



**Unit 6 Prontos--NIV**  
**God, the Just and Merciful**

Constance Dever ©2015



Curriculum for preschool and elementary age children,  
training tools, music and other resources  
are available for download or to order at:  
[www.praisefactory.org](http://www.praisefactory.org)

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## The PFI Companion Resources

While all the PFI resources are available for free download at [praisefactory.org](http://praisefactory.org), many of the resources are available for purchase as hard copies, too.

There are three companion resources for each of the sixteen PFI units:

### **PFI Core Curriculum Book (ESV/NIV) --offered for each unit**

The PFI Core Curriculum book contains the curriculum introduction, the lesson plans, stories and the activities for each Bible Truth in a unit. There are three stories and resources per Bible Truth: an Old Testament, New Testament and church history/missions story. All three reinforce the key Bible truth concept.

### **PFI Song Book (ESV/NIV) --offered for each unit**

The PFI Unit Song Book provides lead sheets and sign language for every song used in the unit. The audio music is available online for free download.

### **➔ PFI Prontos (ESV/NIV) --offered for each unit**

The PFI Prontos book provides all of the unit's take home sheets. They are offered separately from the rest of the curriculum because they are usually photo-copied. These take-home sheets include the key concepts, lyrics to the songs, the session story, some review questions, a prayer and an activity sheet.

All of these materials may be photocopied for non-commercial church, classroom or school use by licensed users.

## About the PFI Prontos

The PFI Prontos are the take-home devotionals for each session of PFI.

They include the Bible Truth, its related Bible verse, the lyrics and meaning blurb for the hymn and Bible verse song, three quiz questions, a prayer and two activity sheets for every story in the curriculum.

While the Prontos are designed as a reinforcement tool for parents to use with their children after session, the resources are so substantial as to be used as a curriculum by themselves. Additional activities can be downloaded online with each Bible truth.

## Other Praise Factory Resources

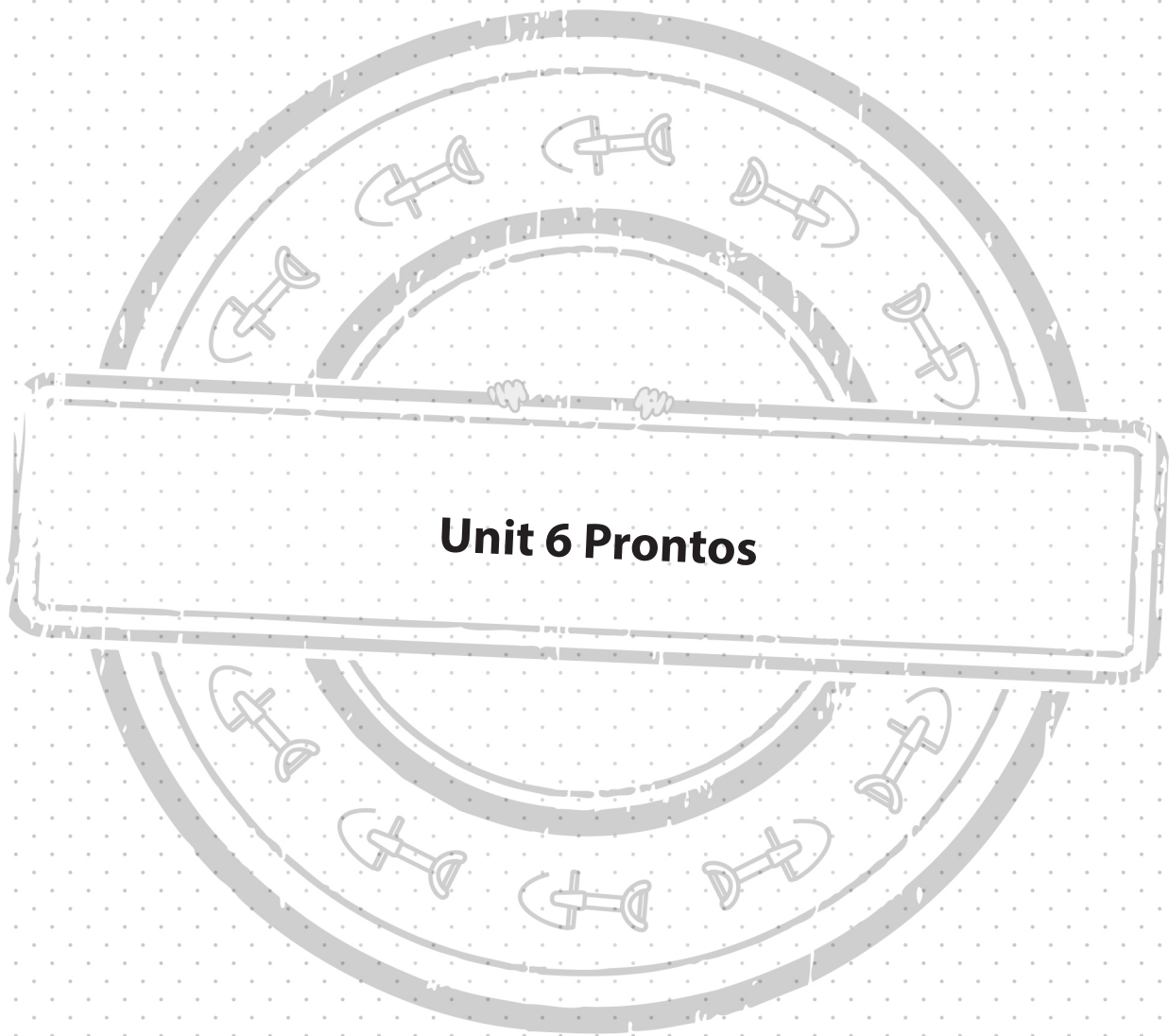
PFI: Praise Factory Investigators is the third in a family of three, inter-related curriculums:

- Hide 'n' Seek Kids (focus group: ages 2-4; adaptable range: ages 2-pre-K 5's)
- Deep Down Detectives (focus group: ages 4--6's; adaptable range: ages 3-2nd grade)
- PFI: (focus group: grades K-5th grade; adaptable range: pre-K 5's-6th grade)

Each curriculum teaches the same biblical themes, but are presented in greater depth as the children grow and develop. Together, the curriculums work like an expanding spiral of truth that returns to reinforce the same truths with each curriculum, yet leading the children to deeper understanding with each step up.

Learn more about these curriculums as well as other resources and ideas for reaching children with the gospel at: [www.praisefactory.org](http://www.praisefactory.org).





**Unit 6 Prontos**





**BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION***We're in... Unit 6: God, the Just and Merciful***Unit 6 Big Question and Answer and Song:**

"How Did Bad Things Come to God's Good World?"  
Bad Things Came Through Sin!"

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Tracks 3,4***Unit 6 Bible Verse and Song:** Romans 5:12

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned."

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 5***BIBLE TRUTH***We're learning... Bible Truth 1:***Angels and People Rebelled Against God in the Beginning**

God made the world perfectly good, but it did not stay that way. In heaven, a mighty angel named Satan led a rebellion of angels against God. Nothing sinful can ever remain in God's holy presence. These rebellious angels, called demons, were cast out of heaven and thrown into hell.

Satan continued his rebellion against God by tempting Adam and Eve to rebel against God, too. Their disobedience brought sin and death into the perfect world God created.

There are many things we cannot understand about Satan, evil and sin, or why God allowed them. However, we do know that God is perfectly good, powerful and wise. His ways are perfect and are so much more than our small minds can understand.

God hates sin and will do away with it. He sent Jesus to break the power of sin and death for all who trust in Him as their Savior. And one day Jesus will return again to rid the world of sin and death, Satan and his demons forever. What a wonderful day that will be!

**BIBLE VERSE***How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!***Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse: 1 John 3:8**

"He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work."

**CASE STORY**

Genesis 3:1-9; Jude 6:2; 2 Peter 2:4

**Our story is called:****The Case of the Great Rebellion.****As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

1. Who was first to rebel in the Great Rebellion? What happened to him and what will happen to him?
2. Who did that first rebel tempt to rebel also? What happened to them and who promised to rescue them?

Our story today takes place thousands of years ago at the beginning of time.

"It is very good," the LORD proclaimed at the end of Day Six of Creation. God delighted in all He had made. Everything was just as He planned it to be. In heaven, thousands upon thousands of mighty angels worshiped Him in His splendor and stood ready to do His bidding. On earth, there were countless creatures enjoying life in the new world: from wriggling, little worms to jumping monkeys and lumbering giraffes. Best of all, were the humans God had created. They were the crown of His creation. To them alone, He had given a spirit to know and love Him. He placed them in their special home--the Garden of Eden where they enjoyed wonderful fellowship with Him and each other.

In the garden, God provided for their every need. He had even placed there two very special trees: the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil and the Tree of Life. The first tree was a tree whose fruit God told them never to eat. By obeying this command, they glorified God by showing their complete satisfaction in Him and trust in His good plans for them. The second tree was a tree of eternal life. To eat it would mean to continue to be fully satisfied in wonderful fellowship with God and His abundant blessings, forever and ever. Yes, the LORD's creation was very good. Everything in heaven and earth lived in perfect happiness and peace.

But the perfect happiness and peace of creation were not to last. Sometime, somehow, after that first wonderful week, something changed. Now, there are many good changes that God made a part of His creation. Day changed to night; plants sprouted up and bloomed; animals grew and had babies. But this one change was a change that was not good. Matter of fact, it was the worst change of all, for it was not a change that came from God, but from a mighty angel, who would come to be known as Satan.

Something in Satan's spirit darkened. He became dissatisfied. No longer was he content with the position

**CASE STORY**

God has assigned him. No longer did he want to worship God and serve Him. He wanted to be worshiped and served himself!

Satan wasn't alone. Other angels joined him and together they rebelled against God's reign in Heaven. Satan defied God and fought His holy angels; but of course, this was nothing but foolishness. How could any mere creature ever think he could match the LORD? Heaven and earth are always, completely controlled by His infinite power and goodness. Satan and his hordes had not even the least hope of a victory. They were defeated and cast out of God's holy presence. They were stripped of the name "angel" and called "demons." They were thrown into the gloomy pits of Hell—a place where there is no goodness, no love, no hope, no light, because, of course, it is a place completely without God. With eternal chains they were forced to dwell there until the Great Day of Judgment at the end of time, when they will receive their final, everlasting punishment.

Restrained, but not powerless, Satan planned how he could dishonor the LORD's name and destroy His creation. Why didn't God send Satan and these fallen angels to their final punishment right then? God hasn't told us. He has left that as one of the great mysteries of His plan for creation that we must trust to His perfect wisdom and goodness. So, for reasons that only our great, good God only understands, God choose to let Satan plan and act, but only as something He would weave into His perfect plan for creation.

Filled with hate, armed with cleverness and lies, Satan set out for earth. Just as he had led the rebellion among the angelic spirits in heaven, now he planned how he might tempt the only earth creatures God had given a spirit to know and love Him—humans-- to rebel against God, too.

Satan schemed how to best tempt Adam and Eve to become dissatisfied with God, too. They might be suspicious, if he spoke directly to them, he must have decided. After all, he would be a stranger to the Garden. No, he would use someone familiar, one of God's own creatures, so they would not suspect anything. Satan decided upon the serpent. He was the shrewdest of all the wild animals God created. The serpent's cleverness would serve his sneaky plan well. Satan planned to speak through the serpent that he might lure Adam and Eve into sin.

Taking the serpent into his service, Satan approached innocent and unsuspecting Adam and Eve as they enjoyed the perfect happiness of the Paradise God had given them.

this garden?" the serpent asked Eve.

"No! No!" Eve explained the serpent. "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die!'"

Ah, this was just what he wanted her to say. "Now for the lie," Satan thought. He said to Eve: "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil!"

Eve listened what the serpent said, then she eyed the fruit of the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil with curiosity and wonder. How luscious it looked. She knew it would taste juicy and delicious. And just to think! If they ate it, they would become something greater than what God had made them!

Eve began to think of the differences between God and themselves, no longer with honor and worship, but with discontent and envy. Suddenly all that God had given them wasn't good enough. His laws seemed unfair. He was withholding something good from them by forbidding them to eat this fruit. Eve was dissatisfied with God and His ways. Why shouldn't they be wise like God, too?

Eve reached out and plucked a piece of ripe fruit from the tree. She brought it to her mouth and ate it. She gave some to Adam and he ate it, too.

The taste of the fruit had hardly left their mouth, when the change came; but, it was not the change they hoped for. They had not become wise like God. They had not become better. No! They had become worse. Their perfect happiness and peace were gone. Guilt and unhappiness flooded into their hearts.

They looked at each other and saw something they did not want each other or the LORD to see. They covered themselves in fig leaves—the biggest leaves they could find—and hide themselves among the plants in the Garden of Eden, hoping the LORD would not find them. He had been perfectly good and wise to command them not to eat the fruit. Oh, if only they had been satisfied in Him and His ways! Now, their wonderful lives were ruined!

Satan watched as Adam and Eve felt pain and sin for the first time in their lives--and he was thrilled. His temptations had worked! God's precious creation was spoiled! The humans God had made to enjoy close fellowship with Him had been torn away from Him by their sin. Satan delighted to think that God's own holiness required that God, Himself must punish His beloved people for their sins with

something very, very dreadful: death--eternal separation of people from God and everything good! Perhaps he was not able to overthrow God's reign in heaven, Satan thought, but at least he had ruined God's good creation on earth.

Satan rejoiced in his victory that day when Adam and Eve rebelled against God; but we know that his triumph would be short-lived. God's plans for His creation were good and unfailing. He had even woven a way for the sins of His people to be punished, yet not leave His people to die in their sins. How? He, Himself, would come save them! He, Himself, would bear their punishment. Yes! He would send His very own Son, Jesus, to come as a man to live a perfect life and offer it up on the cross as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as Savior. Jesus would bring great glory to God and He would bring God's people back into close fellowship with God forever. Once more, they would get to know the wonderful satisfaction of knowing God and obeying His good ways. How amazing is our God!

**Our Bible Truth is:**

**Angels and People Rebelled Against God in the Beginning**

**Our Bible Verse is: 1 John 3:8**

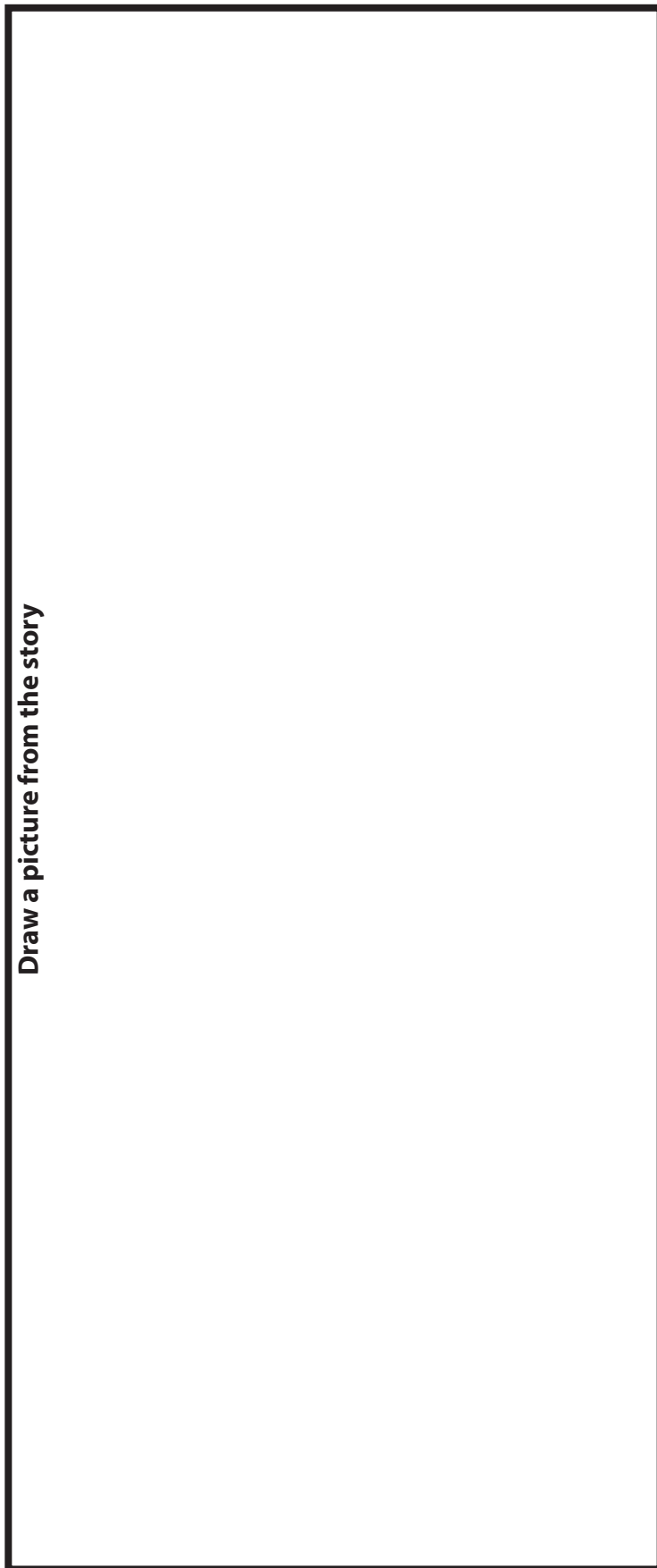
"He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work."

