>LEADER says concept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Idea Scripture Verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**How to do the singing portion:**

- Sing/listen to the song through once without actions.
- Choose a movement (from the Movement Grab Bag, if using one) for the class to do while singing the song through once/twice more. Make this an aerobic activity to help get the wiggles out!
- Music for the WoGoLOA Chant is always the first song on each CD of the Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs. The music for the Big Question and Unit Scripture Verse songs are always the first two songs of the music for each unit, also found on the Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs.

**Story time**

Drama Group (or other designated) teacher tells story in a dramatic fashion, having decorated area with lots of props to be able to point to as they tell it. Use outline as a guide, adding in interested details from the text. Practice story. Do not just read it! Do not let it run more than 15 minutes.
### Session Schedule and Planning Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dismiss by group to Small Group Activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Snack and Discussion Time
- Pray, thanking God for the time together. Ask God to help your group to learn more about Him during your small group time.
- Choose 6 questions that you want the children to think about, using the story and your discussion sheets as your guides. The first question is always: “What does the snack have to do with the story?”

1. What does the snack have to do with the story?

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

- If doing the Scripture Verse, Big Idea or Hymn activity, you will want to read the Scripture Verse, Big Idea or Hymn before leading the children in a discussion about it.
- The Drama group will fill in the Speaker Sheets as their discussion questions.

#### Activity Time

Lead the children in the particular small group activity your group is doing. See the lesson plan for each activity for detailed instructions. Review tips for how to lead your activity, if necessary (found in introduction and appendices of the Teacher Binder). Always feel free to adapt or change an activity to fit the needs of your children. What about this activity might need to change to fit their attention span, reading ability or other particular needs? Note the changes here:

#### ACTS Prayer Time (Exception: Drama group leader will incorporate a brief ACTS prayer into their opening prayer, instead)

Lead the children in an ACTS prayer incorporating an ACTS related to the Big Idea, Scripture verse or story, (see lesson plan and discussion sheets for ideas) AS WELL AS any personal prayers. Ask for volunteers to pray the prayer, but never force a child to pray. Note: Drama Group will probably want to do this before Activity time, instead of after Activity Time, as this schedule suggests)

#### Small Group Presentations in Closing Large Group Time

Have small groups present in the following order: Drama, Song/s Groups, Craft Group, then Games Groups.
Make sure the Big Idea Games and Scripture Verse Games groups READ the Big Idea/Scripture Verse BEFORE asking their questions. If extra time remains, play the Clean Up Game.
**Opening Large Group Time**

All children gather together to review the key concepts and rules in Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt, listen to the story, close in prayer, then are dismissed to Small Group Activities.

---

**Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt**

**Activities:**
- Review the WoGoLOA Rules
- Review the Unit Big Question and Scripture Verse
- Review the Big Idea Concept and Scripture Verse

**Resources:**
*All of these resources are found in the Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Review Resources at the front of this Big Idea*

- Echo Chamber Schedule (Echo Chamber Only)
- WoGoLOA Rules
- WoGoLOA Rules Chant
- Unit 12 Big Question/Song
- Unit 12 Scripture Verse/Song
- Big Idea 65 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 65 Scripture Verse Sign

- Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs
- Folders for Folder Hunt (Only Folder Hunt)

---

**Story**

**Activities:**
- Tell story,
- Close in Prayer
- Dismiss to Small Group Activities

**Resources:**

**Story: The Treasure Seekers**
- Story Outline p.63
- Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
- Props, Costumes and Scenery

**Don’t Forget!**
Decorate story-telling area with props, costumes and scenery the Drama Group will later use in their play

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WEEK 3 LESSON PLAN

Discussion and Activity Time

All children have a story-related snack, pray an ACTS prayer, and do one or more Small Group Activities

**Snack**

Bread and butter (or jam), made out of the rich farmer’s wheat

**ACTS Prayer**

A Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.

C Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

T Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.

S Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

**Drama**

**Activities:**
- Discuss story
- Fill in Speaker Sheets
- Practice Play

**Resources:**
- Plan-a-Play Story Guide, p. 64
- Speaker Sheets Appendix B, Drama Group

**Story Review Game: Obstacle Course Quiz**

**Activities:**
- Discuss story
- Play Game
- Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

**Resources:**
- Story Review Discussion Questions Sheet pp. 65-66
- Story Review Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups
Big Idea Game: Silly Grand March

**Activities:**
- Discuss Big Idea
- Play Game
- Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

**Resources:**
- Big Idea Discussion Questions Sheet, pp. 67-68
- Big Idea Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups

Big Idea Craft: Earthly Treasure

**Activities:**
- Discuss Story
- Fill in Presenter Sheets
- Make Craft

**Resources:**
- Big Idea-Craft Connection Guide, p. 75
- Craft Directions, p.76
- Presenter Sheets, Appendix D: Craft Group

VIPP Clue Cards, VIPP Game: Hot and Cold Hide

**Activities:**
- Discuss story
- Learn about VIPP/Play VIPP Game
- Decorate VIPP Clue Cards Pray for VIPP
- Decorate VIPP Prayer Letter

**Resources:**
- VIPP Game Directions: Appendix E: VIPP Group
- VIPP Prayer Letter

Scripture Verse Game: Mr. Freezie Ball

**Activities:**
- Discuss Scripture Verse
- Play Game
- Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

**Resources:**
- Scripture Verse Discussion Questions Sheet, pp. 69-70
- Scripture Verse Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups
WEEK 3 LESSON PLAN
Discussion and Activity Time, continued

Scripture Song: Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

Activities:
Discuss Scripture Verse and Song
Learn Song and Sign Language
Play Song Game: **Mimic Me!**
(and Scripture Verse Game, see above)
Fill in Song Intro Sheet

Resources:
Scripture Verse Song Discussion Questions Sheet  pp.71-72
Scripture Verse Lyrics  and Sign Language, Music Resources in front of this Big Idea
Song Game Directions, Appendix F Songs Groups
Song Intro Sheet, Appendix F Songs Groups
Praise Factory Scripture Songs and Hymns CDs

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision: Verse 2

Activities:
Discuss Song
Learn Song and Sign Language
Play Song Game: **Mimic Me!**
Fill in Song Intro Sheet

Resources:
Hymn Discussion Questions Sheet, pp.73-74
Hymn Lyrics  and Sign Language, Music Resources in front of this Big Idea
Song Game Directions, Appendix F Songs Groups
Song Intro Sheet, Appendix F Songs Groups
Praise Factory Scripture Songs and Hymns CDs
WEEK 3 LESSON PLAN

Closing Large Group Time
The Small Groups make a presentation to the rest of the children related to their activity.

