BIG IDEA

God’s People Tell Others about Him
Welcome to The Praise Factory curriculum!
The resources within every Big Idea are ordered in exactly the same way:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Directions for Administrators Preparing the Curriculum:

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

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

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

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

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

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
Unit 12  Big Question: “How Should God’s People Live Each Day? They Should Live Like Jesus!”  
Unit 12  Scripture Verse: “Live a life of love just as Christ loved you.” Ephesians 5:2

Big Idea Concept: God’s People Tell Others about Him
Beginning with Adam and Eve, all people have rebelled against God and deserve His just and eternal punishment for their sins. Though sinful people never deserved it, God chose to send His Son Jesus, to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sinful, rebellious way of life and trust in Him for forgiveness of their sins. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day showing that He had conquered sin and death for God’s people, once and for all. This is the message we call the gospel. All people need to hear this amazing good news: that they can be saved from their sins and come to know God. It has always been God’s plan for His people to be the spreaders of the gospel (the Greek word we use that means the good news about Jesus’ death for the forgiveness of sins). Jesus commanded His people to go to all peoples— even to the farthest places on earth—and tell this wonderful message. He has planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation, and language on earth. Jesus promises to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, according to God’s plan.

Scripture Verse
Meditation Version: Romans 10:13-15  
“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

Shortened Memory/Games Version: Romans 10:13-15  
“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ …[H]ow can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? …‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

Stories
Week 1  Mission: Cyprus  Acts 13:1-12  
Week 2  The Man Who Wouldn’t Give Up  
Week 3  The Reluctant Messenger  Jonah 1-3

Big Idea ACTS Prayer
A  Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth.
C  Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.
T  Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.
S  Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

Songs
Hymn  Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy, v.1  
Scripture Song  How Beautiful  Romans 10:13-15  
Alternate Scripture Song  Jesus Said to Them  Mark 16:15
Big Idea Concept
Beginning with Adam and Eve, all people have rebelled against God and deserve His just and eternal punishment for their sins. Though sinful people never deserved it, God chose to send His Son Jesus, to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sinful, rebellious way of life and trust in Him for forgiveness. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day showing that He had conquered sin and death for God’s people, once and for all. This is the message we call the gospel. All people need to hear this amazing good news: that they can be saved from their sins and come to know God. It has always been God’s plan for His people to be the spreaders of the gospel (the Greek word we use that means the good news about Jesus’ death for the forgiveness of sins). Jesus commanded His people to go to all peoples-- even to the farthest places on earth—and tell this wonderful message. He has planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation, and language on earth. Jesus promises to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, according to God’s plan.

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“‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”
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“‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ …[H]ow can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? …‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

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C Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.
T Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.
S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

Bible Story & Supplemental Reading
The Lord Sends Paul and Barnabas to Cyprus Acts 13:1-12
Jonah, the Reluctant Messenger Jonah 1-3
Leading Little Ones to God #62: God’s Children Tell God’s Story

Songs
Hymn: Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy, Verse 1 Big Idea Hymn Connection: God’s people encourage others to come to Jesus for salvation. They tell them the good news that while they are sinners, God offers forgiveness for their sins. They should not wait and try to make themselves better, for none of us can do that. Jesus will forgive us as we are when we turn away from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior.

Scripture Song: How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15
Big Idea Scripture Song Connection: This song reminds us God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.
**Verse 1**
Come ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and pow’r.

**Refrain:**
I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

**Big Idea 71 Scripture Song**
**How Beautiful**

How beautiful! How beautiful!
How beautiful are the feet,
Are the feet that bring good news.
Ev’ryone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
How then can they call on the one they’ve not believed in?
And how can they believe in the one they have not heard?
How can they hear without someone preaching?
How can they preach unless they are sent?
How beautiful! How beautiful!
How beautiful are the feet,
Are the feet that bring good news.

Adapted from Romans 10:13-15

**Big Idea 71 Hymn**
**Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy**

**Verse 1**
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Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and pow’r.

**Refrain:**
I will arise and go to Jesus,
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In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

**Words** Joseph Hart      **Music** Walker’s Southern Harmony
**Copyright Information** Public Domain
Big Idea Concept
Beginning with Adam and Eve, all people have rebelled against God and deserve His just and eternal punishment for their sins. Though sinful people never deserved it, God chose to send His Son Jesus, to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sinful, rebellious way of life and trust in Him for forgiveness. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day showing that He had conquered sin and death for God’s people, once and for all. This is the message we call the gospel. All people need to hear this amazing good news: that they can be saved from their sins and come to know God. It has always been God’s plan for His people to be the spreaders of the gospel (the Greek word we use that means the good news about Jesus’ death for the forgiveness of sins). Jesus commanded His people to go to all peoples-- even to the farthest places on earth—and tell this wonderful message. He has planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation, and language on earth. Jesus promises to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, according to God’s plan.

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“‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ …[H]ow can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? …‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

Big Idea ACTS Prayer
A Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth.
C Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.
T Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.
S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

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Scripture Song: Jesus Said to Him Mark 16:15
Big Idea Scripture Song Connection: This Scripture tells us Jesus’ command to His people to go to every part of the world to tell others the good news about salvation through faith in Him.
Big Idea 71 Alternate Scripture Song
Jesus Said to Them

Jesus said to them,
"Go, go, go into all the world,
And preach, preach, preach the good news,
To all creation, to all creation,
Preach, preach, preach the good news.
Go, go, go into all the world,
And preach, preach, preach the good news,
To all creation, to all creation,
Preach, preach, preach the good news."
Mark Sixteen, fifteen.

Adapted from Mark 16:15

Big Idea 71 Hymn
Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Verse 1
Come ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and pow’r.

Refrain:
I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

Words   Joseph Hart      Music      Walker’s Southern Harmony
Copyright Information    Public Domain

Come    Sinners    Poor, Pity    Needy    Said
Weak    Wounded    Sick    Save    Them
Full    Love    Power    Go    All
Arise    Jesus    Embrace    Arms    World
Savior    Charms    Preach    Good news    Creation
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.)

### BIG IDEA 71 KEY CONCEPTS USED IN ECHO CHAMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WoGoLOA Rules</th>
<th>Always the same, see Rules and Chant on following pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit Big Question</td>
<td>Unit 12 Big Question: How Should God’s People Live Each Day? They Should Live Like Jesus!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit Scripture Verse</td>
<td>Unit 12 Scripture Verse: Live a Life of Love Just as Christ Loved You. Ephesians 5:2</td>
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<td>Big Idea 71 Concept: God’s People Tell Others about Him</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Idea Scripture Verse</td>
<td>Big Idea 71 Scripture Verse: Romans 10:13-15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Activities for Each of the 3 Weeks Spent on a Big Idea Concept

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

**Split group into Part A and Part B, turn on the music and do the chant!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part A:</th>
<th>Part B:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All: WoGoLOA means Worship God and Love One Another!</td>
<td>... Worship God!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All: WoGoLOA means Worship God and Love One Another!</td>
<td>... 1-2-3!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WoGo means...</strong></td>
<td>... take part!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sound off...</strong></td>
<td>... to others!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Joyfully...</strong></td>
<td>... Your teachers!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Listen...</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Obey...</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>... couraging</td>
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<td><strong>Be...</strong></td>
<td>... others!</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Be en...</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Help...</strong></td>
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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.

Live a life of love just as Christ loved you.

Live a life of love, live a life of love just as Christ loved you. Ephesians Five, twelve. O-le!
Beginning with Adam and Eve, all people have rebelled against God and deserve His just and eternal punishment for their sins.

Though sinful people never deserved it, God chose to send His Son Jesus, to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sinful, rebellious way of life and trust in Him for forgiveness. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day showing that He had conquered sin and death for God’s people, once and for all. This is the message we call the gospel.

All people need to hear this amazing good news: that they can be saved from their sins and come to know God.

It has always been God’s plan for His people to be the spreaders of the gospel (the Greek word we use that means the good news about Jesus’ death for the forgiveness of sins).

Jesus commanded His people to go to all peoples— even to the farthest places on earth— and tell this wonderful message. He has planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation, and language on earth.

Jesus promises to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, according to God’s plan.
Meditation Version: Romans 10:13-15
‘‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

Shortened Memory/Games Version:
Romans 10:13-15
‘‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ …[H]ow can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? …‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”
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)
How Beautiful

Romans 10:13-15

How beautiful! How beautiful!

How beautiful are the feet,

How beautiful! How beautiful!

Are the feet that bring good news.

Ev’ryone who calls on the name of the Lord ,

will be saved.

How then can they call on the one they’ve not believed in?

And how can they believe in the one they have not heard?

How can they hear without someone preaching?

How can they preach unless they are sent?

How beautiful! How beautiful!

How beautiful are the feet,

How beautiful! How beautiful!

Are the feet that bring good news.
How Beautiful
adapted from Romans 10:13-15
Constance Dever

How beau-ti-ful! How beau-ti-ful! How beau-ti-ful are the feet. How beau-ti-ful! How beau-ti-ful, Are the feet of those who bring good news. Every-one who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. How then can they call on the one they’ve not believed in? And how can they believe in the one they have not heard? How can they hear without some-one preach-ing? How can they preach un-less they are sent? How beau-ti-ful! How beau-ti-ful! How beau-ti-ful are the feet. How beau-ti-ful! How beau-ti-ful, Are the feet of those who bring good news.
How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15

**How**
Start with both L hands, face down in front of body. Then move both hands away from each other.

**Beautiful**
Take the open right hand around the face in a counterclockwise circle. Circle should end on the chin with fingers closed.

**Feet**
Point right index finger to one foot and then the other.

**Bring**
Hold open hands, palms up, in front of body. Bring both hands towards self or in the direction of the person you are bringing something to.

**Good News**
Slide the right G hand from fingertips to wrist of the upturned left hand.

**Everyone**
Hold left A hand in front, palm facing right. Rub knuckles and thumb of right A hand down along left thumb several times. Then hold up right index finger, making “one” sign.

**Who**
Make a counterclockwise circle around the mouth with the right index finger.

**Calls, Call**
Place the right C hand, palm facing body, around the mouth. Then move hand up and out, while turning the hand so that palm is facing out.

**Name**
Cross the right H fingers over the left H fingers.
Praise Factory Hymns & Scripture Songs

How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15
Continued

Lord
Move the right L hand from the left shoulder to the right waist.

Saved
Start with S hands crossed in front of chest, palms toward body. Move hands apart so that palms are facing out.

How
Place the right hand, palm up and fingers touching, in front of the body. Move the hand up while opening the fingers.

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

They
Point the right index finger to a few imaginary people.

One, Someone
Hold the right hand stationary, palm away from body and index finger pointing up, and move the index finger left and right.

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

Believed
Point right index finger to forehead. Then clasp hands together in front of the body.

Hear, Heard
Place cupped right hand around the right ear.
How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15
Continued

**Without**
Make sign for ‘with’ (Place the A hands together), then drop them down with them opening and falling out.

**Preaching, Preach**
Move right F hand forward, at the side of the face with a couple of short movements.

**Sent**
Touch the fingertips of the right bent hand, palm down, against the back of the left bent hand, palm down, and then move the right bent hand up.
Jesus said to Them  
Mark 16:15

Jesus said to them, “Go, go, go into all the world,

And preach, preach, preach the good news,

To all creation, to all creation,

Preach, preach, preach the good news.

Go, go, go into all the world,

And preach, preach, preach the good news,

To all creation, to all creation,

Preach, preach, preach the good news.”

Mark Sixteen, fifteen.
Jesus Said to Them

adapted from Mark 16:15

Jesus said to them, "Go, go, go into all the world, and preach, preach, preach the good news, to

all creation, to all creation, Preach, preach preach the good news. "Go, go, go into

all the world, and preach, preach, preach the good news, to all creation, to

all creation, Preach, preach preach the good news. Mark Sixteen, fifteen."
Jesus Said to Them: Mark 16:15

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

Said
Place the right index finger, palm down, on the lips. Move the hand forward, making a forward circle.

Them
Point the right index finger to a few imaginary people.

Go
Point your two index fingers towards each other. Rotate them around each other while moving them away from your body at the same time.

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

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

Preach
Move right F hand forward, at the side of the face with a couple of short movements.

Good News
Slide the right G hand from fingertips to wrist of the upturned left hand.

Creation
Move the right B hand, palm facing left, from just above the head, down in front of the face. Then place right S hand on top of left S hand. Rotate hands inward at the same time. Then rotate right W around left W, ending with right W on top of left W.
Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Verse 1

Come ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and pow’r

Refrain:
I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

Verse 3

Come ye weary, heavy-laden,
Lost and ruined by the Fall;
If you tarry till you’re better,
You will never come at all.

Big Idea References
Big Idea #11: verse 3  Big Idea #13: verse 1  Big Idea #28: verse 1
Big Idea #29: verse 3  Big Idea #71: verse 1

Words    Joseph Hart  Music    Walker’s Southern Harmony
Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Joseph Hart

1. Come, ye sin-ners, poor and need-y, Weak and wound-ed, sick and sore; Je-sus read-y
2. stands to save you, Full of pit-ty, love and pow’r. I will a-rise and... go to Je-sus,
3. Come, ye wear-y, heav- y-la- den, Lost and ru-ined, by the fall; If you tar-ry
4. till you’re bet-ter, You will ne-ver come at all.

He will em-brace me in His arms. In the arms of

my dear Sav-i- or, O there are... thou-sand charms.
Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy, verse 1

Come
With both index fingers pointed toward each other rotate them in circles and bring them toward the body.

Sinners
At the waist, make circles with both hands, going up and out. Then move both flat hands, palms facing and fingers pointing forward, down a short distance.

Poor
Stroke the right middle finger (other fingers should be separated) against the chest, up and then in a forward circular motion.

Needy
Place open hands, palms up, away from the body. Pull hands toward the body.

Weak
Place fingertips of curved right hand in left upturned hand. Then bend fingers of the right hand.

Wounded
Slowly rotate right hand around stationary left hand. Use appropriate facial expression.

Sick
Place the right middle finger on the forehead and the left middle finger on the stomach.

Sore
Move the thumb of the right hand, side to side of the chin.

Jesus
Point the middle finger of each hand into the palm of the opposite hand.
Ready
Move both flat hands, palms facing each other, forward while moving them up and down slightly.

Stands
Wiggle the fingers of both upturned, curved hands. The right hand should be slightly behind the left hand.

Save
Start with S hands crossed in front of chest, palms toward body. Move hands apart so that palms are facing out.

Full
Move the right flat hand, palm down and fingers pointing left, from just below the chin, to touch the chin.

Pity
Stroke the right middle finger (other fingers should be separated) against the chest, up and then in a forward circular motion.

Love
Cross hands, with left hand on top of right hand, and place hands on your heart.

Power
Move both S hands, palms facing together, downwards and outwards with force.

Refrain on Next Page
I
Place the thumb side of the right hand in the middle of the chest.

Arise
With hands flat and palms facing up in front of body, bring hands upward simultaneously.

Go
Point your two index fingers towards each other. Rotate them around each other while moving them away from your body at the same time.

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

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

Embrace
Cross arms in front of the chest.

Me
Point inward with the right index finger.

Arms
Move the curved right hand from the elbow to the wrist of the left arm.

My
Place the palm of the right flat hand on the chest.
Dear
Cross hands, with left hand on top of right hand, and place hands on your heart.

Savior
Start with S hands crossed in front of chest, palms toward body. Move hands apart so that palms are facing out. Then move both hands, palms facing each other and fingers pointing forward, down a short distance.

There
Point the right index finger forward.

Are
Move the right A hand forward from the mouth.

Ten
Shake the right A hand, thumb up, side to side.

Thousand
Place the fingertips of the right M hand into the left upturned palm.

Charms
Place open right hand on chest, palm facing body. Stroke heart repeatedly, moving up and off the heart with each stroke.
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><strong>Children arrive</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>______</td>
<td><strong>Concept Introduction/Review (The Echo Chamber or Folder Hunt)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**How to do the singing portion:**

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

**Story time**

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

Activity

Dismiss by group to Small Group Activities

Snack and Discussion Time

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

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

2. _____________________________________________________________________________

3. _____________________________________________________________________________

4. _____________________________________________________________________________

5. _____________________________________________________________________________

6. _____________________________________________________________________________

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

Activity Time

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

______________________________________________________________________________

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

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

Small Group Presentations in Closing Large Group Time

Have small groups present in the following order: Drama, Song/s Groups, Craft Group, then Games Groups.
Make sure the Big Idea Games and Scripture Verse Games groups READ the Big Idea/Scripture Verse BEFORE asking their questions. If extra time remains, play the Clean Up Game.
**WEEK 1 LESSON PLAN**

## Opening Large Group Time

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

### Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt

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

**Resources:**
*All of these resources are found in the Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Review Resources at the front of this Big Idea*
- Echo Chamber Schedule (Echo Chamber Only)
- WoGoLOA Rules
- WoGoLOA Rules Chant
- Unit 12 Big Question/Song
- Unit 12 Scripture Verse/Song
- Big Idea 71 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 71 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: Mission Cyprus**
- Acts 13:1-12
- Story Outline p.19
- Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
- Props, Costumes and Scenery

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

Traditional Cyprus food: gold fish cracker “fish”, grapes, olives, pita bread, hummus; or “Beautiful Feet” Toe-Food: foot-shaped “Nutter-Butter” peanut butter cookies, made by splitting apart 2 sandwich cookies and alternating the “feet” like footsteps.

ACTS Prayer

A Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth.

C Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.

T Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.