What about you and me? Have you ever thought about what you would have done, if you had been Adam or Eve? Perhaps you think that you wouldn't have been tempted by Satan's tricks. Look into your heart and see what you find. Are you ever discontent with the life God has given you? Do you ever envy others for what they have or get to do? Do you ever choose to forget one of God's good laws when there is something you can get if you would break one?

The truth is, all of us find Satan's temptations so delightful. We are all more like Adam and Eve than we would like to think. Adam and Eve's hearts became sinful when they chose to disobey God. Sadly, as their children, we are all born with sinful hearts. We all deserve God's punishment. But God gave Adam and Eve hope. And He gives us hope, too. God sent His Son Jesus to live a perfect life and offer it up on the cross as the perfect payment for the sins of all those who would ever turn from their sins

and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. If we do this, God will forgive our sins and save us! How merciful is the LORD towards sinners, like us!

Draw a picture from the story



SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU	BIBLE TRUTH HYMN
<p><b>1. A Question about the Bible Truth, True or False:</b>                      God made the world perfectly good, but it did not stay that way.                      Answer: True!</p> <p><b>2. Crack the Case Questions</b>  <b>a. Who was first to rebel in the Great Rebellion? What happened to him and what will happen to him?</b>                      The mighty angel, Satan (and other angels with him.) He was cast out of heaven and allowed limited power. God will completely destroy Satan's works and will put him away to be punished forever when Jesus comes back.  <b>b. Who did that first rebel tempt to rebel also? What happened to them and who promised to rescue them?</b>                      Adam and Eve, the first people. When lost their perfect fellowship with God and brought sin and death into the world. God gave the first of many promises to send a Savior to defeat Satan and to save all who would turn away from their sins and trust in Him to save them.</p> <p><b>3. Fill in the missing words from the Bible Verse:</b>  <b>1 John 3:8</b>                      "He who does what is ___ is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the ___ The reason the Son of God ___ was to destroy the devil's work."                      Answers: sinful; beginning; appeared.</p>	<p><b>This Is My Father's World</b>  <i>PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 7</i>  <b>Verse 3</b>                      This is my Father's world,                      O let me ne'er forget,                      That though the wrong                      Seems oft so strong,                      God is the Ruler yet.                      This is my Father's world.                      The battle is not done.                      Jesus who died shall be satisfied,                      And earth and heaven be one.</p> <p>Words: Malthie Babcock Music: Franklin L. Sheppard</p> <p>The wrong in this world that often seems so strong is sin. It came into the world when Adam and Eve believed Satan's tempting lies and rebelled against God. Oh, what terrible suffering and death into God's perfect creation that day! Yet, God is still the ruler of the world, not Satan. He will fight and win over Satan, sin and death! God sent Jesus, just as He promised, to break the power of sin and death, when He died on the cross. And at the end of time, Jesus will come back and bring an end to Satan, his demons and all that is evil, once and for all. God is the Ruler yet. God's people take joy in this. They know that God, their heavenly Father, will do all that He has promised to do.</p>
AN ACTS PRAYER FROM OUR STORY	BIBLE VERSE SONG
<p><i>A=Adoration, C=Confession, T=Thanksgiving, S=Supplication</i></p> <p><b>A</b> God, we praise You for hating sin, yet being so merciful to sinners, promising them a Savior.</p> <p><b>C</b> God, we confess that many times we sin when we are tempted, just like Adam and Eve. We, too, deserve Your punishment! We, too, need a Savior!</p> <p><b>T</b> God, we thank You for sending Jesus to save Your people, at just the right time, just as You promised.</p> <p><b>S</b> God, we ask that You would work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to say 'no' to temptation and choose to obey You. Make our hearts satisfied with what You know is best and choose to give us.</p>	<p><b>He Who Does What Is Sinful</b>  <i>PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 8</i>                      He who does what is sinful is of the devil,                      because the devil has been sinning from the beginning.  <i>But wait! There's good news!</i>                      But the reason the Son of God appeared,                      Was to destroy, destroy the devil's work,                      But the reason the Son of God appeared,                      Was to destroy, destroy the devil's work.                      (And He did it!) First John Three, verse eight.                      Words: 1 John 3:8 Music: Constance Dever ©2011</p> <p>Satan was the first to sin. He was sinning from the beginning of creation. Adam and Eve became "of the devil" when they chose to rebel against God. They no longer wanted to keep on loving and pleasing God. But oh, how wonderful that God sent His Son Jesus! Jesus was the Savior who came to rescue sinners from God's punishment that they deserved. Jesus destroyed the devil's work, when He suffered and died on the cross, then rose on the third day in victory! Now all who repent of their sins and trust in Him will be saved.</p>

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**CASE STORY****Our story is called:****The Case of the Rotten Wretch.****As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

1. Who was the rotten wretch? What was so rotten about him?
2. How did he change from being a wretch?

This story doesn't take place in Bible times. It starts out around 1730 in Warring, England.

Not far from the docks of the River Thames, where the great merchant ships unloaded their rich cargo from around the world, there lived a young mother named Elizabeth Newton and her only child, John. Anyone could see from looking at her that Elizabeth was sick. Her weak, thin body and terrible, cough pointed to one thing: consumption—or tuberculosis, as we call it today. There was no cure for it back then. It was only a matter of time until she would die.

Little John was only six years old, but he could see was happening to his mother's body. But there was something else about her that he noticed, too: love, peace and joy. He knew she loved God with all her heart—and, that she wanted him to love God, too. She was determined to fill his little mind and heart with as much about God as she could, before she died.

While just a baby, Elizabeth began to sing hymns to John. When he was three, she taught him to read the Bible. She gave him Bible verses and the godly sayings that Isaac Watts had written for children to memorize: Sayings like: 'Good children must, Fear God all day; Love Christ always; Parents, obey, In secret, pray; No false thing say; mind; little play; By no sin stray; make no delay, in doing good.' John was a quick learner and Elizabeth a persistent teacher. Soon many of these sayings and verses were planted in his mind.

Of all the things Elizabeth wanted to make sure John knew before she died, she wanted him to know the gospel most of all. "We are all sinners in need of a Savior, John," she had told him. Back in the beginning, Adam and Eve knew perfect fellowship with God. They knew God and loved Him and obeyed Him. But Satan led some of the angels to rebel against God; then, he tempted Adam and Eve to rebel against God, too. Adam and Eve broke fellowship with God and chose to do things their own way, instead. They deserved death—God's punishment for sin. But God is so rich in mercy, so amazing in grace that He sent His

**CASE STORY****P.2**

that He sent His Son Jesus to defeat Satan and pay for the sins of all who would turn from their sins and trust Him as their Savior," she told him.

"John, like Adam and Eve, we have also rebelled against God," she said. "But also like them, He has not left us without hope. God calls each of us to make: a choice to keep living a life in rebellion against Him; or, to turn from our sins, trust in Jesus and be forgiven. We can be God's dearly loved people!"

"John, I pray that you will choose to trust in Jesus and grow up one day to encourage others to choose Him, too," she urged him.

Day after day, Elizabeth kept teaching her little son, until at last her weak body gave out and she died-- just two weeks before little John's seventh birthday.

How terrible it must have been for John to lose his dear mother at such a young age! But how much worse it was for John, since his father--a sea captain--was thousands of miles away in the Mediterranean Sea, loading his merchant ship with spices, cloth, and tea. And he would not be home for months!

Even when his father did get home, life became so very different for little John. The captain loved his little boy, but he did not love God as his wife had. Now, there was no one to take John to church or read the Bible to him. There was no one who cared what kind of friends he played with or that he went to school at all. On John's eleventh birthday, his father took him out of school and brought him to live on his merchant ship.

Life on the sea was exciting, but it wasn't good for John. The sailors taught John to curse and do many other bad things. John knew these things were sinful, but he did them anyway. Soon he even loved doing them. In his heart, John still remembered all his mother had taught him: "Turn from your sins, trust in Jesus as our Savior." But John kept on rebelling. But John kept on rebelling. He turned away from God and tried to turn others away from Him, too.

After six years sailing with his father, John began to work as a sailor on other ships. With each ship, John's behavior became worse. He made up mocking songs about his captains and would sing them to their face. Not satisfied with regular cuss words, John thought up new ones. The other men called him the "Great Blasphemer" for the awful way he would curse God. John did whatever he could to tempt others to sin, too.

John quickly made enemies. Once, he tried to run away

from his ship, only to be caught and punished. The captain treated John so terribly that John talked him into making him the servant of a slave trader in Africa--about as wicked of a job as a man could have--just to get away from the cruel captain.

And what about all John's mother had taught him about God? Had he forgotten it all now? God would have been just to let John never more remember all his mother taught him about God; but in His amazing grace, God kept bringing it to mind--especially during his many, near-death accidents. Once, a horse bucked him off his back and John landed just inches from a huge spike that would have gone right through his body and killed him. Another time, John arrived just moments too late to board a small boat with his friends, only to see the boat sink and his friends all drown. Yet another time, John was mistreated and left to die by the slave trader's wife--but rescued just in time. Each time, the Lord brought his mother's words to mind: "Turn from your sins, trust in Jesus as our Savior."

Each time John almost died, he thought about the punishment he deserved from God for his sinful rebellion and the choice he could make to receive God's amazing grace. But John kept going back to his sinful ways. It seemed John would never change.

Before long, John faced death again. This time, there really seemed no way out. John was sailing home to England on The Greyhound, a great merchant ship filled with beeswax and dyer's wood from Africa. Once more John was up to his bad ways. He refused to do any work. He cursed God in such terrible ways that even the sailors were shocked. And then when he found out that the captain was a Christian, he mocked him and tried to get him to sin. Soon, everyone hated John. They wondered how they would endure the seven thousand mile journey home with him!

Thoughts of John were soon forgotten when a ferocious storm suddenly struck one night. Wham! Bang! A huge jolt woke John awake. A giant wave had slammed into the side of the ship. Water poured into the ship's belly. Before long the ship would sink!

"All men to the pumps! We've got to get this water out or we are sure to sink!" the captain ordered.

John and the others pumped water out of the hull as quickly as they could. During a lull in the storm, they stuffed bedding and clothes in the hole, and nailed boards over them.

Soon the winds rose again, pounding the ship. The men took turns steering the ship on deck. The winds were so

powerful that many were swept off into the swirling seas. Only by tying a man to the steering post with ropes could they keep him from going overboard. At last it was John's turn to steer. Tied to the steering wheel, John worked hard to keep the ship afloat, but he had little hope.

"How much longer until the ship sinks? How much longer before I die?" John wondered. "Have mercy on us, God!" he cried out in panic.

As soon as the words slipped out, John remembered his years of willful rebellion against God. "What mercy can there be for someone like me who's done such horrible things?" he thought. Surely there is none! Surely there is only punishment now!"

Yet, there was still mercy for John! The Holy Spirit encouraged John by bringing to mind the sayings and Bible verses his mother had taught him long ago: Like Adam and Eve we have rebelled against God; but He has not left us without hope. He calls us to turn from our sins, trust in Jesus as our Savior? I pray that you will trust in Jesus and grow up to encourage others to choose Him, too," she had urged him.

John took hope. Perhaps God might save him still. If the Lord brought them through this storm, he would study the Bible to see if it were really true. Before long, the captain shouted up the incredible news: "The ship is clear of water. We are saved!"

John knew that once more the Lord had graciously saved him from death, but this time John was a changed man. For four, whole months, as the ship slowly sailed back home. John studied the Bible and tried to remember all his mother had taught him. Always he was looking to answer his one, big question: "Could God really save such a terrible sinner as me?"

Everything he read, every time he prayed, everything he remembered, pointed to the same answer: Yes! Yes! Yes! There was still forgiveness for him, if he would repent and believe!

And that's just what John did! He turned away from his sins, and trusted in Jesus as his Savior. The Lord forgave him! His heart flooded with love and joy as the Holy Spirit worked in his heart.

This was the beginning of a new life for John Newton. Not only did the Lord lead him to become a pastor, as his mother had hoped and prayed; but the Lord also changed him from being known as the Great Blasphemer to a Great

Praiser of God. John Newton became famous for composing many beautiful words of praise to God. Without even knowing it, you probably have sung one of his songs many times. It is called "Amazing Grace":

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound!

That saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost, but now am found.

Was blind but now I see.

### **Our Bible Truth is: Angels and People Rebelled Against God in the Beginning**

#### **Our Bible Verse is: 1 John 3:8**

"He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work."

What about you and me? Like John Newton, you and I have learned the truths of God. We know about Satan's and Adam and Eve's rebellion against God. We have heard of God's offer of salvation through Jesus and of our choice to turn from our sins and trust Him as our Savior. Will we learn from John Newton's life? What choice will we make?

Let's praise God for His gracious offer of salvation to rebellious sinners. Let's ask Him to give us hearts that choose to turn from our sins and trust in Him. Let's ask Him to make us people who spread the good news of His gracious offer to others.

**SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU**

**1. A Question about the Bible Truth, True or False:**

Satan rebelled against God, but no one else did.

Answer: False. Satan rebelled against God and other angels rebelled with him. Then he tempted Adam and Eve to rebel against God, too.

**2. Crack the Case Questions**

**a. Who was the rotten wretch? What was so rotten about him?**

John Newton. He turned away from the good news of Jesus he learned as a boy and became someone who loved to curse God and do many bad things.

**b. How did he change from being a wretch?**

The Lord, in His great mercy, let him feel the awfulness of his sins and the punishment he deserved, then reminded him of the good news of Jesus and helped him to repent of his sins and trust in Jesus as his Savior.

**3. Fill in the missing words from the Bible verse:**

**1 John 3:8**

"He who \_\_\_ what is sinful is of the devil, because the \_\_\_ has been sinning from the beginning. The \_\_\_ the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work."

Answers: does; devil; reason.

**BIBLE TRUTH HYMN**

**This Is My Father's World**

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 7*

**Verse 3**

This is my Father's world,  
O let me ne'er forget,  
That though the wrong  
Seems oft so strong,  
God is the Ruler yet.  
This is my Father's world.  
The battle is not done.  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,  
And earth and heaven be one.

Words: Malthie Babcock Music: Franklin L. Sheppard

The wrong in this world that often seems so strong is sin. It came into the world when Adam and Eve believed Satan's tempting lies and rebelled against God. Oh, what terrible suffering and death into God's perfect creation that day! Yet, God is still the ruler of the world, not Satan. He will fight and win over Satan, sin and death! God sent Jesus, just as He promised, to break the power of sin and death, when He died on the cross. And at the end of time, Jesus will come back and bring an end to Satan, his demons and all that is evil, once and for all. God is the Ruler yet. God's people take joy in this. They know that God, their heavenly Father, will do all that He has promised to do.

**AN ACTS PRAYER FROM OUR STORY**

*A=Adoration, C=Confession, T=Thanksgiving, S=Supplication*

**A** God, we praise You for Your great patience and mercy shown to sinners, even great sinners.

**C** God, we confess that many times we choose to rebel against You and Your good ways, just like John Newton did. We need a Savior, just like he did!

**T** God, we thank You for giving us the gospel! Thank You for giving us parents who teach us about You.

Thank You that no sinner is too bad to receive Your forgiveness.

**S** God, we ask that You would work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to tell others the good news of Jesus. Bring them to know You, too.

**BIBLE VERSE SONG**

**He Who Does What Is Sinful**

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 8*

He who does what is sinful is of the devil,  
because the devil has been sinning from the beginning.  
*But wait! There's good news!*

But the reason the Son of God appeared,  
Was to destroy, destroy the devil's work,  
But the reason the Son of God appeared,  
Was to destroy, destroy the devil's work.  
(And He did it!) First John Three, verse eight.

Words: 1 John 3:8 Music: Constance Dever ©2011

Satan was the first to sin. He was sinning from the beginning of creation. Adam and Eve became "of the devil" when they chose to rebel against God. They no longer wanted to keep on loving and pleasing God. But oh, how wonderful that God sent His Son Jesus! Jesus was the Savior who came to rescue sinners from God's punishment that they deserved. Jesus destroyed the devil's work, when He suffered and died on the cross, then rose on the third day in victory! Now all who repent of their sins and trust in Him will be saved.



**BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION**

*We're in... Unit 6: God, the Just and Merciful*

**Unit 6 Big Question and Answer and Song:**

"How Did Bad Things Come to God's Good World?"  
Bad Things Came Through Sin!"

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Tracks 3,4*

**Unit 6 Bible Verse and Song:** Romans 5:12

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned."

