

BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION

We're in... Unit 12: God's People Live for Him

Unit 12 Big Question and Answer and Song:

"How Should God's People Live?

They Should Live Like Jesus!" *PFI NIV Songs 12, Tracks 3,4*

Unit 12 Bible Verse and Song: Ephesians 5:1-2

"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."

PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 5

BIBLE TRUTH

We're learning... Bible Truth 2:

God's People Love Him with All of Themselves

God calls His people to love Him with all their heart, mind, soul and strength-- and, oh, they want to do this! Why wouldn't they? Didn't God love them before they loved Him? Didn't He freely give His own Son as the sacrifice for their sins? And doesn't He promise to always love them and do what is best for them? Why wouldn't they want to love God most of all, in everything they do?

But loving God and living for Him is not something God's people will ever do perfectly here on earth. Yes, their sins have all been forgiven by God and they will be God's people forever, but they still struggle with sin. Their hearts are still tempted to love other things. Their lives show that they still want to live for themselves. It will be this way until they go to live with God in heaven. There, God will make them perfect; and at last, they will live and love perfectly.

Until then, God's Holy Spirit lives in their hearts and helps them love God more and more. He grows love in their hearts for God and His good ways. He works in their minds to understand God better and to delight in His ways. He gives them strength to act out their love for God and fulfill His good plans in all that they do.

God's people are grateful to God for helping them live for Him now, but they look forward to the day when they go to heaven and will truly love Him with all of themselves.

BIBLE VERSE

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 6:4-5

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD our God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength."

CASE STORY

Our story is called:

The Case of the Lively-Learning Lad.

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

1. Who was the Lively-Learning Lad? How was he lively in his learning?
2. Who did he use his learning for later? What did he want to use it to do?

This story is not in the Bible. It is a true story about William Carey, one of God's people, who grew up in the little village of Paulerspury, England in the 1760's.

Paulerspury was a wonderful place for a boy like William Carey to grow up. He loved nature and the hills, woods and streams around the little village gave William lots to discover. He learned names of all the plants. He scrambled into holes looking for wild animals and insects. He crept up trees after birds. And when he found something, he often it back to his room—alive! He watched them, drew pictures of them, and wrote down what he learned about them.

When William loved something, he tried to love it with all his heart, mind, soul and strength. And when he set his mind to do something, he was determined to do it. One time there was a bird's nest high up a tall chestnut tree that William really wanted. Three times William climbed up the tree to grab it, and three times he fell all the way to the ground without it. And the third time he fell, he broke his leg!

William's leg was bandaged and he was sent to bed for a long time. But even a broken leg wasn't enough to stop William. "I've just got to get that nest!" William thought. So he sneaked out of bed and up that tree again --broken leg and all—and got the nest!

William's mother couldn't believe her eyes when she saw that nest. "William, you don't mean to tell me that you climbed that tree again!" she exclaimed.

"But mother, I just had to get it," When I begin a thing I must go through with it!" William replied.

William was a very quick learner. He did really well in school, especially in learning foreign languages. One day, he decided to learn French. He bought a French book and learned it all in just three weeks!

When he was seventeen and began to learn how to be a cobbler—a man who makes shoes by hand. Soon, he

became best at this, too. The cobbler he worked for even kept a pair of shoes William made to show everyone what a perfect pair of shoes should look. These were just a few of the things William was good at! There seemed to be nothing that William couldn't learn and do better than everyone else!

But there was something that William couldn't do well. It was knowing and loving the Lord. He had never heard the good news of Jesus. And, to make matters worse, he was so full of pride in himself that there was little room for loving God.

But God, in His great mercy, had other plans for William and that heart of his. Another young man named John Warr came to learn to be a cobbler along side William. John knew and loved the God. He shared the good news of Jesus with William.

At first William's proud heart refused to believe. But the Lord kept on working inside him, helping him to confess his pride and trust in Jesus as his Savior.

When William loved something, he tried to love it with all his heart, mind, soul and strength and that how he began to try to love God. "What can I do to know and love God better?" William thought as he worked on shoes. "I can learn the whole Bible; I can even learn to read it in Hebrew and Greek, the languages that it was first written in. That's what I will do!"

And so he did. William studied hard to learn the Bible as well as Hebrew and Greek. He shared what he learned his cobbler boss and all shoe customers so they could also know and love God more.

This made William happy, but soon even this wasn't enough. William wanted to do more to love God and help others love Him, too.

"It is not enough to just be a cobbler and help others learn about God in little bits here and there," William decided. "I want to be a preacher so I can study God's Word and help others love God all the time."

So William became a preacher; and, just as he hoped, many began to come to his little church and their lives were changed as they heard the Word of God.