S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

Drama

Activities:
Discuss story
Fill in Speaker Sheets
Practice Play

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

Story Review Game: Spin the Light

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
### Big Idea Game: Help the Blind Man

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

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

### Big Idea Craft: The Proconsul, Sergius Paulus

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

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

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

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

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

### Scripture Verse Game: Jump for Joy

**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: How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15

Activities:
Discuss Scripture Verse and Song
Learn Song and Sign Language
Play Song Game: **Word Take Away**
(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: Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy: Verse 1

Activities:
Discuss Song
Learn Song and Sign Language
Play Song Game: **Word Take Away**
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
WEEK 1 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**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Activities:</strong></th>
</tr>
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<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 71 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 71 Scripture Verse Sign

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

### Story

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Activities:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tell story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close in prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dismiss to Small Group Activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Resources:**

- **Story: Mission Cyprus**
  - Acts 13:1-12
  - Story Outline p.19
  - Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
  - Props, Costumes and Scenery

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

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

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

Snack

Traditional Cyprus food: gold fish cracker “fish”, grapes, olives, pita bread, hummus; or “Beautiful Feet” Toe-Food: foot-shaped “Nutter-Butter” peanut butter cookies, made by splitting apart 2 sandwich cookies and alternating the “feet” like footsteps.

ACTS Prayer

A Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth.

C Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.

T Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.

S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.
WEEK 1 LESSON PLAN

Optional Kindergarten Group Format

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: How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15

Activities:

- Discuss Scripture Verse and Song
- Learn Song and Sign Language
- Play Song Game: **Word Take Away**

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
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
WEEK 1 LESSON PLAN

Optional Kindergarten Group Format

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**
Story

Our story today takes place about 2000 years ago.

“Home, at last!” Barnabas and his cousin John Mark exclaimed to Paul from the ship’s deck, as they saw the white beaches of Cyprus. In the distance, they could see the familiar fertile, green plains and majestic, snow-capped mountains rising up to the middle of the island that had been their home. How beautiful! It had been years since Barnabas and John Mark had last looked upon these lovely sights! How good it was to see them again!

But Barnabas and John Mark had not come to Cyprus to show Paul the beauties of their country or just to catch up with their relatives, as nice as that might be. Barnabas and Paul had come home as part of a mission placed upon them by the Lord, Himself. John Mark had come along as their helper.

“Set apart for me Barnabas and Paul for the work to which I have called them,” the Holy Spirit told the leaders of the church in Antioch, as they were worshiping the Lord and fasting. “I am sending them out from you to tell others about Jesus who have not yet heard.”

So after they had fasted and prayed, they laid hands upon Barnabas and Paul and prayed a special prayer of blessing, guidance and protection for the mission the Lord was calling them to. Then, they sent them off.

Sent on their way by the Holy Spirit, the three men walked west to the big, Roman, naval seaport of Seleucia, on the Mediterranean; and from there, set sail for Cyprus. Now, after 100 miles of sea-tossed travel, the cargo ship on which they had gained passage was coming upon the port of Salamis in Cyprus.

Walking in the streets of Salamis it was not hard to see why the Lord had sent them there to proclaim the good news of Jesus. As beautiful as the country of Cyprus was to look at, there was something very wrong in the hearts of the people of Cyprus. The Greeks worshipped Zeus, chief of the Greek gods, and Aphrodite, the fickle goddess of love. There were many Jews who lived there, too. While they didn’t worship Greek gods, they needed to hear the good news of Jesus every bit as much as the Greeks did. They tried to keep the Law of Moses, but they never could keep them perfectly as God required. They gathered every Sabbath in the synagogues to hear the word of God. They knew of the prophets’ promises of a coming Savior, but they didn’t know that He was Jesus and that He had come. Yes, they were as lost in their sins as the Greeks were! Here was a whole nation of people—Greek and Jew—who were living and dying on the island of Cyprus, separated from God because of their sinful hearts and lives. The Lord had sent Barnabas, John Mark and Paul to them that they might hear, believe and be saved.

Beginning in Salamis, the three men went to synagogues all over Cyprus, proving to all who would listen that Jesus was the Savior promised in the word of God:
“Jews and Greeks who seek after God, listen to me,” Paul would say. “God has brought the Savior Jesus, as He promised. All who confess their sins, turn from them, and believe in Him can find forgiveness for their sins. No longer must you live separated from God. Come and make peace with God once and for all time.”

On and on they walked, over mountains, through forests, by fields and beaches they traveled with the message of Jesus. Through Tremithus, Citium, Amathus, Curium, and Palaipaphos—all the major cities of Cyprus—they went until they reached Paphos, more than a hundred miles away at the other end of the island.

Paphos was the most important town in all of Cyprus. It had been especially built by the Romans to be the new Roman capitol of Cyprus. It had a big port for Roman ships to easily anchor, and huge, luxurious villas for the most important Roman leaders to live in. There were temples to the gods and a giant outdoor theatre large enough to seat hundreds of people. Most of all, Paphos was the home of Sergius Paulus, the most powerful man on all of Cyprus: the Roman proconsul (governor) who ruled over the whole island.

In Paphos, Paul, Barnabas and John Mark began to tell the people the good news of Jesus they had been sent to tell:

“Jews and Greeks who seek after God, listen to me,” Paul would say. “God has brought the Savior Jesus, as He promised. He died on the cross for the sins of His people, and then rose again. All who confess their sins, turn from them, and believe in Him can find forgiveness for their sins. No longer must you live separated from God. Come and make peace with God once and for all time.”

Word reached the ears of Sergius Paulus himself of these three men who had come to town and their new teaching. Sergius Paulus was a smart man. He wanted to hear more about this Jesus, so he ordered his men, “Find these men and bring them to me. I want to hear for myself what they are preaching.”

Soon Paul, Barnabas and John Mark found them standing in the presence of the proconsul, himself:

“Sergius Paulus, your honor, listen to us,” they told him. “God has sent the Savior Jesus, as He promised in the Word of God. He died on the cross for the sins of His people, and then rose again. All who confess their sins, turn from them, and believe in Him can find forgiveness for their sins. No longer must you live separated from God. Come and make peace with God once and for all time.”

Even though he had never heard such things before, Sergius Paulus did not laugh at their words as silly, as many Greeks and Romans had. He listened carefully and was eager to hear more.

“How wonderful!” thought Paul, Barnabas and John Mark. “Could it be that the Holy Spirit was working in his heart? Could it be that the Lord would bring the very proconsul of Cyprus to be saved? What a great testimony to the Lord he might be to so many others.” Paul, Barnabas and John Mark could not help but be excited at the possibilities.

But Satan, too, was aware of how greatly Jesus might be glorified through Sergius Paulus; and, he had his own plans to block the work of God in this man’s heart, if possible. For lurking right
there in Sergius Paulus’ quarters was a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet named Elymas Bar-Jesus. He was an attendant for Sergius Paulus, who had been giving him spiritual advice based on his evil powers. As soon as he saw his master’s growing interest in the good news of Jesus, Elymas began to argue against Paul, Barnabas and John Mark. He tried to turn the proconsul from the faith.

But Satan can never stand up against the mighty power of God and His perfect plans. Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, turned and looked straight at Elymas. He said, “You are a child of the devil and an enemy of everything that is right! You are full of all kinds of deceit and trickery. Will you never stop perverting the right ways of the Lord? Now the hand of the Lord is against you. You are going to be blind, and for a time you will be unable to see the light of the sun.” Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he groped about, seeking someone to lead him by the hand. (Acts 13:10-11, NIV)

Sergius Paulus watched what happened in amazement. Here were not just powerful words, here were powerful actions. Indeed, this Jesus must be who Paul and Barnabas said that He was. Right there and then, he confessed:

“I believe that God has sent the Savior Jesus, as He promised in the Word of God. He died on the cross for the sins of His people, and then rose again. I want to confess my sins and turn from them; I believe in Him and want forgiveness for my sins. No longer do I want to live separated from God. I want to make peace with God once and for all time.”

Not too long after their time with Sergius Paulus, Paul and Barnabas made their way down to the docks at Paphos and found a ship setting sail for the city of Perga, 150 miles back across the sea in Turkey. Watching the familiar coast of Cyprus fade out of view once more, Barnabas—together with Paul—could not help but praise God for the great things He had done there on his island. No longer was his Cyprus a whole nation of people, living and dying, separated from God because of their sinful hearts and lives. Now there were those who had heard, believed and had been saved. The Lord would use these new believers to keep sharing the good news of Jesus with others, while He sent Barnabas and Paul to new lands so that yet more might learn about Jesus for the first time.

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Tell Others about Him
Our Scripture Verse is: Romans 10:13-15

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

Paul and Barnabas had been especially called by the Holy Spirit to leave their home church in Antioch and go share the good news of Jesus with people who had never heard. Theirs were the “beautiful feet” that brought good news to the Island of Cyprus and many other places for the first time. Did you know that even today, almost two thousand years ago, there are still billions of people who have never even heard of Jesus? And, as long as there are people who have not heard, the Holy Spirit will be calling God’s
people to leave their home churches and be the “beautiful feet” that bring tell them, just like He called Paul and Barnabas.

Perhaps some of you have never heard the good news of salvation through Jesus before today. How does God want us to respond to it that we might be forgiven our of sins? He wants us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, He forgives our sins, He fills our heart with His Holy Spirit and makes us one of God’s dearly loved people. And we will get to know Him and love Him and serve Him and enjoy Him here on earth and then forever in heaven. And that is why this news is such good news!

Let’s praise God for wanting all the people of the earth to know about Him, that they might turn to Him and be saved. Let’s ask God to move in the hearts of His people to send them out to even the ends of the earth, until all have heard the good news of Jesus. Let’s ask Him to work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
1. The leaders of the church in Antioch—which included Paul and Barnabas—gathered to pray and fast. The Holy Spirit spoke to them, telling them to send out Paul and Barnabas from them for a mission He had planned for them.

2. They laid hands on Paul and Barnabas and prayed a special prayer of blessing, guidance, and protection and sent them out. John Paul went with them as a helper.

3. The Holy Spirit guided Paul and Barnabas to the seaport of Seleucia and to a ship headed for Cyprus, the home country of Barnabas and John Paul.

4. When the ship lands in Salamis, Cyprus, Paul, Barnabas and John Paul see that no one there knows about Jesus. The Greeks worship Zeus and Aphrodite. The Jews try to keep the Law of Moses, but know nothing about Jesus. They begin to share the good news about Jesus. They go to the synagogue and preach to the Jews and Greeks that gather there to hear God’s Word read and taught.

5. After Salamis, the three men travel by foot around Cyprus, stopping at the other cities on the island– Tremithus, Citium, Amathus, Curium, and Palaipaphos—preaching to the people there about Jesus.

6. Finally they reach Paphos, the new Roman capitol on the far end of the island. Once more, they go to the synagogue to preach about Jesus.

7. Sergius Paulus, the Roman governor of Cyprus who lives in Paphos, gets word of the new message that Paul and Barnabas are preaching. He calls for them to come and tell him what they are preaching.

8. Sergius Paulus quickly becomes interested in the good news of Jesus, but Satan uses a Jewish sorcerer named Elymas Bar-Jesus to argue against Paul and Barnabas and try to keep Sergius Paulus from believing.

9. Paul turns to Elymas and rebukes him. By the power of Jesus, he causes Elymas to suddenly lose his sight.

10. Sergius is amazed at the good news of Jesus and the power of His name. He believes in Jesus.

11. Having preached about Jesus all over Cyprus, Paul and Barnabas get on a ship and set sail for Perga, Turkey, where there are many other people who have never heard about 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)
Mission Cyprus

1. Setting (Speakers 2-4)
   When? About 2000 years ago
   Where? Cyprus

   What’s It Like?
   Island in the Mediterranean Sea.
   Beautiful white beaches; fertile, green plains; and snow-capped majestic mountains.

2. Who’s in It? (Speaker 5)

   Leaders of the Antioch Church,
   including:
   Paul and Barnabas
   John Mark
   Seaport of Seleucia
   Cargo ship
   Cyprus
   Seaport of Salamis
   Temples of Zeus & Aphrodite
   Synagogues
   Jews and Gentiles
   The Word of God
   5 Major cities of Cyprus
   Paphos
   Sergius Paulus
   Elymas Bar-Jesus
   Ship at seaport of Paphos

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

   Today’s Big Idea is God’s People Tell Others about Him. The church in Antioch obeyed the Lord to send out Paul and Barnabas to go and tell others who lived far away the good news of Jesus, that they, too, might be saved.

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

   The Beautiful Feet of Paul, Barnabas & John Mark

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

   Beginning:
   The leaders of the church in Antioch—which included Paul and Barnabas—gathered to pray and fast. The Holy Spirit spoke to them, telling them to send out Paul and Barnabas from them for a mission He had planned for them. They laid hands on Paul and Barnabas and prayed a special prayer of blessing, guidance, and protection and sent them out. John Paul went with them as a helper. The Holy Spirit guided Paul and Barnabas to the seaport of Seleucia and to a ship headed for Cyprus, the home country of Barnabas and John Paul.

   Middle:
   When the ship lands in Salamis, Cyprus, Paul, Barnabas and John Paul see that no one there knows about Jesus. The Greeks worship Zeus and Aphrodite. The Jews try to keep the Law of Moses, but know nothing about Jesus. They begin to share the good news about Jesus. They go to the synagogue and preach to the Jews and Greeks that gather there to hear God’s Word read and taught. After Salamis, the three men travel by foot around Cyprus, stopping at the other cities on the island—Tremithus, Citium, Amathus, Curium, and Palaipaphos—preaching to the people there about Jesus. Finally they reach Paphos, the new Roman capitol on the far end of the island. Once more, they go to the synagogue to preach about Jesus.

   End:
   Sergius Paulus, the Roman governor of Cyprus who lives in Paphos, gets word of the new message that Paul and Barnabas are preaching. He calls for them to come and tell him what they are preaching. Sergius Paulus quickly becomes interested in the good news of Jesus, but Satan uses a Jewish sorcerer named Elymas Bar-Jesus to argue against Paul and Barnabas and try to keep Sergius Paulus from believing. Paul turns to Elymas and rebukes him. By the power of Jesus, he causes Elymas to suddenly lose his sight. Sergius is amazed at the good news of Jesus and the power of His name. He believes in Jesus. Having preached about Jesus all over Cyprus, Paul and Barnabas get on a ship and set sail for Perga, Turkey, where there are many other people who have never heard about Him.
Beginning:
The leaders of the church in Antioch—which included Paul and Barnabas—gathered to pray and fast. The Holy Spirit spoke to them, telling them to send out Paul and Barnabas from them for a mission He had planned for them. They laid hands on Paul and Barnabas and prayed a special prayer of blessing, guidance, and protection and sent them out. John Paul went with them as a helper. The Holy Spirit guided Paul and Barnabas to the seaport of Seleucia and to a ship headed for Cyprus, the home country of Barnabas and John Paul.

Middle:
When the ship lands in Salamis, Cyprus, Paul, Barnabas and John Paul see that no one there knows about Jesus. The Greeks worship Zeus and Aphrodite. The Jews try to keep the Law of Moses, but know nothing about Jesus. They begin to share the good news about Jesus. They go to the synagogue and preach to the Jews and Greeks that gather there to hear God’s Word read and taught. After Salamis, the three men travel by foot around Cyprus, stopping at the other cities on the island— Tremithus, Citium, Amathus, Curium, and Palaipaphos—preaching to the people there about Jesus. Finally they reach Paphos, the new Roman capitol on the far end of the island. Once more, they go to the synagogue to preach about Jesus.

End:
Sergius Paulus, the Roman governor of Cyprus who lives in Paphos, gets word of the new message that Paul and Barnabas are preaching. He calls for them to come and tell him what they are preaching. Sergius Paulus quickly becomes interested in the good news of Jesus, but Satan uses a Jewish sorcerer named Elymas Bar-Jesus to argue against Paul and Barnabas and try to keep Sergius Paulus from believing. Paul turns to Elymas and rebukes him. By the power of Jesus, he causes Elymas to suddenly lose his sight. Sergius is amazed at the good news of Jesus and the power of His name. He believes in Jesus. Having preached about Jesus all over Cyprus, Paul and Barnabas get on a ship and set sail for Perga, Turkey, where there are many other people who have never heard about Him.
1. How did the church at Antioch know to send out Paul and Barnabas? The Holy Spirit told them as they were praying and fasting.
2. What is fasting? Fasting is choosing to not eat for a time and spending that time in prayer instead.
3. Why do Christians fast? All through the Bible, we read about God’s people fasting, especially in times of great difficulty or need. It is a way of showing that they want His wisdom and help so much that it is even more important than food for their hungry bodies. Children should seek their parents wisdom before fasting.
4. How did Paul and Barnabas know that the Greeks and Romans who lived on Cyprus needed to know about Jesus? They worshipped the Greek gods, Zeus and Aphrodite.
5. How did Paul and Barnabas know that the Jews needed to know about Jesus? They listened to God’s Word read in the synagogue and tried to keep the Laws of Moses, but they could never keep all of the laws and they did not yet know about Jesus, who came to save them from their sins.
6. Where did Paul and Barnabas preach first? Why? In the synagogues. Because the Word of God was taught there; and many of the Jews and Greeks who gathered there already had the Holy Spirit softening their hearts by the Word of God.
7. Where else did Paul, Barnabas and John Mark go? Why? They traveled across the island, stopping at the cities along the way. They wanted all to hear about Jesus, not just those in Salamis.
8. What was special about the city of Paphos? It was the new Roman capital of Cyprus. Home of the governor of Cyprus, Sergius Paulus.
9. Why did Sergius Paulus order Paul and Barnabas to come to meet him? He got word about what they were preaching and he wanted them to tell him about Jesus, too.
10. Why would it be especially good if Sergius Paulus became a Christian? As governor, he could protect the other Christians from persecution. Also, he could be a great witness for the good news of Jesus to others on the island and even other Roman leaders in other places he came into contact with.
11. What did Satan do to try to prevent Sergius Paulus from believing? He used a sorcerer named Elymas Bar-Jesus, who worked for Sergius Paulus, to try to argue him out of believing in Jesus.
12. What did Paul do to stop Elymas? He rebuked him in Jesus’ name and caused him to go instantly blind.
13. How did God use Satan’s tricks for His own good purposes? Sergius Paulus saw the power of the name of Jesus by how Paul rebuked Elymas; and then immediately believed.
14. What is the good news of Jesus that God’s people tell others? God is perfectly holy & loving, the creator of all. He gave us His good commands that we might enjoy and glorify Him forever. Yet, all people have chosen to rebel against Him. We all deserve His just wrath & eternal punishment for our sins. But God, in His great mercy, sent His Son Jesus to live a perfect life & offer it up on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who will ever turn from their sins & trust in Him as Savior. All who do, become His very own people, who by the work of His Spirit in their hearts, love Him & live for Him more & more each day. Once day they will live & enjoy Him forever in heaven.