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 5*

**BIBLE TRUTH**

*We're learning... Bible Truth 1:*

**Angels and People Rebelled Against God in the Beginning**

God made the world perfectly good, but it did not stay that way. In heaven, a mighty angel named Satan led a rebellion of angels against God. Nothing sinful can ever remain in God's holy presence. These rebellious angels, called demons, were cast out of heaven and thrown into hell.

Satan continued his rebellion against God by tempting Adam and Eve to rebel against God, too. Their disobedience brought sin and death into the perfect world God created.

There are many things we cannot understand about Satan, evil and sin, or why God allowed them. However, we do know that God is perfectly good, powerful and wise. His ways are perfect and are so much more than our small minds can understand.

God hates sin and will do away with it. He sent Jesus to break the power of sin and death for all who trust in Him as their Savior. And one day Jesus will return again to rid the world of sin and death, Satan and his demons forever. What a wonderful day that will be!

**BIBLE VERSE**

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

**Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse: 1 John 3:8**

"He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work."

**CASE STORY**

*Matthew 2,4,16,27; Luke 2:1-20; 4:22; 22:1-5;27-24; Revelation 20:10,14*

**Our story is: The Case of the Man Who Refused to Give In.**

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

1. Who was the man who refused to give in?
2. What did he refuse to give in to? Why was this so important?

This story takes place in Israel, in New Testament times, when Jesus lived on earth.

Ever since he had tempted Adam and Eve to sin, thousands of years earlier, Satan had enjoyed watching the terrible spread of sin and death throughout God's perfect creation. He proudly called himself the Prince of This World, as if the world were his to do with as he pleased. Yet deep inside, Satan knew that it was not so. The world was God's; and what happened in it, only happened according to God's good, unfailing plan. Even from the day that Adam and Eve had rebelled, thousands of years ago, God had promised a day would come when a Son of Eve would come to crush Satan's power over sin and death. The first Adam had brought sin and death to all by his sin; but this Son of Eve would come like a second Adam to defeat Satan and bring the promise of eternal life to all who would trust in Him. Satan kept alert for the coming of this Son of Eve, this Second Adam. God had promised.

Satan knew when his enemy, the promised Son of Eve, the Second Adam, had come. It was the unforgettable night we call Christmas. That night, the brilliant glory of the LORD suddenly shone down upon shepherds in a field outside of Bethlehem. A great host of angels broke into praise, making the glad announcement that the Savior has been born, who was Jesus Christ, the Lord. And how could Satan have missed the shimmering, new star that appeared in the sky, leading Magi from their home faraway in the East to worship the young child, Jesus. These signs were simply too great! This Jesus was the promised One who came to crush him and his rule over this world, just as God had promised.

Satan knew he must destroy Jesus before Jesus could crush him. Surely Satan was hopeful when jealous King Herod, upon hearing about Jesus from the Magi, sent soldiers into Bethlehem to kill him. Perhaps Jesus would be taken care of this way...but no! Nothing would stop God's good, unfailing plans! In a dream, God had warned

**CASE STORY****P.2**

Mary God's good, unfailing plans! In a dream, God had warned Joseph of Herod's evil plan. He escaped to Egypt with Mary and little Jesus before the soldiers stormed into Bethlehem. Jesus lived. Satan would have made another plan if he were to defeat this Son of Eve, this Second Adam.

Many years passed and Jesus grew into a man. At last the time had come for Him to tell the good news of salvation to all who would hear. He was baptized by John in the River Jordan, then the Spirit led Him out into the wilderness to prepare for this great task.

For forty days--or six weeks-- Jesus prayed and fasted. Can you imagine praying and not eating food for six weeks out in the hot, dry wilderness? As you can guess, Jesus was very weak and tired by the end of that time... and Satan noticed. What better time to tempt Jesus-- the Second Adam-- to sin than when He was tired and hungry. "If you're the Son of God, turn these rocks into bread," Satan said. Jesus was so hungry! How tempting it was to use God's power to fill His empty stomach.

Then Satan took Jesus to the top of the Temple and told Him, "Throw Yourself off the side of the Temple; let the angels catch You. What better way could you prove to everyone that you are the Son of God?" Satan whispered. Jesus was tempted by Satan's idea. He knew that He would face the unbelief of many when He told them He was the Son of God. That would be so hard!

Then Satan showed Jesus all the nations of the world and promised Him, "If You will bow down and worship me, I will give You all of the world."

How tempting! To win the worship of the world without suffering and dying on the cross for the sins of God's people! Jesus knew He would suffer terribly if He fulfilled His Father's plan of salvation.

Satan had chosen his temptations well. Which would Jesus choose? To be dissatisfied with God's will for Him, like Adam had been, and rebel against God's way? Satan hoped so. This Son of Eve, this Second Adam must sin, if Satan was to prevent Him from crushing his head and saving God's people.

But, no! Jesus would not give in to temptation. He chose to be satisfied in God and His good ways. Hunger pangs, the insults of unbelieving people and even the terrible suffering He would face doing God's will were better than any easy way out Satan was offering Him. Satan had tempted the First Adam into rebelling against God, but not this Second Adam. Jesus resisted Satan.

"Be gone, Satan! Man does not live on bread alone, but on the Word of God: I will make no bread from rocks!" Jesus told him. And then He said: "God's Word tells us we should not put Him to the test...I will not jump off the Temple to prove who I am!" Then he finished off Satan by saying: "God is alone to be worshiped: I will not bow to you! Leave Me alone!"

Defeated, Satan slunk away and God sent angels to give Jesus food and comfort. The tricks that had fooled the first Adam, did not work on Jesus, the second Adam. Satan had lost yet again.

But Satan did not give up. He continued to get at Jesus, however he could...even through Jesus' closest friends. One day, when Jesus told His disciples that He would suffer and die on the cross, then be raised from the dead to save God's people, Satan stirred up Peter to try to stop Him: "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" (Matthew 16:22)

Peter might have meant only to protect His beloved Master from pain, but Jesus saw in his words another of Satan's attempts to make Him dissatisfied with God's good plans. Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." (Matthew 16:23) Jesus refused to rebel against what His Father had planned. He chose to be satisfied in God and His good ways. He would rather suffer God's way than avoid the cross.

Later, Satan stirred up Judas Iscariot to betray Jesus and have Him handed over to the Jewish leaders for money, even though Judas knew Jesus had done no wrong. Even as Jesus hung dying on the cross, Satan stirred up the crowd against Jesus to sin against His Father's plan:

"Those who passed by hurled insults at him, shaking their heads and saying, 'You who are going to destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! Come down from the cross, if you are the Son of God!' In the same way the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders mocked him. 'He saved others,' they said, 'but he can't save himself! He's the King of Israel! Let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God. Let God rescue him now if he wants him, for he said, 'I am the Son of God.' In the same way the robbers who were crucified with him also heaped insults on him." (Matthew 27:39-44)

Jesus knew that there was truth in these mocking words.

**CASE STORY****P.3**

He was the Son of God. He could get down from the cross, if He wanted to. Satan hoped these mean words would be more than Jesus could bear; but they were not. Jesus chose to suffer God's way rather than prove who He was to these people. No! He would not give in to temptation! He would not rebel against God! No matter what!

No. There was nothing that Satan could do to tempt this Son of Eve, this second Adam to rebel against God as Adam had in the beginning. He would choose to be satisfied in God and His good ways. He had come to bring salvation to God's people; and He would do it, just as God had promised He would. So Jesus hung there on the cross and offered up His perfect life to God, His Father, as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who would ever turn and trust in Him.

Then, three days later, He burst out of His grave, risen from the dead. He had broken Satan's power over sin and death. Jesus, the Son of Eve, the Second Adam, had brought salvation where the first Adam had brought sin!

But the best is still yet to come! Jesus broke the power of sin and death on the cross that day, but there will come another, even better day, when Satan, sin and death will be put to an end forever. At the end of time on the Great Judgment Day, Jesus will judge Satan and his demons. He will give them their final punishment: they will be thrown into the Lake of Fire and be punished day and night, forever and ever. Satan will be crushed once and for all. Never to trouble the world or God's people again! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus, come!

**Our Bible Truth is:****Angels and People Rebelled Against God in the Beginning****Our Bible Verse is: 1 John 3:8**

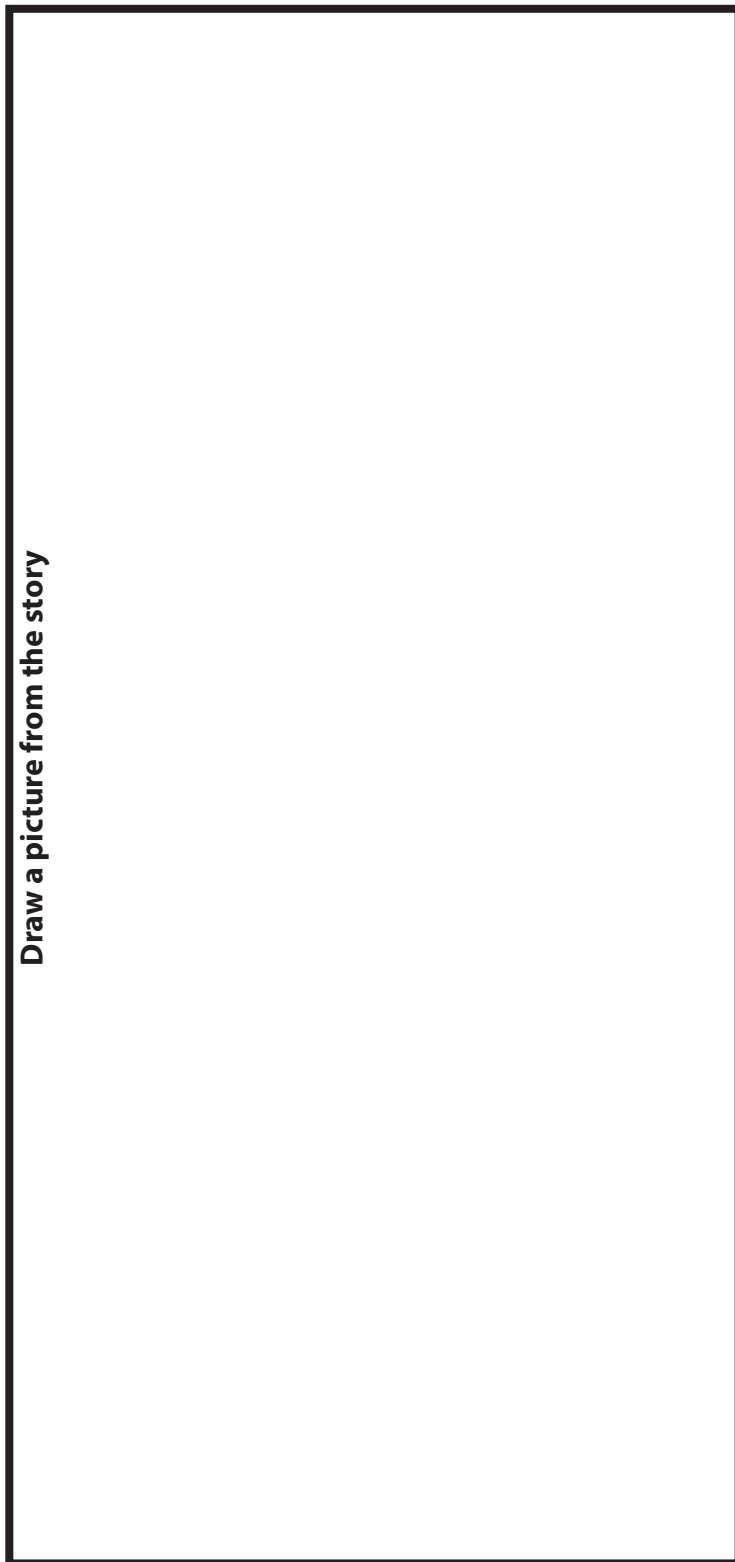
"He who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work."

What about you and me? Like the first Adam, we have listened to the tempting lies of Satan to be dissatisfied with God and His good ways, and live life our own way instead. Is there any hope for us? Yes, there is. God has sent the Second Adam to pay for the sins of all who confess their sins and turn and trust in Him.

Let's praise God for sending Jesus, who came like a second Adam to face Satan's tempting lies but be satisfied with God and His good ways, time after time after time,

so He could offer up His perfect life as the perfectly complete sacrifice for all who trust in Him. Let's praise Him for promising to do away Satan, sin and death completely at the Great Judgment Day at the end of time. Let's confess our sins to Him. Let's be those who turn from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior. Let's ask Him by His Holy Spirit to fill our heart and make us strong to stand up against Satan's lies and choose to be satisfied in God's good ways.

Draw a picture from the story



**SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU**

**1. A Question about the Bible Truth, True or False:**  
 God hates sin, but we are stuck with it forever.  
 Answer: False! God hates sin and one day will do away with it completely. Jesus broke the power of sin and death of God's people on the cross. One day He will return to end it forever.

**2. Crack the Case Questions**  
**a. Who was the man who refused to give in?**  
 Jesus.  
**b. What did he refuse to give in to? Why was this so important?**  
 Jesus refused to give in to temptation and sin. Because He was without sin, He could be the perfect payment for the sins of God's people and save them all.

**3. Fill in the missing words from the Bible Verse:**  
**1 John 3:8**  
 "He who does what is sinful is of the \_\_\_\_, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the \_\_\_\_ appeared was to destroy the devil's \_\_\_\_."  
 Answers: devil; Son of God; work.

**BIBLE TRUTH HYMN**

**This Is My Father's World**  
*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 7*  
**Verse 3**  
 This is my Father's world,  
 O let me ne'er forget,  
 That though the wrong  
 Seems oft so strong,  
 God is the Ruler yet.  
 This is my Father's world.  
 The battle is not done.  
 Jesus who died shall be satisfied,  
 And earth and heaven be one.

Words: Malthie Babcock Music: Franklin L. Sheppard

The wrong in this world that often seems so strong is sin. It came into the world when Adam and Eve believed Satan's tempting lies and rebelled against God. Oh, what terrible suffering and death into God's perfect creation that day! Yet, God is still the ruler of the world, not Satan. He will fight and win over Satan, sin and death! God sent Jesus, just as He promised, to break the power of sin and death, when He died on the cross. And at the end of time, Jesus will come back and bring an end to Satan, his demons and all that is evil, once and for all. God is the Ruler yet. God's people take joy in this. They know that God, their heavenly Father, will do all that He has promised to do.

**AN ACTS PRAYER FROM OUR STORY**

*A=Adoration, C=Confession, T=Thanksgiving, S=Supplication*

**A** God, we praise You for being our Savior! Jesus, You are the strong, second Adam, who always said 'no' to Satan and won salvation for God's people.

**C** God, we confess that many times we give into temptation. We choose to disobey God. We deserve God's punishment! We need a Savior!

**T** Jesus, thank You for always choosing to obey God, Your Father, even when it meant terrible suffering. Thank You for being our Savior.

**S** God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to say 'no' to the temptations of Satan, and say 'yes' to obeying God, even when it is very hard.

**BIBLE VERSE SONG**

**He Who Does What Is Sinful**  
*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 8*  
 He who does what is sinful is of the devil,  
 because the devil has been sinning from the beginning.  
*But wait! There's good news!*  
 But the reason the Son of God appeared,  
 Was to destroy, destroy the devil's work,  
 But the reason the Son of God appeared,  
 Was to destroy, destroy the devil's work.  
 (And He did it!) First John Three, verse eight.  
 Words: 1 John 3:8 Music: Constance Dever ©2011

Satan was the first to sin. He was sinning from the beginning of creation. Adam and Eve became "of the devil" when they chose to rebel against God. They no longer wanted to keep on loving and pleasing God. But oh, how wonderful that God sent His Son Jesus! Jesus was the Savior who came to rescue sinners from God's punishment that they deserved. Jesus destroyed the devil's work, when He suffered and died on the cross, then rose on the third day in victory! Now all who repent of their sins and trust in Him will be saved.

## BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION

*We're in... Unit 6: God, the Just and Merciful*

### Unit 6 Big Question and Answer and Song:

"How Did Bad Things Come to God's Good World?"  
Bad Things Came Through Sin!"

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Tracks 3,4*

### Unit 6 Bible Verse and Song: Romans 5:12

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned."

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 5*

## BIBLE TRUTH

*We're learning... Bible Truth 2:*

### God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy

When Adam and Eve rebelled against God, they received the terrible consequences of their sins, just as God had warned them they would. They had enjoyed a life without sin. Now all that changed. Their hearts used to be full of peace and love. Now they were afraid and selfish. Their work used to be a complete pleasure. Now it became frustrating and unsatisfying, filled with troubles. Their bodies had been full of health and life. Now they grew weak and sick. One day they would die. Worst of all, they used to enjoy wonderful fellowship with God, and now that fellowship was broken. This is what the Bible calls being dead in sin. How Adam and Eve and all God's creation groaned under sin!