But even being a preacher in England didn't satisfy William. "It's not enough to just preach to people here in England," he decided. "There are lots of other good preachers here to teach people how to know and love God. But there are millions of people in other parts of the

world who live and die without ever hearing about Jesus. They need to know and love Him, too. Jesus told us to go into all the world and tell them about Him. Isn't that command for me, too?" William thought.

So William gathered a group of men and women to pray and think about how to reach all those other peoples who didn't know about Jesus, especially the people in India.

"We want you, your family and your friend Dr. Thomas to go to India, William" the others told him. "We will send you out with our prayers and with money."

William, his family and Dr. Thomas agreed. They set sail and five months later arrived in Calcutta, India. As they walked the streets of the huge city, they were so upset with what they saw. There were so many starving people! There were so many idols! And oh, some of the terrible things people thought they needed to do to please these gods! Some men thought they should lay on beds of nails, walk on fiery hot coals, or at the sun until they lost their sight for these gods. Some people even threw their babies into the Ganges River as sacrifices, hoping that all these things would please them. Still others believed women should be put to death with their dead husbands to go serve them in the next world.

Oh, how these people needed to hear about the Lord, the one, true God, and of the salvation He offered them through Jesus! Oh, how they needed a Bible in their languages so they could learn about Him, themselves!

"This is horrible! Something must be done! What can we do to help them?" William and the others exclaimed.

William loved God with all his heart, mind, soul, and strength. He would use everything God had given him to help these people live better lives and to bring them the good news of Jesus, so they might know and love God, too.

So William used all he learned about nature to teach the Indian people to grow better crops. He built a paper factory to make paper, and a printing company to print books—especially Bibles. He used all his mind to learn forty different languages of India and write the Bible so that people could read it in their own language.

Before William died, more than 200,000 Bible had been printed and given out to the people. He built schools so that the people could learn how to read and be able to read the Bible on their own. He helped set up the first trains in India so that people could travel all over India and tell others about Jesus more easily. He even helped pass

laws to stop babies being sacrificed to idols and women being put to death along with their dead husbands.

William Carey loved God with all his heart, mind, soul, and strength and shared that love with the people of India forty-one years. Because of him, many, many people came to hear about this wonderful God of William's and turned to know and love Him, themselves.

Our Bible Truth is:

God's People Love Him with All of Themselves

Our Bible Verse is: Deuteronomy 6:4-5

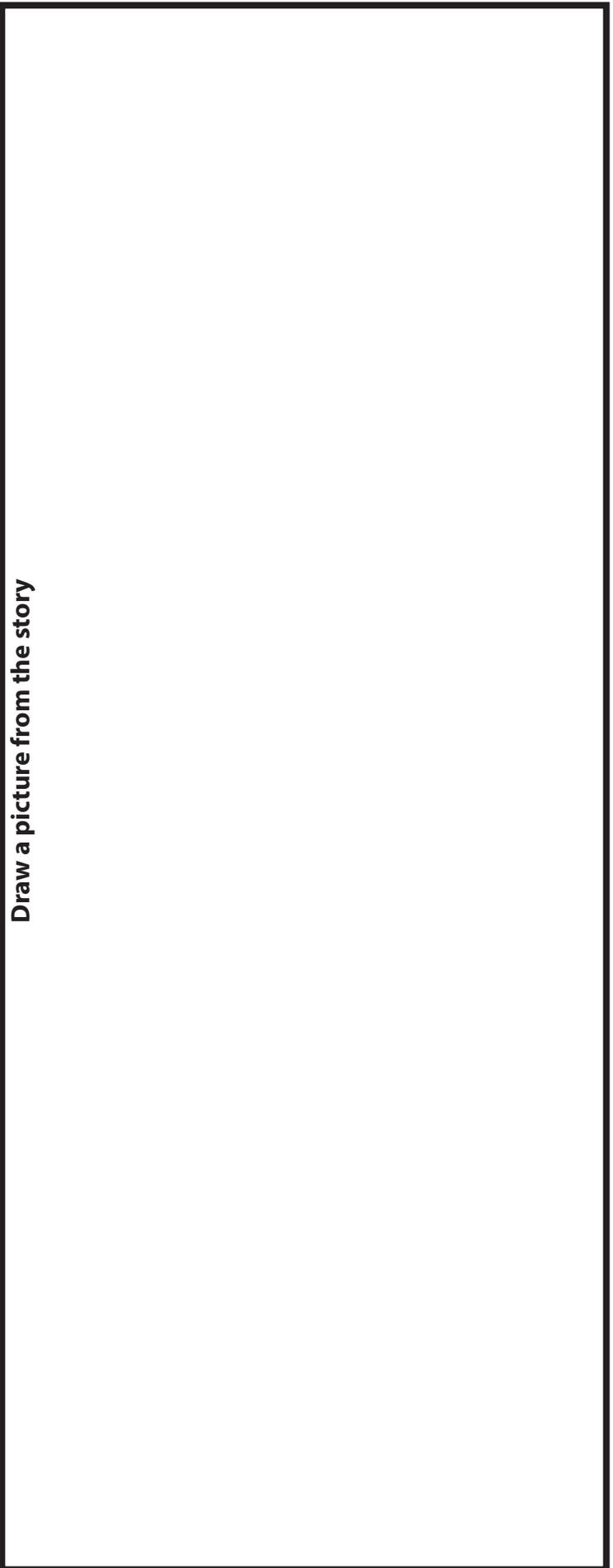
"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