Big Idea Connections
What does our story have to do with our Big Idea? The church in Antioch obeyed the Lord to send out Paul and Barnabas to go and tell others who lived far away the good news of Jesus, that they, too, might be saved.

Scripture Verse Connections
What does our story have to do with the Scripture Verse: Romans 10:13-15
"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’"
The Holy Spirit guided the church in Antioch to send out Paul, Barnabas (and John Mark) to go to Cyprus and other places to preach the good news to them that they might call on the name of the Lord and be saved.
Life Application
1. Can people be saved today without hearing and responding to the good news of salvation through Jesus? No. Only through faith in Him can anyone be saved.
2. Why do God’s people today need to tell others about Jesus? B/c there are still billions who haven’t heard. Jesus is only way to be saved from their sins! They need to know if they are to be forgiven by God and are to become God’s dearly loved people, enjoying eternal life with Him.
3. Is anyone too sinful to be saved? No. God will forgive all who turn away from their sins, confess them to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior.
4. How can we be saved? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

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

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? Praise God for being the Sender of His people to others so that they can hear and believe the gospel and be saved.
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? Confess that like the people of Cyprus we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? We can thank God that He would save sinners from their sins, though none of us could ever deserve it. We can think Him for sending Jesus to willingly suffer and die to save God’s people.
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 send out His people today to all parts of the world that everyone might hear the gospel. We can ask Him to work in the hearts of the hearers of His gospel, giving them the gift of faith that they might turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

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
Flashlight
Paper and Marker
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.

Playing the Game
Divide the children into 2 teams. Have them sit in a close circle, alternating Team A and Team B players. Have the children sit in a circle. Put the light in the middle of the circle. Spin the light. Whoever the light points to, answers the question. If it points to a Team A player and he gets it right on his own, it is worth 2 points for his team. If he needs help from another team member, then it is worth 1 point. The question goes to the Team B player on his right for a possible 1 point if the Team A player fails to answer correctly.

Game continues until all children get to toss the Frisbee, 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

Understanding the Big Idea
1. When did people first begin to rebel against God? *With Adam and Eve, in the beginning.*
2. What do all people deserve for their rebellion against God? *His just and eternal punishment for their sins.*
3. How did God show His mercy, despite our wicked rebellion against Him? *He sent His Son, Jesus to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior.*
4. What did Jesus do on the third day that showed He had conquered sin and death for God’s people, once and for all? *He rose from the dead.*
5. What do we call the good news of salvation through Jesus? *The gospel* (it means good news in the Greek, the original language of the New Testament books.)
5. Why do all people need to hear the good news of Jesus? *He is the only way to be saved from the punishment they deserve for their sins and to enter into fellowship with the Lord.*
6. What has always been God’s plan for people to hear about Jesus? *His people would go and tell them about Him.*
7. Why should God’s people go every part of the world, to every people and tell them about Jesus? *It is Jesus’ command; and, because God has always planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation and language.*
8. What must happen before Jesus comes back? *The gospel preached to every people, according to God’s plan.*

Big Idea Story Connection Questions
How did the church in Antioch fulfill Jesus’ command to tell others about Him? *They fasted and prayed to know God’s will. They listened and obeyed the Holy Spirit telling them to send out Paul and Barnabas. They prayed for them as they went. Paul and Barnabas (and John Mark) journeyed to many faraway places to tell the people there about Jesus.*

Scripture Verse Connection
What does our Big Idea have to do with the Scripture Verse: Romans 10:13-15
“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”
God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.
Life Application Questions
1. How can we use God’s people in our church today to tell others about Him? They can pray that God would show them who in our church does He want to go to tell others about Jesus in faraway places. They can pray for those who have gone to faraway places already. They can pray that God would even give them opportunities, right here at home, to tell others about Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries who have come to live here, make friends with them, love them, and tell them the good news of salvation through Jesus.
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 gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Big Idea? Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Big Idea? Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.
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 from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

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

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

**Big Idea Game**

**Materials**
Blindfold  
Cane  
Big Idea Discussion & Quiz Questions  
Bag/Bowl

**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**
Children form a circle, with “It”, a blind man, in the center. The circle moves slowly to the left or to the right at the Blind Man’s command. Then, the Blind Man says, “Halt!” Everyone in the circle stands still. The Blind Man then begins walking out towards the circle of children, GENTLY touching his cane out until he touches someone. When he does, the blind man gets to choose a question from the bag for the teacher to read to the class. When they get a correct answer, the blind man gives up his blindfold to the other child who becomes the blind man, while the former blind man joins the circle.

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.
Understanding the Scripture

1. What does it mean to “call on the name of the Lord? Confess to God that you are a sinner who deserves His just wrath for your sin and that only by Him saving you (by taking the punishment you deserved when He died upon the cross) can you ever find forgiveness for your sins.

2. Who will be saved? Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord.

3. What do people have to do before they can call on the name of the Lord? Believe.

4. What has to happen for people to believe? Someone must preach to them.

5. What does “preach” mean in this verse? Doesn’t have to be a pastor who tells them about Jesus as he preaches a sermon. It can mean any Christian who tells others the good news of Jesus.

6. How will those who haven’t heard about Jesus hear preaching? Someone must be sent.

7. Who sends people to tell others about Jesus? Jesus and His people gathered together—churches. After Jesus rose from the dead, He commanded those who believed in Him to go into all the world, telling others about Him that they could become His obedient followers (disciples), too. But we see in our story today that the Holy Spirit guides churches to pray for & sent out their very own to tell others about Jesus.

8. What makes the feet of those who bring good news beautiful? Not that they have good looking feet. It means that they are the ones who are coming with the good news that saves people from their sins. They are coming to rescue them.

9. What is the good news that God’s people bring? 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!

Big Idea Connection
What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.

Story Connection
What does the verse have to do with our story? The Holy Spirit guided the church in Antioch to send out Paul, Barnabas (and John Mark) to go to Cyprus and other places to preach the good news to them that they might call on the name of the Lord and be saved.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people today take the good news to those who have not heard? They can go to live in the faraway places to tell people there how they can be saved through Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries that move here and tell them how they can be saved through Jesus. They can pray for others who have already gone out to faraway places that God would help them tell others about Jesus. They can pray for people here that God would help them tell these people the good news of Jesus.
Life Application Questions, continued
2. How can we become God’s people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
3. Who can tell us the good news of Jesus? People at our churches, our Sunday School teachers, and any other Christians we know would be happy to talk to us about becoming a Christian.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? Praise God for being faithful to His promise to save all who call on His name.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? That we are all sinners, who need to turn away from our sins and believe in Jesus. That many times we could tell others the good news of Jesus, but choose not to because we are lazy or afraid they won’t want to hear it.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse? We can thank God for sending His people to tell others in faraway places about Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse? We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. That He would send out many of His people today to faraway places that all may hear the good news of Jesus, turn from their sins, believe in Jesus and be saved.

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

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

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Read the Scripture Verse to the Large Group & have your small group ask some of the Scripture verse questions used in discussion time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
Materials
Scripture Verse Sign from the Big Idea Folder
A very long rope or jump robe

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 form a line. Have two people be the Rope turners for the jump rope. While the entire group recited the verse, have the children take turns trying to jump through the whole verse without stopping. For children adept at jumping rope, you can even have them try running in and jumping, jumping with a partner, etc. or other variations the children come up with.

Game continues until all children get to jump, 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.
How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15

How beautiful,  
How beautiful,  
How beautiful,  
We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.  
But, if we confess our sins,  
God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins,  
Faithful and just and will forgive our sins,  
Faithful and just and will forgive our sins,  
And purify us from all unrighteousness.

Understanding the Scripture

1. What does it mean to “call on the name of the Lord”? Confess to God that you are a sinner who deserves His just wrath for your sin and that only by Him saving you (by taking the punishment you deserved when He died upon the cross) can you ever find forgiveness for your sins.

2. Who will be saved? Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord.

3. What do people have to do before they can call on the name of the Lord? Believe.

4. What has to happen for people to believe? Someone must preach to them.

5. What does “preach” mean in this verse? Doesn’t have to be a pastor who tells them about Jesus as he preaches a sermon. It can mean any Christian who tells others the good news of Jesus.

6. How will those who haven’t heard about Jesus hear preaching? Someone must be sent.

7. Who sends people to tell others about Jesus? Jesus and His people gathered together—churches. After Jesus rose from the dead, He commanded those who believed in Him to go into all the world, telling others about Him that they could become His obedient followers (disciples), too. But we see in our story today that the Holy Spirit guides churches to pray for & sent out their very own to tell others about Jesus.

8. What makes the feet of those who bring good news beautiful? Not that they have good looking feet. It means that they are the ones who are coming with the good news that saves people from their sins. They are coming to rescue them.

9. What is the good news that God’s people bring? 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!

Big Idea Connection

What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.
Story Connection
What does the verse have to do with our story? The Holy Spirit guided the church in Antioch to send out Paul, Barnabas (and John Mark) to go to Cyprus and other places to preach the good news to them that they might call on the name of the Lord and be saved.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people today take the good news to those who have not heard? They can go to live in the faraway places to tell people there how they can be saved through Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries that move here and tell them how they can be saved through Jesus. They can pray for others who have already gone out to faraway places that God would help them tell others about Jesus. They can pray for people here that God would help them tell these people the good news of Jesus.
2. How can we become God’s people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
3. Who can tell us the good news of Jesus? People at our churches, our Sunday School teachers, and any other Christians we know would be happy to talk to us about becoming a Christian.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? Praise God for being faithful to His promise to save all who call on His name.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? That we are all sinners, who need to turn away from our sins and believe in Jesus. That many times we could tell others the good news of Jesus, but choose not to because we are lazy or afraid they won’t want to hear it.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse? We can thank God for sending His people to tell others in faraway places about Him.
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Gospel Question
What is the good news of Jesus that God’s people bring to others? What is the gospel? God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship and obey Him. That is the right way to live and the best way to live. Yet all people have chosen to rebel against God. They have chosen to live life their own way. They all deserve God’s eternal punishment for their disobedience. Yet God is so rich in mercy and love! He sent His Son Jesus to earth to live a perfect life and offer up His life as the complete and perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever say no to sinning, confess their sins to God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God raised Jesus up from the dead on the third day, showing that God had accepted Jesus’ sacrifice. Now to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, God promises to forgive them their sins and make them His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. If we do this, then God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

Closing Large Group Time
Sign and sing the song.
Materials
None

Preparing the Game
None.

Playing the Game
After children have learned the song and signs well, then tell the children that you are going to leave out words from the song (that you’ve learned signs for) and just do the sign in its place.

Have the children help you choose a word to take out.

Sing the song, trying to remember to NOT sing the word and do only the sign.

Continue to take out words until all of the words (with signs) have been taken out.
Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Verse 1
Come ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and pow’r

Refrain:
I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

Understanding the Song
1. What is a sinner? Someone who thinks, says and acts in ways that do not please God.
2. What words describe a sinner? Poor and needy: not that they don’t have money, but that they have no way to “pay” for their sins. Weak and wounded, sick and sore: Not only are their bodies suffer under weakness, wounds, sickness or soreness, but their hearts are weak and hurt from fighting sin. They suffer from sadness and guilt.
3. Who should a sinner come to? Why? Jesus, because He stands ready to save you.
4. How does Jesus receive sinners who come to Him? He is full of pity (sad that you are suffering and desiring to help you), love and power (through His life offered up on the cross).
5. Who is the song writer going to? How will He receive him? Jesus. He will embrace him in His arms.
6. What he mean when he says Jesus will embrace him in His arms? Not that Jesus will really give him a hug, but that He will rejoice that he has come to Him for salvation, and that He loves him tenderly. In heaven, though, Jesus very well WILL really hug him!
7. What does it mean that there are ten thousand charms in the arms of Jesus? A charm is something that delights you. Knowing Jesus’ love and forgiveness, being in His family, are so wonderful that it is like getting ten thousand of the things that delight you most, all rolled up into one. There is nothing as wonderful as knowing and being loved by Him.

Big Idea Connection
How does this song relate to our Big Idea: God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy? Adam and Eve--and all people after them--suffer the consequences of their sinful rebellion. Everyone is poor and in need of a Savior. Everyone is weak and weary, sick and sore from sin. God, in His great mercy, promised Adam and Eve that one day He would send a Savior to crush Satan. Jesus paid for the sins of all who would ever turn and trust in Him. He welcomes them tenderly to come to Him and know the ten thousand charms of His love.

Story Connection
How does this song relate to today’s story? Today’s story is the story of Paul, Barnabas and John Mark telling the good news of salvation to the people of Cyprus. They told them that Jesus was standing ready to save them right then, if they will turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.
Scripture Verse Connection
What does this song have to do with our Scripture Verse: Romans 10:13-15
“‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”
This hymn is a call for all sinners to call on the name of the Lord and be saved. God’s people sing this song to encourage others to hear the good news of salvation through Jesus and be saved.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people be affected by the message of this song? They can praise God who loves sinners who come to Him so much that He delights to embrace them and bless them with ten thousand charms.
2. We are sinners, poor and needy. How can we be saved? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn? Praise God for being the gracious God, full of pity, love and power, to save sinners.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn? Confess that we are weak, wounded, sick and sore, with sin. We deserve God’s punishment. We need a Savior!
3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn? We can thank God for not treating sinners just as their sins deserve, but for standing ready to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. He is so full of pity, love and power!
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse? That God would work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to heal us of the weakness, wounds, sickness and soreness of sin in our lives. We can ask Him for His eternal life.

Gospel Question
Why does God not just judge our sins as we deserve, but stands ready to save us? Because of what Jesus has done! Can you tell me the good news of Jesus?
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
None

Preparing the Game
None.

Playing the Game
After children have learned the song and signs well, then tell the children that you are going to leave out words from the song (that you’ve learned signs for) and just do the sign in its place.

Have the children help you choose a word to take out.

Sing the song, trying to remember to NOT sing the word and do only the sign.

Continue to take out words until all of the words (with signs) have been taken out.
The Proconsul, Sergius Paulus

1. What Is It? (Presenter 1)
The Proconsul

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

Who? Paul, Barnabas and John Mark

Did What? Were Invited into the presence of

With the Big Idea Object? The Proconsul, Sergius Paulus

Why? Because he wanted to hear the good news of salvation through Jesus.

3. What Does It Have to Do with the Big Idea? (Presenter 3)
Our Big Idea is: God’s People Tell Others about Him. Paul, Barnabas and John Mark were especially pleased to tell Sergius Paulus the good news of Jesus because if he became a Christian, he could make it much easier for others to become Christians in Cyprus.

4. What Can It Help Us Remember? (Presenter 4)
God wants all people, from the most important to the least important in this world to hear the good news of salvation through Jesus.
The Proconsul, Sergius Paulus

Description
The children will make a Roman laurel (head wreath like what Roman officials wore sometimes) with poster board, cardstock and optional golden glitter glue.

Materials
22” x 28” poster board 1 piece per 14 laurel wreaths
2 or 3 pages of printed out leaves per craft (on following page)
White paper, cardstock preferred but not necessary
1.5” sticky back velcro per craft
Leaf-colored markers/colored pencils
Glue (tape or staplers)
Gold glitter glue (optional)
Scissors

Preparing the Craft
1. Cut 22” x 2” strips out of the poster board, 1 per craft.
2. Cut velcro into 1.5” pieces
3. Print out 3 pages of leaves per craft onto white paper (cardstock is preferred)
4. For youngest children, you may want to cut out their leaves ahead of time.
5. Stick one side of the velcro in place on each band.
6. Set out other supplies.
7. Make a sample for the children to see.

Making the Craft
1. Show children your sample.
2. Have the children color in their leaves.
3. Hold up a band to each child’s head and cut down to an appropriate size, if necessary. Add the other piece of velcro to the BACK side of the band on the other end.
4. Have the children paste/tape/staple their leaves in place in an overlapping fashion as shown below.
5. If desired, children can add glitter glue accents to the leaves.
6. Put on head, securing in place with the velcro.

Poster board “band” for laurel
22” length (cut down to size, if necessary, for younger children)
Leaves for Laurel Wreath
salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus. When we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about our Savior, too.

Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth. Jesus promises to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, according to God's plan.

We thought about Romans 10:13-15: 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'"

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

1. Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for people from every people on earth.

2. Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about our Savior, too.

3. Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for His people to go to all peoples—even to the farthest places on earth—and tell this wonderful message. He has planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation, and language on earth. Jesus promises to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, according to God's plan.

4. I decorated this card for you during Praise Factory today. The Big Idea we learned about today was: God's People Tell Others about Him. Beginning with Adam and Eve, all people have rebelled against God and deserve His just and eternal punishment for their sins. Though sinful people never deserved it, God chose to send His Son Jesus, to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their rebellious way of life and trust in Him for forgiveness. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day showing that He had conquered sin and death for God's people, once and for all. This is the message we call the gospel. It is the wonderful news about Jesus' death for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus commanded His people to go to all peoples—even to the farthest places on earth—and tell this wonderful news. He has planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation, and language on earth. Jesus promises to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, according to God's plan.

You are a Very Important Prayer Person!
**Bean Bag Toss In**

**VIPP Game**

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

**Preparing the Game**
Put one of the nine pictures in each of the envelopes.

Tape each down to the floor, fairly close together.

**Playing the Game**

**Reveal, then Review Version:**

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

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

**Get Clues, Then Guess Version:**

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

*Guess:* When the clues are all chosen, have the children guess who is the VIPP. Show them the picture and name. Read them the VIPP information blurb.
Session Schedule and Planning Sheet

Time | Activity
--- | ---
____ | Arrive no later than this to prepare for session
     | My preparations:
____ | Children arrive
____ | Concept Introduction/Review (The Echo Chamber or Folder Hunt)

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dismiss by group to Small Group Activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snack and Discussion Time</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>1.</td>
<td>What does the snack have to do with the story?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
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<td>5.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.</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>Activity Time</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>ACTS Prayer Time</td>
<td>(Exception: Drama group leader will incorporate a brief ACTS prayer into their opening prayer, instead)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Group Presentations in Closing Large Group Time</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 71 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 71 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:**
Don’t Forget! Decorate story-telling area with props, costumes and scenery the Drama Group will later use in their play
- Story: The Man Who Wouldn’t Give Up, pp. 39-41
- Story Outline p.41
- Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
- Props, Costumes and Scenery

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

An upside-down mini muffin Mount Ruwenzori topped with a little canned whipped cream “snow” and two Teddy Graham “Apolo and his guide” stuck on top. Can even add broccoli piece “dark forest” around one side of it and some more Teddy Graham “Mboga people” on the far side of the “forest.”

ACTS Prayer

A Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth.

C Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.

T Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.

S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

Drama

Activities:
Discuss story
Fill in Speaker Sheets
Practice Play

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

Story Review Game: Stepping Stones

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: Squirrel and Nut**

**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: Apolo Traveling through River, Forests, Mountains and Hills**

**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: Bean Bag Toss In**

**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: Protectors**

**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: How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15**

**Activities:**
- Discuss Scripture Verse and Song
- Learn Song and Sign Language
- Play Song Game: **Big Voice, Little Voice**
  (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: Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy: Verse 1**

**Activities:**
- Discuss Song
- Learn Song and Sign Language
- Play Song Game: **Big Voice, Little Voice**
- 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
Week 2 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 71 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 71 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 Wouldn’t Give Up**, pp. 39-41
- Story Outline p.41
- Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
- Props, Costumes and Scenery

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

**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

An upside-down mini muffin Mount Ruwenzori topped with a little canned whipped cream “snow” and two Teddy Graham “Apolo and his guide” stuck on top. Can even add broccoli piece “dark forest” around one side of it and some more Teddy Graham “Mboga people” on the far side of the “forest.”

ACTS Prayer

A Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth.

C Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.

T Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.

S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.
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: 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: How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15

Activities:
Discuss Scripture Verse and Song
Learn Song and Sign Language
Play Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice

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 takes place about 125 years ago in Uganda, Africa. In the land of Toro in Uganda, there is a mighty snow-capped mountain called Ruwenzori, one of the very highest mountains in all of Africa. With half a sigh of exhaustion and half a sigh of exclamation, a young man named Apolo Kivebulaya let a big, “Ahhh!” as at last he hoisted himself to the very top of that great mountain. The climb had been so tortuous and the air so frigid that most of his companions had given up and turned back long ago. But nothing could stop Apolo from making it to the top of that mountain. There was something he must find out. Something he must see with his own eyes; and, the top of Ruwenzori was the best place where he could see it. “I am going to climb up Ruwenzori. I must see what is on the other side of these mountains,” Apolo had told his friend, the King of the Toro. Strange stories had come of wild people living in the country beyond the mountains. He wanted to see their land for himself.

As he looked out across the unknown land he saw a great country stretching out into the distance, most of it black with forest so thick that they blocked out the sun. Then far away beyond them, was a range of hills. “On the other side of those hills is Mboga country in Congoland, where many, many people live,” Apolo’s guide told him. “The people you have heard about.”

As Apolo looked over to those hills, it was as if something seized his heart and gripped him tightly. It seemed to pull him towards those hills. A voice within him seemed to say: ‘Over there in that country are thousands and thousands of people who live in the darkness of sin and evil. No one has ever been there to tell them about Jesus.’

“Only years ago my people were once like them,” Apolo thought to himself. “We lived in fear of evil spirits and witch doctors. We knew only the misery of sin, until the Lord sent some of His people from far away to tell us about Jesus. Now many of my people believe in Jesus and are forgiven of their sins. We have been joyfully freed to know and love God. Now it is my turn. Who will go to them if I do not?” Apolo asked himself. “Yes, I must go to them. I must go to them. I want the people of Mboga to know about Jesus.”

As soon as he could, Apolo started out on the long journey to Mboga country. For many days he climbed through the lower hills of the great mountain Ruwenzori, and across the hot plains that divide the mountainous country of Uganda from Congoland. There was one great river, the Semliki, to cross, and then he was in the great, black forests that he had seen from the mountain. After many difficult days of travel through the thick forests, Apolo reached the hills of Congoland; and then at last, the country of Mboga, where he found the very wild people he was looking for.
Apolo was brought before King Tabao of the Mboga and at first he treated Apolo with kindness, hoping to get some presents from him. He gave Apolo a hut and a little piece of ground. But when Apolo learned enough of the Mboga language to start telling the people about their sinful lives and their need to turn and trust in Jesus as their Savior, everything changed. While one woman heard the good news of Jesus and turned to trust in Him for the forgiveness of her sins, the rest did not. They did not want to hear that the spirits they worshiped were evil and that witchcraft was wrong. King Tabao and all the other people turned against Apolo and planned to get rid of him.

The Mboga witchdoctor was especially furious with Apolo. “You must drive Apolo away or your country will be ruined!” he warned the King. King Tabao was in real fear and called his men together secretly. He promised a big present to anyone who would burn down Apolo’s house and kill him.

That very night the men set fire to Apolo’s hut, but the Lord protected Apolo and he narrowly escaped death. What would Apolo do now? The King had tried to kill him once. Surely he would try again. Hadn’t Apolo done his job? He had traveled from faraway to tell these people about Jesus, just like someone had done for his people, but they only wanted to kill him. Should he just give up and go home?

“These people live in fear of evil spirits and witch doctors. They know only the misery of sin,” Apolo told himself. “If I leave now, who will there be to tell them about Jesus that they might believe in Him and be forgiven of their sins. I want them to be joyfully freed to know and love God. God has called me to bring this good news to them. I must stay with them. Yes, I must stay with them. I want the people of Mboga to know about Jesus.” So stay he did.

As Apolo stayed and kept sharing the good news of Jesus, the witch-doctor and the King only got angrier. He sent more men to Apolo: “King Tabao orders you to leave his land. You are not welcome here anymore.” But nothing could force Apolo to leave.

At last King Tabao sent his Prime Minister—his highest official—to bring Apolo to stand before him on trial. “Come out of your hut and come with me, the king has sent me for you,” the Prime Minister ordered Apolo.

“Yes, I will come,” said Apolo, and he was led to the king.

When they arrived at the king’s quarters, they found him sitting on the raised platform at the entrance to his house, waiting to pass judgment on Apolo.

“I have sent several of my men to you telling you to leave my country; you have refused to obey me. Now tell me the reason why you have not gone.”

Apolo replied, “I also have a Master, and His Word is my law. He sent me here to teach your people.”

“Well,” said the king, “if I allow you to stay here will you give me your promise not to teach my people to read that Book (the Bible), and you will not tell them to disobey my orders to fight against other peoples?”

What would Apolo do? The King had tried to kill him once. Now he stood on his platform ready to do it again, if Apolo was unwilling to obey his orders. Hadn’t Apolo done his job? He had traveled from faraway
to tell these people about Jesus, just like someone had done for his people, but they only wanted to kill him? Should he just give up and go home?

“These people live in fear of evil spirits and witch doctors. They know only the misery of sin,” Apolo told himself. “If I leave now, who will there be to tell them about Jesus that they might believe in Him and be forgiven of their sins. I want them to be joyfully freed to know and love God. God has called me to bring this good news to them. I must stay with them. Yes, I must stay with them. I want the people of Mboga to know about Jesus.” Apolo did not hesitate even a moment with his answer: “No, king. I will not do as you say, nor will I go. I must do the work that God had sent me to do.”

At this King Tabao became angrier still, and told the men around to whip Apolo. When the men finished with him, Apolo somehow crawled back to his hut. For days and nights he lay in agony as the wounds on his body gradually healed. But even now, Apolo would not leave the Mboga people. He would stay with them that they might know about Jesus. As soon as he was able, Apolo was up and preaching to them again.

When the Mboga people saw how Apolo endured such terrible suffering yet still stayed to tell them about Jesus, many began to want to know more about Jesus. Before long, villagers began to gather at the little church hut that Apolo had made. Each Sunday, Apolo would beat on a huge drum he had placed outside of the church hut & invited people to come to hear him talk about Jesus.

“King, you must kill Apolo!” the witch-doctor furiously ordered him. “More and more of your people are listening to him at his little church hut. Before long they will forget the spirits we worship. Kill him now or you will be ruined!”

Once more the king listened to the witchdoctor. He ordered a band of cruel men to Apolo’s hut. They grabbed him, whipped him and left in the tall grasses almost dead for lions to finish him off.

King Tabao and the witch-doctor held a great feast for all the people to celebrate the end of Apolo. “At last our enemy is dead and the kingdom is safe! This teacher and his Book are gone forever!” they cheered. With Apolo dead, the people stopped going to the little church hut. In fear they turned back to witchcraft and worshiping the evil spirits.

But someone had been watching secretly as Apolo had been beaten and dragged into the grasses—that very first little woman who had first heard the good news of Jesus and believed. When all was safe, she crept to where Apolo’s body lay so bruised and still. She planned to bury it. But to her great surprise, she found that Apolo was not dead, only almost dead. Quietly and with great difficulty, she picked him up and took him to a ruined hut away from the rest of the huts where she would secretly try to nurse him back to health. She gathered soft, fresh grass and made him a bed, then some sticks for a fire, and closed up the entrance to the hut.

For six long weeks she returned to the hut to nurse Apolo secretly. At last she told him, “Apolo, you are well enough to travel home now. Please, go. They will only try to kill you again.”

What would Apolo do? The King had tried to kill him many times now. Wasn’t his friend right? Wouldn’t
he only try again? Hadn’t Apolo done his job? He had traveled from faraway to tell these people about Jesus, just like someone had done for his people, but they only wanted to kill him? Should he just give up and go home?

“Those people live in fear of evil spirits and witch doctors. They know only the misery of sin,” Apolo told himself. “If I leave now, who will there be to tell them about Jesus that they might believe in Him and be forgiven of their sins. I want them to be joyfully freed to know and love God. God has called me to bring this good news to them. I must stay with them. Yes, I must stay with them. I want the people of Mboga to know about Jesus.” Apolo did not hesitate even a moment with his answer: “No, my friend. I will not go. I must do the work that God had sent me to do,” he told her.

So early one Sunday morning, as soon as Apolo felt able, he returned to the little village church hut. He started beating loudly on the church drum, inviting people to come to church. Immediately the whole village was in turmoil, including the king.

“Isn’t that the old church drum?” King Tabao wondered. “Who could be beating it now that Apolo is dead?”

A messenger soon arrived with the astonishing answer, “O King, it is Apolo beating the drum! He is alive from the dead and he is calling the people to come to the church for prayer!”

“How can this be!” the King answered. “I must see for myself.”

As King Tabao came near the church, he was more alarmed than ever to hear the sound of voices, one of which he was sure was that of the man he had killed.

The king crept up to the door of the little church, and there, to his amazement, he saw Apolo with a small crowd of awe-stricken men and women around him. Apolo was sitting in the midst of them, with his little Book in his hand, reading to them the wonderful story of Jesus. When he saw the King, he went to meet him and greeted him with a happy smile. “Won’t you join us?” he invited him. To the surprise of everybody, King Tabao came in, knelt before Apolo, and begged him to forgive him the great sin he had committed. Apolo took the king’s hand in his own, and kneeling down by his side, he called upon all the people to join him in prayer.

That very day, many of the Mboga people turned from their sins and to believe in Jesus, including King Tabao, himself.

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Tell Others about Him
Our Scripture Verse is:
Scripture Verse: Romans 10:13-15
“‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”
Few people like to hear about their sins. Most do not think it is wonderful that someone has come to tell them how to be saved. People like to think they are good enough on their own. Sometimes people get angry or upset when God’s people tell them that they are sinners. And, as we can see from our story today, sometimes people even hurt God’s people for telling them they are sinners.

What great love the Lord gave Apolo for the Mboga people! Nothing would keep him from telling them about Jesus He knew they needed to be saved. And, in the end, the Lord rewarded Apolo’s long-suffering love for them with the salvation of many, even King Tabao, himself!

What about you and me? What do we think when we hear that we are sinners? Do we get angry or upset? Do we think that we can be good enough for God on our own? I hope not! I hope that we receive the news that we are sinners in need of a Savior by turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. This is what God calls us to do. This is how He will forgive us our sins and make us His dearly loved people.

But this message isn’t just for us, is it? It’s for everyone! Who has the Lord put in our lives who needs to hear about Jesus and turn to believe in Him? Who could other Christians help us to tell the good news of Jesus to?

Let’s praise God for giving His people a long-suffering love that keeps seeking the salvation of others. Let’s ask Him help us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. Let’s lask Him to give each of us that kind of love for the people around us who still have not heard about Him or still do not believe in Him. Let’s ask Him to even make us the kind of people who like Apolo are willing to love others in faraway places by taking the good news of Jesus to them.
1. Apolo and his guide made the cold and tortuous climb to the top of Mount Ruwenzori so that Apolo could see the land of wild people he had heard about.
2. He feels called to tell the Mboga people who live there about Jesus b/c they have never heard.
3. He travels over river, over mountains, through dark forest, over hills until he get there.
4. King Tabao welcomes him and gives him a little land for a home until Apolo starts to tell the people about Jesus.
5. While one woman comes to believe in Jesus, the rest do not.
6. The witchdoctor urges the king to have Apolo killed. At first the king has men set his hut on fire, but the Lord protected Apolo.
7. Then the king had his prime minister bring Apolo to him for a trial. When Apolo refused to stop telling the people about Jesus, the king had him terribly whipped.
8. Still Apolo wouldn’t leave. When he got well again, he built a little church hut w/ a big drum outside to call people to church to hear about Jesus.
9. Once more the witchdoctor urged the king to kill Apolo. They had a gang of cruel men grab Apolo, beat him and leave him in the tall grasses for a lion to eat him. Then they held a great celebration to celebrate the death of Apolo and his message. The people turned back to worship the evil spirits.
10. The woman believer watched what happened. When she found he was still alive, she carried him to an abandoned hut and nursed him back to health for 6 weeks.
11. The woman wanted Apolo to escape to home, but he refused. He wanted to keep telling the Mbogas about Jesus.
12. One Sunday, he began beating the church drum. In amazement the people and even the king, came to see the man who they thought was dead.
13. They came into the church hut and listened to Apolo read from the Bible. The king snuck to the church hut to see if Apolo was really alive. When he saw he was, he came in the hut, kneeled down, asked forgiveness and received salvation that day.
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)*
The Man Who Wouldn’t Give Up

1. Setting (Speakers 2-4)

When? About 125 years ago
Where? Uganda, Africa

What’s it Like? Tall mountains, thick forests, ranges of hills, fierce people

2. Who’s in It? (Speaker 5)

Mount Ruwenzori Platform
Apolo Huts
The Guide Abandoned Hut
Other climbers Church Hut
King Tabao Church Drum
Dark forests Apolo’s Bible
River
Hills
Woman who believed
Mboga people
Whips
Fire
Prime minister

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

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Tell Others about Him. Apolo risked his life, time and again to tell the Mboga people about Jesus. He did not let the witchdoctor’s and King’s persecution of him stop him from sharing about Jesus.

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

Our Story is called: Apolo’s Mission to the Mbogas

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

Beginning:
Apolo and his guide make the cold and tortuous climb to the top of Mount Ruwenzori so that Apolo could see the land of wild people he has heard about. He feels called to tell the Mboga people who live there about Jesus b/c they have never heard. He travels over river, over mountains, through dark forest, over hills until he get there. King Tabao welcomes him and gives him a little land for a home until Apolo starts to tell the people about Jesus. One woman comes to believe in Jesus, the rest do not. Still, the witchdoctor urges the king to have Apolo killed or else his kingdom ruined will be ruined.

