BIG IDEA

God’s People Say “No” to Temptation
Welcome to The Praise Factory curriculum!
The resources within every Big Idea are ordered in exactly the same way:

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<tr>
<th>1. Big Idea Overview</th>
<th>A one page overview of the Big Idea key concepts taught all three weeks of curriculum.</th>
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<td>2. The Take Home Sheet</td>
<td>Give this to your children to take home at the end of the session.</td>
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<td>3. The Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Resources</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>4. Music Resources</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>5. Week 1 Curriculum</td>
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</table>
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.

5. 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 Say “No” to Temptation

Temptation is thinking about doing something wrong. It is not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say “yes” to temptation and go ahead and do what you are tempted to do. That is sinning. All of God’s people are tempted to do wrong. Sin in their hearts whispers to them to disobey God. Sin in the world around them looks attractive to them. Even Satan works to tempt God’s people to forget God’s good ways and to sin. Jesus, God’s very own Son, was tempted to sin in every way, but He never, ever sinned. Sometimes it is very, very hard to say “no” to temptation. God promises to always show His people a way out of the temptation without sinning. He gives them His Word to remind them of Himself, His good commands and His power to help them. He gives them the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts and help them to turn away from tempting sin. But even when they do give into temptation and sin, He graciously forgives them through Jesus. Praise God for being so merciful to His people!

Scripture Verse

Meditation Version: 1 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

Shortened Memory/Games Version: 1 Corinthians 10:13
“He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

Stories

Week 1  The Man Who Kept Saying “No”  Genesis 37,39,45,50
Week 2  By Life or By Death
Week 3  Hungry for the Honor of Men  Acts 4:32-5:16

Big Idea ACTS Prayer

A  Praise God for being so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.
C  Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.
T  Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.
S  Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.

Songs

Hymn  Sweet Hour of Prayer, v.1
Scripture Song  No Temptation Has Seized You  1 Corinthians 10:13
Big Idea Concept

Temptation is thinking about doing something wrong. It is not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say “yes” to temptation and go ahead and do what you are tempted to do. That is sinning. All of God’s people are tempted to do wrong. Sin in their hearts whispers to them to disobey God. Sin in the world around them looks attractive to them. Even Satan works to tempt God’s people to forget God’s good ways and to sin. Jesus, God’s very own Son, was tempted to sin in every way, but He never, ever sinned. Sometimes it is very, very hard to say “no” to temptation. God promises to always show His people a way out of the temptation without sinning. He gives them His Word to remind them of Himself, His good commands and His power to help them. He gives them the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts and help them to turn away from tempting sin. But even when they do give into temptation and sin, He graciously forgives them through Jesus. Praise God for being so merciful to His people!

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S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.

Bible Story & Supplemental Reading

The Temptations of Joseph Genesis 37,39,45,50
Ananias and Sapphira Acts 4
Leading Little Ones to God #61: God’s Children

Songs

Hymn: Sweet Hour of Prayer, Verse 1 The Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs

Big Idea Hymn Connection: God’s people receive the strength to escape temptation through taking time each day to pray.

Scripture Song: No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13 The Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs CDs

Big Idea Scripture Song Connection: This song reminds us that God’s people will face temptations every day, but they can be encouraged that they can always say “no” to them, because He will never let them be tempted more than they can bear; and, He promises to provide a way out, so they can stand up under them.
No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted He'll also provide, Also provide a way out. Yes, when you are tempted He'll also provide, A way out so you can stand up under it No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.

Adapted from 1 Corinthians 10:13

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, That calls me from a world of care And bids me at my Father's throne Make all my wants and wishes known! In seasons of distress and grief, My soul has often found relief, And oft escaped the tempter's snare By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.
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.)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIG IDEA 70 KEY CONCEPTS USED IN ECHO CHAMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>WoGoLOA Rules</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Big Question</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Scripture Verse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Big Idea Concept</td>
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Activities for Each of the 3 Weeks Spent on a Big Idea Concept

<table>
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<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>
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<tr>
<td>WoGoLOA Rules</td>
<td>GROUP sings the Chant</td>
<td>LEADER says the Rules</td>
<td>LEADER says the Rules</td>
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<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>
<tr>
<td>Big Idea Scripture Verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
<td>LEADER says verse</td>
</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
Split group into Part A and Part B, turn on the music and do the chant!

**Part A:**

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

**Part B:**

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

**All:**

WoGoLOA means Worship God and Love One Another!

**All:**

WoGoLOA means Worship God and Love One Another!

**Part A:**

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

**Part B:**

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

**All:**

WoGoLOA means Worship God and Love One Another!

**All:**

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?
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.

as Christ loved you.

love, live a life of love just as Christ loved you. Ephesians Five, twelve. O-le!
Temptation is thinking about doing something wrong.

It is not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say “yes” to temptation and go ahead and do what you are tempted to do. That is sinning.

All of God’s people are tempted to do wrong. Sin in their hearts whispers to them to disobey God. Sin in the world around them looks attractive to them. Even Satan works to tempt God’s people to forget God’s good ways and to sin.

Jesus, God’s very own Son, was tempted to sin in every way, but He never, ever sinned. Sometimes it is very, very hard to say “no” to temptation.

God promises to always show His people a way out of the temptation without sinning. He gives them His Word to remind them of Himself, His good commands and His power to help them. He gives them the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts and help them to turn away from tempting sin.

But even when they do give into temptation and sin, He graciously forgives them through Jesus. Praise God for being so merciful to His people!
Meditation Version: 1 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

Shortened Memory/Games Version:
1 Corinthians 10:13
“He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”
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)
No Temptation Has Seized You  
1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man.

And God is faithful,

He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.

But when you are tempted He’ll also provide,

Also provide a way out.

Yes, when you are tempted He’ll also provide,

A way out so you can stand up under it

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man.

And God is faithful,

He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.

And God is faithful,

He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.
No Temptation Has Seized You
adapted from 1 Corinthians 10:13

Constance Dever

F G7 Bb C F G C Bb Gm7 F

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful He will not let you be

7 E7 Bb C F Dm11 Bb Gm7 F

tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted He’ll also provide,

12 Gm7 C F Dm11 Bb Gm7 F E7 Bb

also provide a way out. Yes, when you are tempted He’ll also provide, a way out so you can stand

17 Gm7 F G7 Bb C F G7 C Bb Gm7

up under is. No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful He

23 F E7 Bb C

will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear, and

26 Bb Gm7 F E7 Bb C F

God is faithful He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.
No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13

No
Bring the right index and middle fingers down to meet the right thumb.

Temptation, Tempted
Hold the left S hand up to the right shoulder. Then tap close to the left elbow with the curved, right index finger.

Seized
Rapidly move cupped right hand into a fist while bringing it down towards the back of the closed left hand.

You
Point the right index finger forward.

Except, But
Cross the index fingers of both hands in front of the body. Then pull the hands apart.

Common
Make counterclockwise circles with both downturned Y hands facing forward.

Man
Make forward circles with both P hands.

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

Faithful
Place the right index finger, palm facing left, on lower lip. Move finger up and then out making an arc.
No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13
Continued

**Not**
Place thumb of right A hand under chin. Move outward in a slight arc.

**Let**
Place flat hands in front of the body with palms facing. Move hands upward at the same time.

**Beyond**
Move both flat hands facing outward, up and out a few times.

**Can**
With both S hands, palms facing down, move hands down a short distance simultaneously.

**Bear, Stand up under**
Place both A hands, palms down, in front of the body, right thumb resting on back of the left thumb. Move both hands forward in unison.

**When**
Hold left D hand upright with palm facing body. With right index finger, make a clockwise circle around the left, ending up on the left index fingertip.

**Provide**
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.

**Way out**
Place right S hand under downturned left hand. Move right hand forward, while simultaneously changing hand position to index finger pointing out.

**It**
Jab the little finger of the right I hand into the left hand, palm facing right.
Sweet Hour of Prayer

Verse 1

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,
That calls me from a world of care
And bids me at my Father’s throne
Make all my wants and wishes known!
In seasons of distress and grief,
My soul has often found relief,
And oft escaped the tempter’s snare
By thy return, sweet hour of prayer,

Verse 2

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,
Thy wings shall my petition bear,
To Him whose truth and faithfulness
Engage the waiting soul to bless:
And since He bids me seek His face,
Believe His word and trust His grace,
I’ll cast on Him my ev’ry care,
And wait for Thee, sweet hour of prayer,

Big Idea References  Big Idea #70: verse 1  Big Idea #84: verses 1-2
Words  William Walford  Music  William B. Bradbury
Sweet Hour of Prayer

1. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, That calls me from a world of care And bids me at my
   Father's throne Make all my wants and wishes known!
   In seasons of distress and grief, My soul has often
   faithfulness Engage the waiting soul to bless: And since He bids me seek His face, Believe His word and
   found relief, And escaped the tempter's snare By Thy return, sweet hour of prayer.

   trust His grace, I'll cast upon Him my every care, And wait for Thee, sweet hour of prayer.

2. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, Thy wings shall my petition bear To Him whose truth and

   F B F5 C5 Dm7 G6 C G C
**Sweet**
Move flat right hand from mouth to rest in palm of upturned, flat left hand, which is positioned in front of midsection.

**Hour**
Rotate right index finger in a circle on the left flat hand, palm facing left and fingers pointing up, like a hand of the clock rotating.

**Prayer**
Place flat hands together, fingers up, as if praying, in front of body. Bring towards body and bow head at the same time.

**Calls**
Start with right hand on top of left hand, palms facing down. Pull right hand up, while forming an A hand.

**Me**
Point inward with the right index finger.

**World**
Rotate the right W hand around the left W hand.

**Care, Distress, Grief**
Rotate both flat hands in front of head in opposite directions.

**Bids**
With hands flat and together, pull hands toward body.

**Father’s**
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.
Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs

Sweet Hour of Prayer, verse 1

Continued

**Throne**
Place palm side of right H fingers on the back of left H fingers. Move hands down a short distance.

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

**Wants, Wishes**
Place open hands, palms up, away from the body. Pull hands toward the body.

**Make Known**
Touch lips with index fingers, then swing fingers around forwards and out to the sides.

**Seasons**
Make a circle with the index finger side of the right S hand against the left hand, palm facing right and fingers pointing up.

**Soul**
Bring fingertips of the right O hand, palm facing down, from inside the left upturned O hand and raise it up to shoulder level while forming the (right) F hand at the same time.

**Often**
Start with the left palm facing up and the right bent palm facing up. Bring the right bent hand onto the left hand so that the fingertips of the right hand are touching the left palm. Then repeat.

**Found**
Hold right open hand, palm down and facing forward. Bring thumb and index finger together and then pull upward.

**Relief**
Place the right hand on the inside of the left elbow. Place the left hand on the inside of the right elbow.
Escaped
Place right S hand under downturned left hand. Move right hand forward, while simultaneously changing hand position to index finger pointing out.

Tempter’s
Place thumb of right 3 hand on the right temple. Then bend index and middle fingers down a few times while keeping thumb on temple.

Snare
Place the fingers of the right V hand on the neck.

Return
With both index fingers pointed toward each other rotate them in circles towards the body.
**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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<td>________________________________________________</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

______ 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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td><strong>dismiss by group to small group activities</strong></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 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 70 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 70 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 Man Who Kept Saying “No”
  - Genesis 37, 39, 45, 50
  - 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
- Appendixes A, B
WEEK 1 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
Dixie cup “cistern” lined with cold cut “bottom and sides” and teddy graham “Joseph” standing at the bottom in a small cheddar cheese chunk “muck”; Or, could have peanut butter spread on bread “bottom and walls” with “Joseph standing in a bit of jelly “muck” (Be aware of peanut allergies among the children)

ACTS Prayer,

A. Praise God for being so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.

C. Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.

T. Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.

S. Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.

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: Keep It Under Your Hat

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

Choosing Activities Refresher: Introduction pp.22,41-45

Snack & ACTS Prayer Refresher: Introduction pp.24-25

Drama Refresher: Introduction pp.23-25

Story Review Game Refresher: Introduction pp.35-36
Appendix C
## Big Idea Game: Menagerie

**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: Joseph as a Slave

**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: Mix and Match

**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: Hoop & Holler

**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: No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13

**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: Sweet Hour of Prayer: Verse 1

**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
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 70 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 70 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 Man Who Kept Saying “No”**
- Genesis 37, 39, 45, 50
- 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
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

Dixie cup “cistern” lined with cold cut “bottom and sides” and teddy graham “Joseph” standing at the bottom in a small cheddar cheese chunk “muck”; Or, could have peanut butter spread on bread “bottom and walls” with “Joseph standing in a bit of jelly “muck” (Be aware of peanut allergies among the children)

ACTS Prayer,

A  Praise God for being so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.
C  Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.
T  Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.
S  Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.
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

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 1, Second Activity: Scripture Song: No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13

Activities:
Discuss Scripture Verse and Song
Learn Song and Sign Language
Play Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean?

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
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
Optional Kindergarten Group Format

WEEK 1 LESSON PLAN

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 3900 years ago out in the rich, green pastures of Dothan in Israel. Nine young men who had been eating lunch amongst their grazing sheep and goats, suddenly jumped up to their feet and began to wave down the long caravan of camels, laden with spices, balm and myrrh, headed on their way to Egypt. “Stop! We have something to sell you!” the young men shouted to the merchants. “A fine, young man slave! Only seventeen years old! We have him trapped in this cistern. Come, let us show you what we have!”

The Ishmaelite merchants, with their turbans and glittering earrings, got down off their camels and came to hear more. There was always a market for a fine slave in Egypt. “Show us what you have and we’ll consider making you an offer,” they replied to the young men.

So down they went, grabbing their struggling prisoner, hoisting him out of the muck at the bottom of the cistern, and forcing him to stand before the merchants. “He’s good enough,” they admitted. “We’ll give you twenty shekels of silver for him. That’s the going price for slaves these days—more money than most men make in two years. Take it or leave it,” the merchants told them.

“We’ll take it!” the young men agreed.

The Ishmaelite weighed out the twenty shekels of silver and handed it over to the young men, then clamped a neck iron around the neck and shackles around the feet of their newly acquired piece of merchandise—the young man.

“Stop! You can’t do this!” the boy insisted. “I’m no slave! I’m their brother! Judah, Dan, Gad, Issachar, Levi, Simeon, Naphtali, Asher, Zebulun! Please, don’t do this to me! Don’t let them take me away!” he begged.

But the boy’s pleadings were of no use. For years these brothers had watched their father Jacob lavish special attention upon this little brother named Joseph, instead of love each of them equally. Joseph got special praise, special attention, even a special royal robe. The jealous anger that had been building for years in the hearts of Joseph’s brothers was now being vented at last. They watched as the caravan of camels disappeared in the distant south. “Joseph is gone for good,” they gleefully exclaimed. “We will dip his coat in blood and tell father that some ferocious animal devoured him. And that will be the end of our problems with this brother of ours!”

There was little for Joseph to do but to cough through the clouds of dust kicked up by the camels’ feet and think, as he walked those terrible 300 miles to Egypt. Think about his home and his father: would he never see them again? Think about the life of a slave that lay before him: would he wind up in the tortuous copper mines like many did? Think about the terrible things his very own brothers had done to
him: how could his own brothers hate him so much?

Times of great trials bring great temptation. Joseph was tempted to be bitter and vengeful, he was tempted to worry and despair. But the Lord is greater than the greatest trials and temptations. He can always be trusted to provide a way to stand up under the temptation and keep on trusting in the Lord.