Adam and Eve deserved no relief from their punishment, but God treated them better than they deserved. He gave them hope, even that day. He promised them that a son of Eve's would come to defeat Satan and bring salvation.

Who was that son? Jesus, the Son of God! He would live the perfect life that Adam and Eve should have lived, but did not. On the cross, He would offer it up as the perfect payment for the sins of all those who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. God, Himself, would satisfy His justice so that He could show us mercy!

## BIBLE VERSE

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

### Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse: Romans 6:23

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

## CASE STORY

*from Genesis 2,3*

### Our story is called:

#### The Case of the Horrible Hiders.

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

1. Who were the Hiders? What made their hiding horrible?
2. What hope did the horrible hiders receive?

Our story today takes place thousands of years ago, not long after the creation of the world, on the most terrible day of history.

Life had been wonderful in the garden God had planted for Adam and Eve. And why wouldn't it have been? For this was a garden, like none other; made perfectly for people, like none other. As you might expect, this garden included lots of green, growing plants. Some were beautiful to look at, others were loaded with delicious, juicy fruit. There was a river that wound through the garden that provided the plants and Adam and Eve with refreshing water. Adam and Eve never needed to be hungry or thirsty in their garden home. God had provided all that they needed.

Life in the garden wasn't boring for Adam and Eve either. The Garden was home to many of God's other creatures, too. Animals, birds, and bugs frolicked and nested there, too. God gave the animals and garden to Adam and Eve to take care of. What wonderful work it was for Adam and Eve! All the plants and the animals lived happily under their care. They could look forward to years of making the garden bigger and bigger until all the world God had given them came under their skillful care—just as God had commanded them. What a pleasant future that was to look forward to!

But the best part of the Garden was nothing you could see, smell or touch. It was the perfect fellowship Adam and Eve enjoyed there with each other and with God. Adam took perfect care of Eve. Eve loved obeying and helping Adam. And they together, they both were satisfied in the amazing love of God. Good food! Good work! Good fellowship! How wonderful it all was! The Bible describes the wonderful fellowship that Adam and Eve had with each other and with God in a way that might sound funny to you. It says that when Adam and Eve lived in the Garden, they were "naked and unashamed."

Now when we think of naked, we think of someone who doesn't cover up their body with clothes. And while it's true that Adam and Eve wore no clothes, that's not really all there was to that funny description. It's also talking

about a nakedness of their hearts.

What in the world does that mean? Well, it means that their hearts were so completely good, completely honest and completely loving, that they never had anything to hide from each other or from God. That's why the Bible calls the fellowship they had with each other "naked and unashamed." And perhaps it wouldn't surprise you to know that it is the most wonderful way imaginable to live.

God offered this incredible kind of life to Adam and Eve, not just for seventy or a hundred years, but for forever! In the middle of the Garden He placed two very special trees: one called the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil; and the other called the Tree of Life. God warned Adam and Eve not to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, or they would die. But, if they lived in obedience to Him, He would give them the gift of eternal life. There would never be a time when they would not enjoy wonderful, perfect fellowship with Him and with each other. They would have children, too, who would get to enjoy and fill the earth with their love for each other and praise of God. How great was God's love for His people! He had offered them such a delightful life!

But something very terrible happened on the day of our story. Adam and Eve were no longer naked and unashamed, neither in their bodies nor in their hearts. They had cut the large leaves off of a fig tree and sewn them together as clothes to cover their bodies. And then, instead of eagerly awaiting fellowship time with God when He came to the Garden in the cool of the day, they hid themselves among the trees, hoping He would not find them.

How do you hide from someone who sees all and knows all? You can't! It's impossible! God had seen everything that had happened that day. He had watched them listen to the tempting lies Satan spoke to them through the serpent. He had felt dissatisfaction and rebellion grow in their hearts. He saw as they each chose to disobey Him and eat the fruit from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. He watched as their eyes opened to sin and they felt its pain for the first time. He knew that Adam and Eve had put on clothes of fig leaves and hid from Him because He was holy and they had become sinners. They were ashamed and afraid. They knew they deserved to die.

The LORD came to the Garden and called out to Adam: "Where are you?"

"I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid," Adam replied.

"Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" the LORD asked Adam.

Already sin had begun to multiply in Adam's heart. He quickly thought up answer that shifted the blame to Eve and God, Himself and would hopefully cover up his own, sinful choices: "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it," Adam replied.

"What is this you have done?" the LORD then asked Eve.

Eve was just as quick as Adam to blame someone else and try to hide her own sinfulness: "The serpent deceived me, and I ate it," she replied.

Adam and Eve hoped God would see them as innocent victims, but God knew what was in their hearts. He saw their sin. He knew their excuses were only poor attempts to cover up their shame and rebellion. They had chosen to rebel, and as God had warned them, that meant punishment and broken fellowship.

In justice, God gave them their punishments. To the serpent He said, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all the animals! I will shame you by making you crawl on your belly and eat dust all the days of your life."

Then God declared Satan's punishment: "You have brought hatred and rebellion into people's hearts, but not all of them will follow in your ways. Eve will have children, and her daughters will have children after her. Some of these children will turn away from their sins and will love Me, instead. One day, one of them will come and crush your power completely, Satan—once for all time," the LORD promised.

Next Eve received her punishment: "Eve," the LORD said to her, "I created you for the joys of having children and helping your husband. Now life will be much harder for you. You will have pain when you give birth to children and you will fight against your husband's leadership over you," He told her.

Last of all, the LORD spoke to Adam: "Adam, don't blame Me or Eve for what you did. You chose to listen to your wife, instead of leading her. You chose to eat the fruit I told you not to eat. Life is going to get much harder for you, too. Because of what you have done, the very ground of the earth is cursed. You will have to work hard in the field for your food, fighting weeds and thorns. You will get old and die and your body will turn back to dust, just as I

warned you would happen,” He told Adam.

God’s judgments were very big and very sad, but Adam and Eve knew they were so much less than they deserved. They had deserved nothing but death—right that very moment! Yet, God had treated them with such mercy! He had given them a promise that one day a Savior would come to destroy Satan and free from Satan’s deathly hold all who would trust in Him. How great was the LORD’s love for them, His sinful, shameful people!

The LORD pitied miserable Adam and Eve, standing before Him in their poor clothes of fig leaves. He clothed them with animal skins, the first sacrifice for sin made by God for His people. Already He was pointing to the day Jesus would save them from their sins by His own blood, shed on the cross. Then He sent them out of their garden home and away from the Tree of Life.

Perhaps that doesn’t sound very loving for God to send them out of the wonderful home He made for them, but it was. The Tree of Life was only to be eaten by those who perfectly obeyed God. If Adam and Eve were to eat it right then, as sinners, it would mean eternal judgment, right then. Perhaps that is what they deserved, but the LORD in His great mercy had far better plans for them: He wanted to give them eternal life through the Savior who was to come. This Savior—the Lord Jesus—would perfectly obey God, and take the punishment for the sin and shame of all who would ever turn and trust in Him. So the LORD placed great cherubim and a flaming sword that flashed back and forth to keep them away from that Tree of Life. He didn’t want to give them eternal judgment, but eternal life.

Neither Adam nor Eve --nor their children who would come after them—would ever again have hearts “naked and unashamed” before God or each other here on earth. But if they would look forward in faith to the promised Savior, then after they died, He would give them eternal life. Once more they would live unashamed and in perfect fellowship with Him and with each other. But this time, it would be much better than before: for then they would know the depths of God’s love for them through the Savior, Jesus. And this time their perfect fellowship with each other and with God would never, ever end! How great was the LORD’s love for them!

**Our Bible Truth is: God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy**

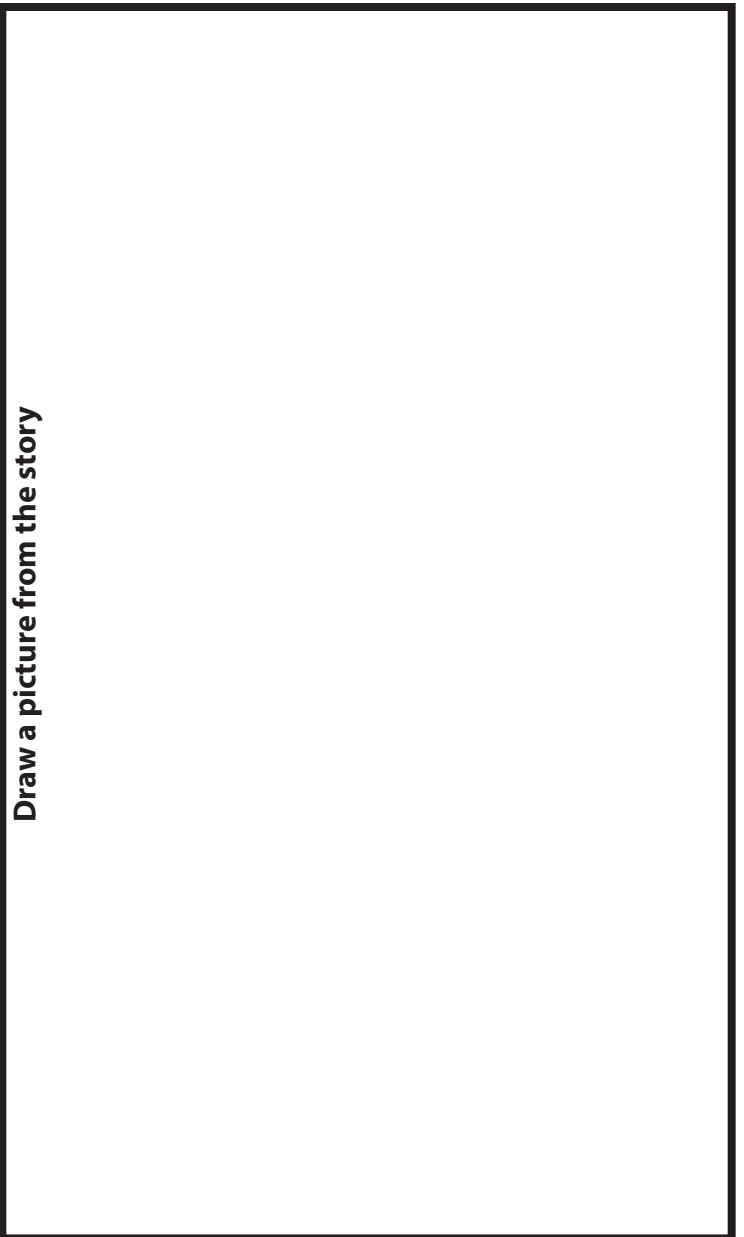
**Our Bible Verse is: Romans 6:23**

“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

What about you and me? Don’t we try to blame others for our own sinful choices? Don’t we try to hide the sinfulness of our hearts from God and from others? When we do this, we show that we are the daughters and sons of Adam and Eve, deserving of God’s punishment for our sins, too. But how great is God’s love for us, too. If we will turn from our sins and trust in Jesus, the Savior, He promises to forgive our sin and shame even today. Then one day when we die, He will bring us to heaven to live unashamed and in perfect fellowship with Him and each other forever and ever.

Let’s praise our wonderful God, who is so very merciful to all who turn and trust in Him. Let’s ask Him to send His Spirit to come begin to work in our hearts the nakedness of complete honesty, love and goodness before God and others, like what Adam and Eve knew in the beginning.

Draw a picture from the story



**SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU**

**1. A Question about the Bible Truth, True or False:**  
 When Adam and Eve rebelled against God, He felt sorry for them and didn't give them the consequences of their sin.  
 Answer: False. God did treat them with great mercy by promising them a Savior, but He did give them the consequences of their sin.

**2. Crack the Case Questions**  
**a. Who were the Hiders? What made their hiding horrible?**  
 Adam and Eve. They had become sinners and now were afraid of God.

**b. What hope did the horrible hiders receive?**  
 That while they now would suffer under sin and death because of their disobedience, God, in His mercy, promised that one of Eve's children would be the Savior who would come and crush Satan: Jesus!

**3. Fill in the missing words from the Bible Verse:**  
**Romans 6:23**  
 "For the \_\_\_ of sin is death, but the \_\_\_ of God is eternal life in \_\_\_ Jesus our Lord."  
 Answers: wages; gift; Christ.

**BIBLE TRUTH HYMN**

**Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy**  
*PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 9*

**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

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.

**AN ACTS PRAYER FROM OUR STORY**

*A=Adoration, C=Confession, T=Thanksgiving, S=Supplication*

**A** God, we praise You for being so worthy of all our love.

**C** God, we confess that like Peter, we are tempted to avoid doing hard things for You, instead of loving You as we should. We all need a Savior!

**T** God, we thank You that Your forgiveness is so great that would even forgive Your people when they choose to avoid doing hard things for You. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to work inside Your people, giving them greater love for You and courage to do hard things for You.

**S** God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts, giving us love for You and helping us to do even very hard things for You.

**BIBLE VERSE SONG**

**For the Wages of Sin Is Death**  
*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 10*

For the wages of sin is death,  
 But the gift of God is eternal life,  
 Through Christ Jesus our Lord.  
 For the wages of sin is death,  
 But the gift of God is eternal life,  
 Through Christ Jesus our Lord.  
 Romans Six, twenty-three.

Words adapted from Romans 6:23 Constance Dever © 2011

Because God is good and just, He punishes sin. When Adam and Eve rebelled against God, He punished their sin. What is the punishment for sin? It is death--separation from God and all His good ways. Adam and Eve knew some of that separation from God that very day. When their bodies died they deserved to know complete separation from Him. But God is so very merciful. He treats sinners who repent of their sins and trust in Him so much better than they deserve! That same day God gave Adam and Eve the punishment for their sins, He also gave them the promise of eternal life through Jesus, the son of Eve who would crush Satan once and for all.



## BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION

*We're in... Unit 6: God, the Just and Merciful*

### Unit 6 Big Question and Answer and Song:

"How Did Bad Things Come to God's Good World?"  
Bad Things Came Through Sin!"

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Tracks 3,4*

### Unit 6 Bible Verse and Song: Romans 5:12

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned."

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 5*

## BIBLE TRUTH

*We're learning... Bible Truth 2:*

### God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy

When Adam and Eve rebelled against God, they received the terrible consequences of their sins, just as God had warned them they would. They had enjoyed a life without sin. Now all that changed. Their hearts used to be full of peace and love. Now they were afraid and selfish. Their work used to be a complete pleasure. Now it became frustrating and unsatisfying, filled with troubles. Their bodies had been full of health and life. Now they grew weak and sick. One day they would die. Worst of all, they used to enjoy wonderful fellowship with God, and now that fellowship was broken. This is what the Bible calls being dead in sin. How Adam and Eve and all God's creation groaned under sin!

Adam and Eve deserved no relief from their punishment, but God treated them better than they deserved. He gave them hope, even that day. He promised them that a son of Eve's would come to defeat Satan and bring salvation.

Who was that son? Jesus, the Son of God! He would live the perfect life that Adam and Eve should have lived, but did not. On the cross, He would offer it up as the perfect payment for the sins of all those who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. God, Himself, would satisfy His justice so that He could show us mercy!

## BIBLE VERSE

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

### Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse: Romans 6:23

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

## CASE STORY

**Our story is called: The Case of the Dead Eyes.**

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

1. Whose eyes were dead? Why were these such hard eyes for a doctor to heal?
2. What did God use the dead eyes to help many new people see?

This story doesn't take place in Bible times. It takes place in the 1940's in South Africa.

The evening was coming quickly. As the sun disappeared behind the dark treetops of the Xhosa Mountains, Dr. Everts was making his end-of-day check up of the sick children at "Moria," the mission hospital where he worked. How sad it was to see all those sick, young children from the nearby Zulu tribes! As a doctor, Dr. Everts longed to heal their little bodies. But as a Christian doctor, these sicknesses were also reminders of the sad results of Adam and Eve's sinful choices made so long ago. Sickness and death came when Adam and Eve rebelled against God! And even these Zulu children were affected by that choice.

But there was something else about those children that made Dr. Everts even sadder than the children's sick bodies. It was another, even worse consequence of Adam and Eve's sin. What was this terrible thing? It was that these children--like all people-- were sinners, who also had rebelled against God. They deserved God's punishment and needed Jesus, the Savior who God promised Adam and Eve He would send to crush Satan and save His people. So Dr. Everts had traveled half way around the world to care for these Zulu people and tell the good news of Jesus. How he longed for them to be saved!

And so this evening, Dr. Everts cared for the sick Zulu children and then prayed for them, "Lord, thank You for these children. Please heal their bodies. Please help them to turn from their sins and trust in Your Son, Jesus, as their own Savior. Amen."

As the doctor turned to leave the room, a small hand reached out to stop him. "Doctor....doctor!" the young child exclaimed.

"Yes, what is it?" he replied.

"Doctor, will it now soon be Christmas, and will you then come and tell us a Bible story?"