Middle:
At first the king has men set his hut on fire, but the Lord protected Apolo. Then the king had his prime minister bring Apolo to him for a trial. When Apolo refused to stop telling the people about Jesus, the king had him terribly whipped. Still Apolo wouldn’t leave. When he got well again, he built a little church hut w/ a big drum outside to call people to church to hear about Jesus. Once more the witchdoctor urged the king to kill Apolo. They had a gang of cruel men grab Apolo, beat him and leave him in the tall grasses for a lion to eat him. Then they held a great celebration to celebrate the death of Apolo and his message. The people turned back to worship the evil spirits

End:
The woman believer watched what happened. When she found he was still alive, she carried him to an abandoned hut and nursed him back to health for 6 weeks. The woman wanted Apolo to escape to home, but he refused. He wanted to keep telling the Mbogas about Jesus. One Sunday, he began beating the church drum. In amazement the people and even the king, came to see the man who they thought was dead. They came into the church hut and listened to Apolo read from the Bible. The king snuck to the church hut to see if Apolo was really alive. When he saw he was, he came in the hut, kneeled down, asked forgiveness and received salvation that day.
### Beginning:
Apolo and his guide make the cold and tortuous climb to the top of Mount Ruwenzori so that Apolo could see the land of wild people he has heard about. He feels called to tell the Mboga people who live there about Jesus b/c they have never heard. He travels over river, over mountains, through dark forest, over hills until he get there. King Tabao welcomes him and gives him a little land for a home until Apolo starts to tell the people about Jesus. One woman comes to believe in Jesus, the rest do not. Still, the witchdoctor urges the king to have Apolo killed or else his kingdom ruined will be ruined.

### Middle:
At first the king has men set his hut on fire, but the Lord protected Apolo. Then the king had his prime minister bring Apolo to him for a trial. When Apolo refused to stop telling the people about Jesus, the king had him terribly whipped. Still Apolo wouldn’t leave. When he got well again, he built a little church hut w/ a big drum outside to call people to church to hear about Jesus. Once more the witchdoctor urged the king to kill Apolo. They had a gang of cruel men grab Apolo, beat him and leave him in the tall grasses for a lion to eat him. Then they held a great celebration to celebrate the death of Apolo and his message. The people turned back to worship the evil spirits.

### End:
The woman believer watched what happened. When she found he was still alive, she carried him to an abandoned hut and nursed him back to health for 6 weeks. The woman wanted Apolo to escape to home, but he refused. He wanted to keep telling the Mbogas about Jesus. One Sunday, he began beating the church drum. In amazement the people and even the king, came to see the man who they thought was dead. They came into the church hut and listened to Apolo read from the Bible. The king snuck to the church hut to see if Apolo was really alive. When he saw he was, he came in the hut, kneeled down, asked forgiveness and received salvation that day.
1. Why did Apolo climb Mount Ruwenzori? *To see the land of the wild people he had heard about.*

2. What happened to Apolo when he saw the land of the wild people? *He felt God’s call to tell them about Jesus.*

3. How did King Tabeo treat Apolo at first and why did he change how he treated him? *He welcomed him and generously gave him land to build a hut. When Apolo began to tell the people to turn from their evil spirit worship and turn to Jesus, the king wanted him killed.*

4. How did the king try to get rid of Apolo? *Set his hut on fire, had him whipped and left him to be eaten by lions.*

5. What did the king want Apolo to promise to stop doing? *Stop telling the people about Jesus and stop telling them not to go to war against other tribes.*

6. Why did Apolo say he would not obey King Tabeo? *He was the servant of God and would not stop obeying His command to stay and tell them about Jesus.*

7. Why didn’t Apolo go home when the king and witchdoctor kept trying to kill him? *Because he knew the Lord had called him to keep telling the Mboga people about Jesus so that might be saved.*

8. Why did more people want to come to hear about Jesus after Apolo was whipped? *They couldn’t believe that Apolo still would not leave, even after such terrible punishment. They began to think that his message must be worth listening to, if he was willing to suffer like this to tell it to them.*


10. What did the woman who rescued Apolo want him to do when he got well? Why didn’t he do it? *She wanted him to escape back to his home so he would not be killed. He didn’t do it b/c he still felt the Lord wanted him to stay and keep telling the people about Jesus.*

11. What did Apolo do on the Sunday morning that surprised everyone? *He began beating the church drum and inviting them to church. Everyone was surprised b/c they thought he was dead.*

12. What did the king do when he heard that Apolo was alive? *He snuck down to the church to see for himself. When he saw that it was true, he went into the church and knelt down. He asked for forgiveness and stayed and listened to God’s Word. He became a Christian that day.*

**Big Idea Connections**

What does our story have to do with our Big Idea? *Apolo was sent to tell the Mboga people about Jesus. God planned for His people to come from every tribe, nation and language, even from the Mboga tribe. He used Apolo to bring them this good news for the very first time.*

**Scripture Verse Connections**

What does our story have to do with the Scripture Verse: *Romans 10:13-15*

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

*Apolo knew that someone must go and preach to the Mboga people if they were to call on the name of the Lord and be saved. He walked many difficult miles, then endured much persecution so that the Mboga people might turn to the Lord.*

**Life Application**

1. Are there still places in the world that need to hear about Jesus? *Yes!*
Life Application, continued

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. How are we like the Mboga people? We are sinners who need to confess our sins to God, turn away from them and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

4. Do God’s people today face persecution for telling others about Jesus? Many do not, but many others do.

5. How can we help God’s people who have gone out to tell others about Jesus? We can pray for God to encourage them, protect them, and bring many people to come to be forgiven of their sins and become His people. We can give money to our church to be used for the missionaries to help them in their work. We can encourage them when they come home and visit our church.

The Gospel

What was the good news of Jesus that Apolo risked their lives to tell? 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 Protector and Sustainer of His people. He can help them survive through hard persecution, if it is His good and perfect will.

2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? Confess that we, like the Mboga to trust in Jesus as our Savior. We also can confess that many times we choose not to tell others the good news of Jesus because we are scared of what they might say or do when we tell them.

3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? We can thank God giving His people the strength, love and courage to care for people and tell them about Jesus, even in the hardest of situations.

4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our story? We can ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to confess our sins, turn away from them and trust Jesus as our own Savior. We can ask Him to make us like Apolo: willing to go to even very dangerous places to tell others about Him.

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.
Stepping Stones
Story Review Game

Materials
10 Carpet Squares or Different Colored Construction Paper
Paper and Marker
Masking Tape
Small paper bag or basket
Story Review Discussion & Quiz Questions
Optional: Cassette /CD player and music, Game “Pennies” to differentiate the teams

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.

Tape numbers on the carpet squares or make “squares” out of construction paper. Place the squares in random order on the floor, not more than 2 feet apart. (so that they can jump from stone to stone: see diagram) Write the numbers 1-10 on separate, small pieces of paper and place in bag/basket.

Playing the Game
Divide the children into 2 teams. Tell the children that the players from both Team A and Team B are to jump from “stone to stone” until you call time (You could also play the music and they freeze when the music stops.) At that point, everyone is to freeze on their stepping stone. The leader then draws a number out of the bag/basket and then asks a Story Review question to the child/children on that stone. If he/they answer it correctly, he/they each win 2 points for their team. Play then resumes again.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow. The team with the most points at the end 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.
Big Idea Concept: God’s People Tell Others about Him
Beginning with Adam and Eve, all people have rebelled against God and deserve His just and eternal punishment for their sins. Though sinful people never deserved it, God chose to send His Son Jesus, to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sinful, rebellious way of life and trust in Him for forgiveness. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day showing that He had conquered sin and death for God’s people, once and for all. This is the message we call the gospel. All people need to hear this amazing good news: that they can be saved from their sins and come to know God. It has always been God’s plan for His people to be the spreaders of the gospel (the Greek word we use that means the good news about Jesus’ death for the forgiveness of sins). Jesus commanded His people to go to all peoples—even to the farthest places on earth—and tell this wonderful message. He has planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation, and language on earth. Jesus promises to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, according to God’s plan.

Understanding the Big Idea
1. When did people first begin to rebel against God? *With Adam and Eve, in the beginning.*
2. What do all people deserve for their rebellion against God? *His just and eternal punishment for their sins.*
3. How did God show His mercy, despite our wicked rebellion against Him? *He sent His Son, Jesus to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior.*
4. What did Jesus do on the third day that showed He had conquered sin and death for God’s people, once and for all? *He rose from the dead.*
5. What do we call the good news of salvation through Jesus? *The gospel (it means good news in the Greek, the original language of the New Testament books).*
6. Why do all people need to hear the good news of Jesus? *He is the only way to be saved from the punishment they deserve for their sins and to enter into fellowship with the Lord.*
7. What has always been God’s plan for people to hear about Jesus? *His people would go and tell them about Him.*
8. Why should God’s people go to every part of the world, to every people and tell them about Jesus? *It is Jesus’ command; and, because God has always planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation and language.*
9. What must happen before Jesus comes back? *The gospel preached to every people, according to God’s plan.*

Big Idea Story Connection Questions
How did Apolo fulfill Jesus’ command to tell others about Him? *Apolo knew that the Mboga people needed to hear about Jesus if they were to be saved from their sins. He wanted to be the one to tell them the good news of Jesus that some of them might turn to the Lord and become the first from the tribe and tongue of the Mboga to praise the name of Jesus.*

Scripture Verse Connection
What does our Big Idea have to do with the Scripture Verse: *Romans 10:13-15* 
“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’
*God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.*
**Life Application Questions**

1. How can we use God’s people in our church today to tell others about Him? They can pray that God would show them who in our church does He want to go to tell others about Jesus in faraway places. They can pray for those who have gone to faraway places already. They can pray that God would even give them opportunities, right here at home, to tell others about Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries who have come to live here, make friends with them, love them, and tell them the good news of salvation through Jesus.

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 gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth.*

2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Big Idea?
   *Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.*

3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Big Idea?
   *Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.*

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 from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.*

**Gospel Question**

What is the good news of Jesus that Paul, Barnabas and John Mark shared with the people of Cyprus?

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

**Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time**

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

Materials
Marble
Chairs
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
Have children seated in chairs in a circle, with their heads down and their eyes closed. “It” is in the middle and is holding the marble. He walks around quietly and chooses someone’s lap to drop the marble into. The person who receives the marble jumps up and chases “It” around the circle and tries to tag “It” before “It” gets to the chair and sits down. Either the tagged old “It” or the new “It” gets to choose a question from the bag for the class to answer. Play continues after the question is answered.

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.
Understanding the Scripture

1. What does it mean to “call on the name of the Lord? Confess to God that you are a sinner who deserves His just wrath for your sin and that only by Him saving you (by taking the punishment you deserved when He died upon the cross) can you ever find forgiveness for your sins.

2. Who will be saved? Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord.

3. What do people have to do before they can call on the name of the Lord? Believe.

4. What has to happen for people to believe? Someone must preach to them.

5. What does “preach” mean in this verse? Doesn’t have to be a pastor who tells them about Jesus as he preaches a sermon. It can mean any Christian who tells others the good news of Jesus.

6. How will those who haven’t heard about Jesus hear preaching? Someone must be sent.

7. Who sends people to tell others about Jesus? Jesus and His people gathered together—churches. After Jesus rose from the dead, He commanded those who believed in Him to go into all the world, telling others about Him that they could become His obedient followers (disciples), too.

8. What makes the feet of those who bring good news beautiful? Not that they have good looking feet. It means that they are the ones who are coming with the good news that saves people from their sins. They are coming to rescue them.

9. What is the good news that God’s people bring? 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!

Big Idea Connection

What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.

Story Connection

What does the verse have to do with our story? Apolo knew that someone must go and preach to the Mboga people if they were to call on the name of the Lord and be saved. He walked many difficult miles, then endured much persecution so that the Mboga people might turn to the Lord.

Life Application

1. How can God’s people today take the good news to those who have not heard? They can go to live in the faraway places to tell people there how they can be saved through Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries that move here and tell them how they can be saved through Jesus. They can pray for others who have already gone out to faraway places that God would help them tell others about Jesus. They can pray for people here that God would help them tell these people the good news of Jesus.
Life Application Questions, continued
2. How can we become God’s people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*
3. Who can tell us the good news of Jesus? *People at our churches, our Sunday School teachers, and any other Christians we know would be happy to talk to us about becoming a Christian.*

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? *Praise God for being faithful to His promise to save all who call on His name.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? *That we are all sinners, who need to turn away from our sins and believe in Jesus. That many times we could tell others the good news of Jesus, but choose not to because we are lazy or afraid they won’t want to hear it.*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse? *We can thank God for sending His people to tell others in faraway places about Him.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse? *We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. That He would send out many of His people today to faraway places that all may hear the good news of Jesus, turn from their sins, believe in Jesus and be saved.*

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

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

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Read the Scripture Verse to the Large Group & have your small group ask some of the Scripture verse questions used in discussion time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
Materials
Scripture Verse Sign from the Big Idea Folder
One paper cup for each student
Masking tape
2 or more foam or other soft-surfaced balls

Preparing the Game
Use the masking tape to divide the playing area across the middle.

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
Divide the children into two teams. Give each team member a cup and tell them to spread out over their team's playing area. Each child is to place their cup (in an upright position) about 1/5 feet behind them, so that they are guarding it from the other team. Give a ball to someone on Team A. Play will begin as the player from Team A with the ball rolls the ball across the dividing lien, trying to knock down Team B's cups. Team B students attempt to protect their cup from being hit by blocking the ball with their hands or feet. The number of cups knocked down by Team A are counted and Team A can say the verse for as many points as cups knocked down. All of Team B's cups are then put back in place. Which ever person on Team B caught the ball or is closest to it (or you designate) will then roll the ball back across the line and try to knock down Team A's cups. etc. If no cups are knocked down on a particular turn, then play resumes with the other team rolling the ball.

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.
How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15

How beautiful,
How beautiful,
How beautiful,
We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
But, if we confess our sins,
God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins,
Faithful and just and will forgive our sins,
Faithful and just and will forgive our sins,
And purify us from all unrighteousness.

Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs

Understanding the Scripture

1. What does it mean to “call on the name of the Lord? Confess to God that you are a sinner who deserves His just wrath for your sin and that only by Him saving you (by taking the punishment you deserved when He died upon the cross) can you ever find forgiveness for your sins.

2. Who will be saved? Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord.

3. What do people have to do before they can call on the name of the Lord? Believe.

4. What has to happen for people to believe? Someone must preach to them.

5. What does “preach” mean in this verse? Doesn’t have to be a pastor who tells them about Jesus as he preaches a sermon. It can mean any Christian who tells others the good news of Jesus.

6. How will those who haven’t heard about Jesus hear preaching? Someone must be sent.

7. Who sends people to tell others about Jesus? Jesus and His people gathered together—churches. After Jesus rose from the dead, He commanded those who believed in Him to go into all the world, telling others about Him that they could become His obedient followers (disciples), too. What makes the feet of those who bring good news beautiful? Not that they have good looking feet. It means that they are the ones who are coming with the good news that saves people from their sins. They are coming to rescue them.

8. What is the good news that God’s people bring? 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!

Big Idea Connection

What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.
Story Connection
What does the verse have to do with our story? Apolo knew that someone must go and preach to the Mboga people if they were to call on the name of the Lord and be saved. He walked many difficult miles, then endured much persecution so that the Mboga people might turn to the Lord.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people today take the good news to those who have not heard? They can go to live in the faraway places to tell people there how they can be saved through Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries that move here and tell them how they can be saved through Jesus. They can pray for others who have already gone out to faraway places that God would help them tell others about Jesus. They can pray for people here that God would help them tell these people the good news of Jesus.
2. How can we become God’s people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
3. Who can tell us the good news of Jesus? People at our churches, our Sunday School teachers, and any other Christians we know would be happy to talk to us about becoming a Christian.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? Praise God for being faithful to His promise to save all who call on His name.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? That we are all sinners, who need to turn away from our sins and believe in Jesus. That many times we could tell others the good news of Jesus, but choose not to because we are lazy or afraid they won’t want to hear it.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse? We can thank God for sending His people to tell others in faraway places about Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse? We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. That He would send out many of His people today to faraway places that all may hear the good news of Jesus, turn from their sins, believe in Jesus and be saved.

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

Closing Large Group Time
Sign and sing the song.
**Materials**
Sign language signs used in the song printed out onto little cards
Blindfold

**Preparing the Game**
None.

**Playing the Game**
Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Then tell them: “Children, we are going hide a sign language sign and see if one of you can find it… with a little help from the rest of us!”

Choose someone to be “It” and blindfold them. Choose another child to hide one of the sign language cards. When it’s hidden, “It” can remove the blindfold and begin to look.

The rest of the children will sing the song in a louder voice when “It” gets closer to the hidden sign and quieter when “It” gets further from the sign.

When “It” finds the hidden clue, another “It” is chosen and play begins again.
Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Verse 1
Come ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and pow’r

Refrain:
I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

Understanding the Song
1. What is a sinner? Someone who thinks, says and acts in ways that do not please God.
2. What words describe a sinner? What do they mean? Poor and needy: not that they don’t have money, but that they have no way to “pay” for their sins. Weak and wounded, sick and sore: Not only are their bodies suffer under weakness, wounds, sickness or soreness, but their hearts are weak and hurt from fighting sin. They suffer from sadness and guilt.
3. Who should a sinner come to? Why? Jesus, because He stands ready to save you.
4. How does Jesus receive sinners who come to Him? He is full of pity (sad that you are suffering and desiring to help you), love and power (through His life offered up on the cross).
5. Who is the song writer going to? How will He receive him? Jesus. He will embrace him in His arms.
6. What he mean when he says Jesus will embrace him in His arms? Not that Jesus will really give him a hug, but that He will rejoice that he has come to Him for salvation, and that He loves him tenderly. In heaven, though, Jesus very well WILL really hug him!
7. What does it mean that there are ten thousand charms in the arms of Jesus? A charm is something that delights you. Knowing Jesus’ love and forgiveness, being in His family, are so wonderful that it is like getting ten thousand of the things that delight you most, all rolled up into one. There is nothing as wonderful as knowing and being loved by Him.