The Lord was with Joseph; and instead of allowing him to become bitter, vengeful, worried and despairing, the Lord prospered him in everything he did. The Lord did not let Joseph be sent to the copper mines, He had Potiphar, the very captain of Pharaoh’s guards, purchase him to be a house servant. Everything Joseph did, the Lord greatly blessed.

When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did, Joseph found favor in his master’s eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. From the time he put him in charge of his household and of all that he owned, the LORD blessed the household of the Egyptian because of Joseph. The blessing of the LORD was on everything Potiphar had, both in the house and in the field. So he left in Joseph’s care everything he had; with Joseph in charge, he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate. (Genesis 39:3-6, NIV)

But like times of great trials, times of great blessing can bring great temptations, too. For Potiphar’s wife began to take notice of this handsome, strong young Israelite running her household. “Be my special boyfriend,” she began to ask him, day after day. Was she beautiful? Was Joseph lonely there in Egypt, far away from family? He had been given charge of everything else in Potiphar’s house, why not his wife, too? Would it have been tempting to have her for his special girlfriend? It is not hard to imagine that it would have been. But God was with Joseph, He gave him wisdom to think about what would please God. Joseph said “no” to any temptations he might have had:

“No, I won’t be your special boyfriend!” he refused her flatly. “With me in charge my master does not concern himself with anything in the house; everything he owns he has entrusted to my care. No one is greater in this house than I am. My master has withheld nothing from me except you, because you are his wife. How then could I do such a wicked thing and sin against God?”

[Yet still, Potiphar’s wife would not leave him alone.] One day he went into the house to attend to his duties, and none of the household servants was inside. (Genesis 39:8-11, NIV). She caught him by his cloak and said, “Come [be my special boyfriend right now]!” Now there was no one around to see what they did. Perhaps now Joseph could be tempted to sin. But, no. Maybe no humans were around to see what they did, but God was. Joseph wanted to please God, not the lady of the house. The Lord was with Joseph and gave him strength to say “no” once more to temptation and run straight out the door away from that woman! Even as he ran, she grabbed for him and Joseph had to leave the house with his cloak still in her hand.

us! He came in here to [try to be my special boyfriend], but I screamed. When he heard me scream for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.”
She kept his cloak beside her until Potiphar came home. Then she told him this story: "That Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me. But as soon as I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house."

When Potiphar heard the story his wife told him, saying, "This is how your slave treated me," he burned with anger. (Genesis 39:10-18, NIV)

Unwilling to hear anything he had to say, Joseph knew that once more he was in a great trial. By Egyptian law, Potiphar had the right to have him killed for what he was accused of doing. Great trials bring great temptations. Now would Joseph be tempted into becoming bitter towards God now? Now could he be tempted into despairing?

No, he could not. Once more the Lord was with Joseph, giving him strength in his great trial, and providing a way out to stand up under it. Instead of having Joseph killed, Potiphar had him thrown into the Pharaoh's prison. Joseph's life was spared.

Joseph was to face many more times of great trials. He had to endure seven, long years in that prison in which it would have been easy for him to despair. Then he had many more years of great blessing, when Pharaoh released him from prison and made him the prime minister over everything in all of Egypt for many years, in which it would have been easy for him to be tempted to be proud and forget the Lord. But always, the Lord was with him. Always He gave him a way out through every temptation.

But of all the temptations Joseph had to say “no” to, none was more tempting than when many years later, his brothers came to Egypt in need of grain for their families because of the terrible famine in the land. After all they had done to him; surely it would have been tempting for Joseph to take revenge upon them in a flashy display of his great power. How easy it would have been: with only take a snap of his fingers, dozens of guards would have brought a quick end to them all.

But God was with Joseph, giving him a way out of even his greatest temptation. He gave Joseph a merciful heart. He gave Joseph wisdom to understand that He had allowed this to happen to him that he might go ahead of his people and prepare a place for them during the years of the famine. As Joseph’s brothers trembled before him, they expected Joseph to give into the temptation to get revenge.

How surprised they were when he said, "'Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.' (Genesis 51:19-21) And Joseph was as good as his word. He took the best of care of them and all their children until the day he died.

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation
Our Scripture Verse is: 1 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”
Joseph's great trials and great blessings exposed him to great temptations—to hate, to sin with another man's wife, to despair, and even to kill. But the Lord was with him and helped him stand up under each temptation. What about you and me? Perhaps we do not face trials and blessings as great as Joseph, but each day we are tempted to sin, just like he was. Like Joseph, God's people today can trust in the Lord and depend on Him to be with them and provide them with a way out of every temptation. How can we become God's people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

Let's praise God for promising to always be with His people, helping them in every temptation. Let's ask Him to work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Let's ask Him to be with us as He was with Joseph, helping us to remember the truth of His good ways, showing us the way to stand up under every temptation, and giving us hearts that desire to please Him most of all.
WeeK 1 Story Outline

1. Joseph’s brothers wave down a passing Ishmaelite caravan headed for Egypt. The Ishmaelites pay them 20 shekels for him, refuse to hear his protests, put him in shackles and carry him away.

2. The 300 mile walk gives Joseph plenty of time for tempting thoughts of worry and hate, but the Lord is with him, helping him.

3. Joseph is bought by Potiphar to be a house servant. He quickly sees that the Lord prospers everything Joseph does and puts him in charge of everything in his household.

4. Potiphar’s wife notices Joseph and tempts him to be her special boyfriend, over and over. Each time Joseph says no temptation and no to her. One day, when they are alone in the house, she tempts him again, but he still says no. He flees from her, leaving his cloak behind.

5. She is furious and decides to get him in trouble. She screams to the servants and then tells her husband that Joseph tried to force her to be his special girlfriend.

6. Everyone believes her. Joseph could be killed for this accused crime, but Potiphar only has him put in the king’s prison.

7. In prison, Joseph had plenty of time for tempting thoughts of bitterness, hate and despair for how he’s been treated, but the Lord is with him, helping him.

8. The Lord rescues Joseph from prison and has him made the prime minister of Egypt, in charge of all the Pharaoh’s people and lands. The Lord was with Joseph even then, helping him fight the temptation to be proud.

9. When a famine brings Joseph’s brothers to Egypt to buy grain, he recognizes them. He could have them killed with only a word to his guards in revenge for what they did to him; but he does not give into that temptation. The Lord is with him. He gives Joseph wisdom to see that it was part of His plan that he come to Egypt and prepare a place during the time of famine. He promises them that he will always take care of them and their families.
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 (Speakers 2-4)
When? About 3900 years ago
Where? In Dothan and in Egypt

What’s It Like?
Dothan: lush grazing land for flocks

2. Who’s in It? (Speaker 5)
Joseph’s brothers
Potiphar’s wife
Joseph
Other servants
Jacob
Joseph’s cloak
Cistern
Prison
Ismaelites
Pharaoh
Camels
Grain
Shackles
Famine

3. What about the Big Idea? (Speaker 6)
Today’s Big Idea is God’s People Say “No” to Temptation. The terrible treatment of Joseph’s brothers and Potiphar’s wife were tempting times for Joseph to become hateful and full of revenge, but the Lord was with him, helping him to say “no” to temptations.

4. What do we call it? (Speaker 1)
Our Story is called: How God Helped Joseph Say “No”

5. What’s it About? (Leader’s Narration Guide)
Beginning: Joseph’s brothers wave down a passing Ishmaelite caravan headed for Egypt. The Ishmaelites pay them 20 shekels for him, lift him from the cistern he is kept in, refuse to hear his protests, put him in shackles and carry him away. They show their father Joseph’s special robe with goat’s blood on it and tell their father that he was eaten by a wild animal.

Middle: The 300 mile walk gives Joseph plenty of time for tempting thoughts of worry and hate, but the Lord is with him, helping him. Joseph is bought by Potiphar to be a house servant. He quickly sees that the Lord prospers everything Joseph does and puts him in charge of everything in his household. Potiphar’s wife notices Joseph and tempts him to be her special boyfriend, over and over. Each time Joseph says to no temptation and no to her. One day, when they are alone in the house, she tempts him again, but he still says no. He flees from her, leaving his cloak behind. She is furious and decides to get him in trouble. She screams to the servants and then tells her husband that Joseph tried to force her to be his special girlfriend. Everyone believes her. Joseph could be killed for this accused crime, but Potiphar only has him put in the king’s prison.

End: In prison, Joseph had plenty of time for tempting thoughts of bitterness, hate and despair for how he’s been treated, but the Lord is with him, helping him. The Lord rescues Joseph from prison and has him made the prime minister of Egypt, in charge of all the Pharaoh’s people and lands. The Lord was with Joseph even then, helping him fight the temptation to be proud. When a famine brings Joseph’s brothers to Egypt to buy grain, he recognizes them. He could have them killed with only a word to his guards in revenge for what they did to him; but he does not give into that temptation. The Lord is with him. He gives Joseph wisdom to see that it was part of His plan that he come to Egypt and prepare a place during the time of famine. He promises them that he will always take care of them and their families.
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**Middle:**
The 300 mile walk gives Joseph plenty of time for tempting thoughts of worry and hate, but the Lord is with him, helping him. Joseph is bought by Potiphar to be a house servant. He quickly sees that the Lord prospers everything Joseph does and puts him in charge of everything in his household. Potiphar’s wife notices Joseph and tempts him to be her special boyfriend, over and over. Each time Joseph says to no temptation and no to her. One day, when they are alone in the house, she tempts him again, but he still says no. He flees from her, leaving his cloak behind. She is furious and decides to get him in trouble. She screams to the servants and then tells her husband that Joseph tried to force her to be his special girlfriend. Everyone believes her. Joseph could be killed for this accused crime, but Potiphar only has him put in the king’s prison.

**End:**
In prison, Joseph had plenty of time for tempting thoughts of bitterness, hate and despair for how he’s been treated, but the Lord is with him, helping him. The Lord rescues Joseph from prison and has him made the prime minister of Egypt, in charge of all the Pharaoh’s people and lands. The Lord was with Joseph even then, helping him fight the temptation to be proud. When a famine brings Joseph’s brothers to Egypt to buy grain, he recognizes them. He could have them killed with only a word to his guards in revenge for what they did to him; but he does not give into that temptation. The Lord is with him. He gives Joseph wisdom to see that it was part of His plan that he come to Egypt and prepare a place during the time of famine. He promises them that he will always take care of them and their families.
1. Why were Joseph’s brothers so jealous of him? *He was treated as the favorite of their father.*
2. What did Joseph’s brothers do to get rid of him? *Sold him to Ishmaelite merchants going to Egypt.*
3. What was the journey to Egypt like for Joseph? *Long 200 mile walk, neck and feet would have been bruised and painful from the chains and shackles.*
4. What tempting thoughts did Joseph probably have to deal with on his way to Egypt? *Hate and desire for revenge towards his brothers; worry about where he would have to work as a slave.*
5. How was the Lord with Joseph when he got to Egypt? *Had him sold to be a house servant, not a worker in the copper mines. prospered everything he did so Potiphar put him in charge of everything.*
6. What temptation did Joseph face at Potiphar’s house? *Potiphar’s wife wanting him to be her special boyfriend, even though she was married. Also, perhaps pride at all the prosperity of Potiphar’s house under his leadership.*
7. What did Joseph do to keep from sinning with Potiphar’s wife? *Said “no” to her and then finally ran out of the house.*
8. How did the Lord show Joseph he was with him, after what happened with Potiphar’s wife? *He did not let him be killed, but put in the king’s prison. He prospered everything he did in the prison for the warden.*
9. What temptations might have Joseph faced as the Prime Minister of Egypt? *Pride at his important position, second only to the Pharaoh, himself.*
10. What temptations did Joseph face when he saw his brothers in Egypt? *To take revenge on them and have them killed.*
11. How was the Lord with Joseph when he saw his brothers? *He gave him wisdom to see that all the things that they had done for evil, the Lord had used them for the good. He had sent Joseph ahead of them to Egypt so that they would be saved during the famine.*
12. What did Joseph promise his brothers he would do? *Always take care of them and their families.*
13. What does this story have to do with our Big Idea?

**Big Idea Connections**

What does our story have to do with our Big Idea? *Joseph faced many different and very big temptations in his life. The Lord helped Joseph to say “no” to temptation and do the right thing, time after time.*

**Scripture Verse Connections**

What does our story have to do with the Scripture Verse: *1 Corinthians 10:13*

“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

1. What temptations did Joseph face? *Temptation to hate and want revenge on his brothers; temptation to worry and despair over the seemingly hopeless situations he was in.*
2. How did the Lord help Joseph stand up under the temptations he faced? *He prospered him in his difficult situations; He gave him wisdom to understand why the trials had happened to him.*

**Life Application**

1. What is a temptation that God’s people face today and how might God provide a way out of it? *Answer will vary.*
2. How can we become God’s people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*
The Gospel
Joseph forgave his brothers for the terrible things they had done to him, but God offers forgiveness to people like you and me for the far worse things they have done against Him. What have people done against God? What has He done to forgive them? 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 Worker of Good in even the worst things that happen to His people.
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? Confess that sometimes we are jealous and even hateful towards others because of something they have.
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? We can thank God for His forgiveness offered to sinners through Jesus is even greater than Joseph’s forgiveness of his brothers. It is great enough to forgive all our sins!
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, by His Word and through the Holy Spirit, to say “no” to temptations to sin.

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
Paper and pencil
5+ hats
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.

Write each question on a separate, small piece of paper. Assign a point value to each question, based on difficulty. Pin a question to the underside of each hat, except one. Save the unused questions to pin to the hats when the first set have all been selected.

Place all the hats on the floor or on the table.

Playing the Game
Divide the children into teams. Teams will take turns choosing one of the hats and answering the question pinned to the hat. Each question is worth the number of points indicated on the question. If the first team does not get the right answer, then the question goes to the other team who can win half the points for a correct answer.

When the blank hat is chosen, the team who chooses gets to come up with their very own question to try to stump the other team. If they can, then they get the highest point value worth on the question AND another turn. If the other team gets the right answer, then play continues as normal. When all the questions on the hats have been answered, pin a new set in, changing the empty hat.

Game continues until all children get to choose a hat, or 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.
Big Idea Concept: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation

Temptation is thinking about doing something wrong. It is not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say “yes” to temptation and go ahead and do what you are tempted to do. That is sinning. All of God’s people are tempted to do wrong. Sin in their hearts whispers to them to disobey God. Sin in the world around them looks attractive to them. Even Satan works to tempt God’s people to forget God’s good ways and to sin. Jesus, God’s very own Son, was tempted to sin in every way, but He never, ever sinned. Sometimes it is very, very hard to say “no” to temptation. God promises to always show His people a way out of the temptation without sinning. He gives them His Word to remind them of Himself, His good commands and His power to help them. He gives them the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts and help them to turn away from tempting sin. But even when they do give into temptation and sin, He graciously forgives them through Jesus. Praise God for being so merciful to His people!