"Yes, it is almost Christmas," the doctor replied. "And I promise to tell you about the shepherds and their flocks of sheep; about the great Light in the dark night; and,

flocks of sheep; about the great Light in the dark night; and, about the birth of the Savior, Jesus. After the sun shines two more times, then it will be Christmas; but now you must go to sleep," he told them.

"Christmas, only two days away? It is hard to believe! Where were the tightly bundled people plodding through snow? Where were the Christmas lights and the churches full of people?" Dr. Everts thought.

Zulu territory wasn't anything like Dr. Everts' home in America at Christmas time. It had lions, giraffes and rhinoceroses. There certainly wasn't any snow! Why it was so hot that people barely wore any clothes at all. And instead of brightly lit houses and churches, there were mud huts and witch doctors. No. Zulu country didn't feel like Christmas at home at all. But that didn't bother Dr. Everts as he walked from the hospital to his little house that night. In just two days, Dr. Everts would get another chance to tell those sick Zulu children the wonderful story of the Savior God sent to the world to crush Satan and save all who believe in Him from their sins. Getting to tell that story was all the Christmas Dr. Everts wanted.

Well.... it was almost all Dr. Everts wanted. As he looked up at the disappearing sun shining on the tops of the Xhosa Mountains, there was more one thing he really wanted for Christmas and it was high up in those high up really, really wanted for Christmas. It was something high up there on one of those mountaintops: the Xhosa Mountains, where the sun was setting. It was telling the people of Kakoela village about Jesus.

Kakoela was the home of powerful Chief Chuana. All the Zulus lived in fear of him. Chief Chuana had heard about Dr. Everts, but he refused to let his people go to the hospital: "We have witch doctors to take care of our sick people. We have our own spirits we worship," he told his people. "I will punish anyone who goes to Moria for help! They not given anything to eat for many days!" he threatened.

Dr. Everts offered to travel to Kakoela to help the people and tell them about Jesus, but Chief Chuana refused.

"Stay away from me and my people!" he ordered.

But Dr. Everts wasn't one to give up. That very night, he and his wife got down on their knees and prayed, "Lord, make a way for us to share with Chief Chuana and the village of Kakoela the wonderful story of Jesus. We want them to know about the Savior You sent to the world to crush Satan and save all who believe in Him from their sins. We know You can do anything, so we ask that You would even do this by Christmas. Amen."

Acting in faith, Dr. Everts sent a messenger to Kakoela, asking Chief Chuana again if he could come to their village to heal their sick and tell them about Jesus. Before long the messenger returned: "The Chief is furious! He doesn't want any Christians or the Bible book of the white man in his village," he exclaimed.

Doctor Everts was disappointed that day as he went about his work. And yet, there was still hope in his heart. This was only Christmas Eve, not Christmas Day. The Lord still might "give" him Kakoela for Christmas.

Christmas Eve passed, and Christmas morning came. Dr. Everts spent it telling the children the wonderful story of Jesus. As he headed back home, a Zulu boy ran up to him, out of breath. "Oh, doctor...", he gasped, "come at once to Kakoela! The eyes of the Chief are dead, he can't do any work!"

Chief Chuana's eyes are very sick?" he asked the boy.

"No, no," he insisted, "they are dead! Come quickly to put light in the dead eyes again, so the Chief can make his journey."

Dr. Everts grabbed his doctor's bag and two African helpers. They put a stretcher in the back of his car, and headed up the bumpy, narrow mountain road to Kakoela. It seemed that God was giving him the Christmas present he had asked for after all!

But to his great surprise, who should Dr. Everts see as he rounded the corner into Kakoela? None other than Chief Chuana himself, dressed in his fine red cloak, staring at him with his two, perfectly bright and seeing eyes!

"Chief Chuana, I came at once when I got your message, but I was told your eyes were sick," Dr. Everts said.

"Yes, yes, they are very sick! I will show them to you. Follow me," the Chief exclaimed. "Follow me!"

The chief led Dr. Everts to an old freight truck, the Chief pointed to the headlights and said, "Look, the eyes are dead. Can you put new light in them?"

Dr. Everts didn't know quite what to think. He was a medical doctor, not an auto mechanic! The Chief did not seem to understand the difference between people's eyes and a truck's headlights. What would happen if he could not help the Chief? Would Chief Chuana resist hearing the good news of Jesus even more?

Dr. Everts set to work on the truck and to his great surprise, he fixed it! The Chief's happy face shone as brightly the lights on his truck! "Make a celebration fire outside of my hut, men! Make some good food for the doctor, women! He has fixed my car!" he ordered.

The chief and Dr. Everts sat together and ate until they could eat no more. Then came the Christmas present Dr. Everts had hoped and prayed for. The chief had all the people gather around the fire and said, "Doctor, many times you have asked to come to my village to bring medicine for my people and to tell us stories from the book of your God. Each time I have said no. But tonight, I will let you tell one story from your book, to say thank you for healing my eyes."

So Dr. Everts began: "In the beginning the Creator God made everything in the world perfectly good. But the first people—named Adam and Eve— rebelled against Him, bringing sin and death into the world. The Creator God is not only just; He is merciful, too. Though they would die, He promised He would send a Savior to crush Satan and bring salvation to all who would turn from their sins and trust in Him," Dr. Everts told them. "And it was on this very day— Christmas Day--thousands of years ago, that the Savior Jesus came into the world. He lived a perfect life and then as the perfect sacrifice for sins of all who would ever trust in Him. He rose from the dead and reigns in heaven. God offers you salvation and eternal life through Jesus, if you will turn from your sins and trust in Him," he urged them all.

When Dr. Everts finished his story, everyone was quiet. They had never heard a story like this before! At last Chief Chuana arose and said, "We thank you for your wonderful words. Perhaps you will come back and tell us more stories from the book of your God."

It was very late by the time Dr. Everts said his final good-byes to the people of Kakoela and headed home. How thankful to God he was, as he made his way down the bumpy, windy road. Did the words to "Joy to the World" come to his mind that Christmas night as drove home? There very well could have: "Joy to the world! The Lord had come! Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room, And heav'n and nature sing. No more let sin and sorrow grow, or thorns infest the ground. He comes to make His blessings flow, far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as ...far as...the curse is found"--even as far as Kakoela village in Zulu territory! What an unforgettable Christmas it had been!

**Our Bible Truth is:**

**God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy**

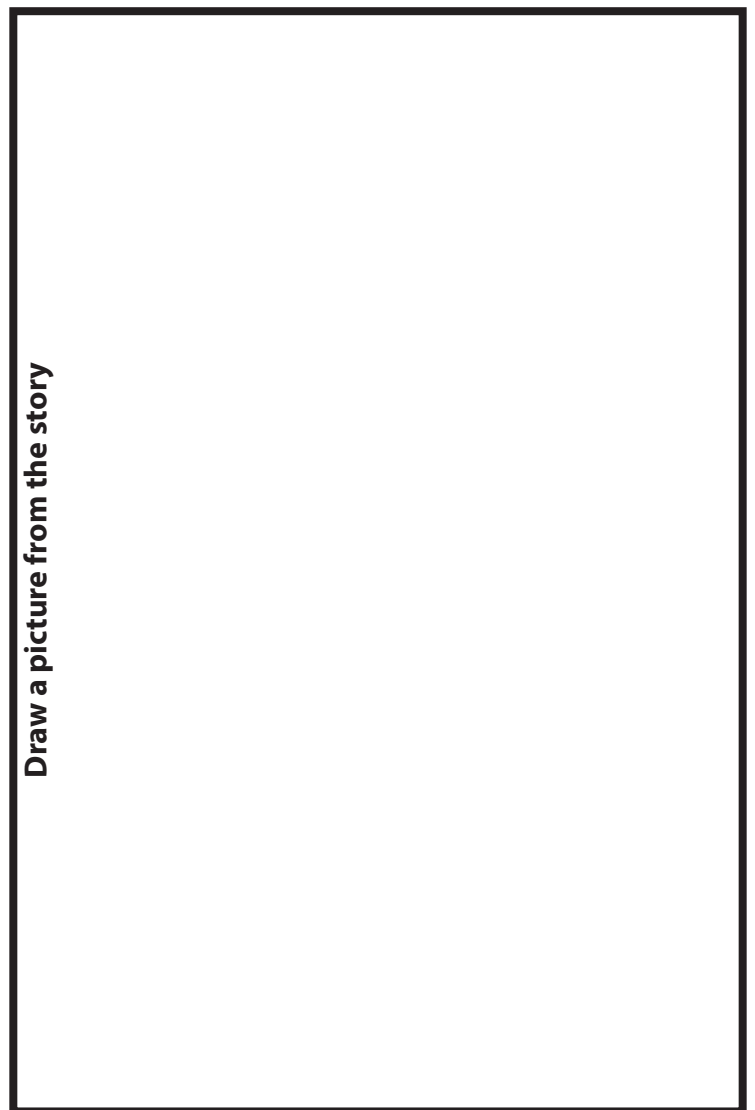
**Our Bible Verse is: Romans 6:23**

"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Did you know there are millions of people right here in our own country who have yet to turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. Perhaps you are even one of them. People everywhere need to know the good news of Jesus! They need a Savior to save them from their sins and bring them into wonderful fellowship with God. Today is the day of salvation for all who will turn from their sins and trust in Jesus!

And did you know there are still hundreds of thousands of villages like Kakoela in the world? Places where the curse of sin and death are found, but no one has yet heard that the Savior Jesus has come. Who will go to these places and tell them? Perhaps it will be people like you and me one day.

Let's praise God for letting us know about the Savior the Savior, Jesus. Let's ask Him to work in our hearts that we would turn from our sins and trust in Him as our own Savior. Let's ask Him to fill us with love for people who do not know about Him and courage to take the good news of salvation to them that they might turn and believe in Him, too.



Draw a picture from the story

**SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU**

**1. A Question about the Bible Truth, True or False:**  
 Nothing much changed after Adam and Eve disobeyed God. They were just as happy and loving as ever.  
 Answer: False. Most everything changed after Adam and Eve disobeyed God. They became afraid and selfish. Their work was frustrating and painful. Their bodies grew sick and died. Their perfect fellowship with God was broken.

**2. Crack the Case Questions**  
**a. Whose eyes were dead? Why were these such hard eyes for a doctor to heal?**  
 The lights on the chief's truck. He call them eyes. The doctor wasn't trained in fixing cars.

**b. What did God use the dead eyes to help many new people see?**  
 The doctor fixed the truck's lights and then was allowed to tell Bible stories so that the tribe's people could hear the good news of Jesus for the first time. At last they could "see" (under-stand) what God was like and how they could be saved.

**3. Fill in the missing words from the Bible Verse:**  
**Romans 6:23**  
 "For the wages of \_\_\_ is death, but the gift of \_\_\_ is eternal \_\_\_ in Christ Jesus our Lord."  
 Answers: sin, God, life.

**BIBLE TRUTH HYMN**

**Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy**  
*PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 9*

**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

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.

**AN ACTS PRAYER FROM OUR STORY**

*A=Adoration, C=Confession, T=Thanksgiving, S=Supplication*

**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.

**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.

**T** God, we thank You for Your Holy Spirit that You put in Your people's hearts to give them love for You.

**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.

**BIBLE VERSE SONG**

**For the Wages of Sin Is Death**  
*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 10*

For the wages of sin is death,  
 But the gift of God is eternal life,  
 Through Christ Jesus our Lord.  
 For the wages of sin is death,  
 But the gift of God is eternal life,  
 Through Christ Jesus our Lord.  
 Romans Six, twenty-three.

Words adapted from Romans 6:23 Constance Dever © 2011

Because God is good and just, He punishes sin. When Adam and Eve rebelled against God, He punished their sin. What is the punishment for sin? It is death--separation from God and all His good ways. Adam and Eve knew some of that separation from God that very day. When their bodies died they deserved to know complete separation from Him. But God is so very merciful. He treats sinners who repent of their sins and trust in Him so much better than they deserve! That same day God gave Adam and Eve the punishment for their sins, He also gave them the promise of eternal life through Jesus, the son of Eve who would crush Satan once and for all.

## BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION

**We're in... Unit 6: God, the Just and Merciful**

### Unit 6 Big Question and Answer and Song:

"How Did Bad Things Come to God's Good World?"  
Bad Things Came Through Sin!"

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Tracks 3,4*

### Unit 6 Bible Verse and Song: Romans 5:12

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned."

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 5*

## BIBLE TRUTH

**We're learning... Bible Truth 2:**

### God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy

When Adam and Eve rebelled against God, they received the terrible consequences of their sins, just as God had warned them they would. They had enjoyed a life without sin. Now all that changed. Their hearts used to be full of peace and love. Now they were afraid and selfish. Their work used to be a complete pleasure. Now it became frustrating and unsatisfying, filled with troubles. Their bodies had been full of health and life. Now they grew weak and sick. One day they would die. Worst of all, they used to enjoy wonderful fellowship with God, and now that fellowship was broken. This is what the Bible calls being dead in sin. How Adam and Eve and all God's creation groaned under sin!

Adam and Eve deserved no relief from their punishment, but God treated them better than they deserved. He gave them hope, even that day. He promised them that a son of Eve's would come to defeat Satan and bring salvation.

Who was that son? Jesus, the Son of God! He would live the perfect life that Adam and Eve should have lived, but did not. On the cross, He would offer it up as the perfect payment for the sins of all those who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. God, Himself, would satisfy His justice so that He could show us mercy!

## BIBLE VERSE

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

### Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse: Romans 6:23

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

## CASE STORY

*Genesis 2,3; Ezekiel 47:12; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; 59:15-16; 65:17-25; Daniel 9:25; John 10:15-18; 11:25; 14:2-3; 1 Corinthians 15:50-54; Rev. 2:7; 20:7ff; 22:1-5*

### Our story is: The Case of the Happy Homecoming.

**As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:** 1. Who was shut out of their home? Why?  
2. What was the happy new home? How would they get there?

This story starts back, thousands and thousands of years ago, not long after the creation of the world.

There simply was no going home for Adam and Eve. The mighty, six-winged cherubim and the flaming sword that flashed back and forth across the entrance of the Garden made that very clear! God was sending Adam and Eve away from home. Away from the delicious fruit on the trees that had never been more than an outstretched arm away. Away from the river that watered the plants of the Garden for them. Away from the special presence of God they enjoyed. Away from the Tree of Life, through which God would have rewarded them with eternal life to enjoy Him, each other and all He had created forever. They would have had their children there; and they, too, would have grown up knowing all that perfection, too. As they filled and subdued the earth as God had told them to, the wonderful Garden would have expanded more and more and more until it reached the very ends of the earth. Ah, the home God had made for them! It had been so wonderful!

But it was not their home no longer. Now they were sinners. They had chosen to disobey God and His good ways and it was a choice that cost them dearly. They had to leave behind the Garden and the close fellowship they had with God. Now they would have to fight weeds and hard, dry soil to grow their own food. Now they would have to haul their own water to feed the thirsty plants. Now their bodies would ache, grow old and die. Now they would grumble at each other; they would be greedy and selfish. Now they would be separated from God. Their children would grow up to be just like them. Oh why, oh why, oh why, had they not trusted and obeyed the LORD?! Now Eden was gone forever; and with it, eternal life.

But was it? Actually, it was not. God's love and mercy towards these sinners continued! It wasn't only to satisfy His justice against their sin that the LORD had sent Adam and Eve from the Garden. It was His mercy, too. God was keeping them from the Tree of Life. Eternal life was the reward for those who perfectly obeyed God. To eat from

God was keeping them from the Tree of Life. Eternal life was the reward for those who perfectly obeyed God. To eat from the Tree now as sinners would only bring God's immediate, eternal judgment. The LORD would not let that happen. He had far more glorious plans for His people than that. He would send His Son, Himself, to be their Savior. Jesus would live the perfect life His sinful people were unable to. Then, Jesus would offer His life up as the perfect sacrifice for their sins. To all who would ever turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their own Savior, He would give the reward of eternal life that He earned with His own perfectly obedient life.

This was amazing, but there was more! At the end of time, God would bring an end to the heavens and earth and would create new ones for His people to enjoy. It would be like Eden again...only a million times better. No sin, sorrow or death would ever come to that new world and it would last forever.

So, yes, it was true. Adam and Eve, nor any other human after them could never go back home to Eden. But they could look forward to a better home that lay ahead. They could trust in the God's promises to send a Savior to crush Satan and pay the wages of their sin. They could look forward in faith for God's gift of eternal life to come.

Many years passed and as they passed, God's people kept looking forward. They kept waiting for the Savior to come. They kept waiting for new heavens and new earth. Oh, how they wanted to go home!

It was hard living in this sinful world! Many times God's people lost their struggles with sin. Many times they suffered at the hands of others who rebelled against God. The Temple where they worshiped God was destroyed. It was hard to keep hoping and always look forward in faith. Yet God sent them little glimmers of hope to encourage them to persevere.

Through the prophet Daniel the LORD told them: "The Savior is coming 483 years after King Cyrus orders the Temple to be rebuilt. Don't give up! Keep looking forward in faith!