Big Idea Connection
How does this song relate to our Big Idea: God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy? Adam and Eve--and all people after them-- suffer the consequences of their sinful rebellion. Everyone is poor and in need of a Savior. Everyone is weak and weary, sick and sore from sin. God, in His great mercy, promised Adam and Eve that one day He would send a Savior to crush Satan. Jesus paid for the sins of all who would ever turn and trust in Him. He welcomes them tenderly to come to Him and know the ten thousand charms of His love.

Story Connection
How does this song relate to today’s story? Today’s story is the story of Apolo telling the good news of salvation to Mboga. He told them that Jesus was standing ready to save them right then, if they will turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.
Scripture Verse Connection
What does this song have to do with our Scripture Verse: Romans 10:13-15

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’

This hymn is a call for all sinners to call on the name of the Lord and be saved. God’s people sing this song to encourage others to hear the good news of salvation through Jesus and be saved.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people be affected by the message of this song? They can praise God who loves sinners who come to Him so much that He delights to embrace them and bless them with ten thousand charms.
2. We are sinners, poor and needy. How can we be saved? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn? Praise God for being the gracious God, full of pity, love and power, to save sinners.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn? Confess that we are weak, wounded, sick and sore, with sin. We deserve God’s punishment. We need a Savior!
3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn? We can thank God for not treating sinners just as their sins deserve, but for standing ready to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. He is so full of pity, love and power!
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse? That God would work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to heal us of the weakness, wounds, sickness and soreness of sin in our lives. We can ask Him for His eternal life.

Gospel Question
Why does God not just judge our sins as we deserve, but stands ready to save us? Because of what Jesus has done! Can you tell me the good news of Jesus?

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 the song printed out onto little cards
Blindfold

Preparing the Game
None.

Playing the Game
Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Then tell them: “Children, we are going to hide a sign language sign and see if one of you can find it… with a little help from the rest of us!”

Choose someone to be “It” and blindfold them. Choose another child to hide one of the sign language cards. When it’s hidden, “It” can remove the blindfold and begin to look.

The rest of the children will sing the song in a louder voice when “It” gets closer to the hidden sign and quieter when “It” gets further from the sign.

When “It” finds the hidden clue, another “It” is chosen and play begins again.
### 1. What Is it? (Presenter 1)

Apolo travelling through river, forests, mountains and hills

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where?</th>
<th>In Africa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who?</td>
<td>Apolo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did What?</td>
<td>travelled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With the Big Idea Object?</td>
<td>Through river, forests, mountains and hills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why?</td>
<td>To reach the Mboga people and tell them the good news of salvation through Jesus.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Tell Others about Him. God calls His people to go into all the world to tell others the good news of Jesus. Sometimes, like in Apolo’s case, it means they have to take a long and hard journey to get to the people God is calling them to tell.

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

Telling other people about Jesus is worth making even great sacrifices for. It is worth taking long, hard journeys or enduring the bad things that others might say or do because of the gospel. God will help all of His people do whatever and go wherever He wants them to.
Apolo Traveling through River, Forests, Mountains and Hills

Description
The children will make a scene of Apolo’s travels through river, forest, mountains and hills using poster board, tissue paper and markers.

Materials
1 piece of 20” x 28” poster board per every TWO children
1 popsicle stick per child
Green tissue paper
Pencils with decent erasers, one per child
Craft glue
Markers, colored pencils or crayons
Glue gun and glue (teacher use only) or strong, clear packing tape

Preparing the Craft
1. Print out Apolo, one per craft. Print out the village huts and people, 1 set per child.
2. Cut poster board in half into two 14” x 20” pieces
3. Cut tissue paper into lots of 2” (approximate) squares.
4. Reproduce the drawings shown in Diagram A onto each piece of poster board.
4. Cut a slot as shown across the longer side of each piece of poster board, about two-thirds the way up the paper. The slot is positioned so that Apolo will “travel” through each section by way of the slot.
4. Make a sample for the children to see.

Making the Craft
1. Show children your sample.
2. Have the children use markers to decorate the sky above the mountains and the river.
3. Have the children use the eraser end of their pencils to scrunch up pieces of tissue paper and then glue them onto the mountain and hill sections of their poster board.
4. Have the children glue the huts and Mdoga people in place as indicated in the diagram.
5. Teacher uses glue gun (or packing tape) to secure Apolo to the top of the popsicle stick.
6. Insert the bottom end of the popsicle stick through the slot. From the back of the poster board, the children can slide Apolo through the scene to the Mdoga’s village.
Decorate this area as sky

Cut along dashed lines to make “trail” for Apolo to travel along

Decorate this area with the tissue paper forests

Color in these hills brown

Put huts and Mboga people here

Color this river

Color this mountain brown
Apolo
Mboga people
salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about our Savior, too.

Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for people from every people on earth.

Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people. I also prayed for you during ACTS time. Here are 4 things related to the Big Idea we prayed for in our ACTS prayer time. Maybe they will be helpful for you to pray, too.

We thought about Romans 10:13-15: "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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 Tell Others about Him. Beginning with Adam and Eve, all people have rebelled against God and deserve His just and eternal punishment for their sins. Though sinful people never deserved it, God chose to send His Son Jesus, to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their rebellious way of life and trust in Him for forgiveness. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day showing that He had conquered sin and death for God's people, once and for all. This is the message we call the gospel. All people need to hear this amazing good news: that they can be saved from their sins and come to know God. It has always been God's plan for His people to be the spreaders of the gospel (the Greek word we use that means the good news about Jesus' death for the forgiveness of sins). Jesus commanded His people to go to all peoples—everyone on the earth—to the farthest places on earth—and tell this wonderful message. He has planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation, and language on earth. Jesus promised to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, according to God's plan.

We thought about Romans 10:13-15: "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Dear ____________________________________

You are a Very Important Prayer Person.

VIPP Prayer Letter Big Idea 71
**Materials**
The VIPP information sheets and Clue Cards for one of VIPPS.
8 Letter sized Envelopes or folders
8 Category Pictures from the Guess Who Box Game (e.g., “What do I do for fun?
What’s my favorite animal?” etc), excluding the picture of the person and their name. These are all found at the end of the listing of VIPP games in this Appendix.
Bean Bag(s), one per child
Tape

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

**Playing the Game**

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

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

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

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

<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>Children arrive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>____</td>
<td>Concept Introduction/Review (The Echo Chamber or Folder Hunt)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Activities for Each of the 3 Weeks Spent on a Big Idea Concept</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><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>Dismiss by group to Small Group Activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

2.______________________________________________________________________

3.______________________________________________________________________

4.______________________________________________________________________

5.______________________________________________________________________

6.______________________________________________________________________

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

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

____________________________________________________________________________

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

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

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

Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt

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

**Resources:**
- All of these resources are found in the Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt Review Resources at the front of this Big Idea
- Echo Chamber Schedule (Echo Chamber Only)
- WoGoLOA Rules
- WoGoLOA Rules Chant
- Unit 12 Big Question/Song
- Unit 12 Scripture Verse/Song
- Big Idea 71 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 71 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

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

**Resources**

**The Reluctant Messenger** *Jonah 1-3*
- Story Outline p.63
- Big Idea Story Cheat Sheet (for story-telling “how-to” tips)
- Props, Costumes and Scenery
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

Can be as simple as the jumbo size goldfish crackers as “fish” with teddy graham “Nebi Yunis” or as complex as a celery “boat” with teddy graham sailors and a toothpick mast with a slice of cheese/ham “sail on it, sailing on a strip of blue food colored cream cheese with a jumbo goldfish cracker “fish” and a teddy graham “Nebi Yunis” floating in it.

ACTS Prayer

A Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every person on earth.

C Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.

T Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.

S Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

Drama

Activities:
Discuss story
Fill in Speaker Sheets
Practice Play

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

Story Review Game: Basketball Toss

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: Circle and Cross

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: Swallowed by a Large Fish

Activities:
Discuss Story
Fill in Presenter Sheets
Make Craft

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

VIPP Clue Cards, VIPP Game: Hot and Cold Hide

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

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

Scripture Verse Game: All Dressed Up

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: How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15**

**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 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: Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy: 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, 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
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

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

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

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

**Hymn**
- Sing Hymn with Sign Language

**Closing Prayer**

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

**Give Out Take Home Sheets**
WEEK 3 LESSON PLAN

Opening Large Group Time

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

Echo Chamber/Folder Hunt

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

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

- Echo Chamber Schedule (Echo Chamber Only)
- WoGoLOA Rules
- WoGoLOA Rules Chant
- Unit 12 Big Question/Song
- Unit 12 Scripture Verse/Song
- Big Idea 71 Concept Sign
- Big Idea 71 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**

*The Reluctant Messenger* *Jonah 1-3*

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

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

*Story-telling Refresher: Introduction pp.23-25 Appendix 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

Can be as simple as the jumbo size goldfish crackers as “fish” with teddy graham “Nebi Yunis” or as complex as a celery “boat” with teddy graham sailors and a toothpick mast with a slice of cheese/ham “sail on it, sailing on a strip of blue food colored cream cheese with a jumbo goldfish cracker “fish” and a teddy graham “Nebi Yunis” floating in it.

ACTS Prayer

A  Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth.

C  Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.

T  Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.

S  Ask God to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.
After snack and discussion time, each group of Kindergarteners take part in one or two activities, as time allows.

**Group 1 Activities**

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

**Group 1, First Activity: Act-It-Out**

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

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

Then, as time allows, followed by...

**Group 1, Second Activity: Big Idea Game**

(Choose Game from Best Kindergarten Games, Appendix G)

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

- **Resources:**
  - Big Idea Discussion Questions Sheet
  - Best Kindergarten Games:: Big Idea Games, Appendix G Kindergarten Group
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

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

Then, as time allows, followed by …
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
On the east bank of the Tigris River, only a stone’s throw from the large Iraqi city of Mosul, lie two great mounds the Iraqis call “Nebi Yunis” and “Kuyunijik.” No one has ever uncovered the secrets of Nebi Yunis. It is named after a man who long ago brought a special message from God to the people and they consider too sacred to be explored. But about 150 years ago they did allow a man named Henry Layard to dig trenches into Kuyunijik…and what did he find? The remains of tall, arched gateways flanked by great, winged stone lions; a long, stately hall leading to an immense, royal palace guarded by gigantic, winged stone bulls; and, ruins of temples to Astar and other idols. Layard had uncovered one of the greatest capitols of the ancient world!

Our story today takes place about 2800 years earlier when Nebi Yunis—the man for whom the first mound was named after—was alive and was proclaiming messages; and, when the ruins of Kuyunijik which Henry Layard uncovered, were in their original, exquisitely beautiful condition.

At that time, Kuyunijik was a bustling city of over 150,000 of some of the fiercest, war-mongering, powerful, and hated people there have ever been—the Assyrians. For years the Assyrian kings had made themselves infamous by invading and conquering the peoples in the nations around them. They lied, they killed, they robbed, and they did whatever it took to gorge themselves on the riches of others. They prided themselves in their unspeakably cruel tortures of the people they captured.

While everyone hated and dreaded the Assyrians, and yearned for their destruction, perhaps the Israelites did more than most. For lately the LORD had been warning them through His prophets that if they did not repent of their sins and turn back to worship Him, He would punish them by sending the Assyrians to destroy their country and wipe them out as a people. And while the Israelites did not obey the prophets’ words but kept rebelling against the LORD, they did keep a watchful eye to the north and east where Kuyunijik and the Assyrians were.

No one was more aware of the danger of the Assyrians than God’s messenger, Nebi Yunis. You see, Nebi Yunis wasn’t a messenger of the Assyrian gods, he was a messenger of the LORD, the true God, the God of the Israelites. And he was one of the few in Israelites who still sought after the LORD. He longed for the Israelites to return to worshipping the LORD; and, that the LORD would not send the Assyrians to punish them.

You can imagine Nebi Yunis’ horror when one day the LORD told him: “Go to the great city of
Kunyinijik and preach against it because of its wickedness."

Oh, no!” thought Nebi Yunis. “There can be only one reason why the LORD would want me to do this: He is gracious and compassionate, full of mercy. He wants the Assyrians to repent of their evil ways and their violence, that they would be spared His punishment.”

Nebi Yunis was right. The LORD is gracious and compassionate. He calls all people to turn from their sins and find mercy from Him. But how can they, if there is no one to bring them the message? The LORD was sending Nebi Yunis to be the one to tell even these terrible Assyrians how they might be spared the punishment they deserved for their evil ways.

“No way! I won’t do it!” Nebi Yunis refused. “I won’t help the Assyrians. I won’t take the LORD’s message to them. I don’t want them spared so that they can destroy Israel. I want them destroyed. I will not go!” So Nebi Yunis completely disobeyed the LORD. “The LORD says go north and east 200 miles to, but I will go south and west to the other end of the world—to Tarshish! I will get as far away from Kuyunijik and the LORD—as I possibly can!” Nebi Yunis plotted.

Nebi Yunis set out for Joppa, a big sea port on the southern coast of Israel. “I’m looking for a ship to take me to Tarshish, the western-most part of the world. I’m running away from my God,” he told the captains, whose ships were docked there, “And I’m looking to pay well whoever will take me.”

It didn’t take long for Nebi Yunis to find a Phoenician merchant ship going out to Tarshish. He paid the captain his hefty fare and settled himself below deck. Lulled by the rhythm of the waves and the sound of the sea, Nebi Yunis peacefully drifted off to a deep sleep, thinking he had gotten away with not telling the message the LORD had given him for the Assyrians.

But Nebi Yunis was wrong. The LORD is gracious and compassionate. He calls all people to turn from their sins and find mercy from Him. But how can they, if there is no one to bring them the message? The LORD was sending Nebi Yunis to be the one to tell even those terrible Assyrians how they might be spared the punishment they deserved for their evil ways; and the LORD would have His way.

So the LORD hurled a great wind on the sea and there was a great storm on the sea so that the ship was about to break up. Then the sailors became afraid and every man cried to his god, and they threw the cargo which was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them.

[When the captain learned that Nebi Yunis was down below asleep, he] approached him and said, "How is it that you are sleeping? Get up, call on your god Perhaps your god will be concerned about us so that we will not perish."

{Still the storm raged on. So} each man said to his mate, "Come, let us cast lots so we may learn on whose account this calamity has struck us " So they cast lots and the lot fell on [Nebi Yunis.]

Then they said to him, "Tell us, now! On whose account has this calamity struck us? What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? From what people are you?"

He said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear the LORD, God of heaven who made the sea and the dry land. [I am fleeing Him and the message He has told me to tell.]

"
Then the men became extremely frightened and they said to him, "How could you do this? What should we do to you that the sea may become calm for us?"--for the sea was becoming increasingly stormy.

[Nebi Yunis told them], "Pick me up and throw me into the sea. Then the sea will become calm for you, for I know that on account of me this great storm has come upon you." However, the men rowed desperately to return to land but they could not, for the sea was becoming even stormier against them.

Then they called on the LORD and said, "We earnestly pray, O LORD, do not let us perish on account of this man's life and do not put innocent blood on us; for You, O LORD, have done as You have pleased." So they picked up Jonah, threw him into the sea, and the sea stopped its raging. (Jonah 1:4-15, NIV)

This was not to be the end of Nebi Yunis, though. The LORD had chosen him to be His messenger to the Assyrians. He would rescue Nebi Yunis in just the right way, and at just the right time from the drowning in the sea. But first, the LORD would even use Nebi Yunis' disobedience to tell these Phoenician sailors about Himself. For when they saw the sea immediately calm down “the men feared the LORD greatly, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made [promises to Him.] (Jonah 1:16-17, NIV).

How LORD is gracious and compassionate! He calls all people to turn from their sins and find mercy from Him. But they would have never known, if there is no one to bring them the message. The LORD used Nebi Yunis to tell the Phoenician sailors about Himself, the true God, that they might worship Him.

Deep in the sea, Nebi Yunis was close to drowning. Surely now he could see how foolish and sinful he had been in trying to run from the LORD. He deserved to die, but the LORD had other plans. He appointed a great fish to rescue Nebi Yunis from watery grave by swallowing him up in a big gulp.

The stomach of a giant sea creature was not exactly the most comfortable place Nebi Yuni had ever been. It was dark and cramped and he shared it with whatever else had been the creature’s catch of the day. To make things worse, the creature’s stomach acid burned his skin terribly. But at this point, Nebi Yunis was thankful just to be alive. He was one of the LORD’s messengers, but he had deliberately disobeyed the LORD’s command to take His message to the Assyrians. Yet the LORD was gracious and compassionate even to Nebi Yunis. He worked repentance in Nebi Yunis’s heart. After three days and nights, he repented of his sin and was ready to obey. He cried out to the LORD: ["I see how wrong I have been. Now I will do what I promised you to do as your messenger. Salvation is from You."]