Understanding the Big Idea

1. What is temptation? Thinking about doing something wrong.
2. What is the difference between being tempted and sinning? Why is being tempted not sinful? Being tempted is thinking about doing something wrong, while sinning is going ahead and doing it. Being tempted isn’t wrong because it isn’t actually doing the sinful thing.
3. What different ways do temptations come to us? Sin in our hearts whispers to us to disobey God; sin in the world around us/other people tempts us to sin, too; and, even Satan, himself, can tempt us to sin.
4. Who was tempted in every way, yet without ever sinning? Jesus.
5. How does God promise to help His people as they face temptation? To never allow them to be tempted more than they can bear; to always provide a way out so they do not have to sin.
6. How does God use the Bible to help His people not give into temptation? He uses it to remind them of Himself, His good commands and His power to help them.
7. How can the Holy Spirit help God’s people when they face temptation? He can work in their hearts and helps them to turn away from tempting sin.
8. What should God’s people do when they do give into temptation and sin? They should confess their sins to God and ask Him for forgiveness and help to turn away from sinning. He promises to forgive them their sins.

Big Idea Story Connection Questions

What temptations did Joseph probably face? Temptation to hate and to seek revenge on his brothers for what they did to him. Temptation to despair in his seemingly hopeless situation as a slave in prison in Egypt; temptation to be proud and forget God as Prime Minister of Egypt.

Scripture Verse Connection

What does our Big Idea have to do with the Scripture Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:13

“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

God’s people will face temptations every day, but they can be encouraged that they can always say “no” to them, because He will never let them be tempted more than they can bear; and, He promises to provide a way out, so they can stand up under them.
Life Application Questions
1. What are some things God’s people today can do to fight giving into temptation? Read their Bibles so they know what is sin and what is not. Pray each day, asking God to give them strength to say “no” to temptations that will come their way. Confess their sins and temptations to others so they can be praying for them and ask them how they are doing; remember to ask God to show them the way out when they are faced with a temptation.
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 because of this Big Idea?
Praise God for being so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Big Idea?
Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Big Idea?
Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.
4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Big Idea?
Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.

Gospel Question
We are all sinners who have given into temptation to sin. We all deserve God’s punishment. Is there any hope for us? What is it? What is the gospel? Yes, there is hope through Jesus! The gospel is: 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.
Big Idea Game

**Materials**
Small Bag/Bowl
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 three or four teams, depending on how many children you have. Each group of children is given the name of an animal and is assigned a corner of the room. You are “It” and stand in the middle of the room. When everyone is ready, give instructions to different groups of animals, such as “I want the bears to change places with the monkeys.” The bears and monkeys when then run to change places. You, as It, will try to tag bears and monkeys. Choose a question from the bag to read to your caught animals. If they get it right, they are released to be back with their fellow animals. If not, they must wait until another, another correct answer to be released.

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 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

Understanding the Scripture
1. What is a temptation? *Something wrong that you think about doing, usually b/c you think you will get something you want by doing it.*
2. Is it a sin to be tempted? *No. We sin when we give in to the temptation and actually do something sinful.*
3. What kind of temptations seize us? *Ones that are common to man; that is, ones that lots of people experience.*
4. How does God show His faithfulness to His people when they are tempted? *He doesn’t let them be tempted beyond what they can bear. He will provide a way out so we can resist it without sinning.*
5. How is God able to not let us be tempted beyond what we can bear? *He is omnipotent—all powerful. He is control over all things, even how much we are allowed to be tempted.*
6. What does it mean to be able to stand up under a temptation? *To feel the desire to do what you are tempted to do and to not do it.*

Big Idea Connection
What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? *God’s people will face temptations every day, but they can be encouraged that they can always say “no” to them, because He will never let them be tempted more than they can bear; and, He promises to provide a way out, so they can stand up under them.*

Story Connection
1. What temptations did Joseph face? *Temptation to hate and want revenge on his brothers; temptation to worry and despair over the seemingly hopeless situations he was in.*
2. How did the Lord help Joseph stand up under the temptations he faced? *He prospered him in his difficult situations; He gave him wisdom to understand why the trials had happened to him.*

Life Application
1. How can God’s people today glorify God by standing up under temptation? *They show others that loving God and doing what pleases Him is even more satisfying than whatever pleasure they would get from giving into the temptation. They show that God is faithful and can be trusted to help them to not sin.*
2. What should God’s people today do if they give into temptation and sin? *They should confess their sin to God, ask forgiveness and try to not keep doing it. They can pray that God would help them and ask someone else to pray for them, too.*
3. 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 so merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? *That many times we choose to sin when we are tempted, instead of looking to God to show us a way out.*
ACTS Questions, continued
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse?
We can thank God for always making a way out of temptation for His people.
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 confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to see and take the way out of temptation each time we face temptation.

Gospel Question
We are all sinners who have given into temptation to sin. We all deserve God’s punishment. Is there any hope for us? What is it? What is the gospel? Yes, there is hope through Jesus! The gospel is: 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
1 hula hoop for every 2 children

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 pair up. Give each pair a hula hoop and tell them that you are going to tell them different things that they will do with the hula-hoop while they recite the verse. Three activities are: having the children hold hands and jump in and out of the hula hoop, for each word the group recites, rolling it back and forth on each word the group recites; or having buddies take turn while one person from each group sees how far through the verse he can keep the hula hoop going. Allow the children to think up other activities.

Game continues 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.
No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man.
And God is faithful,
He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.
But when you are tempted He’ll also provide,
Also provide a way out.
Yes, when you are tempted He’ll also provide,
A way out so you can stand up under it
No temptation has seized you except what is common to man.
And God is faithful,
He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.
And God is faithful,
He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.

Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs

Understanding the Scripture
1. What is a temptation? *Something wrong that you think about doing, usually b/c you think you will get something you want by doing it.*
2. Is it a sin to be tempted? *No. We sin when we give in to the temptation and actually do something sinful.*
3. What kind of temptations seize us? *Ones that are common to man; that is, ones that lots of people experience.*
4. How does God show His faithfulness to His people when they are tempted? *He doesn’t let them be tempted beyond what they can bear. He will provide a way out so we can resist it without sinning.*
5. How is God able to not let us be tempted beyond what we can bear? *He is omnipotent—all powerful. He is control over all things, even how much we are allowed to be tempted.*
6. What does it mean to be able to stand up under a temptation? *To feel the desire to do what you are tempted to do and to not do it.*

Big Idea Connection
What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? *God’s people will face temptations every day, but they can be encouraged that they can always say “no” to them, because He will never let them be tempted more than they can bear; and, He promises to provide a way out, so they can stand up under them.*

Story Connection
1. What temptations did Joseph face? *Temptation to hate and want revenge on his brothers; temptation to worry and despair over the seemingly hopeless situations he was in.*
2. How did the Lord help Joseph stand up under the temptations he faced? *He prospered him in his difficult situations; He gave him wisdom to understand why the trials had happened to him.*
Life Application
1. How can God’s people today glorify God by standing up under temptation? They show others that loving God and doing what pleases Him is even more satisfying than whatever pleasure they would get from giving into the temptation. They show that God is faithful and can be trusted to help them to not sin.
2. What should God’s people today do if they give into temptation and sin? They should confess their sin to God, ask forgiveness and try to not keep doing it. They can pray that God would help them and ask someone else to pray for them, too.
3. 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 so merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? That many times we choose to sin when we are tempted, instead of looking to God to show us a way out.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse? We can thank God for always making a way out of temptation for His people.
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 confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to see and take the way out of temptation each time we face temptation.

Gospel Question
We are all sinners who have given into temptation to sin. We all deserve God’s punishment. Is there any hope for us? What is it? What is the gospel? Yes, there is hope through Jesus! The gospel is: 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.
**Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean?**

**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

**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.
Sweet Hour of Prayer

Verse 1
Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,  
That calls me from a world of care  
And bids me at my Father’s throne  
Make all my wants and wishes known!

In seasons of distress and grief,  
My soul has often found relief,  
And oft escaped the tempter’s snare  
By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.

Understanding the Song

1. What does prayer time call God’s people from and bids them to; and what does that mean? It calls them from “a world of care” and bids them to their “Father’s throne.” That means that they take time to stop thinking about all the worries of the world and think about. It doesn’t mean actually standing in front of a real throne, but remembering who God is: the sovereign, all-powerful King, who loves His people as their heavenly Father.

2. What can God’s people make known to God? All their wants and wishes.

3. What are seasons of distress and grief? Not a season like spring, summer, fall, winter; but times of worry, fear and sadness.

4. What does God give to His people’s souls when they pray to Him in times of distress and grief? How? Relief. He comforts them by His Spirit & by bringing the truth of His Word to mind as they pray.

5. What does escaping the tempter’s snare mean? Satan is called the tempter b/c he tempts people to sin. A snare is like a trap set for a wild animal. The tempter’s snare would be any situation that Satan hopes to use to tempt us to sin.

6. What often is a help in escaping the tempter’s snare? By returning to pray, over & over.

7. Do God’s people have to spend an hour of prayer for God to help them? No. Hour doesn’t always mean 60 minutes. It also means a time set aside to do something. The song is saying that regular times in prayer are what help God’s people in difficult times, such as when they are sad, worried or being tempted.

8. Why does the song call the hour of prayer “sweet”? Not b/c it is sugary, but b/c God’s people come to love prayer time for what a delight it is to their soul’s in hard times, just as dessert is a delight to our mouths. It becomes one of the best part of the day b/c they spend time with God who loves them most of all and who will help them in every situation they are in.

9. How can we become God’s people, for whom the words of this song are true? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

Big Idea Connection

How does this song relate to our Big Idea: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation? God’s people receive the strength to escape temptation through taking time each day to pray.

Story Connection

How does this song relate to today’s story? Although the Bible does not specifically say that Joseph prayed to the Lord as he faced his temptations, it does tell us that the Lord was with him. When Joseph faced temptations, he cited the Lord’s will as his reason for doing something or not doing something. This wisdom to know the right thing to do would have come from times of dwelling upon God’s Word and praying to the Lord for wisdom. Like other godly men, it was only by prayer that Joseph could have received the strength to say “no” to the big temptations he faced.
Scripture Verse Connection
How does this song relate to our Scripture Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

God helps His people escape temptation through prayer. By the Holy Spirit and through His Word, He shows them a way out of the temptation. He shows them His promises to help them. He reminds them of Himself and His good commands. He reminds them of the terrible things that happen as a result of sin. All these things help God’s people fight temptation.

Life Application Questions
1. How can God’s people be affected by the message of this song?
   They can be encouraged to pray to God for help in times of temptation, to give them what they need, and for comfort in hard or sad times. They can remember that God their Father bids them to come to Him in prayer. He delights to hear their prayers and answer them according to His good and perfect will.
2. What is the prayer and life change that God desires all people to make? To turn away from their sins, confess them to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?
Praise God for being the God who Answers the Prayers of His People.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?
That many times we choose not to pray to God and ask for help against temptation.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?
We can thank God for answering His people’s prayers to escape temptation, as well as their prayers for the things they need or for comfort during hard or sad times.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
That God would work in our hearts that we confess our sins, might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to pray to Him about all our temptations as well as our needs and other concerns.

Gospel Question
How can we know God as our Heavenly Father since we are all sinners? What has He done to make this possible? 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 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.
# Big Idea-Craft Connection Guide

## Joseph Sold as a Slave

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

**Joseph as a Slave**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where?</th>
<th>In Egypt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who?</td>
<td>Joseph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did What?</td>
<td>Said “no” to taking revenge on his brothers for selling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation. It would have been very tempting for Joseph to want to punish or even kill his brothers for what they had done to him. But God did not want him to hurt or kill them. He made Joseph a way out of temptation by showing him His good purposes and helping him not to give into temptation.

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

God can help His people fight against temptation in even the hardest times.

**With the Big Idea Object?**

**Why?** Because God helped him to forgive them and to see that He had used it for His good purposes.
Joseph as a Slave

Description
The children will make a chains for their feet and hands like what the Ishmaelites might have done to him.

Materials
Template for chain links
4 ½” pieces of sticky backed velcro per craft
Black construction paper
Tape
Scissors

Preparing the Craft
1. Print out templates for chain links and cut out.
2. Use the template for the chain links to cut out at least 20 links per craft onto the construction paper. If desired, older children can cut out their own chain links. You will need to make a template pattern for each child if you do this.
3. Set out other supplies.
4. Make a sample for the children to see.

Making the Craft
1. Show children your sample.
2. Have them color in every other stripe on the hat brim with the black markers.
3. Have the children form two sets of 8 interlocking chains (one set for arms, one set for legs). Make the first chain, fastening with a piece of tape. Then slip the end of the next piece of paper through the first loop and fasten the ends of this second link with tape. Continue until you have 8 links.
4. Form the hand cuffs and leg cuffs for each wrist using the same linking technique, but instead of using tape, attach a piece of the velcro to these links so that they can be taken on and off.
Dear [Name],

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 Say "No" to Temptation. Temptation is thinking about doing something wrong. It is not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say "yes" to temptation and go ahead and do what you are tempted to do. Jesus as our own Savior, asks God to help us to understand how much He loves us and help us to resist temptation. We would not sin against Him. In Him, we have victory. Ask God to help us to remember this truth.

Temptation is thinking about doing something wrong. It is not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say "yes" to temptation and go ahead and do what you are tempted to do.

We thought about 1 Corinthians 10:13 "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so you can stand up under it."

This week, we 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 so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.

C Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God's way out of it.

T Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sin.

S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our Savior. Ask God to help us to remember this truth.

Yours Sincerely,

[Your Name]
**MIX AND MATCH**

**VIPP Game**

**Materials**
The VIPP information sheets and clip art for two or more VIPPS, preferably of the same type (such as two deacons, elders, etc)

Bag

**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.

**Playing the Game**

*Reveal, then Review Version:*

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

**Review:** Put all the clip art in the bag. Mix up. Have children take turns pulling clues out and have the class try to remember which clue goes with which VIPP. You can make this a team game by splitting the children into two teams and giving points when their team players correctly put a clue in the right place.

*Get Clues, Then Guess Version:*

**Get Clues:** Put the clues for the VIPPs in the bag and mix up. Read them the VIPP information sheets (or to make it even harder, don't!).

**Guess:** Have the children take turns pulling out the clues and have them guess who the clues go to. When the children guess correctly, review the clues.
**SESSION SCHEDULE AND PLANNING SHEET**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Arrive no later than this to prepare for session</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>My preparations:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>______________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>______________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>______________________________________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|      | **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.
<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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Review the WoGoLOA Rules</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review the Unit Big Question and Scripture Verse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review the Big Idea Concept and Scripture Verse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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 70 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 70 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: By Life or By Death*, 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**

Simple Chinese food, such as Ramen noodles—can even try it with chop sticks! Or, baby under the blankets: Refrigerator crescent rolls with hot dog wrapped in it.

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**ACTS Prayer,**

A  Praise God for being so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.

C  Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.

T  Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.

S  Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.

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**Drama**

**Activities:**

Discuss story  
Fill in Speaker Sheets  
Practice Play  

**Resources:**

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

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**Story Review Game: Triple Play Baseball**

**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

**Big Idea Game: Inspecting the Troops**

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

**Resources:**
Big Idea Discussion Questions Sheet, pp. 45-46  
Big Idea Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups

**Big Idea Craft: John and Betty Stam Comfortably at Home**

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

**Resources:**
Big Idea-Craft Connection Guide, p.53  
Craft Directions, p.54  
Presenter Sheets, Appendix D Crafts Group

**VIPP Clue Cards, VIPP Game: Picture Run**

**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: Take a Step Back**

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

**Resources:**
Scripture Verse Discussion Questions Sheet, pp. 47-48  
Scripture Verse Game Directions: Appendix C Games Groups
**WEEK 2 LESSON PLAN**

Discussion and Activity Time, continued

**Scripture Song: No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13**

**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: Sweet Hour of Prayer: Verse 1**

**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 70 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 70 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: By Life or By Death,** pp. 39-41
- Story Outline p.41
- Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
- Props, Costumes and Scenery

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**Opening Large Group**

Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Refresher:
- Introduction pp.16-22
- Appendix A

**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

Simple Chinese food, such as Ramen noodles—can even try it with chop sticks! Or, baby under the blankets: Refrigerator crescent rolls with hot dog wrapped in it.