Activity Presentations

Drama
The Play, Introduced by the Speakers

Story Review Game
Ask Story Review Questions

Big Idea Game
Read the Big Idea
Ask Big Idea Quiz Questions

Big Idea Craft
Present Craft, Using the Presenter Sheets

VIPP Game and Clue Cards
Share Clues about VIPP
Pray for the VIPP

Scripture Verse Game
Read Scripture Verse
Ask Scripture Verse Quiz Questions

Scripture Song
Sing Scripture Verse Song with Sign Language

Hymn
Sing Hymn with Sign Language

Closing Prayer

Play Clean Up Game, Appendix B, C

Give Out Take Home Sheets
Week 3 Lesson Plan

Opening Large Group Time

All children gather together to review the key concepts and rules in Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt, listen to the story, close in prayer, then are dismissed to Small Group Activities.

Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt

**Activities:**
- Review the WoGoLOA Rules
- Review the Unit Big Question and Scripture Verse
- Review the Big Idea Concept and Scripture Verse

**Resources:**
*All of these resources are found in the Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Review Resources at the front of this Big Idea*
- Echo Chamber Schedule (Echo Chamber Only)
- WoGoLOA Rules
- WoGoLOA Rules Chant
- Unit 12 Big Question/Song
- Unit 12 Scripture Verse/Song
- Big Idea 65 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 65 Scripture Verse Sign
- Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs
- Folders for Folder Hunt (Only Folder Hunt)

Story

**Activities:**
- Tell story
- Close in prayer
- Dismiss to Small Group Activities

**Resources:**
*Story: The Treasure Seekers*
- Story Outline p.63
- Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
- Props, Costumes and Scenery

---

Don’t Forget!
Decorate story-telling area with props, costumes and scenery
the Drama Group will later use in their play

---

Story-telling Refresher:
*Introduction pp.23-25*
Appendices A, B

Opening Large Group
Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt
Refresher:
Introduction pp.16-22
Appendix A
Small Group Activities:
Snack and Discussion Time

All children have a story-related snack, pray an ACTS prayer before doing Small Group activities, listed on the next page.

Snack

- Bread and butter (or jam), made out of the rich farmer’s wheat

ACTS Prayer

- **A** Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.
- **C** Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.
- **T** Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.
- **S** Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.
Week 3 Lesson Plan

Optional Kindergarten Group Format

Activity Time

After snack and discussion time, each group of Kindergarteners take part in one or two activities, as time allows.

Group 1 Activities

Use Group 1 Activities if you have just one Kindergarten groups; or, for half of your Kindergarten Groups, if you have more than one group.

Group 1, First Activity: Act-It-Out

**Activities:**
- Act out story all together

**Resources:**
- Act-It-Out Sheet
- Plan-a-Play Story Guide
- The Story, pp. 61-63

Then, as time allows, followed by...

Group 1, Second Activity: Big Idea Game
(Choose Game from Best Kindergarten Games, Appendix G)

**Activities:**
- Play Game
- Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

**Resources:**
- Big Idea Discussion Questions Sheet
- Best Kindergarten Games:: Big Idea Games, Appendix G Kindergarten Group
Group 2 Activities
Use Group 2 Activities for the other half of your Kindergarten Groups, if you have more than one group.

Group 2, First Activity: Scripture Verse Game
(Choose Game from Best Kindergarten Games, Appendix G)

**Activities:**
- Discuss Scripture Verse
- Play Game
- Choose Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time

**Resources:**
- Scripture Verse Discussion Questions Sheet, pp. 69-70
- Scripture Verse Game Directions: Appendix G Kindergarten Group

Then, as time allows, followed by …

Group 2, Second Activity: VIPP Clue Cards, VIPP Game, or VIPP Prayer Letter
(Choose Game from Best Kindergarten Games, Appendix G)

**Activities:**
- Discuss story
- Learn about VIPP/Play VIPP Game
- Decorate VIPP Clue Cards
- Decorate VIPP Prayer Letters
- Pray for VIPP

**Resources:**
- VIPP Game Directions: Appendix G: Kindergarten Group
- VIPP Prayer Letters
- VIPP Clue Cards: Appendix G: Kindergarten Group
Closing Large Group Time

The Small Groups can make presentation to the rest of the children related to their activity. These are optional for the Kindergarten groups.

Activity Presentations

**Story Review/Big Idea Game**
- Ask Story Review/Big Idea Questions

**VIPP Game and Clue Cards**
- Share Clues about VIPP
- Pray for the VIPP

**Act-It-Out**
- Act out a few actions from Beginning, Middle, End as teacher tells the story briefly

**Scripture Song**
- Sing Scripture Verse Song with Sign Language

**Scripture Verse Game**
- Read Scripture Verse
- Ask Scripture Verse Quiz Questions

**Closing Prayer**

**Play Clean Up Game, Appendix B, C**

**Give Out Take Home Sheets**
Our story takes place in Israel about 2000 years ago.

A young man deep in thought, walked down the dusty road with an angry look on his face and a firm determination in his step. “I can’t believe my older brother! He is so selfish and unfair to me!” this young man was thinking. “As if it wasn’t enough for him to get the usual, double share of our dead father’s things, he had to decide to keep it all—even the little bit that was to come to me! Well, I’ll fix him now! That teacher Jesus, who everyone’s been going to, is in town. I hear he’s a good teacher and wise man. He will want me to have my share of my dead father’s things. I’ll get him to tell my brother to give me what I deserve! Surely if he says my brother should give me some of his things, he will listen.” he thought angrily to himself.