Through the prophet Isaiah the LORD told them: "I, Myself, am Your Savior. It will be Me who comes to take away your sins; keep looking forward in faith!" And behold, I am preparing a wonderful home for you to come home to, My people," He told them. "I will create new heavens and a new earth for you. This old world will never even be remembered again," He promised them. "This new home will be a delight. The sound of weeping will never

be heard again. No more will you toil at your work like you have since Adam and Eve rebelled. Everything you do will turn out just right. Even all the creatures will be at peace with each other again like they were in Eden. Keep looking forward in faith. Don't give up!" He urged them.

At last the Savior Jesus did come: "I am the Resurrection and the Life," He told the people. "I have come to lay down my life for God's people. Whoever believes in Me though He will die, yet will he live! I am going to heaven to prepare a place for you; then I will come back for you, so you can be with Me forever. Believe in Me! Keep looking forward in faith to what I will do!" He encouraged them.

Jesus lived a perfect life; then He died on the cross, paid the wages for their sins and offered up His perfect life as the substitute for God's people—all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their own Savior. On the third day, He rose up from the dead and went to heaven in victory. At last Satan had been crushed! At last the way to the new home for God's people had been opened up!

Even more years passed. God's people's spread the good news of Jesus that many others might be saved, too! How they wanted everyone to know eternal life with God. Oh, that they, too, might go home to live with God in the new heavens and earth one day!

Sometimes people accepted their words happily, but sometimes people became very angry. Sometimes they even hurt God's people terribly for their faith in Jesus! In times like that, it was hard to keep going. So God told them more about their new home through a special dream He gave the apostle John:

"My people! Don't stop now! Don't give up! Keep looking forward in faith! Listen to what is coming: One day, I will come back and take all My people home to be with Me. Your bodies will be raised from their graves and be changed in wonderful ways. Then, this tired, old, sin-worn world will be destroyed. Satan, the demons, and all the people who refuse to stop rebelling against Me will be put away, once and for all. But you and all the rest of My people will come at last to the new heavens and earth-- I am creating for you," the Lord told them.

"But there's even more," the Lord said. "Your new home will be more wonderful than you can imagine! It will be like the Garden of Eden, but far better in every way. Eden was a garden, but this new home will fill all of the new heavens and new earth. Eden had a river of regular water that flowed throughout it and watered the plants; but in your new home, My Spirit will flow out from My Throne

and bring My Life to everything, like a great River of Life. In Eden there was one Tree of Life, but your new home will be so full of My Eternal Life and healing for your sins that it will be like a whole grove of Trees of Life, always full of fruit. There will never be a time when I will not provide for you or sustain you with My Eternal Life. I will heal your suffering and sadness forever. Together, My precious people and I will enjoy perfect fellowship and love, face to face, forever and ever.

“Never forget this picture of your new home I am giving you! Keep looking forward!” the Lord told them.

“Don’t give up! Look forward in faith! Soon you will be going home to be with Me forever! These hard times will be gone forever!”

God’s people are still waiting today. They are still spreading the good news of Jesus that other might be saved. How that still want them to go home to live with God in the new heavens and earth one day!

Sometimes people accept their words happily, but sometimes people still become very angry. Sometimes God’s people still suffer terribly for their faith in Jesus. And yes, they are still waiting and wondering: “When will we go home?” they wonder. But just like God’s people long ago, they must not give up, but keep looking forward in faith. He will bring them home at just the right time. And every day, that wonderful day is one day closer! Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

**Our Bible Truth is:**

**God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy**

**Our Bible Verse is: Romans 6:23**

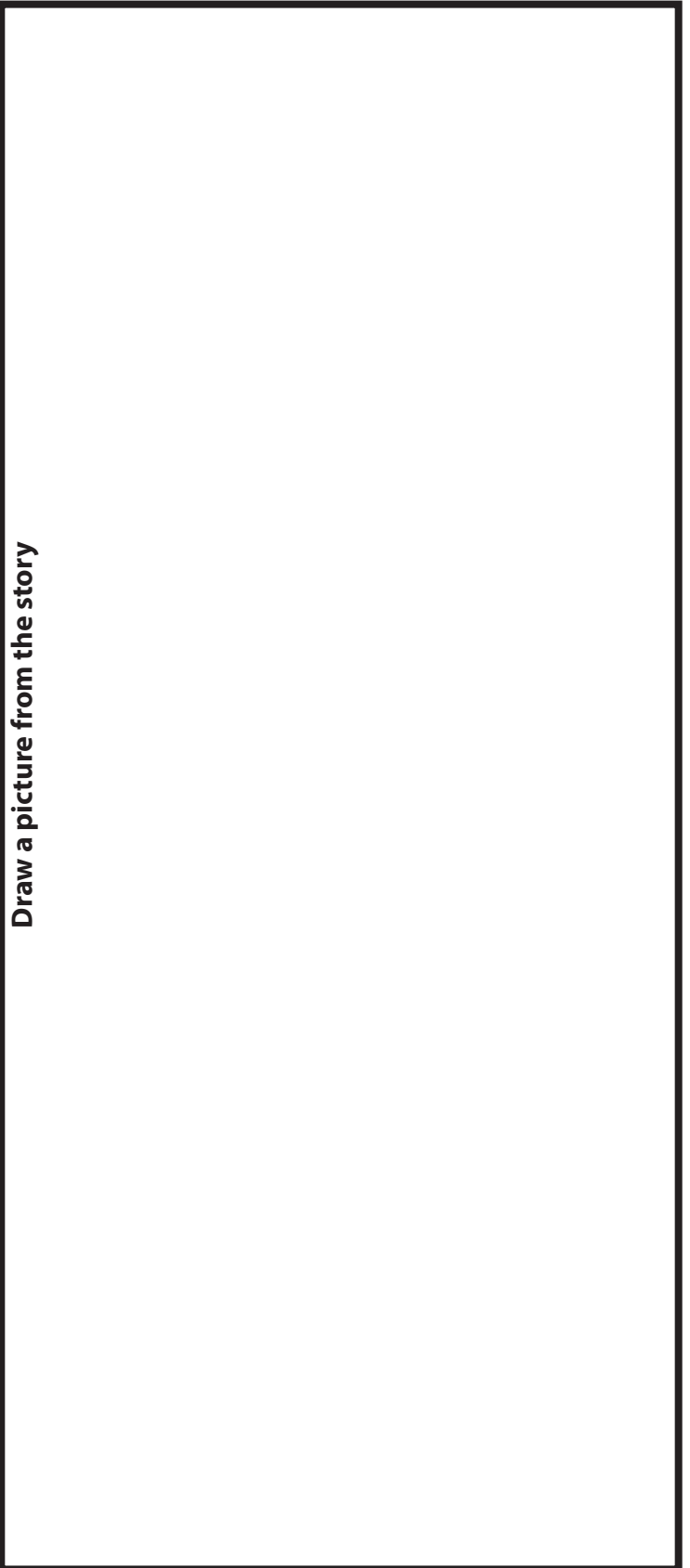
“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

What about you and me? Do we not sometimes get tired of this old, sin-worn world? Do we not long for suffering, sin and sorrow to end? Yes, we do! Sometimes we want to give up. What is God’s word to us, if we are His people—those who have turned from their sins and trust in Jesus to save them? It is the same as it has been to all of His people: “Don’t give up! Look forward in faith!” One day we will be home with Him. God’s gift of eternal life and healing for all for all our sorrows and sufferings awaits us, too!

Let’s praise God for being so merciful to His people and for planning such a wonderful home for them to look forward to. Let’s ask Him to work in our hearts, that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Let’s ask Him to encourage us to never give up,

even through the hardest times; but to live today bravely for Him, looking forward in faith to the time when we will go home to be with Him forever.

Draw a picture from the story



<b>SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU</b>
<p><b>1. A Question about the Bible Truth, True or False:</b>                      God treated Adam and Eve with mercy by promising to send a Savior to save them and to crush Satan's power. That Savior was Jesus!                      Answer: True.</p> <p><b>2. Crack the Case Questions</b>  <b>a. Who was shut out of their home? Why?</b>                      Adam and Eve, and all of us with them. When they rebelled against God, they were driven out of Eden and lost their home of perfect fellowship with God. This was the consequences of their sinful disobedience. Through them, all of us lost our home of perfect fellowship with God.</p> <p><b>b. What was the happy new home? How would they get there?</b>                      The happy new home is life with God in the new heaven and earth God will create at the end of time when Satan is completely defeated. All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will enjoy this happy home. He made the way for us to live there when He paid for our sins on the cross.</p> <p><b>3. Fill in the missing words from the Bible Verse:</b>  <b>Romans 6:23</b>                      "For the wages of sin is ____, but the gift of God is ____ life in Christ Jesus our ____."                      Answers: death, eternal, Lord.</p>

<b>BIBLE TRUTH HYMN</b>
<p><b>Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy</b>  <i>PFI NIV Songs 12, Track 9</i></p> <p><b>Verse 1</b>                      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.</p> <p><b>Refrain</b>                      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.</p> <p>Words: Joseph Hart Music: Walker's Southern Harmony</p> <p>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.</p>

<b>AN ACTS PRAYER FROM OUR STORY</b>
<p><i>A=Adoration, C=Confession, T=Thanksgiving, S=Supplication</i></p> <p><b>A</b> God, we praise You for being our Savior! Jesus, You are the strong, second Adam, who always said 'no' to Satan and won salvation for God's people.</p> <p><b>C</b> God, we confess that many times we give into temptation. We choose to disobey God. We deserve God's punishment! We need a Savior!</p> <p><b>T</b> Jesus, thank You for always choosing to obey God, Your Father, even when it meant terrible suffering. Thank You for being our Savior.</p> <p><b>S</b> God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to say 'no' to the temptations of Satan, and say 'yes' to obeying God, even when it is very hard.</p>

<b>BIBLE VERSE SONG</b>
<p><b>For the Wages of Sin Is Death</b>  <i>PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 10</i></p> <p>For the wages of sin is death,                      But the gift of God is eternal life,                      Through Christ Jesus our Lord.                      For the wages of sin is death,                      But the gift of God is eternal life,                      Through Christ Jesus our Lord.                      Romans Six, twenty-three.</p> <p>Words adapted from Romans 6:23 Constance Dever © 2011</p> <p>Because God is good and just, He punishes sin. When Adam and Eve rebelled against God, He punished their sin. What is the punishment for sin? It is death--separation from God and all His good ways. Adam and Eve knew some of that separation from God that very day. When their bodies died they deserved to know complete separation from Him. But God is so very merciful. He treats sinners who repent of their sins and trust in Him so much better than they deserve! That same day God gave Adam and Eve the punishment for their sins, He also gave them the promise of eternal life through Jesus, the son of Eve who would crush Satan once and for all.</p>



## BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION

*We're in... Unit 6: God, the Just and Merciful*

### Unit 6 Big Question and Answer and Song:

"How Did Bad Things Come to God's Good World?"  
Bad Things Came Through Sin!"

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Tracks 3,4*

### Unit 6 Bible Verse and Song: Romans 5:12

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned."

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 5*

## BIBLE TRUTH

*We're learning... Bible Truth 3:*

### God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy

Adam and Eve did not just disobey God once and stop. They had become sinners with sinful hearts that rebelled against God again and again. But sin didn't stop with Adam and Eve. They passed down the consequences of their sin to all their children.

Each and every one of us come from Adam and Eve's family—we are all their children. And because we are their children, we are all born sinners with sinful hearts and with bodies that will suffer and die. And also like Adam and Eve, we all deserve eternal punishment for our sins, too.

Yet God, in His great mercy, always planned to send His Son Jesus to save His sinful people by taking the punishment for their sins upon Himself. Jesus did this when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, He rose from the dead, showing He had beaten sin and death.

God promises to forgive all who confess their sins to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He will give them each a new heart, filled with His Holy Spirit—a heart that knows and loves Him more and more. And one day, when they die, they will not receive the eternal punishment they deserve for their sins, but eternal life with God forever. How great is God's mercy through Jesus to sinful people like us!

## BIBLE VERSE

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

### Bible Truth 3 Bible Verse: Romans 5:17

"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."

## CASE STORY

*Genesis 4; Hebrews 11:4; 1 John 3:12*

### Our story is called:

#### The Case of the Gift No One Wanted.

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

1. What was the gift no one wanted? Who gave it? Who received it?
2. What did Jesus do to get rid of it?

Our story today takes place back in the beginning, when Adam and Eve rebelled against God.

What a terrible day it had been! How much Adam and Eve had lost! Their beautiful garden home, the pureness of love in their hearts; and all the dreams of unending, perfect life with God in the beautiful world He had made for them. How sweet had in been inside the Garden, in perfect fellowship with God and each other! And how sad it was already, outside the Garden, out of perfect fellowship with God and each other.

Sad, it was; but, there was no getting around it. This was the new normal. So, Adam and Eve set out to live in the world outside the Garden, armed with nothing more than the animal skin clothes that God had mercifully made them.

It didn't take long for Adam and Eve to see the effects of their sin, both upon themselves and the world around them. What would it be like to see the curse of sin slowly ruin every part of God's perfect creation and know it was your fault? Horrible, I imagine. Well, that is exactly what Adam and Eve faced the day they were sent out of the Garden!

Because of their sinful choices, Adam now had to fight weeds and thorns that choked the food crops he tried to grow. He had to fight off animals that now had turned wild and fierce. With pain, Eve gave birth to her sons, Cain and Abel. Both Adam and Eve felt an awful selfishness and wickedness grow in their hearts. It was all just as God had said it would be, and oh, how terrible it was to bear the consequences of their sin!

Adam and Eve hated the choices they made and they hated Satan for tempting them to rebel against God; but now there was nothing they could do. Nothing, that is, except have faith in God's promises. And that is what they did.

Adam showed his faith as he named his wife, Eve—the mother of the living. He believed God's promise to give

Eve children who would fight against sin and strive to love God. He believed that one day, one of these children would be the promised Savior who would bring Life--eternal life-- to God's people by crushing Satan's power.

Eve showed her faith at the birth of her first son, Cain. "With the LORD's help I have brought forth a man," she exclaimed. She could see that God had begun to fulfill His promises to them. Cain was the first child of many to come into the world. One of them, Eve believed, would be the Savior God would send to defeat Satan once and for all.

God never told them how long they would have to wait for this special son of hers who would crush Satan. But Adam and Eve believed the Savior would come. They knew how good and merciful God was. They knew how much He loved them. Perhaps they even thought that Cain or Abel might be the promised Savior.

But if they did, it became clear all too quickly that neither these boys were not the Savior! Even while the boys were just young children, Adam and Eve could see that the hearts of Cain and Abel were filled with selfishness and wickedness. No. Eve had not given birth to a Savior; she had given birth to more sinful people who needed saving, just like themselves. Adam and Eve had passed their sin down to their children!

But if Adam and Eve passed down their sin, there was something else they could pass down, too: the promises of God. They could tell Cain and Abel of the perfect world they had known and of the perfect fellowship with God and each other they had shared. They could tell them of the serpent's tricks, of their sinful choices and how their sin meant they would die. But they could comfort them with God's promise to send a Savior to crush Satan one day. They could never be sinless themselves here on earth, but they could become children of God's promise and be saved through faith in Him.

Abel must have listened to Adam and Eve and believed. He knew he was a sinner like his parents and had no hope other than God for salvation. He was a child of the Promise. He looked forward in faith to the day God would send the promised Savior. Abel was a keeper of flocks—sheep and goats. When his animals gave birth to their firstborn, Abel would look among the new little animals for the best, the fattest, most perfect ones to present to God. God looked on Abel's sacrifice and saw how it reflected Abel's heart. Yes, it was a heart full of sin, but it was also full of desire to honor God above all else and trust in Him for salvation. The

LORD accepted Abel's offering and counted him as righteous—clean of sin through his faith in God.

But then there was Cain. Cain would have heard the same stories about God as Abel did. He would have known the same promises of a Savior God had made to them. And he certainly felt the same tug of sinful desires in his heart. But unlike Abel, Cain refused to believe. Cain was a farmer. And yes, Cain made offerings to God from the crops he grew, but he did not make sure to give God the first and best of his crops. He only gave Him "some" of his crops, and held back the best for himself. Cain did not honor the LORD in his heart or with his life.

When the LORD warned Adam and Eve about the "offspring of the serpent" that would be their enemies, it wasn't baby serpents or baby Satans (angels/demons can't even have children) that the LORD was speaking of. He was talking about people, like Cain, who would hold on to their sin and rebellion instead of turning to faith in God. These people would fight God and against the people who put their faith in God.

God looked at Cain's offering and saw right into Cain's unworshipful heart. He rejected his offering. This made Cain furious! He walked away from the altar downcast. God had accepted his brother Abel's offering, but refused his!