ACTS Prayer,

A Praise God for being so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.

C Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.

T Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.

S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.
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: 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
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: No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13

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
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 starts out about 710 years ago in the Italian city of Venice.

With a great thrill and sigh of relief, Marco Polo, his brother and father stepped off the merchant's ship and down onto Venetian soil once more. Marco had been a young lad of seventeen when they left and now after twenty four years of exploring Central Asia and China, he had returned a middle-aged man of forty-one! Oh, what stories they had to tell!

“We saw tall, rugged, snow capped mountains, deep gorges, powerful rivers. Peoples with jet black hair, yellow-hued skin and beautiful, slanted eyelids. And oh, what amazing things they made: gunpowder and firecrackers, coal, shiny silk clothes, fans, umbrellas and even ice cream! They flavor their foods with the most wonderful spices: ginger, cinnamon, and pepper,” Marco told the people of Venice.

“But for all the things that the Chinese have that we do not, there is one thing they do not have: the Bible and the good news of Jesus,” Marco continued. “The great Kublai Khan, emperor of the Chinese, has sent us back here with a request for 100 trained men to teach them about Jesus. “My people and I need to know more about this good news of Jesus to see if it is really true,” he told us. Isn’t this wonderful news?”

What a wonderful opportunity! Surely 100 men could be found to take the Bible and the good news of Jesus to Kublai Khan and his people who had never heard. But I am sad to say, that this wonderful opportunity was met with a great temptation to fear.

“Surely we will not survive the long journey? What if the Polos are lying? What if Kublai Khan decides he doesn’t like the good news of Jesus, he might kill us?” the men thought.

So, instead of saying “no” to their tempting fears and trusting that the Lord could take care of them, they gave in to them and refused to go. In the end, only two men went; and even they quickly gave into fear, returning home, without sharing the good news of Jesus with anyone.

The Chinese people had to wait hundreds of years before they would next have a chance to hear about the Bible and Jesus. A brave group of men and women founded the China Inland Mission and made a promise to not give into the temptation to fear. They would trust God to take care of them and would take the good news of Jesus to the Chinese.

“Two hundred people,” the request went out of the China Inland Mission in 1930. “We want two hundred people who will risk their lives for China. Who will go?”

China had changed a lot over those hundreds of years since Marco Polo made his journey there, but there still were serious dangers that led many able men and women to give into the temptation to fear going there.

“The Communists are taking over China. They are killing many of their own people as well as foreigners. They don’t want Christians telling the people about Jesus,” the missionaries heard. “They don’t want their people to believe in any God at all. Some of the Christians who have gone already have been killed.”
Why would I want to go there?” all too many men and women decided.

So, two hundred men and women could not be found. But as many as there were who said “no” to going to China, there were some who did not give into the temptation to fear. They decided to trust God to do what was best with their lives…even if it meant losing them! Among them were two college students named Betty Scott and John Stam.

Why were the fears that tempted others to stay safe and secure in America not enough to keep them from risking their lives and going to China? Betty once said it well: “I want to invest this one life of mine as wisely as possible, in the place that yields richest [heavenly] profits to the world and to me…Wherever it is, I want it to be God’s choice for me and not my own.” For Betty and John, there was no temptation that could scare them out of going where God wanted them to go.

Not long after John and Betty were in China, they got married and had a little baby girl named Helen Priscilla. When Helen was just eight weeks old, the Stams set out on foot with little more than Bibles, some food, some bedding and clothes for the long, hard trek to the mountain town of Tsingteh. They were going there to share the gospel with the many people there who had never heard the gospel; and, to help the few Chinese Christians who already lived there.

“Don’t go there!” they were warned by some. “The Communists are coming! They will kill you.”

John and Betty had heard the same frightening rumors, but they did not stop them from going. “We will not give into the temptation to fear,” they said. “God has brought us here and wants us to go to Tsingteh. We will trust Him!”

As they traveled to Tsingteh, John and Betty told everyone the wonderful good news of Jesus, God’s Son, who had lived a perfect life and offered it up on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would confess their sins, turn and trust in Him. Many hearts, hungry for this good news, eagerly listened and believed. They accepted the Chinese Bibles they gave out. How glad Betty and John were that they had not been tempted to fear, but had trusted the Lord and come to China. These new Chinese believers were the rich, heavenly profits that Betty had dreamed of giving her life for.

As John and Betty finally made it to Tsingteh, they took in the sight: a small, walled town with many ancient, crumbling stone palaces surrounded by lush, green valleys and sparkling clear streams, with towering mountains in the background.

Betty, John and Priscilla began to the happy job of teaching and encouraging the Chinese Christians in Tsingteh. Like the people they had met on their journey there, the people of Tsingteh came to the Stams hungry to learn more about Jesus and the Bible.

Betty and John looked forward to years working among them, but that was not to be. For only two short weeks after arriving in Tsingteh, Communist soldiers crept down secret mountain paths and surprised the city, early one morning. There was no time to escape. All the fearful rumors that had tempted others not to go to China, began to happen to the Stams.

“Give us $20,000 or else we will kill you!” the soldiers demanded.
John and Betty did not have $20,000 to give. They were only poor missionaries. Even if they had the money to give, they knew there was little hope that these cruel men would release them anyway. These men knew they were Christians. They had every intention of killing them.

What would the Stams do now? It would be easy to be overwhelmed with fear for themselves and for their little baby girl. Would they give into the temptation to fear? No, they would not. The Lord gave them courage instead to face the situation with peace and kindness, not with fear. With great calmness, John and Betty offered tea and cakes to the soldiers, and tried to talk with them, but there was no reasoning with these hate-filled men. They began to make plans for what to do with their prisoners.

“Please, before you take us away,” John Stam pleaded, “can I write to my boss?” Reluctantly the soldiers agreed to his request. John Stam wrote:

By Life or By Death
Tsingteh, An.
Dec. 6, 1934
China Inland Mission
Shanghai
Dear Brethren (Brothers),
My wife, baby and myself are today in the hands of the Communists in the city of Tsingteh. Their demand is twenty thousand dollars for our release. All our possessions and stores are in their hands, but we praise God for peace in our hearts and a meal tonight. God grant you wisdom in what you do, and us fortitude, courage and peace of heart. He is able—and a wonderful Friend in such a time.
Things happened so quickly this a.m. They were in the city just a few hours after the ever-persistent rumors really became alarming, so that we could not prepare to leave in time. We were just too late. The Lord bless and guide you, and as for us, may God be glorified whether by life or by death.
In Him,
John C. Stam

The soldiers soon decided what they would do with the Stams. They marched them at gun point to another mountain town called Miaosheo, a difficult, twelve mile hike away, where they would meet their final fate the next day. In a final attempt to spare her baby, Betty hid little Helen along with John’s letter underneath a blanket, hoping that someone would rescue her before the soldiers found her.

“Come with us,” the soldiers commanded them.

Parading the Stams before all the townspeople and forcing them to jeer and taunt them, the soldiers led them down the street and to a hill outside of town where they were to die. Surely now the Stams would give in to the temptation to fear! Surely now they would panic! There was so much to fear: How would they die? What would happen to baby Helen Priscilla when they were gone? But no. Not even now did the Stams give in to fear. They trusted the Lord, instead and He gave them His peace.

They knelt down on that hill and with one swing of a sword, each gave up their life.
“What peace these Christians have! How mighty must be their God!” thought many of the townspeople who watched them go to their death that day.

John and Betty Stam exchanged their short, earthly lives that day for marvelous, everlasting ones in heaven with Jesus. Helen Priscilla was found and rescued by Chinese Christians who had been hiding in the hills around Miaosheo. She was taken to her grandparents to be cared for and grew up to be a follower of Jesus, too.

And what of Betty’s desire for her life to be used for the greatest heavenly profit for the world? The Lord fulfilled that desire, too. For as news reached America about how the Stams had said “no” to fearful temptations to the very end and had trusted the Lord instead, many new Christians decided to say “no” to fearful temptations, too. They came to the China Inland Mission and volunteered to go, serve, and even die, if that was the only way for the Chinese to hear the good news of Jesus.

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation
Our Scripture Verse is: 1 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it."

John and Betty Stam faced great temptations to fear, yet instead of fearing they trusted the Lord. Nothing meant more to them than to serve Him and let others know about Him--not even their earthly lives, themselves. With joy they endured suffering, know that he Lord was with them through it all and would soon welcome them into His heavenly kingdom forever.

What about God’s people today? What should they think about when faced with temptation? Will they get so caught up in what they are tempted with that they do not stop to think of the Lord? It is easy to do so. But, God’s people can remember His promises to them instead. They can remember His promises to be with them. Promises to them through every trial and temptation. Promises to help them stand up under it and to one day welcome them into His heavenly kingdom, too.

How can we become God’s people and know His help in temptation? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

Let’s praise God for being great enough to help the Stams keep trusting Him, even in death…and for being great enough to do that for His people today, too. Let’s ask Him to help us to turn away from our sins and trust Him as our Savior. Let’s ask Him to help us to think of Him when faced with temptation. Let’s ask Him to help us stand up under every temptation and trial we face, even death itself. Let’s ask Him to give us willing hearts to be used wherever and however we can be of the most heavenly good to this world, without giving into fear.
1. The Polos return to Venice, having been away for 24 years, exploring the Far East. Marco tells the people stories of the lands and peoples they saw. He brings back different inventions that the Chinese had made that people in the “West” had not seen before. He brings back spices for food.

2. He gives them Kublai Khan’s request for 100 men to teach them about the Bible and Jesus, since they do not know anything about them.

3. People gave into temptation to fear risking their lives to tell the Chinese about Jesus. Only two men go and even they soon come back without telling anyone about Jesus.

4. Hundreds of years later, the China Inland Mission begins to send people to China to tell them about Jesus and the Bible. They want 200 people to go to China, but many people are too frightened of the Communists taking over China to go. They don’t want to die.

5. Betty Scott and John Stam did not give into the temptation to fear, they went to China.

6. They got married soon after arriving there and had a little baby, Helen Priscilla.

7. They were to go to Tsingteh to work at a mission station started by CIM and then left a couple of years earlier.

8. Some warned them not to go b/c of the Communists. The Stams knew this was what the Lord wanted them to do, so they did not give into the temptation to fear.

8. They journeyed 200 miles on foot with their belongings through the mountains to Tsingteh. As they went they told many about Jesus and gave them Bibles. They were glad they had made the trip. The Chinese people were so eager to hear and believe in Jesus.

9. They began to settle in Tsingteh. They found the Chinese there very eager to hear more about Jesus. The Christians there were eager to grow.

10. Only 2 weeks after getting there, Communist soldiers snuck into the town and arrested the Stams.

11. The soldiers let John Stam write a letter to his boss, telling him that the Communists wanted $20,000 or they would kill them. They did not have the money, but they would not give into the temptation to fear. They were trusting God with their lives and even with their deaths.

12. The soldiers forced them to walk to another mountain town, named Miaosheo.

13. Betty Stam hid Helen Priscilla under a blanket along with the letter John had written.

14. The soldiers paraded the Stams through town, forcing the townspeople to say mean things to them. The townspeople were amazed that the Stams did not fear, but have great peace. They marveled at how great their God must be.

15. The soldiers killed the Stams with a sword. Even as they died, the Stams did not give into the temptation to fear. They trusted God.

16. Baby Helen Priscilla and the letter were rescued by Chinese Christians hiding around Miaosheo.

17. Many others heard about what happened to the Stams and decided to say “no” to the temptation to fear the Communists and volunteered to go to China, too.
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 (Speakers 2-4)

When? About 70 years ago
Where? Tsingteh, China
What’s it like? A walled town on a hill, surrounded by lush green valleys and lofty mountains. Lots of crumbling stone palaces.

2. Who’s in It? (Speaker 5)

The Polos
Chinese people
Kublai Khan
Spices
Inventions
John & Betty Stam
Communists
Bibles
Helen Priscilla
Blanket
Letter
Chinese Christians
Volunteers

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

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation. The Stams faced the temptation to fear many times, but even facing death, itself, they said “no” and instead chose to trust God.

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

Our Story is called:
Faith Greater than Fear

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

Beginning: The Polos return to Venice, having been away for 24 years, exploring the Far East. Marco tells the people stories of the lands and peoples they saw. He brings back different inventions that the Chinese had made that people in the “West” had not seen before. He brings back spices for food. He gives them Kublai Khan’s request for 100 men to teach them about the Bible and Jesus, since they do not know anything about them. People gave into temptation to fear risking their lives to tell the Chinese about Jesus. Only two men go and even they soon come back without telling anyone about Jesus.

Middle: Hundreds of years later, the China Inland Mission begins to send people to China to tell them about Jesus and the Bible. They want 200 people to go to China, but many people are too frightened of the Communists taking over China to go. They don’t want to die. Betty Scott and John Stam did not give into the temptation to fear, they went to China. They got married soon after arriving there and had a little baby, Helen Priscilla. They were to go to Tsingteh to work at a mission station started by CIM and then left a couple of years earlier. Some warned them not to go b/c of the Communists. The Stams knew this was what the Lord wanted them to do, so they did not give into the temptation to fear. They journeyed 200 miles on foot with their belongings through the mountains to Tsingteh. As they went they told many about Jesus and gave them Bibles. They were glad they had made the trip. The Chinese people were so eager to hear and believe in Jesus. They began to settle in Tsingteh. They found the Chinese very eager to hear more about Jesus. The Christians there were eager to grow.

End: Only 2 weeks after getting there, Communist soldiers snuck into the town and arrested the Stams. The soldiers let John Stam write a letter to his boss, telling him that the Communists wanted $20,000 or they would kill them. They did not have the money, but they would not give into the temptation to fear. They were trusting God with their lives and even with their deaths. The soldiers forced them to walk to another mountain town, named Miaoshel. Betty Stam hid Helen Priscilla under a blanket along with the letter John had written. The soldiers paraded the Stams through town, forcing the townspeople to say mean things to them. The townspeople were amazed that the Stams did not fear, but have great peace. They marveled at how great their God must be. The soldiers killed the Stams with a sword. Even as they died, the Stams did not give into the temptation to fear. They trusted God. Baby Helen Priscilla and the letter were rescued by Chinese Christians hiding around Miaosheo. Many others heard about what happened to the Stams and decided to say “no” to the temptation to fear the Communists and volunteered to go to China, too.
Beginning: The Polos return to Venice, having been away for 24 years, exploring the Far East. Marco tells the people stories of the lands and peoples they saw. He brings back different inventions that the Chinese had made that people in the “West” had not seen before. He brings back spices for food. He gives them Kublai Khan’s request for 100 men to teach them about the Bible and Jesus, since they do not know anything about them. People gave into temptation to fear risking their lives to tell the Chinese about Jesus. Only two men go and even they soon come back without telling anyone about Jesus.