Before long, the young man neared where Jesus was. It was never hard to find Him these days. Great crowds followed Him now. Some to hear what He had to say about God and His kingdom, but all too many came, not because of their thirst to know God, but because of what they hoped Jesus might do for themselves or someone they loved. The young man in our story was no exception. He had definite plans for what he wanted Jesus to do for him!

But our young man had quite a problem to solve if he was ever to make his request to Jesus, for there today the crowd that swarmed around Him numbered in the thousands. Everywhere the eye could see there were people, even trampling each other, anxious to get to Jesus for help. The great crowd of people might have put off some, but not this young man. He made his way forward through the masses and up towards Jesus, even if it meant stepping over the mats of the feeble and crippled who could not move by themselves or slipping past the blind man who could not see the gap that had formed in front of him. This young man did whatever it took to squeeze in front of the other men and women and get up to Jesus.

When at last the young man had forced his way to within earshot of Jesus, he wasted no time in getting the teacher’s attention. “Teacher, tell my brother to divide my dead father’s things with me!” he blurted out, interrupting Jesus’ teaching time with His closest disciples.

Jesus stopped talking and looked at the young man; and because Jesus is God, He knew just exactly what was going on in that young man’s heart, even though He had never even seen him before. Here was a young man not just looking for justice. This was a young man filled with greed. He was a seeker of earthly treasure—he wanted more and more stuff to make his own life good and easy, when what he really needed was the heavenly treasure of knowing God better and using all that God had given him to love others and tell them about Jesus. Jesus would not help this young man continue to live this foolish way.
“Young man, I’m not here to decide between you and your brother about your dead father’s things,” Jesus told him. “I’m here to talk to you about what real life is all about…and it has nothing to do with how much stuff you have!!”

Jesus then turned and said to the whole crowd, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed. Don’t spend your life just trying to get more and more things. Don’t be a seeker of earthly treasure, like getting more stuff. Use the things that God has given you to know God better, to love others and tell them about Me. Then you will have heavenly treasure, the kind that lasts forever and ever!"

“Let me tell you a story,” Jesus went on. “Once there was a farmer who had fields and fields of fine wheat. He had had lots of years of good crops and had grown very rich. He had a big house, he had everything he wanted. His storehouses of grain were brimming over. He was so rich that he could afford to have servants work his fields for him. God had been very good to him and blessed him with everything he needed. Yet the man did not think of God to thank Him or to help out others in need.”

“Well, before long it was harvest time and once more this rich farmer was going to have an incredible harvest of grain," Jesus continued. “But this year, the bountiful harvest was a problem, for the rich farmer’s storehouses were already full of grain. What should he do with the extra? Did he remember that it was the Lord who had richly blessed him with the land and the fine harvest? Could it be that the Lord had plans for all that extra wheat? Wasn’t there a poor widow woman who lived down the road with barely enough food to feed herself and her children? Could it be that the Lord wanted him to share with her? Would he take the grain and make a thank offering with it, giving it to the priests in the Temple to enjoy? He could always sell the extra and give away the money to help one of his relatives. But no, he did not choose to do any of these things. This rich farmer was a seeker of earthly treasure. He wanted to get more and more stuff. He didn’t think about using the things that God had given him to know God better, to help others or tell them about God. He didn’t want heavenly treasure. He wanted to keep all his good things to enjoy just for himself.

So the farmer made his plans:

NIV Luke 12:18-32 'This is what I'll do, [planned the rich farmer,] “I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry."' 

[Oh, if only the rich man had realized how foolish it is to be a seeker of earthly treasure. For earthly treasure never lasts. For] God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

Jesus finished his story and told the crowd: "This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."

Then Jesus said to his disciples: "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much
more valuable you are than birds! Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?"

"Consider how the lilies grow. They do not labor or spin, [Jesus told them.] "Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. For the [people who don’t know Jesus are only seekers of earthly treasure. They run] after all such things, [but you don’t need to for] your Father knows that you need them. [Be seekers of heavenly treasure. Seek to know God better and better, use all that He has given you to love others and tell them about Me.] Seek His kingdom, and these [other earthly treasures you need] will be given to you as well."

"Do not be afraid," [Jesus told them],"... for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Are Good Stewards of God’s Gifts

Our Scripture Verse is: 1 Peter 4:10-11

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

What happened to the young man? Did he understand what Jesus was saying? Did he see that he had been seeking earthly treasure rather than the riches of heaven? Did he see his greedy heart for what it was—desiring more things rather than thinking about God and using what he had in His service to love others and tell them about Jesus? The Bible does not tell us.

But what about you and me? God is calling us to different from the young man—to stop being greedy for more and more things, as if they are most important. He is calling us to be different from the rich farmer, who thought only of his own needs and pleasures rather than using his riches to love others and help them know about Jesus. If we are His people, having turned from our sins and trusted for forgiveness in Jesus’ death on the cross, we know that God promises to give us everything we need and often gives us so much more than just what we need. We know that even the best things we can ever have or hope to have here on earth are nothing compared to what He promises us in heaven. Let’s praise God for freeing His people from being greedy and worrying about things here on earth, knowing that He will always take care of them. Let’s ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Let’s ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Let’s ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Let’s ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Let’s ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Let’s ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior.
1. A man had died and left his things to his two sons. The older brother was not giving the younger brother his share of his father’s things. The younger brother decided to go to Jesus to get him to order his brother to give him the stuff he deserved.

2. When the young man came to where Jesus was, he found that Jesus was surrounded by a crowd of thousands of people, trampling each other to get to Him. Everyone had something they wanted Jesus to do for them.

3. The young man was not put off by the large crowd. He had a greedy heart and wanted his father’s things. He fought his way forward past many others to get to Jesus.

4. The young man shouted out his request to Jesus, interrupting Him as He was teaching His disciples.

5. Jesus immediately knew that the young man had a greedy heart that only was interested in earthly riches. He told the man and the rest of the crowd to be careful of wanting more and more things.

6. He told them the story of a rich farmer who had everything he wanted and whose storehouses of grain were even full.

7. The farmer got another good crop of wheat and had no space for the new harvest.

8. Instead of thinking about how God might want him to use the grain to help others, the man only planned to build bigger storehouses so that he would have a richer life.