Then the LORD commanded the fish, and it vomited Nebi Yunis up onto the dry land. (Jonah 2:1-10)

How good that sandy shore must have felt after his harrowing, underwater adventure! How nice it would have been to just rest awhile; but Nebi Yunis had time to do little more than pick fish muck out of his clothes and hair before the LORD once again spoke to Nebi Yunis and said: Arise, go to [Kuyunijik] the great city and proclaim to it the [message] which I am going to tell you." (Jonah 3:2, NIV)

This time when Nebi Yunis heard the LORD’s call to go to the Assyrians, he obeyed and started walking north and east 200 miles to the great city of Kuyunijik. He still did not want to tell them the LORD’s message. He still did not want them to repent and be saved from destruction, but he knew what he must obey the LORD. After a month of walking through dry, desert country, Nebi Yunis finally reached the
outsskirts of Kuyunijik.

What strange glances he would have gotten from passerby stared at Nebi Yuni’s normally dark skin and hair, now bleached an unearthly white from soaking in the sea creature’s stomach acid for three days! The Assyrians, too, were certain to pay attention to the message of such a strange-looking man as he traveled throughout their great city, taking three days to go from city gate to city gate, and temple to temple—all the important meeting places in the city—that all might hear his message. Each time he preached the same message to the Assyrians: “Forty more days and Kuyunijik will be overturned. This is the LORD’s warning to you,” Nebi Yunis told them.

The people stared at this Israelite foreigner with strange, bleached-white skin and hair. They heard his stern message of the LORD’s coming judgment for their evil ways. What would they think: the mutterings of a crazy man…or the words of God?

The Assyrians heard the message and believed. Then the people of Nineveh believed in God; and they called a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least of them.

When the word reached the king of Kuyunijik, he arose from his throne, laid aside his robe from him, covered himself with sackcloth and sat on the ashes. He issued a proclamation and it said, "In Kuyunijik by the decree of the king and his nobles: Do not let man, beast, herd, or flock taste a thing. Do not let them eat or drink water. But both man and beast must be covered with sackcloth; and let men call on God earnestly that each may turn from his wicked way and from the violence which is in his hands. Who knows, God may turn and relent and withdraw His burning anger so that we will not perish." When God saw their deeds, that they turned from their wicked way, then God relented concerning the calamity which He had declared He would bring upon them. And He did not do it. (Jonah 3:5-10, NIV)

It was just as Nebi Yunis had thought! The LORD would once more be gracious and compassionate. He was calling these people to turn from their sins and find mercy from Him. The LORD had sent Nebi Yunis to be the one to tell even those terrible Assyrians how they might be spared the punishment they deserved for their evil ways and now it had happened just as He planned.

Our Big Idea is: God’s People Tell Others about Him
Our Scripture Verse is: Romans 10:13-15

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

Did our story today sound familiar to you, except for some of the names? Did you figure out that Kuyunijik is the Iraqi name for Nineveh, and that Nebi Yunis is the Iraqi name for the prophet Jonah?
Can you imagine how difficult it would have been for Jonah to have to bring that message to his people’s hated enemies the Assyrians of Nineveh? They were such wicked people who worshipped Astar and other terrible idols instead of the LORD. Worst of all, now they had repented and found mercy from the LORD, they would be used by Him to one day bring destruction on Jonah’s very own people, the Israelites. It is no wonder that Jonah was displeased that the Assyrians repented and were spared!

Nebi Yunis—Jonah—never did rejoice in the LORD’s mercy shown to the Assyrians. To the very end, he remained upset at what the LORD did for them. The LORD rebuked him for his unmercifulness. How much greater He is in his compassions than any of us!

And what about you and me? God has graciously sent messengers to tell us to repent of our sins, too. Why even today, I am here to give this message to you! And this is a far greater message than what Assyrians heard for unlike Nebi Yunis’s message, it is not a message to repent so some great city might be spared destruction. It is an even greater display of God’s graciousness and compassion than that! For the LORD promises to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, to forgive all their sins, fill them with His Holy Spirit and give them new hearts that love Him and long to serve Him. They will enjoy the beginnings of sweet fellowship with Him right here on earth, and then know all the richness of full fellowship with Him, when they see Him face to face in heaven forever.

But there is more, isn’t there? God given us a message to tell others, too? Yes, He has. Like Nebi Yunis—Jonah—the message is a warning of God’s judgment for sin that is coming one day upon all people, for all people have sinned and deserve God’s just, eternal punishment. Yet perhaps like Nebi Yunis there are times when we do not want to tell the message God has given us. Perhaps our problem isn’t that we don’t want people saved from God’s just punishment—like Nebi Yunis struggled with. Perhaps it is that we are scared at how people will treat us if they don’t like the good news of Jesus. Maybe we worry that they will make fun of us or not want to be our friends…or even hurt us.

Whatever reasons there might be to not want to tell others, we can ask God to help us to tell others His good news anyway. Why? Because it is the most important message that anyone will ever hear. And it is a matter of eternal life or death!

Let’s praise God for being so gracious and compassionate to sinful people that He wants them to turn away from their sins and be saved. Let’s ask Him us turn away from our sins, ourselves. Let’s ask Him to help us to never be to tell others about Him, that they might be saved, too.
1. Everyone feared the Assyrians for their fierce and wicked ways, especially the Israelites. The LORD promised to use them to destroy the Israelites if they did not repent and turn back to worship Him. They did not repent, but they did keep a close eye on the Assyrians.

2. The LORD told the Israelite prophet, Nebi Yunis to go to Kuyunijik, to warn the Assyrians that He was about to punish them for their wicked ways.

3. Nebi Yunis did not want to warn them for he thought the LORD might not punish them if they repented. He went the completely opposite direction and tried to flee the LORD.

4. He found a ship that would take him to Tarshish, the western-most point of the world. He settled down and went to sleep below deck.

5. The LORD sent a great storm and the sailors called out to their gods to save them. The captain found Nebi Yunis asleep and awakened him to call upon the LORD. When the storm kept raging, they cast lots to see whose fault it was. Nebi Yunis was found to be at fault.

6. Nebi Yunis explains his God is the Lord who rules over earth and sea and he was running from him. They must throw him over board if they want the storm to end.

7. At first they tried to get back to shore and save Nebi Yunis, but the storm just got worse. At last they asked God to have mercy on them and threw Nebi Yunis overboard.

8. As soon as he was overboard, the storm stopped. The Phoenician sailors worshiped the LORD and made promises to Him, seeing Him stop the storm and save their lives.

9. The LORD sent a giant fish to rescue Nebi Yunis by swallowing him. After three days in the fish’s stomach, Nebi Yunis repented of his disobedience and cried out to the LORD. He was ready to obey the LORD.

10. The fish spat him out on shore. The LORD told Nebi Yunis to go to Kuyunijik and he went.

11. After a month’s journey, Nebi Yunis came to Kuyunijik. He went to the city gates and the temples, warning everyone that the LORD was going to destroy them and their city in 40 days.

12. Just as Nebi Yunis had feared, everyone heard the LORD’s message, and all of the Assyrians— from the king to the lowest slave— repented in ashes and sackcloth. Even the animals had to wear sackcloth! The LORD saw their repentance and had mercy upon them.
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 2800 years ago
Where? In Kuyunijik
What’s Great city with gigantic, arched gateways flanked by great, winged stone lions; a long, stately hall leading to an immense, royal palace guarded by gigantic, winged stone bulls; and, temples to Astar and other idols
It Like? boats, captains, sailors, fish, beaches, bleached skin & hair, sackcloth & ashes, Assyrian King, animals

2. Who’s in It? (Speaker 5)
Nebi Yunis
Assyrians
Israelites
Boat
Captain
Sailors
Fish
Beach
Bleached skin & hair
Sackcloth & ashes
Assyrian King
Animals

3. What about the Big Idea? (Speaker 6)
Today’s Big Idea is God’s People Tell Others about Him. The LORD called Nebi Yunis to warn them about His coming judgment upon them for their wicked ways that they might repent.

4. What do we call it? (Speaker 1)
Our Story is called: The God Who Is Merciful to All People

5. What’s it About? (Leader’s Narration Guide)
Beginning:
Everyone feared the Assyrians for their fierce and wicked ways, especially the Israelites. The LORD promised to use them to destroy the Israelites if they did not repent and turn back to worship Him. They did not repent, but they did keep a close eye on the Assyrians. The LORD told the Israelite prophet, Nebi Yunis to go to Kuyunijik, to warn the Assyrians that He was about to punish them for their wicked ways. Nebi Yunis did not want to warn them for he thought the LORD might not punish them if they repented. He went the completely opposite direction and tried to flee the LORD. He found a ship that would take him to Tarshish, the western-most point of the world. He settled down and went to sleep below deck.

Middle:
The LORD sent a great storm and the sailors called out to their gods to save them. The captain found Nebi Yunis asleep and awakened him to call upon the LORD. When the storm kept raging, they cast lots to see whose fault it was. Nebi Yunis was found to be at fault. Nebi Yunis explains his God is the Lord who rules over earth and sea and he was running from him. They must throw him over board if they want the storm to end. At first they tried to get back to shore and save Nebi Yunis, but the storm just got worse. At last they asked God to have mercy on them and threw Nebi Yunis overboard. As soon as he was overboard, the storm stopped. The Phoenician sailors worshiped the LORD and made promises to Him, seeing Him stop the storm and save their lives.

End:
The LORD sent a giant fish to rescue Nebi Yunis by swallowing him. After three days in the fish’s stomach, Nebi Yunis repented of his disobedience and cried out to the LORD. He was ready to obey the LORD. The fish spat him out on shore. The LORD told Nebi Yunis to go to Kuyunijik and he went. After a month’s journey, Nebi Yunis came to Kuyunijik. He went to the city gates and the temples, warning everyone that the LORD was going to destroy them and their city in 40 days. Just as Nebi Yunis had feared, everyone heard the LORD’s message, and all of the Assyrians— from the king to the lowest slave— repented in ashes and sackcloth. Even the animals had to wear sackcloth! The LORD saw their repentance and had mercy upon them.
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The LORD sent a great storm and the sailors called out to their gods to save them. The captain found Nebi Yunis asleep and awakened him to call upon the LORD. When the storm kept raging, they cast lots to see whose fault it was. Nebi Yunis was found to be at fault. Nebi Yunis explains his God is the Lord who rules over earth and sea and he was running from him. They must throw him over board if they want the storm to end. At first they tried to get back to shore and save Nebi Yunis, but the storm just got worse. At last they asked God to have mercy on them and threw Nebi Yunis overboard. As soon as he was overboard, the storm stopped. The Phoenician sailors worshiped the LORD and made promises to Him, seeing Him stop the storm and save their lives.

End:
The LORD sent a giant fish to rescue Nebi Yunis by swallowing him. After three days in the fish’s stomach, Nebi Yunis repented of his disobedience and cried out to the LORD. He was ready to obey the LORD. The fish spat him out on shore. The LORD told Nebi Yunis to go to Kuyunijik and he went. After a month’s journey, Nebi Yunis came to Kuyunijik. He went to the city gates and the temples, warning everyone that the LORD was going to destroy them and their city in 40 days. Just as Nebi Yunis had feared, everyone heard the LORD’s message, and all of the Assyrians— from the king to the lowest slave— repented in ashes and sackcloth. Even the animals had to wear sackcloth! The LORD saw their repentance and had mercy upon them.
1. Why did everyone hate the Assyrians? They were fierce, greedy, and merciless.
2. Why did the Israelites especially dread the Assyrians? B/c the LORD had warned them through His prophets that He would use them to destroy them & their country, if they did not repent.
3. Why did Nebi Yunis not want to take the LORD’s message to the Assyrians? He knew the LORD was gracious and compassionate. If the Assyrians repented, He might very well forgive them. Nebi Yunis wanted the Assyrians destroyed.
4. What did Nebi Yunis do to avoid obeying the LORD? He fled in the opposite direction as K and hoped he could run away from Him.
5. Where did Nebi Yunis ask the Phoenician sailors to take him? Why there? Tarshish. It was thought to be the western-most part of the world—as far away from Kuyunijik as he could get.
6. What did the LORD do to stop Nebi Yunis? He send a raging storm on the sea.
7. What did Nebi Yunis tell the sailors about the storm? How were they to stop it? He told them that the LORD was God of everything on land and sea. He had sent the storm b/c Nebi Yunis has refused to obey Him. They were to throw him overboard to stop the storm.
8. How did the LORD use Nebi Yunis’ disobedience to tell the sailors about Himself? When they saw how the storm stopped as soon as Nebi Yuni was thrown overboard, they believed what Nebi Yunis had said about Him, worshiped Him with sacrifices and promises.
9. How did the LORD show mercy on Nebi Yunis? He could have let him drown and send another messenger to the Assyrians; but instead, He had a big fish swallow him and helped him to come to repentance for disobeying Him.
10. What did Nebi Yunis do after three days and nights in the fish’s stomach? He repented.
11. What would have been strange about Nebi Yunis’ appearance when he went to Kuyunijik? Bleached skin & hair from the fish’s stomach acid.
12. What was the LORD’s message to the Assyrians? He would destroy them and their city in 40 days for their wickedness.
13. Where did Nebi Yunis preach the LORD’s message? Why? In the city gates and at the temples b/c these were the major meeting places where many people would hear the message.
14. How did the Assyrians respond to the LORD’s message? They all repented in sackcloth and ashes—from the king to the lowest ranking citizen. They even put sackcloth on their animals.

Big Idea Connections
What does our story have to do with our Big Idea? The LORD gave Nebi Yunis a special message to take to the Assyrians of coming judgment upon their city and people for their sins, that they might repent and be spared. The LORD gives His people today a special message to take to all peoples of coming eternal judgment for their sins, that they might be spared by repenting and trusting in Jesus for forgiveness. Then they can enjoy wonderful fellowship w/ God forever.

Scripture Verse Connections
What does our story have to do with the Scripture Verse: Romans 10:13-15
“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”
The LORD sent Nebi Yunis to preach His message of coming judgment upon the Assyrians for their wickedness. Nebi Yunis did not want to go, because he knew that if the Assyrians heard the message they might repent and find mercy from the LORD.
Life Application
1. What is the message that God’s people bring to us and all people today? To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.
2. Can you think of someone who has not yet heard this message of eternal life through Jesus? How could you or others bring this good news to this person?

The Gospel
Like the people of Nineveh we are sinners who deserve God’s punishment. How did we become sinners? What do we deserve His punishment? What is the great message that He has given us to spare us from His eternal punishment? 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 so Merciful to sinful people.
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? Confess that we, like the people of Nineveh and even like Jonah, are sinners who choose to live life our own way rather than follow God’s good ways. We deserve His punishment! We need a Savior!
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? We can thank God for being so patient with His stubborn people, like He was with Jonah.
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 God to work like this in the hearts of others, too.

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.
**Basketball Toss**  
Story Review Game

**Materials**  
Small basketball or other ball  
3 (or 4) baskets  
Paper and Marker  
Masking Tape  
Story Review Discussion and 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.

Use tape to mark a free throw line. On the paper make three point values, (starting with 2 points and going up), one for each basket, and tape them to the corresponding basket. Set out the baskets with the one worth least points, the closest to the free throw line. The one worth the most points, set the farthest out. With younger children, make sure to set one basket so close in that they are almost guaranteed to get a basket. If desired, use the extra 4th basket to make a long bomb basket that is almost unreachable, but worth a lot of points.

**Playing the Game**  
Divide the children into teams. Teams will take turns having one of their members make a shoot. Each child gets 3 tries. The highest point value being what the question will be worth. Then ask the child a Story Review question. If he gets it right, then he earns those points for his team. If the person is unable to answer the question correctly, the other team can try to answer it for half the point values. If a child does not make a basket, he can still answer a question for 1 point.

Game continues until all children get to try to make a basket, or as number of questions, time, and attention span allow. The team with the most points at the end 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.
Big Idea Concept: God’s People Tell Others about Him

Beginning with Adam and Eve, all people have rebelled against God and deserve His just and eternal punishment for their sins. Though sinful people never deserved it, God chose to send His Son Jesus, to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sinful, rebellious way of life and trust in Him for forgiveness. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day showing that He had conquered sin and death for God’s people, once and for all. This is the message we call the gospel. All people need to hear this amazing good news: that they can be saved from their sins and come to know God. It has always been God’s plan for His people to be the spreaders of the gospel (the Greek word we use that means the good news about Jesus’ death for the forgiveness of sins). Jesus commanded His people to go to all peoples—even to the farthest places on earth—and tell this wonderful message. He has planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation, and language on earth. Jesus promises to come back after the gospel has been taken to every people on earth, according to God’s plan.

Understanding the Big Idea

1. When did people first begin to rebel against God? With Adam and Eve, in the beginning.
2. What do all people deserve for their rebellion against God? His just and eternal punishment for their sins.
3. How did God show His mercy, despite our wicked rebellion against Him? He sent His Son, Jesus to die on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior.
4. What did Jesus do on the third day that showed He had conquered sin and death for God’s people, once and for all? He rose from the dead.
5. What do we call the good news of salvation through Jesus? The gospel (it means good news in the Greek, the original language of the New Testament books.)
6. Why do all people need to hear the good news of Jesus? He is the only way to be saved from the punishment they deserve for their sins and to enter into fellowship with the Lord.
7. What has always been God’s plan for people to hear about Jesus? His people would go and tell them about Him.
8. Why should God’s people go to every part of the world, to every people and tell them about Jesus? It is Jesus’ command; and, because God has always planned for His people to include people from every tribe, nation and language.
9. What must happen before Jesus comes back? The gospel preached to every people, according to God’s plan.