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Many others heard about what happened to the Stams and decided to say “no” to the temptation to fear the Communists and volunteered to go to China, too.
1. Where had the Polos been for 24 years? Exploring the Far East, including China.
2. What did they tell the people of Venice about China? What the lands and peoples were like; about their inventions, their spices. About Kublai Khan.
3. What inventions did they see? Ice cream, umbrellas, fans, etc.
4. What did Kublai Khan want them to send back to him and his people? Why? 100 men to tell them about Jesus and the Bible b/c they had never heard about them before the Polos came. They wanted to understand and believe.
6. How many years did the Chinese have to wait before someone came to tell them about Jesus? Hundreds of years.
7. How many people did CIM want to go to China? Why didn’t they get that many? 200. Many gave into the temptation to fear the Communists who were taking over the country and killing many people, including the Christians.
8. Why did the Stams go to China anyway? They wanted to go wherever the Lord wanted them to go so that their lives might be of the most heavenly good to the world. They would listen to God, not give into the temptation to fear being killed.
9. What was the journey up to Tingteh like? Through the mountains, on foot, carrying their things. Very difficult.
10. Who did the Stams talk to on there way to Tingteh? About what? They talked the Chinese people along the way about Jesus and the Bible.
11. How did the Chinese in Tingteh and on the way to Tingteh react to the good news of Jesus? They were eager to hear and believe. They wanted Bibles to read.
12. Why didn’t the Stams get to stay in Tingteh long? Communist soldiers snuck in and arrested them.
13. What temptations did the Stams face when the Communists arrested them? Fearing for their lives and what would happen to their daughter.
14. How did the Stams keep their baby save? They hid her under a blanket.
15. Why did the people who watched the Stams as they went to die think their God was mighty? Because they never gave into fear, but kept trusting in Him, even with their lives and deaths.
16. What happened to Helen Priscilla? She was rescued by Chinese Christians and taken to her grandparents.
17. What did people do when they heard about the Stams’ death? They decided to say “no” to the temptation to fear and wanted to go to China, too.

**Big Idea Connections**

What does our story have to do with our Big Idea? Even when they knew they were to die, never did the Stams give into the temptation to fear. They kept trusting the Lord.

**Scripture Verse Connections**

What does our story have to do with the Scripture Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:13

“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

The Brands risked their lives in the Mountains of Death so that the peoples living there would know to confess their sins to God, ask for His forgiveness, and trust in Jesus, that they might become God’s people, purified from all unrighteousness.
Life Application
1. Are there still places in the world that need to hear about Jesus? Yes!
2. Why is it so important that Christians tell others about Jesus? How will they be saved from the punishment that they rightly deserve for their sins if no one tells them? And, because Jesus commanded His people to go into every part of the world and tell them about salvation through Him. Also, because God has planned for His people to be from every people on earth. Spreading the good news of Jesus brings honor and glory to God’s great name.
3. What does God call us to do in response to the good news of salvation through Jesus, the same message the Stams took to China? To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

The Gospel
What was the good news of salvation through Jesus that the Stams lived and died to tell the people of China? 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 Giver of Strength to Trust Him even during a great temptation to fear.
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? Confess that many times we are not like the Stams who trusted God, but like the others who heard of the dangers and chose to give in to fear. We would rather keep ourselves safe than trust God with our lives.
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? We can thank God giving many of His people courage to go to dangerous places to tell others about Jesus. We can thank Him for using the Stams to bring many people to know God and trust Jesus as their Savior.
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 trust in Him and to turn away from fear. We can ask Him to help us, by His Holy Spirit, to do whatever it is that He wants us to do with our lives.

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.
TRIPLE-PLAY BASEBALL

Story Review Game

Materials
4 carpet squares or construction paper for bases
3 balls of different sizes, such as a foam ball, tennis ball, and soccer ball.
A basket or cardboard box
Masking tape
Paper and pencil
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.

Place the carpet squares at the four corners of a diamond, like for baseball, approximately 10 feet apart. Place the basket with the balls in it next to “Home” base.

Playing the Game
Divide the children into teams. Team A will be up to bat, Team B will be out in the field. One player from Team B stands behind the batter as catcher. The leader will read a question to the batter. If the batter answers it correctly, he then picks up all three balls from the basket and tosses them out into the “field” in rapid succession. He then tries to run as many bases as possible around the diamond, touching each base, before the Team B players in the field return all three objects to the catcher who puts the balls into the box. The batter scores as many points as bases he was able to get to: 1 point for first base, 2 points for 2nd base, etc. The next person on Team A becomes batter now, and repeats the process. A team incurs an “out” if a batter is unable to answer a question; or, if a batter is caught in between 2 bases when all the items are back in the box, then they are out. Teams switch positions after 2 outs.

Game continues until all children get to bat, or 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.
Big Idea Discussion Questions

Big Idea Concept: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation
Temptation is thinking about doing something wrong. It is not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say “yes” to temptation and go ahead and do what you are tempted to do. That is sinning. All of God’s people are tempted to do wrong. Sin in their hearts whispers to them to disobey God. Sin in the world around them looks attractive to them. Even Satan works to tempt God’s people to forget God’s good ways and to sin. Jesus, God’s very own Son, was tempted to sin in every way, but He never, ever sinned. Sometimes it is very, very hard to say “no” to temptation. God promises to always show His people a way out of the temptation without sinning. He gives them His Word to remind them of Himself, His good commands and His power to help them. He gives them the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts and help them to turn away from tempting sin. But even when they do give into temptation and sin, He graciously forgives them through Jesus. Praise God for being so merciful to His people!

Understanding the Big Idea
1. What is temptation? Thinking about doing something wrong.
2. What is the difference between being tempted and sinning? Why is being tempted not sinful? Being tempted is thinking about doing something wrong, while sinning is going ahead and doing it. Being tempted isn’t wrong because it isn’t actually doing the sinful thing.
3. What different ways do temptations come to us? Sin in our hearts whispers to us to disobey God; sin in the world around us/other people tempts us to sin, too; and, even Satan, himself, can tempt us to sin.
4. Who was tempted in every way, yet without ever sinning? Jesus.
5. How does God promise to help His people as they face temptation? To never allow them to be tempted more than they can bear; to always provide a way out so they do not have to sin.
6. How does God use the Bible to help His people not give into temptation? He uses it to remind them of Himself, His good commands and His power to help them.
7. How can the Holy Spirit help God’s people when they face temptation? He can work in their hearts and helps them to turn away from tempting sin.
8. What should God’s people do when they do give into temptation and sin? They should confess their sins to God and ask Him for forgiveness and help to turn away from sinning. He promises to forgive them their sins.

Big Idea Story Connection Questions
What temptations did the Stams face? Temptation to fear about what would happen to them and their baby. Temptation to fear death.

Scripture Verse Connection
What does our Big Idea have to do with the Scripture Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”
God’s people will face temptations every day, but they can be encouraged that they can always say “no” to them, because He will never let them be tempted more than they can bear; and, He promises to provide a way out, so they can stand up under them.
Life Application Questions
1. What are some things God’s people today can do to fight giving into temptation? Read their Bibles so they know what is sin and what is not. Pray each day, asking God to give them strength to say “no” to temptations that will come their way. Confess their sins and temptations to others so they can be praying for them and ask them how they are doing; remember to ask God to show them the way out when they are faced with a temptation.

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 because of this Big Idea?
Praise God for being so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.

2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Big Idea?
Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.

3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Big Idea?
Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.

4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Big Idea?
Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.

Gospel Question
We are all sinners who have given into temptation to sin. We all deserve God’s punishment. Is there any hope for us? What is it? What is the gospel? Yes, there is hope through Jesus! The gospel is: 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.
Big Idea Game

Materials
Crown (if desired)
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
Tell the children that they are the Queen’s/King’s soldiers and are to follow her/his every command. Have the soldiers march, pretend to hold out their swords, ride their horses, etc. Then, finally have them stand at attention, very still and showing no emotion. Tell them that you are the Queen/King and have come to inspect the troops. (Put on the crown). You have to remove anyone who is not very straight and still, and show no emotion. As you inspect the troops, make faces or say things to try to get the troops to break into a smile, etc. Watch them for movement. Whoever breaks is told the Troops must answer a question correctly to reinstate the soldiers who were caught. Have one of the soldiers caught to pick a question. Read it to the whole class and take their answers. If they don’t get it right, then the child/children must stay out until the next round and next correct answer. If desired, let some of the children take turns being the king/queen.

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

NOTE: Have the children who remain out help you to give commands to the troops.

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 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

Understanding the Scripture
1. What is a temptation? *Something wrong that you think about doing, usually b/c you think you will get something you want by doing it.*
2. Is it a sin to be tempted? *No. We sin when we give in to the temptation and actually do something sinful.*
3. What kind of temptations seize us? *Ones that are common to man; that is, ones that lots of people experience.*
4. How does God show His faithfulness to His people when they are tempted? *He doesn’t let them be tempted beyond what they can bear. He will provide a way out so we can resist it without sinning.*
5. How is God able to not let us be tempted beyond what we can bear? *He is omnipotent—all powerful. He is control over all things, even how much we are allowed to be tempted.*
6. What does it mean to be able to stand up under a temptation? *To feel the desire to do what you are tempted to do and to not do it.*

Big Idea Connection
What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? *God’s people will face temptations every day, but they can be encouraged that they can always say “no” to them, because He will never let them be tempted more than they can bear; and, He promises to provide a way out, so they can stand up under them.*

Story Connection
1. What temptations did the Stams face? *Temptation to fear what would happen to themselves and their baby. Temptation to fear death.*
2. How did the Lord help the Stams stand up under the temptations they faced? *He gave them strength to trust in Him, courageously and peacefully, even as they died.*

Life Application
1. How can God’s people today glorify God by standing up under temptation? *They show others that loving God and doing what pleases Him is even more satisfying than whatever pleasure they would get from giving into the temptation. They show that God is faithful and can be trusted to help them to not sin.*
2. What should God’s people today do if they give into temptation and sin? *They should confess their sin to God, ask forgiveness and try to not keep doing it. They can pray that God would help them and ask someone else to pray for them, too.*
3. 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 so merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? *That many times we choose to sin when we are tempted, instead of looking to God to show us a way out.*
ACTS Questions, continued

3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse?
   
   *We can thank God for always making a way out of temptation for His people.*

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 confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to see and take the way out of temptation each time we face temptation.*

Gospel Question

We are all sinners who have given into temptation to sin. We all deserve God’s punishment. Is there any hope for us? What is it? What is the gospel? Yes, there is hope through Jesus! The gospel is: *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.
Scripture Verse Game

Materials
Scripture Verse Sign from the Big Idea Folder
1 beanbag for every 2 children

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
Pair up the children, giving a beanbag to each pair. Line up one child from each team, then have the partners face their team partner, about one foot apart from each other, forming a second line. Have all the children say the verse together, then have the partner throw the beanbag to the other partner. Those who successfully catch the beanbag stay in for the next round. Have each child take a step back. Lead the children in saying the verse again, then have them throw the beanbag to their partner. Those who successfully catch the beanbag stay in for the next round. Have the children take another step back, and so on. Continue until only one team remains.

Alternate Play: Continue to allow all children to play the game, even if they drop their beanbag, but keep track of how many successful catches each team makes. The team with the most successful catches wins.

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.
No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted He'll also provide, Also provide a way out. Yes, when you are tempted He'll also provide, A way out so you can stand up under it No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.

Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs

Understanding the Scripture
1. What is a temptation? Something wrong that you think about doing, usually b/c you think you will get something you want by doing it.
2. Is it a sin to be tempted? No. We sin when we give in to the temptation and actually do something sinful.
3. What kind of temptations seize us? Ones that are common to man; that is, ones that lots of people experience.
4. How does God show His faithfulness to His people when they are tempted? He doesn’t let them be tempted beyond what they can bear. He will provide a way out so we can resist it without sinning.
5. How is God able to not let us be tempted beyond what we can bear? He is omnipotent—all powerful. He is control over all things, even how much we are allowed to be tempted.
6. What does it mean to be able to stand up under a temptation? To feel the desire to do what you are tempted to do and to not do it.

Big Idea Connection
What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? God’s people will face temptations every day, but they can be encouraged that they can always say “no” to them, because He will never let them be tempted more than they can bear; and, He promises to provide a way out, so they can stand up under them.
1. What temptations did the Stams face? Temptation to fear what would happen to themselves and their baby. Temptation to fear death.
2. How did the Lord help the Stams stand up under the temptations they faced? He gave them strength to trust in Him, courageously and peacefully, even as they died.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people today glorify God by standing up under temptation? They show others that loving God and doing what pleases Him is even more satisfying than whatever pleasure they would get from giving into the temptation. They show that God is faithful and can be trusted to help them to not sin.
2. What should God’s people today do if they give into temptation and sin? They should confess their sin to God, ask forgiveness and try to not keep doing it. They can pray that God would help them and ask someone else to pray for them, too.
3. 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 so merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? That many times we choose to sin when we are tempted, instead of looking to God to show us a way out.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse? We can thank God for always making a way out of temptation for His people.
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 confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to see and take the way out of temptation each time we face temptation.

Gospel Question
We are all sinners who have given into temptation to sin. We all deserve God’s punishment. Is there any hope for us? What is it? What is the gospel? Yes, there is hope through Jesus! The gospel is: 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.
**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.
Sweet Hour of Prayer

Verse 1
Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,
That calls me from a world of care
And bids me at my Father’s throne
Make all my wants and wishes known!
In seasons of distress and grief,
My soul has often found relief,
And oft escaped the tempter’s snare
By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.

Understanding the Song
1. What does prayer time call God’s people from and bids them to; and what does that mean? *It calls them from “a world of care” and bids them to their “Father’s throne.” That means that they take time to stop thinking about all the worries of the world and think about. It doesn’t mean actually standing in front of a real throne, but remembering who God is: the sovereign, all-powerful King, who loves His people as their heavenly Father.*

2. What can God’s people make known to God? *All their wants and wishes.*

3. What are seasons of distress and grief? *Not a season like spring, summer, fall, winter; but times of worry, fear and sadness.*

4. What does God give to His people’s souls when they pray to Him in times of distress and grief? How? *Relief. He comforts them by His Spirit & by bringing the truth of His Word to mind as they pray.*

5. What does escaping the tempter’s snare mean? *Satan is called the tempter b/c he tempts people to sin. A snare is like a trap set for a wild animal. The tempter’s snare would be any situation that Satan hopes to use to tempt us to sin.*

6. What often is a help in escaping the tempter’s snare? *By returning to pray, over & over.*

7. Do God’s people have to spend an hour of prayer for God to help them? No. *Hour doesn’t always mean 60 minutes. It also means a time set aside to do something. The song is saying that regular times in prayer are what help God’s people in difficult times, such as when they are sad, worried or being tempted.*

8. Why does the song call the hour of prayer “sweet”? *Not b/c it is sugary, but b/c God’s people come to love prayer time for what a delight it is to their soul’s in hard times, just as dessert is a delight to our mouths. It becomes one of the best part of the day b/c they spend time with God who loves them most of all and who will help them in every situation they are in.*

9. How can we become God’s people, for whom the words of this song are true? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Big Idea Connection
How does this song relate to our Big Idea: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation? *God’s people receive the strength to escape temptation through taking time each day to pray.*

Story Connection
How does this song relate to today’s story? *From the beginning, Betty and John Stam prayed to God that He would use them where they would be of greatest heavenly use and not give into any temptation to fear about where He might send them or what He might use them to do. After being arrested, the Stams faced the “tempter’s snares” to fear the soldiers and what they would do to themselves & to their baby. Both they and the Chinese Christians around them prayed to God to give them strength. He answered their prayers by giving them courage and peace even to death.*
Scripture Verse Connection
How does this song relate to our Scripture Verse: **1 Corinthians 10:13**
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

**God helps His people escape temptation through prayer. By the Holy Spirit and through His Word, He shows them a way out of the temptation. He shows them His promises to help them. He reminds them of Himself and His good commands. He reminds them of the terrible things that happen as a result of sin. All these things help God’s people fight temptation.**

Life Application Questions
1. How can God’s people be affected by the message of this song?