9. The Lord spoke from heaven to the rich farmer, calling him a fool because that night he was to die, and never have a chance to use the riches he stored up. Instead he should have given it to help others.

10. Jesus told his disciples to not worry about their needs, but to know that the Lord will take care of them, just like He takes care of the birds and the flowers. He wants them to use all the gifts God gives them to serve Him, by loving others and telling them about Jesus. In heaven, the Lord will reward them with heavenly treasures that are far better.
# Week 3 Resources

Welcome to The Praise Factory curriculum! The resources within week of every Big Idea are ordered in exactly the same way:

## 1. Drama Group Resources

- Plan-a-Play Story Guide
- Act-It-Out Sheet

*(Speaker Sheets are found in Appendix B: Drama Group)*

## 2. Games Groups Resources

- Story Review Discussion Questions
- Big Idea Discussion Questions
- Scripture Verse Discussion Questions

*(Directions to Games are found in Appendix C: Games Groups)*

## 3. Songs Groups Resources

- Scripture Verse Song Discussion Sheet
- Hymn Discussion Sheet

*(Lyrics, Music and Sign Language for both songs found Big Idea Music Resources, at the front of the curriculum this Big Idea)*

*(Song Intro Sheet is found in Appendix F: Songs Groups)*

## 4. Craft Resources

- Craft Instructions and Resources

*(Presenter Sheets found in Appendix E: Craft Group)*

## 5. VIPP Resources

- VIPP Prayer Letter

*(VIPP Clue Cards and Directions for VIPP Games are found in Appendix E: VIPP Group)*
1. Setting (Narrators 2-4)

When? About 2000 years ago

Where? Somewhere in Israel

What's A crowd of many thousands

It Like? A crowd of many thousands surround Jesus, filled with many who want Jesus to do something for them, such as sick and blind people, those looking for a special sign from God, etc.

2. Who’s in It? (Narrator 5)

Older and younger brothers
The dead father
The father’s things
The crowd
Sick people on mats
Blind people
People wanting to see a sign
Jesus
His disciples

Rich Farmer
Wheat
Storehouses
Poor widow and children
Temple & priests
Relatives
Ravens
Lilies
Moth
Rust

3. What about the Big Idea? (Narrator 6)

Today’s Big Idea is God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts.
Jesus warned His disciples to use everything the Lord gave them to love others and help others know Him, and not to hold onto them greedily. God promised to always take care of their needs.

4. What do we call it? (Narrator 1)

How the Rich Farmer Was Poor

5. What's it About? (Leader’s Narration Guide)

Beginning:
A man had died and left his things to his two sons. The older brother was not giving the younger brother his share of his father’s things. The younger brother decided to go to Jesus to get him to order his brother to give him the stuff he deserved. When the young man came to where Jesus was, he found that Jesus was surrounded by a crowd of thousands of people, trampling each other to get to Him. Everyone had something they wanted Jesus to do for them. The young man was not put off by the large crowd. He had a greedy heart and wanted his father’s things. He fought his way forward past many others to get to Jesus. The young man shouted out his request to Jesus, interrupting Him as He was teaching His disciples.

Middle:
Jesus immediately knew that the young man had a greedy heart that only was interested in earthly riches. He told the man and the rest of the crowd to be careful of wanting more and more things. He told them the story of a rich farmer who had everything he wanted and whose storehouses of grain were even full. The farmer got another good crop of wheat and had no space for the new harvest. Instead of thinking about how God might want him to use the grain to help others, the man only planned to build bigger storehouses so that he would have a richer life. The Lord spoke from heaven to the rich farmer, calling him a fool because that night he was to die, and never have a chance to use the riches he stored up. Instead he should have given it to help others.

End:
Jesus told his disciples to not worry about their needs, but to know that the Lord will take care of them, just like He takes care of the birds and the flowers. He wants them to use all the gifts God gives them to serve Him, by loving others and telling them about Jesus. In heaven, the Lord will reward them with heavenly treasures that are far better.
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A man had died and left his things to his two sons. The older brother was not giving the younger brother his share of his father’s things. The younger brother decided to go to Jesus to get him to order his brother to give him the stuff he deserved. When the young man came to where Jesus was, he found that Jesus was surrounded by a crowd of thousands of people, trampling each other to get to Him. Everyone had something they wanted Jesus to do for them. The young man was not put off by the large crowd. He had a greedy heart and wanted his father’s things. He fought his way forward past many others to get to Jesus. The young man shouted out his request to Jesus, interrupting Him as He was teaching His disciples.

**Middle:**
Jesus immediately knew that the young man had a greedy heart that only was interested in earthly riches. He told the man and the rest of the crowd to be careful of wanting more and more things. He told them the story of a rich farmer who had everything he wanted and whose storehouses of grain were even full. The farmer got another good crop of wheat and had no space for the new harvest. Instead of thinking about how God might want him to use the grain to help others, the man only planned to build bigger storehouses so that he would have a richer life. The Lord spoke from heaven to the rich farmer, calling him a fool because that night he was to die, and never have a chance to use the riches he stored up. Instead he should have given it to help others.

**End:**
Jesus told his disciples to not worry about their needs, but to know that the Lord will take care of them, just like He takes care of the birds and the flowers. He wants them to use all the gifts God gives them to serve Him, by loving others and telling them about Jesus. In heaven, the Lord will reward them with heavenly treasures that are far better.
1. Why was the young man so upset with his brother? He would not share his rightful inheritance with him.

2. Why did the young man want to go see Jesus? He thought Jesus would tell his brother to share with him.

3. What was the crowd like that surrounded Jesus? It was in the thousands. People were trampling each other to get to Him.

4. How did the young man show that he was really just thinking of himself in how he got to Jesus? He made his way to the front; He saw Jesus talking to his disciples.

5. Why didn’t Jesus help the young man with his problem? Because Jesus knew the young man’s heart was filled with greed. He needed to be thinking about being rich towards God more than he needed his dead father’s stuff.

6. Why was the rich farmer’s new wheat crop a problem to him? He had no place to store his wheat b/c his storehouses were already full.