William Carey tried to love God with all of himself. He understood what an incredible gift God gave His people by giving up His Son as the sacrifice to pay for their sins. He wanted to use his whole life to love the Lord and say thank you for what He had done.

William Carey is most famous for saying, "Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God." That means, have faith in our powerful God to do mighty things and show your love for God by trying to do great things for Him.

What about you and me? What can we do to know and love God more? What can we do to help others know and love God more? Perhaps we are not as smart or able to do so many things as William Carey was. But, if we think each day about loving God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength like William Carey did, the Lord will use us to do the great things He has planned for us to do. Let's praise this great God who is worthy of all our love. Let's ask Him to work in our hearts and help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Let's ask Him to help us love Him with all of ourselves and even to attempt great things for Him.

Draw a picture from the story



| SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU |
|---|
| <p>1. A Question about the Bible Truth, True or False: It's very easy for God's people to love God with all their heart, mind, soul and strength. He's forgiven their sins. There's nothing left get in the way. <i>Answer: False! Yes. He has forgiven their sins, but they are still sinners. The temptation to sin is still very strong. They need the Holy Spirit to help them to love God most of all.</i></p> <p>2. Crack the Case Questions a. Who was the Lively-Learning Lad? How was he lively in his learning? <i>Answer: William Carey. He was a very quick learner. He loved to learn about everything, especially animals and languages.</i> b. Who did he use his learning for later? What did he want to use it to do? <i>Answer: William later used his gifts as a quick learner for the Lord's work. He wanted to love the Lord with everything he did. He learned the Bible, languages and many other things. He went to India and used all his gifts to love God. He told the people about Jesus. He wrote down the Bible in their language. He helped do good things for the people that would make their lives better and give them more chances to turn to Jesus to be saved.</i></p> <p>3. Fill in the missing words from the Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 6:4-5 "Hear, O ____: The LORD our God, the LORD is _____. Love the LORD our God with all your ____ and with all your soul and with all your _____." <i>Answers: Israel; one; heart; strength.</i></p> |

| BIBLE TRUTH HYMN |
|---|
| <p>When I Survey the Wondrous Cross <i>PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 8</i></p> <p>Verse 4</p> <p>Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.</p> <p>Words: Isaac Watts Music: Lowell Mason</p> <p>God's people want to love God most of all. They want everything that they are and they have to be a gift of love back to Him. Even if the whole realm of nature--that is, the whole world--was theirs to have and to give, it would be too small a gift of love to give back to Him for all He has done for them. He loved them while they were still sinners. He loved them enough to send His own dear Son to suffer and die for their sins. Nothing less than their soul, their life, their all, is a big enough present to offer back to Him in thanks!</p> |

| AN ACTS PRAYER FROM OUR STORY |
|---|
| <p><i>A=Adoration, C=Confession, T=Thanksgiving, S=Supplication</i></p> <p>A God, we praise You for being the Changer of Your people's hearts so that they are filled with love for You and want to give their whole lives to serve You, even in very hard places.</p> <p>C God, we confess that even though we have heard the good news of Jesus, we often to do seek to love You with all of ourselves like William Carey did.</p> <p>T God, we thank You for Your Holy Spirit that You put in Your people's hearts to give them love for You.</p> <p>S God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Fill our hearts with Your Holy Spirit, that we might love You with all of ourselves.</p> |

| BIBLE VERSE SONG |
|--|
| <p>Hear, O Hear <i>PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 9</i></p> <p>Hear, O hear, O Israel, Hear, O hear, O Israel, The LORD your God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD our God with all your heart, Love the LORD our God with all your soul, Love the LORD our God with all your strength. Deuteronomy Six, verses four through five.</p> <p>Words adapted from Deuteronomy 6:4-5 Constance Dever © 2011</p> <p>These verses tell us that the LORD is one--He's the one, true God. Moses first spoke these words to the people of Israel, but they are true for all who want to be God's people. He wants His people to love Him with their heart, soul and strength--that means all of themselves.</p> |