   *They can be encouraged to pray to God for help in times of temptation, to give them what they need, and for comfort in hard or sad times. They can remember that God their Father bids them to come to Him in prayer. He delights to hear their prayers and answer them according to His good and perfect will.*

2. What is the prayer and life change that God desires all people to make? **To turn away from their sins, confess them to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior.**

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

   *Praise God for being the God who Answers the Prayers of His People.*

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

   *That many times we choose not to pray to God and ask for help against temptation.*

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

   *We can thank God for answering His people’s prayers to escape temptation, as well as their prayers for the things they need or for comfort during hard or sad times.*

4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?

   *That God would work in our hearts that we confess our sins, might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to pray to Him about all our temptations as well as our needs and other concerns.*

Gospel Question
How can we know God as our Heavenly Father since we are all sinners? What has He done to make this possible? 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 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.
John and Betty Stam Comfortably at Home

1. What Is it? (Presenter 1)
John and Betty Stam Comfortably at Home

2. What Does It Have to Do With the Story? (Presenter 2)
Where? In the United States
Who? John and Betty Stam
Did What? Said “no” to the temptation to stay Comfortably at Home
With the Big Idea Object?
Why? Because they knew that God was calling them to take the good news of Jesus to China.

3. What Does It Have to Do with the Big Idea? (Presenter 3)
Our Big Idea is: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation. The Stams knew it was very dangerous to go to China, but they felt sure they were supposed to go. God helped them not give into fear about the situation but gave them courage to trust Him with their lives that the people of China might hear about Jesus.

4. What Can It Help Us Remember? (Presenter 4)
God can help His people say no to temptation in even the most difficult and dangerous situations.
John and Betty Stam Comfortably at Home

Description
The children will make a scene of John and Betty Stam comfortably at home in America with pop open windows and doors that reveal things in their house.

Materials
2 pieces of cardstock per child
Templates of the house and the pictures
Scissors
Markers, colored pencils, etc
Glue Sticks

Preparing the Craft
1. Print out each template onto a piece of cardstock, one per craft.
2. Cut out the windows and doors on the house piece, leaving the left side intact. Fold this side back. You will want to do this for at least your youngest children and you may want to do this for all the children.
3. Glue with glue sticks the front house piece to the back plain piece of cardstock, leaving the windows and doors free.
4. Set out other supplies.
5. Make a sample for the children to see.

Making the Craft
1. Show children your sample.
2. Have the children color in the house and the various pictures (or make their own pictures), cut them out and stick them in whichever window/door frame they want.
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 Say “No” to Temptation. Temptation is thinking about doing something wrong. It is not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say “yes” to temptation and go ahead and do what you are tempted to do. That is sinning.

All of God’s people are tempted to do things they know are wrong. Sin is whispering to them to disobey God. Sin looks attractive to them. Even Satan works to tempt God’s people to sin. Sin in their hearts whispers to them to disobey God. Sin in the world around them looks attractive to them. Even Satan works to tempt God’s people to sin.

Jesus said, “No” to temptation. Jesus trusted His Father to help Him to say “no” to temptation. Jesus trusted the Holy Spirit to help Him. Jesus trusted the Blood of His Father to take away His sin. Jesus trusted the power of His Father to keep Him from sinning.

Jesus helps us to say “no” to temptation, too. He helps us to remember His commands. He helps us to say “no” to temptation. He helps us to remember the way out of temptation. He helps us to remember the power of the Blood of Jesus. He helps us to remember the power of the Holy Spirit.

We thought about 1 Corinthians 10:13, “No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so you can stand up under it.”

We 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 so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.

C: Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.

T: Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sin.

S: Ask God to work in your heart that you might turn away from sin and trust in Jesus as your own Savior. Ask God to help you to resist sin and to turn away from sin.

God’s People Say “No” to Temptation

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 Say “No” to Temptation. Temptation is thinking about doing something wrong. It is not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say “yes” to temptation and go ahead and do what you are tempted to do. That is sinning.

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S: Ask God to work in your heart that you might turn away from sin and trust in Jesus as your own Savior. Ask God to help you to resist sin and to turn away from sin.

God’s People Say “No” to Temptation

Yours Sincerely, ________________________________________

VIPP Prayer Letter Big Idea 70
**Picture Run**

**VIPP Game**

**Materials**
The VIPP information sheets and clip art for two or more VIPPS, preferably of the same type (such as two deacons, elders, etc)
- Tape
- Different color construction paper for each picture.

**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 the Clue Cards for the VIPPS put in a bag, except for the names and pictures. Mix up.

Use tape to put up the pictures of each VIPP on a piece of construction paper. Tape each up in a different location/wall around the room.

**Playing the Game**

**Reveal, then Review Version:**
- **Reveal:** Tell them about each of the VIPPs you are using in the game, showing them the clues and reading the blurb on the VIPP information sheet for each of them.
- **Review:** Put the Clue Cards for the VIPPS put in a bag. Mix up. Have children stand together in middle of the room. Tell them that you will pull out a clip art clue, tell them what it is and they are to run to a picture of the person who it belongs to. Give them the answer after everyone has run to their guessed person. Continue until all clues have been used up.

**Get Clues, Then Guess Version:**
- **Get Clues:** Put the clues for the VIPPs in the bag and mix up. Read them the VIPP information sheets (or to make it even harder, don’t!).
- **Guess:** Have children stand together in middle of room. Tell them that you will pull out a clue, tell them what it is and they are to run to picture of the person who it belongs to. Give them the answer after everyone has run to their guessed person. Continue until all clues have been used up. Review the correctly finished profiles of each VIPP and information sheets at the end.
**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>
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</tbody>
</table>

**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><strong>Week 1 of Big Idea</strong></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><strong>Dismiss by group to Small Group Activities</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_____</td>
<td><strong>Snack and Discussion Time</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Pray, thanking God for the time together. Ask God to help your group to learn more about Him during your small group time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 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?”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. What does the snack have to do with the story?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. ____________________________________________</td>
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<td>3______________________________________________</td>
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<td>4______________________________________________</td>
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<td>5._____________________________________________</td>
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<td>6._____________________________________________</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The Drama group will fill in the Speaker Sheets as their discussion questions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Activity Time</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>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:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>ACTS Prayer Time</strong> (Exception: Drama group leader will incorporate a brief ACTS prayer into their opening prayer, instead)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>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)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Small Group Presentations in Closing Large Group Time</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 70 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 70 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:**

- **Hungry for the Honor of Men** Acts 4:32-5:14
- 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*
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

Round fruit, vegetable, and cracker “shekels” (banana, cucumber, carrot, Ritz crackers, etc.)

ACTS Prayer,

A Praise God for being so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.
C Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.
T Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.
S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.

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: Chair Pile-Up

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
Week 3 Lesson Plan

Discussion and Activity Time, continued

Big Idea Game: Enemy Invaders

**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: Lying about the Money Ananias and Sapphira Received

**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: Crabbin’ Around

**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: Verse Tag

**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: No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13**

**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: Sweet Hour of Prayer: Verse 1**

**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
**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 70 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 70 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:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Story Outline p.63</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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
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

Round fruit, vegetable, and cracker “shekels” (banana, cucumber, carrot, Ritz crackers, etc.)

ACTS Prayer,

**A** Praise God for being so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.

**C** Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.

**T** Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.

**S** Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.
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

Act-It-Out Refresher:
Introduction pp.41-42
Appendix B

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
WEEK 3 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: 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 about 2000 years ago in the city of Jerusalem, not long after Jesus rose from the dead.

Things had never quite been the same in Jerusalem since Jesus had risen from the dead. From the mysterious empty tomb sealed and guarded by Roman soldiers to miraculous healings in the courts of the magnificent, gleaming, white Temple. From the courage of plain, unschooled fishermen standing up to the mighty Jewish Sanhedrin to thousands of people turning to confess Jesus as Savior and Lord. From the power of the Holy Spirit coming down and filling these new believers to the selfless way they shared their things with each other so none would be in need. It was hard for anyone to deny that this Jesus and his followers had shaken things up. How amazing the works done in the name of Jesus! What powerful preaching! What miraculous healings! How wonderful the love these Christians show to God and to each other! What suffering they willingly endure for His name! What generosity they show each other! The people of Jerusalem watched these first followers of Jesus with curiosity and wonder.

“Surely only a work of God could bring such faith, such love, such a call to live pure and holy lives,” many thought. No wonder the Lord added to their numbers almost daily as others saw the great things that were being done in the name of Jesus.

Joseph of Cyprus was just one such of a Christian. He was a rich Levite who had confessed his sins to the Lord and trusted in Jesus as his Savior and Lord. The Lord gave Joseph wonderful gifts of preaching and of generosity. He was such a great blessing to the young church in Jerusalem, that the apostles gave him the nickname “Barnabas”, meaning Son of Encouragement.

As our story opens, Joseph was in the midst of doing one of the very things that earned him his nickname. For there Joseph stood in the marketplace, exchanging property and silver with a local businessman.

“It’s a deal,” Joseph said to the man, sealing the purchase. “This silver is a fair price for my field. Thank you,” he told him.

As Joseph carried the big bag of silver down the winding, cobbled streets his heart must have been full of joy. He was so happy. The money he had received for his field would be this money plenty to take care of the needs of the widows and poor. He was so thankful that he had a field to sell to help them out.

As Joseph entered the believers’ meeting place, everyone watched as Joseph took the bag of silver and laid it at the apostles’ feet.

“I sold a field today. Here’s the money I got for it. I’m giving it to you to give it out as you see best among the needy,” he told them.
The apostles took it gratefully. Once more Barnabas had earned his nickname. His generosity—as well as his gift of preaching—was a great encouragement to the believers. No wonder everyone honored and respected Joseph. Other rich believers saw what godly men like Joseph were doing and they wanted to sell their fields and houses. Widows would be cared for. Poor believers would be able to buy the food and clothing. No one would be in need because of the generous Holy Spirit-prompted gifts of the richer believers.

Word of such good deeds could hardly be kept just to the Christians. The people of Jerusalem saw these selfless acts as yet more proof of something very unusual about Jesus and His followers. How amazing the works done in the name of Jesus! What powerful preaching! What miraculous healings! How wonderful the love these Christians show to God and to each other! What suffering they willingly endure for His name! What generosity they show each other! The people of Jerusalem watched these first followers of Jesus with curiosity and wonder. “Surely only a work of God could bring such faith, such love, such pure and holy lives,” many thought. No wonder the Lord added to their numbers almost daily.

But giving generously did not come without its own temptations and dangers, as Ananias and Sapphira—two rich people who had been meeting with the Christians—were soon to find out. For the people of Jerusalem were not the only ones taking note of what these first followers of Jesus were doing. Satan, the great enemy of God and His people, was all too aware of how God was using His people to bring many to salvation through Jesus. He was none too pleased. He wanted them to sin and spoil their pure witness. He did not want people to be saved. He would use his usual means to try to get them to do just that: temptation! He would tempt them with sin in the world around them; he would tempt them with sinful desires from within their hearts; and, he would even tempt them with whisperings from himself, the greatest sinner of all. He would tempt this couple who had begun to meet with the Christians to sin.

“Sapphira, next time there is a need among the poor and widows, let’s sell one of our fields and give the money to the apostles,” Ananias suggested to his wife. Sapphira agreed with her husband’s idea. They had watched how Joseph and other rich Christians had sold houses and fields and laid the money at the apostles’ feet. They had seen the honor and gratitude that the apostles as well as the poor had shown the rich believers for their kind gifts and they decided they wanted to be part of that.

It was not long before new needs requiring more money were made known to the believers. “This is our chance,” Ananias told Sapphira. Down to the market place they went. Before long they had found a buyer. With a quick exchange of silver shekels for property, the deal was done.

“What a lot of money we got for our field!” Ananias exclaimed to Sapphira, showing her the bulging bag of silver. “This will more than meet the needs of the widows and poor,” he told her, “but perhaps we don’t need to give it all away to the poor,” he began to think. “After all, it really is such a lot of money.”

The more Ananias thought about all that money, the more hesitant he was to give it all away. Satan
used Ananias’ thoughts about the money to begin to tempt him to sin: “But think how much grander it
would be to say to the apostles in front of everyone else that we are giving all of the money we got, just
like Joseph of Cyprus did? Isn’t that the kind of honor and respect you are hungry for?” Ananias began to
think to himself.

“What harm would it do to keep some for us and just not tell the apostles and the others it was not the
full price?” Ananias persuaded himself. “After all, it is such a lot of money, even with us keeping back
some for ourselves.” Sapphira did not stop her husband, but watched as he removed some of the silver
from the bag and stored it away for them, then left for the meeting place of the believers. Ananias was
being tempted to lie to the Christians so that he might enjoy the honor of giving all his money without
really doing it, and gave into the temptation. Sapphira had been tempted to stand by and let him do it.
She gave in to temptation, too. As Ananias walked to the meeting place with his plan in mind, if his heart
nudged him that what he was doing was wrong, he ignored it. If he had wanted to listen, he could have
cried out to the Lord, confessing his sin and turning to trust in Him for salvation and for help, as he had
heard many times in those gatherings with the Christians. The Lord could have helped him say “no” to
this temptation, for God promises to never allow His people to be tempted more than they can bear. But
Ananias did not do this. He wanted the honor or others so much that he hardened his heart and gave in
to the temptations he was facing.

A thrill of excitement filled Ananias as he entered the meeting place filled with the apostles and
believers. This was the moment he had waited for. He walked up to the apostles in full view of all of the
believers and laid the bulging money bag at their feet. “I sold my property and am presenting to you the
money I got for it. Use it as you see fit to meet the needs of others.” How proud Ananias was of the large
donation he was making. How much he was looking forward to the words of honor for this good work
that surely he was about to receive from the apostles and others.

But instead of words of praise, Ananias received a rebuke, for the Lord through His Holy Spirit had told
Peter the truth about Ananias’ gift and the sin in his heart: “‘Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your
heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for
the land?’ Peter questioned. ‘Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t the
money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to
God.’ When Ananias heard this, he fell down and died.”  (Acts 3-5, NIV)

As you can imagine, great fear seized all who heard what had happened to Ananias: “How amazing
have been the works done in the name of Jesus! What powerful preaching! What miraculous healings!
How wonderful the love the Christians show to God and to each other! What suffering they willingly
endure for His name! What generosity they show each other!” the people of Jerusalem had thought.
Now in awe they added, “What holiness they must show in their lives, even deep in their hearts! Nothing
can be hidden from God” The people of Jerusalem watched these first followers of Jesus with curiosity
and wonder. "Surely only a work of God could bring such faith, such love, such a call to live pure and holy lives," they thought.

Then the young men came forward, they wrapped up Ananias’ body, carried him out and buried him. One thing was clear: sin was a very big deal to God. He wanted His people to say “no” to temptation and stay pure from sin. God’s people would face temptation, but He promises to never allow His people to be tempted more than they can bear. If he had wanted to, he could have cried out to God to show him the way out of temptation, for God also promises to always show His people a way out of every temptation so that they can stand up under it without sinning. They must say “no” to temptation if the special fellowship they have with Him and with each other was to stay unspoiled by sin as possible.