Then the LORD said to Cain: Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you don't do what is right, sin is waiting for you, it wants to have you, but you must master it." (Genesis 4:6-7) God was making it clear: He would accept Cain and his sacrifice if Cain would repent of his sin and worship God in his heart and with his first fruits. God was warning Cain to turn from the sinful desires of his heart and trust in Him that he might be saved.

But there was to be no turning in Cain. Cain didn't want to master his evil desires. He wanted to give in to them. Cain invited Abel to go out in the field with him, then attacked him and killed him! Instead of mastering the sin that tempted him, Cain had allowed his sin to master him. He had murdered someone—the very first murder in the world.

Much like He had done with Adam and Eve after they had sinned in the Garden, the LORD now came to question Cain: "Where is your brother Abel?" the LORD asked Cain.

"I don't know. Am I supposed to know where he is all the time? Am I my brother's keeper?" Cain lied, trying to hide

his sin, just like his parents had before him.

But nothing can be hidden from God. The LORD revealed what Cain wanted to hide, then gave him his punishment.

“What have you done?” the LORD said to Cain. “Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground. Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth.

“LORD, “my punishment is more than I can bear,” Cain cried out. “Today You are driving me from the land, hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me,” Cain groaned. Cain didn’t like his punishment, but never once did he confess his sin and ask God’s forgiveness. How hard and selfish his heart was!

Yet even to this hard-hearted man God once more showed mercy. Cain had killed his very own brother. He deserved to be killed himself; but instead the LORD told him: “Not so; if anyone kills Cain, he will be punished himself seven times more than you.” Then LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. So Cain went out from the LORD’s presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Cain was to be only the first of a long line of sinful children of Adam and Eve who each chose to reject God and His merciful offer of salvation. Until Jesus comes back at the end of time, there will always be unrepentant sinners like him.

But what of God’s promise that there would also be a long line of sinful children of Adam and Eve who would turn from their sins and have faith in God? What about these children of God’s Promise, as they are called? Adam and Eve had lost both sons in a single day: one murdered and one sent away to wander far from them and from God all the days of his life. Would there be no more children of the Promise? And what of God’s promise to send a Savior? How could there be a Savior with no children?

God in His faithfulness and mercy gave Adam and Eve another son, a boy named Seth. And though Seth was of course a sinner, he was a child of the Promise, too. Like Abel, he called upon the name of the LORD. He loved God and looked forward in faith to the promised Savior that God would send. Here was a son, through which God

would bring even more children. Here was a son through whom God would even send Jesus one day, to crush Satan’s power and bring salvation. And of course, that is just what the LORD did, just as He promised He would, at just the right time, to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Him as their own Savior. How faithful God is to His sinful people!

**Our Bible Truth is:**

**All People Are Born Sinful, All People Need God’s Mercy**

**Our Bible Verse is: Romans 5:17**

“For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God’s abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.”

What about you and me? We are children of Adam and Eve, too. Like Cain, Abel and Seth, there is much sin in our hearts, in what we do and say, and in how we treat God. And just like them, we have a choice to make. We can harden our hearts against God and be an “offspring of the serpent” like Cain. Or, like Abel and Seth, we can become children of the Promise who humbly confess our sins to God, turn away from disobeying Him and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Let’s praise God for mercifully making a way to save us through the Savior Jesus. Let’s ask Him to soften our hearts and the hearts of all children of Adam and Eve to turn in faith to Him.

**SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU**

**1. A Question about the Bible Truth, True or False:**

Adam and Eve disobeyed God, but when they died that was the end of sin.

*Answer: False. Sadly, Adam and Eve passed their sinfulness down to all of us, their children.*

**2. Crack the Case Questions**

**a. What was the gift no one wanted? Who gave it?**

**Who received it?**

Sin! Adam and Eve passed it down to all their children. That's all of us!

**b. What did Jesus do to get rid of it?**

Jesus, the Son of God, came to be our Savior. He was human, but He never sinned. He lived a perfect life and offered it up as the perfect payment for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him. He suffered and died on the cross and rose from the dead on the third day in victory. Because of Him, we can be saved from our sins even now. And when we die, we can be free from sin and live in God's presence forever!

**3. Fill in the missing words from the Bible Verse:**

**Romans 5:17**

"For if, by the \_\_\_ of the one man, death reigned through that one \_\_\_, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of \_\_\_ and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."

Answers: trespass; man; grace.

**BIBLE TRUTH HYMN**

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

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 11*

**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.

**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

From Adam and Eve on down to us, we are all are weary and heavy-laden with sin. Try as hard as we might, we can never get rid of our sin on our own. And, we can never make ourselves acceptable to God on our own. But God, in His great mercy, offers all who are ruined by the Fall to find forgiveness of sins and eternal life through Jesus. We don't have to wait until we are less sinful to come to Jesus. He will take us as we are. And there, we can find not only forgiveness for our sins and rest for our souls, weary with sin. We can find wonderful fellowship with God. And that is better than even ten thousand things that charm us (that we think are delightful.)

**AN ACTS PRAYER FROM OUR STORY**

*A=Adoration, C=Confession, T=Thanksgiving, S=Supplication*

**A** God, we praise You for being the one true God, alone worthy of our worship.

**C** God, we confess that we too many times we choose to not love You when things are hard. We want to please and protect ourselves, instead of pleasing and depending upon You. We need a Savior!

**T** God, we thank You for giving Your people the courage to live for You and to love You, even when it is very hard.

**S** God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn away from our sins and trust Jesus as our own Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts so that we would love and live for You, even when it is very hard.

**BIBLE VERSE SONG**

**For If by the Trespass**

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 12*

"For if, by the trespass of the one man,  
death reigned through one man,  
For if, by the trespass of the one man,  
death reigned through one man,  
Then how much more will those who receive  
God's abundant grace and righteousness  
Reign in life, Reign in life,  
Through one man, Jesus Christ."  
Romans Five, seventeen.

Words: Romans 5:17, NIV 1984 Music: Constance Dever ©2011

Adam and Eve passed on their sinful hearts to their children--all of us! That means that we all are born sinners. How terrible! But God promised to show mercy to all who look in faith to the Savior who would crush Satan's power. Yes! All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus are saved from the punishment they deserve from God for their sins. Sin came through one man, Adam. But Jesus, the Son of God and the son of man, gives His grace and perfect righteousness--everything they need to be saved!

## BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION

*We're in... Unit 6: God, the Just and Merciful*

### Unit 6 Big Question and Answer and Song:

"How Did Bad Things Come to God's Good World?"  
Bad Things Came Through Sin!"

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Tracks 3,4*

### Unit 6 Bible Verse and Song: Romans 5:12

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned."

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 5*

## BIBLE TRUTH

*We're learning... Bible Truth 3:*

### God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy

Adam and Eve did not just disobey God once and stop. They had become sinners with sinful hearts that rebelled against God again and again. But sin didn't stop with Adam and Eve. They passed down the consequences of their sin to all their children.

Each and every one of us come from Adam and Eve's family--we are all their children. And because we are their children, we are all born sinners with sinful hearts and with bodies that will suffer and die. And also like Adam and Eve, we all deserve eternal punishment for our sins, too.

Yet God, in His great mercy, always planned to send His Son Jesus to save His sinful people by taking the punishment for their sins upon Himself. Jesus did this when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, He rose from the dead, showing He had beaten sin and death.

God promises to forgive all who confess their sins to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He will give them each a new heart, filled with His Holy Spirit--a heart that knows and loves Him more and more. And one day, when they die, they will not receive the eternal punishment they deserve for their sins, but eternal life with God forever. How great is God's mercy through Jesus to sinful people like us!

## BIBLE VERSE

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

### Bible Truth 3 Bible Verse: Romans 5:17

"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."

## CASE STORY

**Our story is called:**

**The Case of the Unsinkable Message.**

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

1. Who told the unsinkable message? Why did he tell this message even as he sank?
2. What was the unsinkable message? What difference did it make?

This story doesn't take place in Bible times. It takes place in the 1912, beginning in Glasgow, Scotland.

Glasgow was a big city built on beautiful, misty hills, next to the River Clyde. But while the hills and river reflected the beauty of God's creation, the city itself sadly reflected the sin and suffering that came into the world when Adam and Eve rebelled against God, long ago.

Many of the people of Glasgow were miserably poor. Large families were crowded into small, dirty apartments, without even a bathroom. Most men, women, and even children worked long hours, six days a week, in factories which everything from giant ships and train tracks to textiles (fabric and clothes making) and lace. The long hours in terrible conditions paid very little and made many sick.

In their hearts, the people of Glasgow suffered, too. God had created them to find their joy and comfort in Him; but like all humans since Adam and Eve, these people had broken fellowship with Him. Instead of turning to God to help them and save them, they turned to gambling, cussing, prize fighting and getting drunk on beer and whiskey as a way to deal with their sorrows.

Many people didn't even try to help the poor of Glasgow. They looked at their run-down houses and their bad habits and wanted nothing to do with them. "There's no hope for these people! Why should we bother? Nothing can change them," they thought.

But there were some in Glasgow who disagreed, especially a man named John Harper. "Yes," said John, "these poor people live sad and sinful lives, but so have all people, since the time when Adam and Eve rebelled against God. There's no way that we can save them, but God can. He promised Adam and Eve He would send a Savior to crush Satan. His promise was for all who turn from their sins and believe in the LORD Jesus Christ. I'm going to tell these poor people of about Jesus. I'm going to pray to God to save them." John had a heart to do one

thing and to do it to the end. He worked bring people out of lives filled with sin and death to wonderful fellowship with God through Jesus-- including those poor people of Glasgow.

John began to wait by the factory gates for the people at lunchtime. As they ate their bread and butter sandwiches, he told them about Jesus. He went to their shabby houses as well as the places where they drank, gambled and watched prize fighters, and he told them about Jesus there, too. He invited them to come to his church and prayed over every seat, in one by one, that God would fill it on with someone who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

God blessed John's efforts. Many people were saved. Their lives were still very hard, but God filled their hearts with joy and peace. They were changed people!

God used John mightily and soon, other churches invited him to speak to them, too. One church in Chicago asked him to come preach for three whole months. John believed the LORD wanted him to go. He booked tickets for him and his little daughter, Nana, to sail to New York on none other than the Titanic, the amazing new ship about to set sail to America for the first time.

When John and Nana boarded the Titanic, it was more than they imagined. It was the largest man-made, movable object ever built, and the most powerful ship in the world! It was 883 feet high—about as tall as an eleven-story building. It carried over 800 crew and 1200 passengers. Best of all, White Star, the company who owned the ship, claimed that the new, watertight compartments made the ship unsinkable. One crew member even boasted that not even God Himself could sink the ship!

The Titanic wasn't just big and safe; it was elegant as well. The drawing rooms had crystal chandeliers and people dined off of plates of finest china and gold. There were steamy Turkish baths, mechanical camels and horses to ride, beautiful fireplaces in the rooms, and the first swimming pool ever put on a boat, but only the first-class passengers (who paid \$55,000 per ticket!!!) could use them. There were plenty of those very wealthy people on board the Titanic that day. Benjamin Guggenheim, whose money came from iron factories; Molly Brown, the woman who had grown rich from gold mines in Colorado; Mr. Straus, the owner of Macy's department store along with his wife were there. Even Colonel John Jacob Astor, the

richest man in the world had reserved a room.

John and Nana knew they wouldn't get to do the special things reserved for the very rich, but they would get a peak at them. What a parade of mink coats and jewels it was! But as amazing as the Titanic and its rich passengers were, John thought of only one thing: "These people are lost. Riches won't satisfy them any more than the drinking, gambling and prize fighting could satisfy the poor people of Glasgow. Their lives are hopelessly bound up in sin and suffering, too. They need the Savior Jesus. I'm going to spend this trip praying and telling them about Him, that they might be saved.

God answered John's prayers, for it was for that very reason that God wanted John on that boat, as John was to see, late on the fourth night of the voyage.

The fourth night started out like any other night on the Titanic. Up in the elegant drawing rooms, the rich passengers were dining and dancing. And then at eleven p.m., everything changed. The crew spotted a monstrous, 200,000 ton iceberg straight ahead! The iceberg rammed into the ship's side, causing a huge shower of ice shavings on deck. Many enjoyed the near miss; some even reached out to take ice from the iceberg to put in their drinks. They had no idea that the iceberg had sliced a huge hole in the ship.

"There's a huge tear on the hull," the anxious crew told Captain Smith. "Six of the watertight compartments are filling with water. What should we do?"

"Seal them off. We must keep the water from spreading to the rest of the ship," the captain commanded.

But it was no use. By a little after midnight, the captain knew the ship was going down. "Shoot off the flares! Muster the lifeboats! Alert the passengers! The Titanic will sink in just a couple hours!" he ordered them.

As the word spread, the passengers broke out into a panic. Everyone began to scramble for the lifeboats, only to find out that there were only enough boats for a few hundred of the 2000 people aboard the ship. Women and children would be boarded first, it was decided. Any remaining spots would be given to men. The rest of the people would have to find some way to survive on floating wreckage in the freezing water...or go down with the ship. Some men did not like this. One man even dressed up like a woman to try to get on a boat. Others stole boats for themselves.

But what about John and Nana? What did they do as the Titanic began to sink? As soon as the alarm was sounded, John knew what the LORD would have him do. The LORD had not sent him on this journey to preach to lost people in Chicago; He had sent him to preach to lost people on the Titanic, that they might be saved for eternal life.

John kissed his daughter with a heart-breaking goodbye, put her in safe hands on one of the lifeboats, and then went to work sharing the good news of Jesus. As he helped people scrambling to the boats he asked, "Do you know Jesus? Are you saved?"

"No," was answer from most.

"Then believe on the LORD Jesus Christ. And you will be saved. It is not too late!" he urged them.

Soon, all the lifeboats were full. That left more than 1500 people still on board. Many panicked as they faced the thought of dying in the icy waters, but not John. He had a heart to do one thing: tell the good news of Jesus to as many as he could! There was no lifeboat to save them for this life, but there was a Savior who could save them for all eternity! That was even better!

"Believe on the LORD Jesus Christ and you shall be saved! Believe on the LORD Jesus Christ and you shall be saved," he told all who would listen.

Before long, the Titanic's stern tipped high in the sky, and then the mighty ship slid down into the ocean.

Passengers joined hands and leaped into the bitterly cold waters. John was among those in the icy waters. John knew he would not survive long in those freezing waters, but still he didn't panic. He knew he was saved. Soon he would be with Jesus forever. His only thought for those who were about to die and were not saved. Even in the water, John kept on preaching. A man clinging to a piece of wood floated near John. "Man, are you saved?" John called out. "No, I am not," the man replied. "Then believe on the LORD Jesus Christ and you shall be saved!" John urged him.

Before the man could answer, a wave swept him away. Before long, though, another wave swept him near again. John called to him again, "Man are you saved now?" "No, sir. I am not." So again, John urged him once more, "Believe on the LORD Jesus Christ and you shall be saved."

With that last plea upon his lips, the cold overtook him. John's body slipped into the deep and he died, but his spirit went up into the glorious presence of His beloved LORD Jesus Christ, who he had proclaimed even with his

last breath. Little did John know that the man clinging to the wood accepted Jesus.

John had a heart to do one thing and to do it to the end. He labored to bring people out of lives filled with sin and death to wonderful fellowship with God through Jesus--even with his last, dying breath.

The news of the sinking of the Titanic shocked the world. Outside the door of the White Star office crowded anxious friends and family of passengers around two lists posted. On one list was written: "Known to Be Lost." On the other, "Known to Be Saved." Cries of relief or horror went up as the names of loved ones were found on the lists.

John Harper's name appeared on the White Star's "Known to Be Lost" list, for indeed he had been lost to the sea. Many people mourned at the loss of such a wonderful man of God. But there was rejoicing in heaven, as not only John but many others on White Star's lists had believed on the LORD Jesus Christ and were Known to Be Saved from their sins and for eternal life with God.

**Our Bible Truth is: All People Are Born Sinful,  
All People Need God's Mercy**

**Our Bible Verse is: Romans 5:17**

"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."

John Harper had a heart to do one thing and to do it to the end. He labored to bring people out of lives filled with sin and death to wonderful fellowship with God through Jesus.

What about you and me? Have we turned from our sins and believed in the LORD Jesus Christ? Have we been saved for eternal life with God? God offers His salvation to all who come to Him. And if we have been saved, what is it that we should have a heart to do and do it to the end? Should it not be to bring people out of lives filled with sin and death to wonderful fellowship with God through Jesus?

Let's praise God for His gracious offer of eternal life to all who have faith in Jesus. Let's ask Him to give us hearts like John Harper, who trusted in Jesus to the end of his life and who made telling others about Jesus the labor of his life.

**SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU**

**1. A Question about the Bible Truth, True or False:**

God, in His great mercy, also planned to send Jesus to save sinners, like you and me.

*Answer: True!*

**2. Crack the Case Questions**

**a. Who told the unsinkable message? What happened to him?**

John Harper. He drowned when the Titanic sank.