Big Idea Story Connection Questions

Why did Nebi Yunis not want to obey the LORD and tell the Assyrians about Him? Nebi Yunis, like the rest of the Israelites, hated the Assyrians. He knew that if he brought the LORD’s message of coming judgment of the Assyrians for their wickedness that they might repent of their sins and be shown mercy. Nebi Yunis did not want them to receive this mercy. He wanted them destroyed for their wickedness and so that the LORD would not use them to discipline unrepentant Israel for their own wickedness. The LORD rebuked Nebi Yunis for his unmerciful attitude.

Scripture Verse Connection

What does our Big Idea have to do with the Scripture Verse: Romans 10:13-15

“‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”

God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.
Life Application Questions
1. How can we use God’s people in our church today to tell others about Him? They can pray that God would show them who in our church does He want to go to tell others about Jesus in faraway places. They can pray for those who have gone to faraway places already. They can pray that God would even give them, opportunities, right here at home, to tell others about Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries who have come to live here, make friends with them, love them, and tell them the good news of salvation through Jesus.
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 gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful people from every people on earth.*
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Big Idea?
   *Confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could. Confess that we are sinners who need to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, too.*
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Big Idea?
   *Thank God for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus. Thank Him for choosing to use His people to tell others this best of news.*
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 from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Ask Him to help His people to bravely tell the peoples of the world about salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.*

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

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Have your small group ask some of the questions used in their discussion and game as their quiz questions for Closing Large Group Time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
Materials
Beanbags, 1 per child
Masking Tape
Big Idea Discussion & Quiz Questions

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

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

Tape a circle about 2’ in diameter on the floor. Tape a large X in the middle of it.

Mark one team’s set of beanbags with a small piece of masking tape or other distinguishing mark.

Playing the Game
Divide the children into two teams, giving the members of each team a beanbag of the same color or marking. Have all the children stand outside of the circle, about 6’ back. At your signal, have the children toss their beanbags into the circle, trying to make them land on the taped X. Count up the beanbags for each team that landed on it. That’s how many points their quiz question is worth. Choose a question for each team from the bag/bowl. If a team gets it wrong, the question goes to the other team for 1 point, if they can get the correct answer. Gather up the beanbags and continue play.

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.
Understanding the Scripture

1. What does it mean to “call on the name of the Lord? Confess to God that you are a sinner who deserves His just wrath for your sin and that only by Him saving you (by taking the punishment you deserved when He died upon the cross) can you ever find forgiveness for your sins.

2. Who will be saved? Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord.

3. What do people have to do before they can call on the name of the Lord? Believe.

4. What has to happen for people to believe? Someone must preach to them.

5. What does “preach” mean in this verse? Doesn’t have to be a pastor who tells them about Jesus as he preaches a sermon. It can mean any Christian who tells others the good news of Jesus.

6. How will those who haven’t heard about Jesus hear preaching? Someone must be sent.

7. Who sends people to tell others about Jesus? Jesus and His people gathered together—churches. After Jesus rose from the dead, He commanded those who believed in Him to go into all the world, telling others about Him that they could become His obedient followers (disciples), too. What makes the feet of those who bring good news beautiful? Not that they have good looking feet. It means that they are the ones who are coming with the good news that saves people from their sins. They are coming to rescue them.

8. What is the good news that God’s people bring? 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!

Big Idea Connection

What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.

Story Connection

What does the verse have to do with our story? The LORD sent Nebi Yunis to preach His message of coming judgment upon the Assyrians for their wickedness. Nebi Yunis did not want to go, because he knew that if the Assyrians heard the message they might repent and find mercy from the LORD.

Life Application

1. How can Gods people today take the good news to those who have not heard? They can go to live in the faraway places to tell people there how they can be saved through Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries that move here and tell them how they can be saved through Jesus. They can pray for others who have already gone out to faraway places that God would help them tell others about Jesus. They can pray for people here that God would help them tell these people the good news of Jesus.
Life Application Questions, continued
2. How can we become God’s people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
3. Who can tell us the good news of Jesus? People at our churches, our Sunday School teachers, and any other Christians we know would be happy to talk to us about becoming a Christian.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? Praise God for being faithful to His promise to save all who call on His name.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? That we are all sinners, who need to turn away from our sins and believe in Jesus. That many times we could tell others the good news of Jesus, but choose not to because we are lazy or afraid they won’t want to hear it.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse?
   We can thank God for sending His people to tell others in faraway places about Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
   We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. That He would send out many of His people today to faraway places that all may hear the good news of Jesus, turn from their sins, believe in Jesus and be saved.

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

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

Choosing Quiz Question for Closing Large Group Time
Read the Scripture Verse to the Large Group & have your small group ask some of the Scripture verse questions used in discussion time. Or, if time allows, have the children make up their own.
Materials
Scripture Verse Sign from the Big Idea Folder
Various items of clothing (shirts, hats, shoes, gloves, coats, pants, dresses, etc.), about 10 per team
two baskets or boxes
masking tape

Preparing the Game
Put the clothing items for each team in a basket/box and place at far end of relay area. Mark the starting line with masking tape.

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
Divide the children into two teams and have them line up behind the starting line. Explain to them that they will run down to the leader at the other end of the relay area, recite the verse to him and then pick out a piece of clothing to put on. After getting it on, they are to run back to their team and sit down at the back. The next player then goes. This is repeated until all team members are dressed. The team is then to stand up, grab hands and chant the verse together. The first team to do so, wins.

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.
How Beautiful: Romans 10:13-15

How beautiful,
How beautiful,
How beautiful,
We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
But, if we confess our sins,
God is faithful and just and will forgive our sins,
Faithful and just and will forgive our sins,
Faithful and just and will forgive our sins,
And purify us from all unrighteousness.

Praise Factory Hymns and Scripture Songs CDs

Understanding the Scripture
1. What does it mean to “call on the name of the Lord? Confess to God that you are a sinner who deserves His just wrath for your sin and that only by Him saving you (by taking the punishment you deserved when He died upon the cross) can you ever find forgiveness for your sins.
2. Who will be saved? Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord.
3. What do people have to do before they can call on the name of the Lord? Believe.
4. What has to happen for people to believe? Someone must preach to them.
5. What does “preach” mean in this verse? Doesn’t have to be a pastor who tells them about Jesus as he preaches a sermon. It can mean any Christian who tells others the good news of Jesus.
6. How will those who haven’t heard about Jesus hear preaching? Someone must be sent.
7. Who sends people to tell others about Jesus? Jesus and His people gathered together—churches. After Jesus rose from the dead, He commanded those who believed in Him to go into all the world, telling others about Him that they could become His obedient followers (disciples), too. But we see in our story today that the Holy Spirit guides churches to pray for & sent out their very own to tell others about Jesus.
8. What makes the feet of those who bring good news beautiful? Not that they have good looking feet. It means that they are the ones who are coming with the good news that saves people from their sins. They are coming to rescue them.
9. What is the good news that God’s people bring? 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!

Big Idea Connection
What does the verse have to do with our Big Idea? God has chosen for others to hear the good news of salvation by sending His people to tell others about Him. They must go, if others are to hear.
Story Connection
What does the verse have to do with our story? The LORD sent Nebi Yunis to preach His message of coming judgment upon the Assyrians for their wickedness. Nebi Yunis did not want to go, because he knew that if the Assyrians heard the message they might repent and find mercy from the LORD.

Life Application
1. How can Gods people today take the good news to those who have not heard? They can go to live in the faraway places to tell people there how they can be saved through Jesus. They can get to know people from other countries that move here and tell them how they can be saved through Jesus. They can pray for others who have already gone out to faraway places that God would help them tell others about Jesus. They can pray for people here that God would help them tell these people the good news of Jesus.
2. How can we become God’s people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.
3. Who can tell us the good news of Jesus? People at our churches, our Sunday School teachers, and any other Christians we know would be happy to talk to us about becoming a Christian.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this Scripture Verse? Praise God for being faithful to His promise to save all who call on His name.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this Scripture Verse? That we are all sinners, who need to turn away from our sins and believe in Jesus. That many times we could tell others the good news of Jesus, but choose not to because we are lazy or afraid they won’t want to hear it.
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Scripture Verse? We can thank God for sending His people to tell others in faraway places about Him.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse? We can ask God to work in our hearts that we would want to confess our sins, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior. That He would send out many of His people today to faraway places that all may hear the good news of Jesus, turn from their sins, believe in Jesus and be saved.

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

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

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

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

NOTE: You might want to sing the song after you do each word.
Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Verse 1
Come ye sinners, poor and needy,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
Full of pity, love, and pow’r.

Refrain:
I will arise and go to Jesus,
He will embrace me in His arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.

Understanding the Song
1. What is a sinner? Someone who thinks, says and acts in ways that do not please God.
2. What words describe a sinner? Poor and needy: not that they don’t have money, but that they have no way to “pay” for their sins. Weak and wounded, sick and sore: Not only are their bodies suffer under weakness, wounds, sickness or soreness, but their hearts are weak and hurt from fighting sin. They suffer from sadness and guilt.
3. Who should a sinner come to? Why? Jesus, because He stands ready to save you.
4. How does Jesus receive sinners who come to Him? He is full of pity (sad that you are suffering and desiring to help you), love and power (through His life offered up on the cross).
5. Who is the song writer going to? How will He receive him? Jesus. He will embrace him in His arms.
6. What does the song writer mean when he says Jesus will embrace him in His arms? Not that Jesus will really give him a hug, but that He will rejoice that he has come to Him for salvation, and that He loves him tenderly. In heaven, though, Jesus very well WILL really hug him!
7. What does it mean that there are ten thousand charms in the arms of Jesus? A charm is something that delights you. Knowing Jesus’ love and forgiveness, being in His family, are so wonderful that it is like getting ten thousand of the things that delight you most, all rolled up into one. There is nothing as wonderful as knowing and being loved by Him.

Big Idea Connection
How does this song relate to our Big Idea: God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy? Adam and Eve—and all people after them—suffer the consequences of their sinful rebellion. Everyone is poor and in need of a Savior. Everyone is weak and weary, sick and sore from sin. God, in His great mercy, promised Adam and Eve that one day He would send a Savior to crush Satan. Jesus paid for the sins of all who would ever turn and trust in Him. He welcomes them tenderly to come to Him and know the ten thousand charms of His love.

Story Connection
How does this song relate to today’s story? Today’s story is a story of one of God’s people—Nebi Yunis—telling the sinful people of Kuyunijik that they could save their city from destruction if they repented of their sins. This song is about God’s people telling sinful people of an even greater salvation they can have: salvation through faith in Jesus when they turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.
Scripture Verse Connection
What does this song have to do with our Scripture Verse: Romans 10:13-15
“‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’”
This hymn is a call for all sinners to call on the name of the Lord and be saved. God’s people sing this song to encourage others to hear the good news of salvation through Jesus and be saved.

Life Application
1. How can God’s people be affected by the message of this song? They can praise God who loves sinners who come to Him so much that He delights to embrace them and bless them with ten thousand charms.
2. We are sinners, poor and needy. How can we be saved? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.

ACTS Questions
1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?
Praise God for being the gracious God, full of pity, love and power, to save sinners.
2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?
Confess that we are weak, wounded, sick and sore, with sin. We deserve God’s punishment. We need a Savior!
3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?
We can thank God for not treating sinners just as their sins deserve, but for standing ready to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. He is so full of pity, love and power!
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Scripture Verse?
That God would work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to heal us of the weakness, wounds, sickness and soreness of sin in our lives. We can ask Him for His eternal life.

Gospel Question
Why does God not just judge our sins as we deserve, but stands ready to save us? Because of what Jesus has done! Can you tell me the good news of Jesus?
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!
**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.
1. What Is it? (Presenter 1)
Swallowed by a Large Fish

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where?</th>
<th>In the sea,</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who?</td>
<td>The LORD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Did</td>
<td>Saved Nebi Yunis’ life by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What?</td>
<td>Having him be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With the Big Idea Object?</td>
<td>Swallowed by a large fish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why?</td>
<td>Because He planned for Nebi Yunis to go tell the people of Kuyunijik to repent of their sins that their city might be spared.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. What Does It Have to Do with the Big Idea? (Presenter 3)
Our Big Idea is: God’s People Tell Others about Him. Nebi Yunis did not want to obey the LORD and tell the people of Kuyunijik to repent of their sins, but the LORD still had plans for him to give them His message. He used the storm and the big fish to help Nebi Yunis to repent, so that he would tell the people of Kuyunijik to repent!

4. What Can It Help Us Remember? (Presenter 4)
God wants His people to obey Him, even when they don’t want to. He is merciful to them when they disobey, but He disciplines them, too, to help them obey Him.
Description
The children will make a large fish out of a water bottle and put Nebi Yunis in it: one side regular skin colored, the other side bleached white.

Materials
Templates of Nebi Yunis and fish parts
White Cardstock
1 16 oz water bottle per craft
1 yard of blue yard per craft
1 long skewer per craft
Markers and/or colored pencils
Scissors
Glue sticks
Tape

Preparing the Craft
1. Print out all the templates on cardstock. Cut out at least the tail fins and the dorsal fin for the children. Be careful in cutting out the dorsal fin to cut on the dashed line in the middle of the fin to give this part of the fin a little more stability.
2. Lay the two tail fin pieces on top of each other and tape together along what will be the top and bottom of the fin. (See template)
3. Cut yarn into lots of 3” or 4” strands.

Making the Craft (See diagram on next page for assembly tips)
1. Show children your sample.
2. Have the children color in the fish. Then, color in Nebi Yuni completely on one side. On the other side, leave his skin and hair white, for bleached effect. Fold him along dashed line, making a front and back.
3. Rub plenty of glue to the back side of Nebi Yuni and then stick him onto the pointed end of the skewer, folding over and firmly pressing the glue down to get him to stay in place. You also can reinforce with tape if you desire. You may need to help the youngest children with this step, too.
4. Have the children stuff yarn strands into the inside of the bottle as well as the fish they decorated (but not Nebi Yunis).
5. Have the children decorate their fish parts with markers, etc.
6. Using tape, tape the fins in place as follows: (You will need to help the younger children do this and maybe quite a few of the older children, too). You can tape the fins on while they work on their “Nebi Yunis”)
   - Set bottle horizontal to the ground:
     - Tail fin: Tape each shorter straight part to the sides of the lower part of the water bottle so that they make vertical fins (one tip points up and one point faces down.) If desired, you can tape the ends of the fins together to merge into 1 big fin.
     - Side fins: Tape fins in place so that they are on each side of the middle of the water bottle, with the larger end of the paper being the part attached to the fish body and the skinnier part being the the tip of each fin.
     - Dorsal fin: Fold along middle. This folded section makes the tip of this fin. Attach the ends opposite the fold to the top of the bottle. Make sure that the curve in the fin points backwards.
   - Use a glue stick to glue the eyes to each side of the front of the fish (the section closest to the opening on the bottle).
8. Show the children how they can stick in Nebi Yunis regular skin side up, then pull him out bleached side up.

Swallowed by a Large Fish
Put in Nebi Yunis: regular side up

Pull out Nebi Yunis: bleached side up

Tape fin along this bottom edge after decorating

Tape fins along these edges after decorating

Fold line

Blue yarn insides
Nebi Yunis
Cut out around edges of rectangle box
Pairs of side fins 1 set per craft needed
Dorsal fin 1 needed per craft
Fold along middle
Make sure to cut along dashed line in the middle!
Tail fins 1 set of 2 needed

Tape fins together along these top edges

Tape fins together along these bottom edges
Fish eyes
salvation through Jesus. Ask God to bring many people to know and love Him.

As we think about the Good News, let’s consider how we can help others to
"become believers. God’s plan for His people includes people from every tribe,
language, nation, and people on earth. Jesus commanded His people to go to all
peoples—even to the farthest places on earth—and tell this wonderful message.

"We thought about Romans 10:13–15 ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the
Lord will be saved.’ How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in?
And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can
they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they preach
unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who
bring good news!’"

Praise God for being so gracious and compassionate that He chose to save sinful
people from every people on earth.

You are a Very Important Prayer Person!

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

Dear______________________________________________

You are a Very Important Prayer Person!
**Materials**
The VIPP information sheets and Clue Cards for a VIPP type (such as two deacons, elders, etc)
8 Letter sized Envelopes or folders
8 Category Pictures from the Guess Who Box Game (e.g., "What do I do for fun? What's my favorite animal?" etc), excluding the picture of the person and their name. These are all found at the end of the listing of VIPP games in this Appendix.

Blindfold

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

**Playing the Game**

*Reveal, then Review Version:*

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

**Review:** Choose one child to be “The Finder” and cover his eyes with the blindfold. Choose one of the envelopes/folders. Choose another child to be “The Hider”. This child will hide the envelope/folder somewhere in the room. When the clue is hidden, the Finder takes off his blindfold and begins to look for the envelope/folder. The other children say “hot, cold, etc” as the child gets closer or further from the envelope/folder to help the child find it. When the folder is found, open it up and ask the children if they remember the answer to the category question for the day’s VIPP.

*Get Clues, Then Guess Version:*

**Get Clues:** Choose one child to be “The Finder” and cover his eyes with the blindfold. Choose one of the envelopes/folders. Choose another child to be “The Hider”. This child will hide the envelope/folder somewhere in the room. When the clue is hidden, the Finder takes off his blindfold and begins to look for the envelope/folder. The other children say “hot, cold, etc” as the child gets closer or further from the envelope/folder to help the child find it. When the folder is found, open it up and show the children the corresponding clip art clue for category question.

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