But Ananias’ death was not to be the end of the story.

"About three hours later [Sapphira] came in, not knowing what had happened.

Peter asked her, “Tell me, is this the price you and Ananias got for the land?”

Sapphira was tempted to lie to Peter, too. Would she say “no” to temptation or give in to it? Would she ask God to show her the way to stand up under it?

No. she would not. Instead she hardened her heart to what she knew she should do, just as Ananias had.

“Yes,” she lied to Peter, “that is the price.”

Peter said to her, “How could you agree to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look! The feet of the men who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out also.”

At that moment she fell down at his feet and died. Then the young men came in and, finding her dead, carried her out and buried her beside her husband. (Acts 5:7-11)

Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events. It was clear to those who heard about Ananais and Sapphira’s death that Jesus was indeed alive and at work in His Church. Ananias and Sapphira had thought they could fool the believers and even God the Holy Spirit, Himself, by gathering with them and mimicking their good works. They—and all of Jerusalem with them—learned the solemn truth that God will not be mocked. He knows the deepest thoughts and motives of all. He knew that Ananias and Sapphira were really just hungry for the honor of men.

No doubt Satan took joy in seeing Ananias and Sapphira struck down for such deliberate rebellion and the fear that spread through the people of Jerusalem. But if he thought that their punishment would stop the growth of God’s church, he was wrong. For while some saw what had happened and did not dare join them now, may more was the mighty works of God and in amazement thought: “How amazing have been the works done in the name of Jesus! What powerful preaching! What miraculous healings! How wonderful the love the Christians show to God and to each other! What suffering they willingly endure for His name! What generosity they show each other! What holiness they must show in their lives, even deep in their hearts!” The people of Jerusalem watched these first followers of Jesus with curiosity and wonder. “Surely only a work of God could bring such faith, such love, such a call to live pure and holy
“To those who will listen, “I speak,” they thought. And more and more men and women turned to the Lord to confess their sins and trusted in Him as their Savior and Lord. The Lord used even this mighty display of judgment to bring people to Him.

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation
Our Scripture Verse is: 1 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

How swift the Lord was to punish Ananias for his sinful plan to get honor from others by lying to them and to Him! There is much we cannot understand about God and His ways. God hates sin. Since Adam and Eve first rebelled against God, we have all been sinners deserving His punishment for our sins. Yet God is so merciful and patient that rarely do we ever see Him immediately punish humans so quickly for their sins as with Ananias and Sapphira. We could fear God like some did in Jerusalem that day, for His quick and mighty judgment of them. Or, like so many others did when they heard, we can confess our sins to Him, turn and trust in Him for forgiveness and salvation. Let’s praise our holy God who hates sin. We can praise Him for His promises to never allow any of His people to face more temptation than they can bear, and to always provide a way out of temptation so they can stand up under it.

Let’s ask Him to help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Let’s ask Him to help us to remember what a big deal sin is to Him. Let’s ask Him to work in our hearts when we face temptation that we would not harden them and give in to sin, but would turn to Him for help to stand up under it.
1. Joseph of Cyprus was a rich believer who was given great gifts of preaching God’s Word and of generosity. The apostles gave him the name of “Barnabas” meaning “Son of Encouragement” b/c of these gifts.

2. When a need arose among other believers in Jerusalem, Barnabas went down to the marketplace and sold a field to a businessman.

3. He took the money and placed it at the apostles’ feet, that they may use it as they thought best for the needs of others.

4. Other rich Christians saw what Barnabas did and they did the same. When another need arose, a rich man, Ananias, and his wife, Sapphira, --who gathered with the believers-- decided they would sell a field to meet the need. They went down to the marketplace and sold their field to a businessman, just like Barnabas did.

5. But, when they got the money for it, they were tempted to keep back some of the money for themselves, but make others think they gave it all to the church. They were hungry for the same kind of honor that Barnabas had received, but did not want to really sacrifice as much as he did.

6. Ananias took the money to where the believers were gathered & laid it at the apostles’ feet for everyone to see. He made it seem like it was all the money. He looked forward to the honor he’d get.

7. But the Holy Spirit told Peter what Ananias had done. Peter rebuked Ananias for allowing Satan to tempt him into trying to lie to the Holy Spirit like this.

8. When Ananias heard this, he fell to the ground dead. Everyone was terrified when they saw what happened to Ananias. They saw that just as the Lord confirmed the good news about Jesus with great signs and wonders in these first days of the church, He was using great signs and wonders to confirm to those first believers that sinning was a very big deal to Him. They should say “no” to temptation and not sin..

9. Some young men picked up Ananias’ body and took it out to be buried.

10. Sapphira came to the believers’ meeting place. Peter asked her if they had given all the money from the sale of the property to the church. She told him that they did, lying just like her husband.

11. Peter rebuked her for lying to the Holy Spirit, too. She fell down dead. The young men took her body and buried it, too.

12. The believers & others heard about this & were terrified. While some were too scared to turn to believe in Jesus, many more saw the greatness of the Lord in this, confessed their sins & turned to trust in Him.
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 (Speakers 2-4)
When? About 2000 years ago
Where? In Jerusalem
What’s It Like? Capitol of Israel. Beautiful Temple, cobbled streets, meeting place of first believers

2. Who’s in It? (Speaker 5)
Joseph of Cyprus
The Apostles
Meeting place of first believers
First Believers
Poor and widows
Field
Silver
Businessmen
Marketplace
Rich Christians
Ananias
Sapphira
Young men
Other people

3. What about the Big Idea? (Speaker 6)
Today’s Big Idea is God’s People Say “No” to Temptation. Ananias and Sapphira did not say “no” to the temptation to lie to the Holy Spirit. The Lord’s punishment of them was a terrifying reminder at how much He hates sin.

4. What do we call it? (Speaker 1)
Our Story is called: Sin is a Big Deal to God: Don’t Do It!

5. What’s it About? (Leader’s Narration Guide)
Beginning:
Joseph of Cyprus was a rich believer who gave great gifts of preaching God’s Word and of generosity. The apostles gave him the name of “Barnabas” meaning “Son of Encouragement” b/c of these gifts. 2. When a need arose among other believers in Jerusalem, Barnabas went down to the marketplace and sold a field to a businessman. He took the money and placed it at the apostles’ feet, that they may use it as they thought best for the needs of others. Other rich Christians saw what Barnabas did and they did the same. When another need arose, a rich man named Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, decided they would sell a field to meet the need. They went down to the marketplace & sold their field to a businessman, just as Barnabas did.

Middle:
But, when they got the money for it, they were tempted to keep back some of the money for themselves, but make others think they gave it all to the church. They were hungry for the same kind of honor that Barnabas had received, but did not want to really sacrifice as much as he did. Ananias took the money to where the believers were gathered and laid it at the apostles’ feet for everyone to see. He made it seem like it was all the money. He looked forward to the honor he would get. But, the Holy Spirit told Peter what Ananias had done. Peter rebuked Ananias for allowing Satan to tempt him into trying to lie to the Holy Spirit like this. When Ananias heard this, he fell to the ground dead. Everyone was terrified when they saw what happened to Ananias. They saw that just as the Lord confirmed the good news about Jesus with great signs and wonders in these first days of the church, He was using great signs and wonders to confirm to those first believers that sinning was a very big deal to Him. They should say “no” to temptation and not sin.. Some young men picked up Ananias’ body and took it out to be buried.

End:
Sapphira came to the believers’ meeting place. Peter asked her if they had given all the money from the sale of the property to the church. She told him that they did, lying just like her husband had. Peter rebuked her for lying to the Holy Spirit, too. She fell down dead. The young men took her body and buried it, too. The believers and others heard about this and were terrified. While some were too scared to turn to believe in Jesus, many more saw the greatness of the Lord in this, confessed their sins and turned to trust in Him.
Beginning:
Joseph of Cyprus was a rich believer who gave great gifts of preaching God’s Word and of generosity. The apostles gave him the name of “Barnabas” meaning “Son of Encouragement” b/c of these gifts. 2. When a need arose among other believers in Jerusalem, Barnabas went down to the marketplace and sold a field to a businessman. He took the money and placed it at the apostles’ feet, that they may use it as they thought best for the needs of others. Other rich Christians saw what Barnabas did and they did the same. When another need arose, a rich man named Ananias and his wife, Sapphira, decided they would sell a field to meet the need. They went down to the marketplace & sold their field to a businessman, just as Barnabas did.

Middle:
But, when they got the money for it, they were tempted to keep back some of the money for themselves, but make others think they gave it all to the church. They were hungry for the same kind of honor that Barnabas had received, but did not want to really sacrifice as much as he did. Ananias took the money to where the believers were gathered and laid it at the apostles’ feet for everyone to see. He made it seem like it was all the money. He looked forward to the honor he would get. But, the Holy Spirit told Peter what Ananias had done. Peter rebuked Ananias for allowing Satan to tempt him into trying to lie to the Holy Spirit like this. When Ananias heard this, he fell to the ground dead. Everyone was terrified when they saw what happened to Ananias. They saw that just as the Lord confirmed the good news about Jesus with great signs and wonders in these first days of the church, He was using great signs and wonders to confirm to those first believers that sinning was a very big deal to Him. They should say “no” to temptation and not sin. Some young men picked up Ananias’ body and took it out to be buried.

End:
Sapphira came to the believers’ meeting place. Peter asked her if they had given all the money from the sale of the property to the church. She told him that they did, lying just like her husband had. Peter rebuked her for lying to the Holy Spirit, too. She fell down dead. The young men took her body and buried it, too. The believers and others heard about this and were terrified. While some were too scared to turn to believe in Jesus, many more saw the greatness of the Lord in this, confessed their sins and turned to trust in Him.
1. Why was Joseph called “Barnabas” by the apostles? Because of his gifts of preaching and generosity.
2. Why did Joseph sell his field? To help meet the needs of other believers in the church.
3. Why did Joseph lay the money at the apostles’ feet? That was how he showed that he wanted them to decide how best to distribute it among the needy, not him.
4. Who are the apostles? They were original twelve disciples, except for Judas Iscariot.
5. What did other rich Christians do? They wanted to sell their fields to meet the needs of the other believers, too.
6. What did Ananias and Sapphira want to do when they got the money for their field? They wanted to keep some for themselves.
7. What were they tempted to do that was wrong? To keep some of the money, but let everyone else think they gave it all for the believers.
8. What did Ananias think they would get more of if they gave all the money to the church? More honor.
9. What could Ananias and Sapphira done to stand up under their temptation? They could have not let each other sin. They could have confessed their sins to the other believers. They could have told the others they were giving just part of the money. They could have asked God to help them not give into the temptation.
10. What happened to Ananias after he put the money at the apostles’ feet? Peter rebuked him and he fell down dead.
11. What did Peter say had happened in Ananias’ heart? Ananias had allowed Satan to fill his heart so that he would try to lie to the Holy Spirit (by trying to deceive himself into thinking what he was doing was ok…and the other believers into thinking he was giving all the money.
12. What did Peter ask Sapphira when she came to the meeting place a few hours later? If they had given all the money to the apostles.
13. What happened to Sapphira when she lied? The same thing as what happened to her husband.
14. Why did the Lord punish Ananias and Sapphira in this dramatic way? The amazing thing is why God has so much patience with all of us, sinners as He does. We all deserve punishment for our sins, but God is very, very patient and merciful with sinners. God, in His perfect wisdom, chose this time for Ananias and Sapphira to die and used it as a display of His holiness, His hatred of sin, and as a sign to many of their need to confess their sins and turn and trust Jesus for forgiveness and salvation.
15. How did people react to what happened to Ananias and Sapphira? Some became scared to become Christians; yet, many more confessed their sins and turned to Him for forgiveness.
16. What does this story have to do with our Big Idea?

**Big Idea Connections**
What does our story have to do with our Big Idea? Ananias & Sapphira gave in to temptations they faced instead of having God show them the way out so they could stand up under them.

**Scripture Verse Connections**
Our Scripture Verse is: **1 Corinthians 10:13**
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

1. What temptations did Ananias and Sapphira face? Temptation to keep back some of the money for themselves yet lie to the apostles and the believers about how much they gave (so that they would get more honor from them.
2. Why didn’t Ananias and Sapphira stand up the temptations they faced? They had sinful hearts—like us all—who desired to do sinful things. They knew what they should do, but chose not to do it. Also, they probably were not really believers, but only people who had begun to gather with the Christians and looked and acted like them for their own selfish reasons.
**Life Application**

What’s something we can learn about temptation from this story? *Temptations are hard for us all to face. It is very hard to stand up under them. But we can remember what a big deal sin is to God from seeing how He dealt with Ananias and Sapphira. We should be alert when tempted and ask God to show us the way out so we can stand up under them. This story shows us how serious God is about sin. What does He call all of us to do to receive His forgiveness for our sins? To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

**The Gospel**

What was the good news of Jesus that those first believers knew and believed? 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 Holy God who hates sins.*  
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? *Confess that we, like Ananias and Sapphira are tempted to sin. We need God’s forgiveness! We need a Savior!*  
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? *We can thank God for promising to help His people out of temptation when they face it.*  
4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our story? *We can ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to confess our sins—even our secret sins-- turn away from them and trust Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to help us, by His Holy Spirit, to turn away from temptation and show us a way out of it that we might glorify Him and do the good things He wants us to do.*

**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.
Materials
A Chair for every two players
Index Cards
Paper and Marker
Tape
Story Review Discussion & Quiz Questions
Optional: Game “Pennies” for easy recognition for members of each team

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.

Form a circle with the chairs. On the index cards, make identical two sets of numbers corresponding to the number of chairs. Use one set to tape a number onto the back of each chair.

Playing the Game
Divide the children into teams. Have all players select a seat and share it with one other person. (No special ordering of players needed.) The players from both team will move from chair to chair according to the directions you give. (“If you have shoes that have Velcro, move 1 chair to your left.” “If you came to church in a mini van, move four chairs to your right.” “If you have a sister, stay where you are, but everyone else move 1 chair to the left”, etc.) If there are too many students to sit on one chair, have them at least put their hands on the chair. After giving several direction, choose a number from the 2nd set of index cards. All the children at that particular numbered chair will answer a Story Review question. If they answer it correctly, they earn as many point for their team as team members at that particular chair, (i.e., if 2 people from Team A and 1 people from Team B are on the same chair, then Team A gets 2 points and Team B gets 1) If they do NOT answer it correctly, then their team is DOCKED the same number points as team members at that chair. The Team with the most points at the end of play, wins.

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.
Big Idea Discussion Questions

Understanding the Big Idea

1. What is temptation? Thinking about doing something wrong.
2. What is the difference between being tempted and sinning? Why is being tempted not sinful? Being tempted is thinking about doing something wrong, while sinning is going ahead and doing it. Being tempted isn’t wrong because it isn’t actually doing the sinful thing.
3. What different ways do temptations come to us? Sin in our hearts whispers to us to disobey God; sin in the world around us/other people tempts us to sin, too; and, even Satan, himself, can tempt us to sin.
4. Who was tempted in every way, yet without ever sinning? Jesus.
5. How does God promise to help His people as they face temptation? To never allow them to be tempted more than they can bear; to always provide a way out so they do not have to sin.
6. How does God use the Bible to help His people not give into temptation? He uses it to remind them of Himself, His good commands and His power to help them.
7. How can the Holy Spirit help God’s people when they face temptation? He can work in their hearts and helps them to turn away from tempting sin.
8. What should God’s people do when they do give into temptation and sin? They should confess their sins to God and ask Him for forgiveness and help to turn away from sinning. He promises to forgive them their sins.