**b. What was the unsinkable message? What difference did it make?**

The good news of salvation through faith in Jesus. All those people on the ship were facing death, yet they would receive eternal life if they repented of their sins and believed in Jesus that very night.

**3. Fill in the missing words from the Bible Verse: Romans 5:17**

“For if, by the trespass of the one \_\_\_\_, death reigned through that one man, how much \_\_\_\_ will those who receive God’s abundant provision of grace and of the gift of \_\_\_\_ reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.”

Answers: man; more; righteousness.

**BIBLE TRUTH HYMN**

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

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 11*

**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.

**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

From Adam and Eve on down to us, we are all are weary and heavy-laden with sin. Try as hard as we might, we can never get rid of our sin on our own. And, we can never make ourselves acceptable to God on our own. But God, in His great mercy, offers all who are ruined by the Fall to find forgiveness of sins and eternal life through Jesus. We don’t have to wait until we are less sinful to come to Jesus. He will take us as we are. And there, we came find not only forgiveness for our sins and rest for our souls, weary with sin. We can find wonderful fellowship with God. And that is better than even ten thousand things that charm us (that we think are delightful.)

**AN ACTS PRAYER FROM OUR STORY**

*A=Adoration, C=Confession, T=Thanksgiving, S=Supplication*

**A** God, we praise You for being our merciful Savior.

**C** God, we confess that like everyone on that boat, we are sinners who need to repent and believe in Jesus.

**T** God, we thank You for sending people to tell us the good news of Jesus so we can be saved.

**S** God, work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

**BIBLE VERSE SONG**

**For If by the Trespass**

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 12*

“For if, by the trespass of the one man,  
death reigned through one man,  
For if, by the trespass of the one man,  
death reigned through one man,  
Then how much more will those who receive  
God’s abundant grace and righteousness  
Reign in life, Reign in life,  
Through one man, Jesus Christ.”  
Romans Five, seventeen.

Words: Romans 5:17, NIV 1984 Music: Constance Dever ©2011

Adam and Eve passed on their sinful hearts to their children--all of us! That means that we all are born sinners. How terrible! But God promised to show mercy to all who look in faith to the Savior who would crush Satan’s power. Yes! All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus are saved from the punishment they deserve from God for their sins. Sin came through one man, Adam. But Jesus, the Son of God and the son of man, gives His grace and perfect righteousness--everything they need to be saved!



## BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION

*We're in... Unit 6: God, the Just and Merciful*

### Unit 6 Big Question and Answer and Song:

"How Did Bad Things Come to God's Good World?"  
Bad Things Came Through Sin!"

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Tracks 3,4*

### Unit 6 Bible Verse and Song: Romans 5:12

"Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned."

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 5*

## BIBLE TRUTH

*We're learning... Bible Truth 3:*

### God Treated the First Sinners with Justice and Mercy

Adam and Eve did not just disobey God once and stop. They had become sinners with sinful hearts that rebelled against God again and again. But sin didn't stop with Adam and Eve. They passed down the consequences of their sin to all their children.

Each and every one of us come from Adam and Eve's family--we are all their children. And because we are their children, we are all born sinners with sinful hearts and with bodies that will suffer and die. And also like Adam and Eve, we all deserve eternal punishment for our sins, too.

Yet God, in His great mercy, always planned to send His Son Jesus to save His sinful people by taking the punishment for their sins upon Himself. Jesus did this when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, He rose from the dead, showing He had beaten sin and death.

God promises to forgive all who confess their sins to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He will give them each a new heart, filled with His Holy Spirit--a heart that knows and loves Him more and more. And one day, when they die, they will not receive the eternal punishment they deserve for their sins, but eternal life with God forever. How great is God's mercy through Jesus to sinful people like us!

## BIBLE VERSE

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

### Bible Truth 3 Bible Verse: Romans 5:17

"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."

## CASE STORY

*Joel 2:28-32; Mark 16; Luke 24:36-49; Acts 1,2, 8,9,14,19,28*

### The Case of the Show and Tellers.

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

1. Who were the show and tellers?
2. How did they show? What did they tell? Why?

This story takes place in New Testament times, right after Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

Watch and wait! Watch and wait! That's what God's people had been doing for years and years, since the day Adam and Eve rebelled against God. What had they been watching and waiting for? For God's promises to send a Savior to crush Satan and bring salvation. Oh, how they longed for their enemies of sin and death to be defeated!

Now, at last, it seemed that the day they had been watching and waiting for had come. Jesus had died on the cross three days earlier, and now today--on the day we call Easter Sunday--there were all sorts of amazing stories that Jesus had risen from the dead. The disciples gathered together to eat their fish dinner and to talk about all that had happened. There was the empty tomb where Jesus' body had lay. There was the angel who told the women Jesus had risen. There was Mary Magdalene and Peter and Cleopas who all saw Him. Yes, as incredible as it was, it seemed true!

Then, while they were still talking about this, Jesus himself suddenly stood among them. "Peace be with you," He said to them all. "It's the ghost of Jesus!" the terrified disciples thought.

"Why are you worried? Why do you doubt," Jesus asked them. "Look at my hands and my feet. It's me!! Touch me and see; a ghost doesn't have flesh and bones, I have," He said, holding out his hands and feet. 'Do you have anything to eat?' Jesus asked them.

They gave him a piece of the broiled fish. He took it and ate it. No, this was no ghost! This was Jesus! He was really alive! They were filled with joy and amazement! But Jesus didn't just drop by to eat. He came to teach them. He came to show them all the Scriptures said about Him. "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about Me in God's Word," Jesus reminded them. Then He led them through the Bible, explaining all the promises about His coming. Yes, it was true! He had fulfilled them all! He was the one God's people had for years been watching for and waiting to come. At last Satan had been crushed.

At last the way out of sin and death and the way into fellowship with God forever had been opened up. It was God's free gift to all who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

Yes, now the years of watching and waiting were over. Now God was giving His people something new to do. Now it was time to show and tell the world the good news of salvation.

"Be My witnesses Show God's power! Tell others the good news of salvation! Tell them how to be My followers!" Jesus told His disciples. "Start here in Jerusalem, then keep on going: to Samaria, Judea and even the ends of the earth, that the whole world might know," Jesus said.

And how would they have the power to do this? Jesus told them that, too. "God, My Father, will send you the gift of the Holy Spirit inside your heart to help you. He will give you boldness to tell others about Me. The time of waiting and watching is over. Now is the time to show and tell so that God's people, the Church, will be built among all peoples on earth."

The disciples were overjoyed. This was wonderful! It was really true! Jesus died on the cross, but now He had risen from the dead! He, the Son of God, had crushed Satan! He had broken the power of sin and death that had held all people captive since the time of Adam and Eve. Now He was building His Church--God's people, from every people on earth. He was calling them to show and tell the world this good news!

Just six week later, on the day of Pentecost, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit into the hearts of the waiting disciples just as He had promised. "Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them." (Acts 2:2-4)

Now it was time. Time to show and time to tell the world the good news of Jesus. The disciples poured out of the house and into the street, and began telling the good news in Latin, in Egyptian, in Arabic, in Greek, in Persian, and in many other languages the disciples all began to tell the good news:

"Jesus died on the cross, but now has risen from the dead! Jesus, the Son of God, has crushed Satan!" disciples

told all who would listen. "He has broken the power of sin and death that had held all people captive since the time of Adam and Eve. He is doing a new thing. He is setting up His Kingdom; His building His Church from every people on earth. Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus will be saved!"

Thousands of people, from many nations, listened to the disciples that day and were amazed. "How is it that each of us hears them declaring the wonders of God in our own language? What does this mean?" they wondered.

Peter stood up and told them: "These are all signs that the promised Savior we have watched and waited for has come. Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the LORD our God will call."

Then God did something even more powerful than the signs that day. He worked in the hearts of many and about three thousand people turned from their sins and trusted in Jesus.

How the disciples rejoiced that night! God was working powerfully through them as they showed and told the good news of Jesus.

But Jesus had told His disciples not to just stay in Jerusalem, but to go out into Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth; and so they did, each time showing and telling the good news of salvation.

In Joppa, a city in nearby Judea, Peter went to show and tell. He showed Jesus' power over death as he raised Tabitha from the dead in Jesus' name. He told the gathered crowd the good news of Jesus and God again worked in hearts and many turned from their sins and trusted in Jesus.

Philip went further away to the Jews' hated neighbors, the Samaritans, to show Jesus' power and to tell the good news of salvation. In the name of Jesus, Philip healed many people, showing them Jesus' power over sin and evil. "These things that I do are signs from God that show Jesus is God's Son, the Savior, come to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus-- even you Samaritans," he told them. Many saw the signs and heard Philip's words, and again many believed on Jesus and were saved.

Further and further away from Jerusalem believers traveled, just like Jesus told them to. The whole world needed to hear about salvation through Jesus! Paul traveled to Turkey, to Malta, to Greece to Italy and even Spain. Everywhere he went he showed Jesus' power through miracles and he told the people the good news of salvation through Jesus.

In Lystra, Turkey, Paul healed a lame man who had never walked, in the power of Jesus' name. On the island of Malta, the LORD healed Paul from a poisonous bite of a deadly viper hiding in firewood. In Ephesus, God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured. Again God worked in hearts and many were saved. And In Rome, Italy Paul even got to tell the good news of Jesus to Caesar, the Roman king, himself.

On and on since then, God's people keep on obeying Jesus' command to Show and Tell. And on and on, God keeps working through His Holy Spirit and His people to free people from the terrible bondage of sin and death passed down to us all through Adam and Eve.

These days, God does not choose to use the great fireworks of incredible miracles to show His mighty power as much as He did in those first days of the disciples (though He is just as able to). But He does work still, every bit as powerfully in the hearts of all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

And on one, amazing day, Jesus will come again and bring an end to all sin and death forever for God's people. On that day, the sin that began with Satan and Adam and Eve long ago, will be completely and finally done away with, never to spread again! Then, for God's people, there will only be eternal life, enjoying God and each other forever. How wonderful that will be!

**Our Bible Truth is: All People Are Born Sinful,  
All People Need God's Mercy**

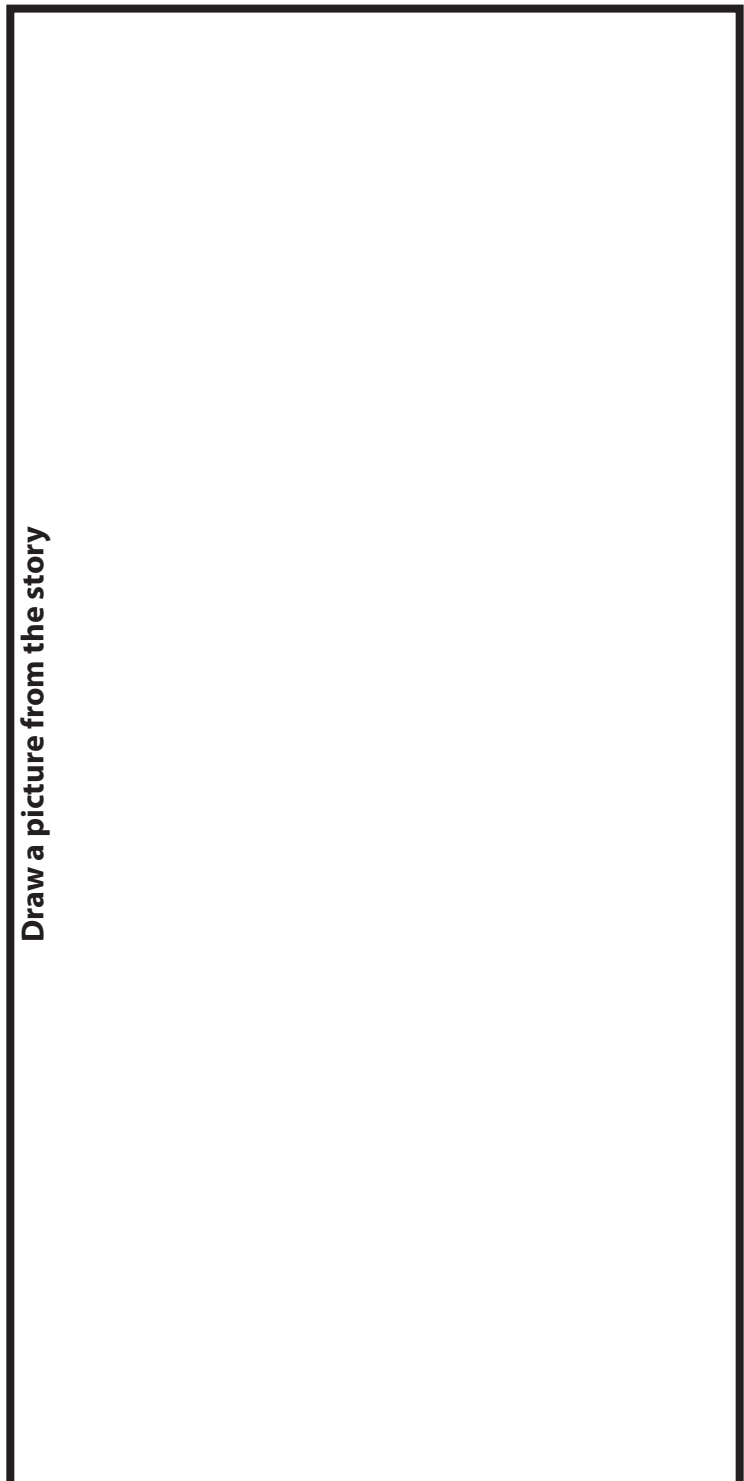
**Our Bible Verse is: Romans 5:17**

"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ."

Show God's power! Tell the good news! Let the whole world know that God has sent Jesus to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior! That was

what the disciples did! And that's what God's people are still doing today. Why, that's what I'm doing with you today! Showing and telling you the good news of Jesus, that you might turn from your sins and trust in Jesus as your Savior!

Let's praise God for sending Jesus to free from sin and death all who turn from their sins and trust in Him. Let's ask Him to send out His people into all the world, even now, and tell all who will hear the good news of salvation through faith in Jesus. Let's ask Him to work in our hearts that we might turn from our sins and trust in Him, too.



Draw a picture from the story

**SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU**

**1. A Question about the Bible Truth, True or False:**

God promises to forgive all who confess their sins to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He will give them a new heart, filled with His Holy Spirit.

*Answer: True.*

**2. Crack the Case Questions**

**a. Who were the show and tellers?**

The believers in Jesus who went out from Jerusalem.

**b. How did they show? What did they tell? Why?**

God did amazing miracles through them, healing the sick and even raising the dead. He gave them great love for each other. All these things helped point to the truth of their good news: repent and believe in Jesus and be saved! They knew all people are sinners in need of a Savior. They wanted all to know this and be saved.

**3. Fill in the missing words from the Bible Verse:**

**Romans 5:17**

"For if, by the trespass of the one man, \_\_\_ reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the \_\_\_ of righteousness reign in life through the one man, \_\_\_."

Answers: death; gift; Jesus Christ

**BIBLE TRUTH HYMN**

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

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 11*

**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.

**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

From Adam and Eve on down to us, we are all are weary and heavy-laden with sin. Try as hard as we might, we can never get rid of our sin on our own. And, we can never make ourselves acceptable to God on our own. But God, in His great mercy, offers all who are ruined by the Fall to find forgiveness of sins and eternal life through Jesus. We don't have to wait until we are less sinful to come to Jesus. He will take us as we are. And there, we came find not only forgiveness for our sins and rest for our souls, weary with sin. We can find wonderful fellowship with God. And that is better than even ten thousand things that charm us (that we think are delightful.)

**AN ACTS PRAYER FROM OUR STORY**

*A=Adoration, C=Confession, T=Thanksgiving, S=Supplication*

**A** God, we praise You for being the Conqueror of Sin and Death through Jesus.

**C** God, we confess that many times we do not tell others about salvation through Jesus when we could! We care more about if they get mad at us or laugh at us than their salvation! Please forgive us!

**T** Jesus, we thank You for Your victory over sin and death! Thank You for sending Your people out so that the whole world might know how they can be saved. Thank You for sending someone to tell US how we can be saved!

**S** God, work in our hearts! Help us to turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send out Your people into all the world, that all may know how they can be saved.

**BIBLE VERSE SONG**

**For If by the Trespass**

*PFI NIV Songs 6, Track 12*

"For if, by the trespass of the one man,  
death reigned through one man,  
For if, by the trespass of the one man,  
death reigned through one man,  
Then how much more will those who receive  
God's abundant grace and righteousness  
Reign in life, Reign in life,  
Through one man, Jesus Christ."  
Romans Five, seventeen.

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Adam and Eve passed on their sinful hearts to their children--all of us! That means that we all are born sinners. How terrible! But God promised to show mercy to all who look in faith to the Savior who would crush Satan's power. Yes! All who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus are saved from the punishment they deserve from God for their sins. Sin came through one man, Adam. But Jesus, the Son of God and the son of man, gives His grace and perfect righteousness--everything they need to be saved!