7. How could the farmer have been a good steward with the extra wheat? Looked to the needs of others, such as a poor neighbor, the priests at the Temple.

8. What did the farmer show that he was only thinking of himself and not of God or anyone else? He did not thank God or think about using the wheat to help others. Instead, he made plans to build bigger storehouses and make life easier for himself.

9. Why did God call the farmer a fool? A fool is someone who does not think about God in his heart or in what he does. The farmer was rich with wheat and everything else, but he was about to die and had done nothing with his things to love God or love others. He had earthly riches, but would only know eternal punishment.

10. Who did Jesus say we can look at to see that God will take care of our needs? How He takes care of the ravens and the lilies.

11. What does Jesus encourage His disciples to do with their lives? Not worry or be greedy with their earthly treasures, but be generous in using them for others.

12. What kind of treasure will people who follow Jesus’ advice get? Heavenly treasure that can never, ever be lost or stolen or destroyed. And, a rich reward from the Lord.

**Big Idea Connections**
What does our story have to do with our Big Idea? Jesus warned His disciples to use everything the Lord gave them to love others and help others know Him, and not to hold onto them greedily. God promised to always take care of their needs.

**Scripture Verse Connections**
What does our story have to do with the Scripture Verse: **1 Peter 4:10-11**
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

Jesus encouraged His disciples to not be greedy with their earthly things but to use them to serve others. God would take care of their earthly needs and would reward them with heavenly treasures, one day.

**Life Application**
1. What kinds of things do you find it is easy to be greedy about?
2. What is something you are or have that you could use to love others or help them know Jesus?
3. What is the best first step God calls us to take to know Jesus ourselves? To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.
The Gospel
The young man came to Jesus to get His help in getting earthly riches from his brother. Jesus wanted this young man to have heavenly riches. What is the greatest of the heavenly riches he—or any of us—can have? What is that good news of salvation through Jesus? What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? Praise God for being the Teacher of Truth.
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? Confess that many times, we are like the young man who was greedy for more earthly riches, instead of desiring the heavenly riches that come in knowing God and obeying Him.
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? We can thank God for giving us His Word that we might not seek after earthly riches, but seek God and His heavenly riches.
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 them and trust Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit and give us a desire for Him and His heavenly riches.

Playing the Game: Use the same questions in your story review game as you used in your discussion.

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Have your small group ask some of the questions used in their discussion and game as their quiz questions for Closing Large Group Time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
**Obstacle Course Quiz**

**Story Review Game**

**Materials**
Various materials, such as jump ropes, balls, inner tubes, carpet squares, boxes, tunnels made from chairs and bedspreads, etc. to make a simple obstacle course for each team.

Masking Tape
20+ Story Review Discussion & Quiz Questions and other story review questions, 1+ per child
Paper/post-it notes & marker/pencil

**Preparing the Game**
Supplement the Story Review Discussion & Quiz Questions to make up 20+ questions. See “A Guide through the Games Activities” in Appendix C at the back of this binder for more help on making up questions that challenge the children to understand and apply the Story Review concepts to their lives.

Set up two identical obstacle courses, one for each team, that both end up at the same wall of your room. Write a question on the back of a post-it note. On the front, write a point amount, such as 5, 10, 25 points, depending upon the difficulty of the question. Place these questions on the wall at the end of the obstacle courses.

Use the masking tape to make starting lines.

**Playing the Game**
Divide the children into two teams and have them sit down in a line. Demonstrate how they are to go through the obstacle course. At the leader’s command, the first person in each line goes through the obstacle course. Whoever reaches the question wall first wins 1 point for their team and gets to take down one question to give to the teacher. The teacher will ask the question to both teams, calling on the team who raises their hand first. If that team is correct in their answer, they get 2 points. If not, then the question goes to the other team. Process in repeated with next 2 children in line, etc.

Game continues until all have had a chance to run the course, or as question cards, time and attention span allow.

**Optional Closing Activity:**
**Make Your Own Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time.**
If you have time left over, you can do the other game; or, you can have the children think up their own Quiz Questions to ask the other children during Closing Large Group Time, instead of using the ones from discussion time and the game.
Big Idea Concept: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts

God is the Creator of all things. All things belong to Him. There is nothing that we have that God did not give to us: our bodies, our things, our money, our lives. God made people to be stewards of His good gifts to us. What is a steward? A steward is someone who takes care of someone else’s things. God wants His people to be good stewards of His gifts to them. He wants them to serve Him with their bodies—with their hands, their mouths and all of their strength. He wants them to freely share their things with others. He wants them to use their money generously to take care of our families, to help others and to spread the good news about Jesus. In heaven, God promises to reward each of His people according to how they stewarded God’s gifts to them during their lives on earth. God’s people know that they cannot be good stewards of God’s gifts on their own. They know that it is the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts, who helps them be the kind of stewards of God’s gifts that He desires them to be.

Understanding the Big Idea

Why do all things belong to God? Because He is their Creator.

What do we have that God has given to us? Everything! Our bodies, things, money, lives.

What is a steward? Someone who takes care of someone else’s things.

What are people stewards of? The things that God has given to each of them.

How can we be good stewards of God’s gifts to us? Serve Him with our bodies; share freely with others; give our money generously to help our families and others; use all we have to tell others about Jesus.

What difference does it make how we steward the things God has given us? How we use them pleases Him or not. He will reward us in heaven for how well we stewarded His gifts.

How will God reward each of His people in heaven? According to how they stewarded His gifts to them during their lives on earth.

Can God’s people be good stewards of God’s gifts to them on their own? Why or why not? No. They know that the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts must help them to be the kind of steward God wants them to be.

Big Idea Story Connection Questions

What things did Jesus tell His disciples they should do to be good stewards of God’s gifts to them? Not be greedy with their money, but give generously to help others. Think about living for Jesus and telling others about Him most of all and not worry about their earthly needs because He would take care of them.

Scripture Verse Connection

What does our Big Idea have to do with the Scripture Verse: 1 Peter 4:10-11

“This verse reminds us that the gifts God gives to each of His people are to be used to bring praise to God and to encourage each other.