Big Idea Story Connection Questions

What temptations did Ananias and Sapphira face? Temptation to desire the honor of people more than obeying God. Temptation to lie to the apostles and the believers.

Scripture Verse Connection

What does our Big Idea have to do with the Scripture Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:13

“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

God’s people will face temptations every day, but they can be encouraged that they can always say “no” to them, because He will never let them be tempted more than they can bear; and, He promises to provide a way out, so they can stand up under them.
Life Application Questions
1. What are some things God’s people today can do to fight giving into temptation? Read their Bibles so they know what is sin and what is not. Pray each day, asking God to give them strength to say “no” to temptations that will come their way. Confess their sins and temptations to others so they can be praying for them and ask them how they are doing; remember to ask God to show them the way out when they are faced with a temptation.
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 because of this Big Idea? Praise God for being so Merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Big Idea? Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God’s way out of it.
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Big Idea? Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior.
4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Big Idea? Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn away from sin and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Ask God to help us to understand how much He hates sin and help us to resist temptations that we would not sin against Him. Ask Him to fill us with the Holy Spirit who can help us say “no” to sin.

Gospel Question
We are all sinners who have given into temptation to sin. We all deserve God’s punishment. Is there any hope for us? What is it? What is the gospel? Yes, there is hope through Jesus! The gospel is: 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.
Big Idea Game

Materials
Index cards of two different colors (or use red and black playing cards, such as hearts and spades)
Big Idea Discussion & Quiz Questions
String or yarn
Two chairs
Masking Tape

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.

Tie an end of the string to each chair and draw the line across the room where the teams will be. Preferably this line will be about 4’ above the ground.

Tape a line about 6’ to 9’ from the string on each side.

Cut cards in half along the long side, making them about the same size as playing cards.

Playing the Game
Divide the children into two teams and have them stand (or kneel to make it even harder!) on their team’s line. Give each child an index card, the same color for the children on one team. At your signal, have them try to toss their cards over the line and into their “enemy’s” territory on the other side. Add up how many cards fell on each side. That is how many points they can win by answering a question. Choose a question for each team. If the team gets it wrong, the question goes to the other team for an extra point. Distribute the cards and play again.

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 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

Understanding the Scripture
1. What is a temptation? *Something wrong that you think about doing, usually b/c you think you will get something you want by doing it.*
2. Is it a sin to be tempted? *No. We sin when we give in to the temptation and actually do something sinful.*
3. What kind of temptations seize us? *Ones that are common to man; that is, ones that lots of people experience.*
4. How does God show His faithfulness to His people when they are tempted? *He doesn’t let them be tempted beyond what they can bear. He will provide a way out so we can resist it without sinning.*
5. How is God able to not let us be tempted beyond what we can bear? *He is omnipotent—all powerful. He is control over all things, even how much we are allowed to be tempted.*
6. What does it mean to be able to stand up under a temptation? *To feel the desire to do what you are tempted to do and to not do it.*

Big Idea Connection
What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? *God’s people will face temptations every day, but they can be encouraged that they can always say “no” to them, because He will never let them be tempted more than they can bear; and, He promises to provide a way out, so they can stand up under them.*

Story Connection
1. What temptations did Ananias and Sapphira face? *Temptation to keep back some of the money for themselves yet lie to the apostles and the believers about how much they gave (so that they would get more honor from them).*
2. Why didn’t Ananias and Sapphira stand up the temptations they faced? *They had sinful hearts—like us all—who desire to do sinful things. Also, they probably were not really believers, but only people who had begun to gather with the Christians and looked and acted like them for their own selfish reasons.*

Life Application
1. How can God’s people today glorify God by standing up under temptation? *They show others that loving God and doing what pleases Him is even more satisfying than whatever pleasure they would get from giving into the temptation. They show that God is faithful and can be trusted to help them to not sin.*
2. What should God’s people today do if they give into temptation and sin? *They should confess their sin to God, ask forgiveness and try to not keep doing it. They can pray that God would help them and ask someone else to pray for them, too.*
3. 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 so merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? *That many times we choose to sin when we are tempted, instead of looking to God to show us a way out.*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse? *We can thank God for always making a way out of temptation for His people.*
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 confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to see and take the way out of temptation each time we face temptation.*
Gospel Question
We are all sinners who have given into temptation to sin. We all deserve God’s punishment. Is there any hope for us? What is it? What is the gospel? Yes, there is hope through Jesus! The gospel is: 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 spread out around the playing area. Explain to the children that the person who is “It” (start with you) will try to tag another child. If he does, then the tagged child joins hands with It, says the verse and both children are now joined together as It. When they tag someone else, all three join hands, say the verse and are the new It. Play continues until everyone is caught. Caution: Allow walking only in order to avoid injury.

Game continues until all children get to be It 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.
No Temptation Has Seized You: 1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted He’ll also provide, Also provide a way out. Yes, when you are tempted He’ll also provide, A way out so you can stand up under it No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. And God is faithful, He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.

Understanding the Scripture
1. What is a temptation? Something wrong that you think about doing, usually b/c you think you will get something you want by doing it.
2. Is it a sin to be tempted? No. We sin when we give in to the temptation and actually do something sinful.
3. What kind of temptations seize us? Ones that are common to man; that is, ones that lots of people experience.
4. How does God show His faithfulness to His people when they are tempted? He doesn’t let them be tempted beyond what they can bear. He will provide a way out so we can resist it without sinning.
5. How is God able to not let us be tempted beyond what we can bear? He is omnipotent—all powerful. He is control over all things, even how much we are allowed to be tempted.
6. What does it mean to be able to stand up under a temptation? To feel the desire to do what you are tempted to do and to not do it.

Big Idea Connection
What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? God’s people will face temptations every day, but they can be encouraged that they can always say “no” to them, because He will never let them be tempted more than they can bear; and, He promises to provide a way out, so they can stand up under them.

Story Connection
1. What temptations did Ananias and Sapphira face? Temptation to keep back some of the money for themselves yet lie to the apostles and the believers about how much they gave (so that they would get more honor from them).
2. Why didn’t Ananias and Sapphira stand up the temptations they faced? They had sinful hearts—like us all—who desire to do sinful things. Also, they probably were not really believers, but only people who had begun to gather with the Christians and looked and acted like them for their own selfish reasons.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people today glorify God by standing up under temptation? They show others that loving God and doing what pleases Him is even more satisfying than whatever pleasure they would get from giving into the temptation. They show that God is faithful and can be trusted to help them not sin.
2. What should God’s people today do if they give into temptation and sin? They should confess their sin to God, ask forgiveness and try to not keep doing it. They can pray that God would help them and ask someone else to pray for them, too.
3. 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 so merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? *That many times we choose to sin when we are tempted, instead of looking to God to show us a way out.*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse? *We can thank God for always making a way out of temptation for His people.*
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 confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to see and take the way out of temptation each time we face temptation.*

**Gospel Question**

We are all sinners who have given into temptation to sin. We all deserve God’s punishment. Is there any hope for us? What is it? What is the gospel? Yes, there is hope through Jesus! The gospel is: 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.
Sweet Hour of Prayer

Verse 1
Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,
That calls me from a world of care
And bids me at my Father’s throne
Make all my wants and wishes known!
In seasons of distress and grief,
My soul has often found relief,
And oft escaped the tempter’s snare
By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.

Understanding the Song
1. What does prayer time call God’s people from and bids them to; and what does that mean? It calls them from “a world of care” and bids them to their “Father’s throne.” That means that they take time to stop thinking about all the worries of the world and think about it. It doesn’t mean actually standing in front of a real throne, but remembering who God is: the sovereign, all-powerful King, who loves His people as their heavenly Father.

2. What can God’s people make known to God? All their wants and wishes.

3. What are seasons of distress and grief? Not a season like spring, summer, fall, winter; but times of worry, fear and sadness.

4. What does God give to His people’s souls when they pray to Him in times of distress and grief? How? Relief. He comforts them by His Spirit & by bringing the truth of His Word to mind as they pray.

5. What does escaping the tempter’s snare mean? Satan is called the tempter b/c he tempts people to sin. A snare is like a trap set for a wild animal. The tempter’s snare would be any situation that Satan hopes to use to tempt us to sin.

6. What often is a help in escaping the tempter’s snare? By returning to pray, over & over.

7. Do God’s people have to spend an hour of prayer for God to help them? No. Hour doesn’t always mean 60 minutes. It also means a time set aside to do something. The song is saying that regular times in prayer are what help God’s people in difficult times, such as when they are sad, worried or being tempted.

8. Why does the song call the hour of prayer “sweet”? Not b/c it is sugary, but b/c God’s people come to love prayer time for what a delight it is to their souls in hard times, just as dessert is a delight to our mouths. It becomes one of the best part of the day b/c they spend time with God who loves them most of all and who will help them in every situation they are in.

9. How can we become God’s people, for whom the words of this song are true? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

Big Idea Connection
How does this song relate to our Big Idea: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation?
God’s people receive the strength to escape temptation through taking time each day to pray.

Story Connection
How does this song relate to today’s story? When faced with the “tempter’s snare” of keeping back some of the money, yet letting the believers honor them as if they gave all of it, Ananias and Sapphira both gave into temptation and sinned. Perhaps this was b/c Ananias and Sapphira were not truly believers who loved the Lord and spent time in prayer to Him, but only people who acted like believers but were interested in receiving the honor of other people by their “good deeds.”
Scripture Verse Connection
How does this song relate to our Scripture Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:13
“No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it.”

God helps His people escape temptation through prayer. By the Holy Spirit and through His Word, He shows them a way out of the temptation. He shows them His promises to help them. He reminds them of Himself and His good commands. He reminds them of the terrible things that happen as a result of sin. All these things help God’s people fight temptation.

Life Application Questions
1. How can God’s people be affected by the message of this song?
They can be encouraged to pray to God for help in times of temptation, to give them what they need, and for comfort in hard or sad times. They can remember that God their Father bids them to come to Him in prayer. He delights to hear their prayers and answer them according to His good and perfect will.
2. What is the prayer and life change that God desires all people to make? To turn away from their sins, confess them to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?
Praise God for being the God who Answers the Prayers of His People.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?
That many times we choose not to pray to God and ask for help against temptation.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?
We can thank God for answering His people’s prayers to escape temptation, as well as their prayers for the things they need or for comfort during hard or sad times.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
That God would work in our hearts that we confess our sins, might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to pray to Him about all our temptations as well as our needs and other concerns.

Gospel Question
How can we know God as our Heavenly Father since we are all sinners? What has He done to make this possible? 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 song.
**Mimic Me**

*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.
1. What Is It? (Presenter 1)
Lying about the Money Ananias and Sapphira Received

2. What Does It Have to Do With the Story? (Presenter 2)
Where? In Jerusalem,

Who? Ananias and Sapphira

Did What? Said “yes” to the temptation to

With the Big Idea Object? Lie about how much money they received

Why? Because they wanted more honor than they deserved.

3. What Does It Have to Do with the Big Idea? (Presenter 3)
Our Big Idea is: God’s People Say “No” to Temptation. Sometimes it is very hard to say “no” to temptation. Ananias and Sapphira gave into the temptation to lie rather than trusting in God, asking for His help and turning away from the temptation.

4. What Can It Help Us Remember? (Presenter 4)
The temptation to sin is very strong in us all. We all need God’s help to say “no” to temptation.
Big Idea Craft Instructions

Lying about the Money Ananias and Sapphira Received

Description
The children will make a turning picture that first reveals all the money they received, then turns to hide some of the money and show part of the money.

Materials
Paper Fastener, one per craft
2 dinner-sized paper plates per craft
Paper circles of coins
Glue sticks
Scissors
Colored pencils and/or thin tips markers

Preparing the Craft
1. On one of each set of paper plates, mark the center then draw a line from the outside of the circle to that center (i.e., draw a radius, for all you geometry fans).
2. Make 1 set of coins per child. You may want to cut these out for the youngest children. Older children can do this themselves.
3. Set out other supplies.

Making the Craft
1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
2. Have the children color in the coins and if them have not cut them out yet, then cut them out.
3. Glue 5 coins onto the paper plate WITHOUT the line. Make sure to glue these down very well so that they don’t lift off the paper when the circle is turned.
4. Glue 10 coins onto the other plate (the one WITH the line), making sure not to glue a coin over the line. Again, make sure to glue these down very well.
5. Cut along the line.
6. Lay the plate with the 10 coins and the slit on top of plate with the 5 coins and no slit. Make sure they are centered over each other.
7. Poke paper fastener through center in middle of both and fasten down securely in back.
8. Pull one side of bottom plate with the 5 coins through slit in top plate with the 10 coins and slide around to cover and then reveal the 5 coin plate.
9. Children can tell show all the coins Ananias and Sapphira were paid, then turn the circle to reveal how many they offered.
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 Say "No" to Temptation. Temptation is thinking about doing something wrong. It is not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say "yes" to temptation and go ahead and do what you are tempted to do. Think about doing something wrong. Is it not wrong to be tempted, but it is wrong to say "yes" to temptation and go ahead and do what you are thinking about doing wrong?

We thought about 1 Corinthians 10:13 "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out, so you can stand up under it." Sin is common to man, and God is faithful: He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. Sometimes we give into temptation instead of looking for God's way out of the temptation to sin. Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God's way out of the temptation to sin.

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Worship God for being so merciful that He never allows His people to be tempted more than they can bear.

Confess that many times we give into temptation instead of looking for God's way out of the temptation to sin.

Thank God for His promise to always show His people a way out of the temptation to sin. Thank God for sending Jesus to take the punishment for sins of His people, all those who would ever turn away from their sins and trust God's way of salvation instead of looking for the ways of the world.

Ask God to work in your hearts that you might turn away from sin and trust God's way of salvation instead of looking for the ways of the world. Ask Him to fill you with the Holy Spirit who can help you say "no" to sin.

Yours Sincerely,_____________________________________
**Materials**
The VIPP information sheets and clip art for two or more VIPPS, preferably of the same type (such as two deacons, elders, etc)
Tape
Different color construction paper for each picture.

**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 the Clue Cards for the VIPPS put in a bag, except for the names and pictures. Mix up.

Use tape to put up the pictures of each VIPP on a piece of construction paper. Tape each up in a different location/wall around the room.

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

*Review:* Put the Clue Cards for the VIPPS put in a bag. Mix up. Have children sit down, with their legs in front of them and their hands propped behind them. Show them how to get in crab position and try moving around. (Moving on hands and feet, with front side facing up). Tell them that you will pull out a clue, tell them what it is and that they are to crab-crawl their way to the picture of the person who it belongs to. Give them the answer after everyone has run to their guessed person. Continue until all clues have been used up.

*Get Clues, Then Guess Version:*
*Get Clues:* Put the clues for the VIPPs in the bag/bowl and mix up. Read them the VIPP information sheets (or to make it even harder, don’t!).

*Guess:* Have children sit down, with their legs in front of them and their hands propped behind them. Show them how to get in crab position and try moving around. (Moving on hands and feet, with the front side facing up). Tell them that you will pull out a clue, tell them what it is and that they are to crab-crawl their way to the picture of the person who it belongs to. Give them the answer after everyone has run to their guessed person. Continue until all clues have been used up. Review the correctly finished profiles of each VIPP and information sheets at the end.