Life Application Questions

1. How can we be good stewards of God’s gifts to us? (answers will vary)
2. What difference does it make to God’s people to know that everything they are and have is really God’s and He calls them to be a steward of them? It makes them think carefully about how they use what they have and are. They know that God is watching them and will reward them for serving Him well, even if no one else sees.
3. What is the best first step to being a good steward of the soul that God has given us to know and love Him? To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.
ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for because of this Big Idea?
   Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Big Idea?
   Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Big Idea?
   Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.
4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Big Idea?
   Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God’s gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

Gospel Question
We are all born sinners. We have all chosen to use the good gifts and abilities God has given us to please ourselves, not to obey and glorify Him. We deserve His punishment, but God offers us hope. What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Have your small group ask some of the questions used in their discussion and game as their quiz questions for Closing Large Group Time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
Materials
CD and CD player
Small bowl or bag
Big Idea Discussion & Quiz Questions

Preparing the Game
Supplement the Big Idea Discussion & Quiz Questions to make up 20+ questions. See “A Guide through the Games Activities” in Appendix D at the back of this binder for more help on making up questions that challenge the children to understand and apply the Big Idea Concepts to their lives.

Write the Big Idea questions on small thin strips of paper and put them in the bag/bowl.

Playing the Game
Have the children form partners, then form a big double circle. Tell the children to move however you command them to move, such as march, walk, skip, tip toes, big knee bends, pat head, fly like a bird, etc. (BUT NOT RUN!!) when you play the music. But when the music stops, they and their partner are to grab hands and sit down as quickly as possibly. The last pair to sit down become the question choosers for the class. If the class answers it correctly, then the pair is added back into the group immediately. If not, then the pair stays out until another round when a correct answer is given to a question. (Feel free to add back incorrectly answered questions into the bag).

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

NOTE: Have the children who are “out” help make up actions for the other children to do, put them in charge of the music, etc. along with you. This will keep them happily occupied as they continue.

Optional Closing Activity
Make Your Own Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time
If you have time left over, you can do the other game; or, you can have the children think up their own Quiz Questions to ask the other children during Closing Large Group Time, instead of using the ones from discussion time and the game.
1 Peter 4:10-11
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

Understanding the Scripture
1. What kind of gifts do we receive from God? Why? Everything from just being alive to the things we have to special skills and talents that we have. He gives them to serve others.
2. What does it mean to “faithfully administer God’s grace in its various forms?” To use all the different gifts that God has given us to love others and help them know & obey Jesus.
3. How can someone who is speaking be a good steward of his words? By saying only what God would want them to say (speaking the very words of God.) If God would not be pleased with something you want to say, then don’t say it.
4. How can someone who is serving be a good steward of what he is doing? Don’t serve to get people to think more highly of you. That’s serving in your own strength, with yourself in mind. Serve with the strength of Christ. That is, serve in the same loving, selfless way as Jesus did with the purpose of loving others and helping them know and obey God—just as Jesus did.
5. What are ways that we can serve Christ? Anything we do, from helping our family and friends, sharing our things, spending time reading the Bible and praying so that we love God more, telling others about Jesus, etc. is serving Christ when we do it with Him in mind.
6. What happens when we speak and serve this way? God will be praised through Jesus Christ. Others will see the way we are and see what Jesus is like. They will want to praise Him for doing such wonderful things through us and for being such a wonderful God.

Big Idea Connection
What does this verse have to do with our Big Idea? God wants His people to use all the good gifts He has given them to serve Him by loving others and helping them know Him.

Story Connection
What does this verse have to do with today’s story? Jesus encouraged His disciples to not be greedy with their earthly things but to use them to serve others. God would take care of their earthly needs and would reward them with heavenly treasures, one day.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people apply this verse to their lives? They can ask God to use the gifts He has given them to serve others as He desires.
2. How can we become God's people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? Praise God for being the Giver of Good Gifts to His people.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? Many times we want to use the gifts God gives us to bring praise to ourselves, instead of God. We deserve God’s punishment! We need a Savior!
ACTS Questions, continued
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse?
   We can thank God giving gifts to His people to use to bring praise to Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
   We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to fill our hearts with the Holy Spirit that He might help us to use whatever gifts He has given us to bring praise to His name.

Gospel Question
How did people become sinners in need of God’s forgiveness? How can they receive His forgiveness? What is the good news of Jesus? What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy! Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people!

Preparing the Children for the Scripture Verse Game
Introduce and Practice Shortened Games version before playing game.

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Read the Scripture Verse to the Large Group & have your small group ask some of the Scripture verse questions used in discussion time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
**Mr. Freezie Ball**

Scripture Verse Game

**Materials**
- Scripture Verse Sign from the Big Idea Folder
- Medium size foam or other soft surfaced ball, or tennis ball

**Preparing the Game**
None.

**Learning the Verse**
Hold up the Scripture Verse sign from the Big Idea Folder for all the children to see. Read it slowly with them reading along with you. Remind them of the meaning of the verse, noting key words that may need explaining. Practice saying the verse with the children until they are fairly confident saying it from memory, probably 4 or 5 times.

**Playing the Game**
Have the children spread out around the leader, who will be the first Mr. Freezie. Mr. Freezie throws the ball up in the air as he calls out the name of one child. That child runs to get the ball, while everyone else spreads out. When the child gets the ball, he yells “freeze” to the other children. He then rolls the ball to gently hit another child. That child tries to say the memory verse, getting the assistance of one other person if desired. If he says it correctly, he becomes the new Mr. Freezie and will be the next to toss the ball. If not, then he becomes Mr. Freezie’s prisoner and sits in the “Deep Freeze” on the sidelines. The person who rolled the ball would then become the new Mr. Freezie and be next to toss the ball.

Game continues until all children are out; or, as time and attention span allow.

**Optional Closing Activity**

**Make Your Own Quiz Questions for Closing Large Group Time**
If you have time left over, you can do the other game; or, you can have the children think up their own Quiz Questions to ask the other children during Closing Large Group Time, instead of using the ones from discussion time and the game.
Each of Us Should Use: 1 Peter 4:10-11

Each of us should use whatever gift, He has received to serve others, Faithfully administering God’s grace, In its various forms. If anyone serves, He should do it with the strength, God provides so that in all things, God may be praised through Jesus Christ.

Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs

Understanding the Scripture
1. What kind of gifts do we receive from God? Why? Everything from just being alive to the things we have to special skills and talents that we have. He gives them to serve others.
2. What does it mean to “faithfully administer God’s grace in its various forms?” To use all the different gifts that God has given us to love others and help them know & obey Jesus.
3. How can someone who is speaking be a good steward of his words? By saying only what God would want them to say (speaking the very words of God.) If God would not be pleased with something you want to say, then don’t say it.
4. How can someone who is serving be a good steward of what he is doing? Don’t serve to get people to think more highly of you. That’s serving in your own strength, with yourself in mind. Serve with the strength of Christ. That is, serve in the same loving, selfless way as Jesus did with the purpose of loving others and helping them know and obey God—just as Jesus did.
5. What are ways that we can serve Christ? Anything we do, from helping our family and friends, sharing our things, spending time reading the Bible and praying so that we love God more, telling others about Jesus, etc. is serving Christ when we do it with Him in mind.
6. What happens when we speak and serve this way? God will be praised through Jesus Christ. Others will see the way we are and see what Jesus is like. They will want to praise Him for doing such wonderful things through us and for being such a wonderful God.

Big Idea Connection
What does this verse have to do with our Big Idea? God wants His people to use all the good gifts He has given them to serve Him by loving others and helping them know Him.

Story Connection
What does this verse have to do with today’s story? The Israelites used the riches God gave them and their different skills to build the Tabernacle just as He desired. They brought praise to His name by doing this.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people apply this verse to their lives? They can ask God to use the gifts He has given them to serve others as He desires.
2. How can we become God’s people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? *Praise God for being the Giver of Good Gifts to His people.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse?
   *Many times we want to use the gifts God gives us to bring praise to ourselves, instead of God. We deserve God’s punishment! We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse?
   *We can thank God giving gifts to His people to use to bring praise to Him.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
   *We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to fill our hearts with the Holy Spirit that He might help us to use whatever gifts He has given us to bring praise to His name.*

Gospel Question
This verse encourages God’s people to speak as if speaking the very words of God. What are the best words that God has given us to speak to others? What is the gospel? *God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!*  

Closing Large Group Time
Sign and sing the song.
**Materials**
None

**Preparing the Game**
None.

**Playing the Game**
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. Sing the song while doing the chosen action. Select another child to be the leader.

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.
Be Thou My Vision

Verse 2
Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs

Understanding the Song
1. What does “Thou” mean? Who is the “Thou” being spoken to? “Thou” is an old word meaning “You.” The Lord is the “Thou” in this song.
2. Was does it mean to ask God to be your “Wisdom”? To not depend on your own understanding but on God’s to know what is best. It also means asking God to show you what He thinks as wise, to help you believe it and to help you to do it.
3. What does it mean to ask God to be your “true Word”? It means to ask God to help you to believe in His Word, and help you desire to live by them in all you think, say and do.
4. Who does the writer of the song what to always be with Him? The Lord.
5. Who is God a great Father to? God is a great Father, not just to Jesus, but also to all of His people.
6. Who is like a “true son” to God? Not just Jesus, but all of God’s people.
7. How can we have God as our true Father? How can we be His true sons? By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.
8. Is true sons just talking about boys/men or does it include girls/women, too? Sons means both boys and girls; men and women.
9. How does God dwell in His people? The Holy Spirit lives inside their hearts.
10. What does it mean to be one with God? It means to be in happy fellowship with Him in your heart; and, in agreement with what He wants.

Big Idea Connection
How does this song relate to our Big Idea: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts?
God’s people want God to be their Wisdom, that they would know how to use their lives to please Him. They want Him to be their true Word, that they might believe His Word and obey all it tells them about how to use the good gifts He’s given them. They want His Holy Spirit to be dwelling in them so that even in their hearts they might have the wonderful fellowship with God He created them to have. They want Him to ever be with them, so that everything in their lives, from the thoughts of their hearts to their words and their actions, please Him and might be used as He wants them to be used. This is how they can be good stewards of all the gifts God has given them.

Story Connection
How does this song relate to today’s story? The young man came to Jesus to make his brother share his inheritance with him. Jesus warned the young man and the whole crowd about being greedy for earthly treasure rather than heavenly treasure. He encouraged them to trust God to give them what they needed and to use what they had to help others. They would receive even better heavenly treasure if they did this. Jesus’ words were God’s wisdom. They were God’s true Word. Jesus told them that the young man might turn away from his greedy ways and turn to God instead.
**Scripture Verse Connection**
How does this song relate to our Scripture Verse: 1 Peter 4:10-11
“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”

God’s people know that all the gifts they have are good gifts from God, their Father. They know that they need God’s wisdom and His Word to know how to use the gifts God has given them in ways that will bring praise to Him through Jesus Christ. They depend upon the Holy Spirit, dwelling in them to help them to believe and obey God’s wisdom as revealed in His Word; and, to do whatever God calls them to do with the gifts He has given them.

**Life Application Questions**
1. How can our lives be affected by the message of this song?
   We can ask God to be our Wisdom and our true Word. We can ask Him to help us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. And, we can ask the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts, helping us to use all the good gifts God gives us for the praise of His name.

**ACTS Questions**
1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?
   Praise God for the Wisdom and True Word of His People.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?
   That many times, we do not want God’s wisdom or to be our true Word. We want to do things our own way, instead of God’s good and perfect ways.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?
   We can thank God for making His people His true sons, even though they deserve nothing but His punishment for the way that have sinned against Him. We can thank God for sending the Holy Spirit to dwell in their hearts and giving them wonderful, close fellowship with Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
   That God would make us His true sons by working in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to send the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts, that we might have wonderful, close fellowship with God.

**Gospel Question**
Why do none of us deserve to be God’s true sons? What has Jesus done so that we can be? What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

**Closing Large Group Time**
Sign and sing song.
Song Game

Materials
None

Preparing the Game
None.

Playing the Game
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. Sing the song while doing the chosen action. Select another child to be the leader.

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.
Earthly Treasure

1. What Is it? (Presenter 1)
Earthly Treasure

2. What Does It Have to Do With the Story? (Presenter 2)
Where? Among a great crowd of people,

Who? Jesus

Did What? Encouraged a young man to seek heavenly treasure instead of

With the Big Idea Object? Earthly treasure

Why? Because earthly treasure will wear out or be stolen, while heavenly treasure is everlasting and far, far better.

3. What Does It Have to Do with the Big Idea? (Presenter 3)
Our Big Idea is: God’s People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts. Jesus encouraged the young man and the crowd to be good stewards of the good gifts that God gave them. He told them not to worry about having enough things, but to use the things God had given them to love Him and love others.

4. What Can It Help Us Remember? (Presenter 4)
God wants us to be good stewards of the things and money we have. He wants us not to greedily want more and more, but to use what we have to love Him and love others.
Earthly Treasure

Description
The children will make some shekels out of cardboard and paper and put them in a little drawstring bag.

Materials
Posterboard or cereal boxes
Paper circles of front and back of coins
Glue sticks
Scissors
1 large, white adult sock per child (athletic socks work well)
1 shoe string (or about 2’ of yarn/string) per child
Colored pencils and/or thin tips markers

Preparing the Craft
1. Cut the posterboard into circles, using the template as a guide. You will need at least 4 circles per child.
2. Make copies of the coin fronts and backs, 1 set per cardboard coin. If working with younger children, you may want to go ahead and cut out the circles. Older children can do this themselves.
3. Cut off the tops of the socks so that you have a 5” sock remaining (use the foot portion). This will be your drawstring bag.
4. If using yarn or string, cut into 2’ lengths.
5. Use the point of a scissor blade to poke even spaced holes along the top of each sock, about 1” from the top. (Too much closer and the sock will unravel)
6. Set out supplies.
7. Make a copy of the coins and bag for the children to see.

Making the Craft
1. Show the children your sample craft.
2. Have them decorate their coin fronts and backs and glue to each side of the cardboard circles.
3. Have the children decorate their sock with the markers.
4. Weave the string in and out the holes in the top of the sock.
5. Tie the ends of the string together in a knot.
6. Put the coins in the bag and draw up the string.
Coin #1, front and back

Coin #2, front and back
Coin #3, front and back

Template for cardboard coin
Dear ________________________________________________

You are a Very Important Prayer Person!

I decorated this card for you during Praise Factory today. The Big Idea we learned about today was: God's People Are Good Stewards of His Gifts. God is the Creator of all things. All things belong to Him. There is nothing that we have that God did not give to us: our bodies, our things, our money, our lives. God made people to be stewards of His good gifts. What is a steward? A steward is someone who takes care of someone else's things. God wants His people to be good stewards of His gifts. He wants them to serve Him with their bodies—with their hands, their mouths and all of their strength. He wants them to freely share their things with others. He wants them to use their money generously to take care of our families, to help others and to spread the good news about Jesus. God promises to reward each of His people according to how they stewarded God's gifts during their lives on earth. God's people know that they cannot be good stewards of God's gifts on their own. They know that it is the Holy Spirit, working in their hearts, who helps them be the kind of stewards of God's gifts that He desires them to be.

We thought about 1 Peter 4:10-11: "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ."

I also prayed for you during ACTS prayer time. Here are 4 things related to the Big Idea we prayed for in our ACTS prayer time. Maybe they will be helpful for you to pray, too.

A Praise God for being the Giver of all the good things and gifts we enjoy.

C Confess that many times we are selfish with what God has given us and forget that He calls us to be good stewards of them. Praise Him for His mercy and forgiveness.

T Thank God for specific gifts He has given us.

S Ask God to help us to remember that we are all stewards of the gifts He has given us. Ask God to work in our hearts so that we might trust Him as our own Savior. Ask God to send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts and help us to be good stewards of God's gifts, using them to bring praise to God and help others to know and love Him.

Yours Sincerely, ________________________________________
HOT AND COLD HIDE
VIPP Game

Materials
The VIPP information sheets and Clue Cards for a VIPP type (such as two deacons, elders, etc)
8 Letter sized Envelopes or folders
8 Category Pictures from the Guess Who Box Game (e.g., “What do I do for fun?
What's my favorite animal?” etc), excluding the picture of the person and their name. These are all found at the end of the listing of VIPP games in this Appendix.
Blindfold

Preparing the Game
Put one of eight pictures in each of the envelopes.
Fill in the clue sheets for the VIPPs you are using. If desired, use a photocopier to reduce down the size of each clue sheet to a smaller size for easier use. Put the clue sheets for the VIPPS in a bag, except for the sheets with the names and pictures. Mix up.

Playing the Game
Reveal, then Review Version:
Reveal: Tell them about the VIPP you are using in the game, showing them the clues and reading the blurb on the VIPP information sheet.

Review: Choose one child to be “The Finder” and cover his eyes with the blindfold. Choose one of the envelopes/folders. Choose another child to be “The Hider”. This child will hide the envelope/folder somewhere in the room. When the clue is hidden, the Finder takes off his blindfold and begins to look for the envelope/folder. The other children say “hot, cold, etc” as the child gets closer or further from the envelope/folder to help the child find it. When the folder is found, open it up and ask the children if they remember the answer to the category question for the day’s VIPP.

Get Clues, Then Guess Version:
Get Clues: Choose one child to be “The Finder” and cover his eyes with the blindfold. Choose one of the envelopes/folders. Choose another child to be “The Hider”. This child will hide the envelope/folder somewhere in the room. When the clue is hidden, the Finder takes off his blindfold and begins to look for the envelope/folder. The other children say “hot, cold, etc” as the child gets closer or further from the envelope/folder to help the child find it. When the folder is found, open it up and show the children the corresponding clip art clue for category question.

Guess: When the clues are all chosen, have the children guess who is the VIPP. Show them the picture and name. Read them the VIPP information blurb.