**Tough Questions**

**Lesson 4**

**Big Point:** God Can Turn Things Around!

**Big Verse**: Philippians 3:13 (NIrV), “I forget what is behind me. I push hard toward what is ahead of me.”

**Big Story**: God Blesses Job: Job 42

**Rules and Countdown**

**Welcome**

***PROPS: Overalls (2), Train Hat (2), Handkerchief (2)***

***VFX: Title Slide***

***SFX: Steam Whistle***

**Host**

*(VFX: Title Slide)* Good morning, Jr. Conductors, and welcome to the Train Station!

**Co-host**

Are you ready for a very tough riddle? I saved a hard one for today. Here it is, “What gets more wet as it dries?”

**Host**

That is hard. Let’s think of something that dries. Clothes dry when they come out of the washer. Dishes dry after you wash them. When you jump in the pool, do you get wet? What do you use to dry off when you get out of the pool? A towel. The more a towel dries you off…

**Co-host**

The wetter it gets! You figured out the riddle. Good job. Let’s pretend to use a towel to dry our wet hair.

**Host**

Today we’re going to discover the answer to a tough question, and this answer will make you very happy.

**Co-host**

I think we’re going to have a fun day with Conductor Carl and his friends. Let’s

all shout, “Choo-choo!” *(SFX: Steam Whistle)* Everyone, stand and worship Jesus!

**Worship**

**Conductor Carl & Friends, Part 1**

**Engage 1**

***PROPS: Overalls (2), Train Hat (2), Handkerchief (2), Umbrella Hat, Clear Containers (3), Sodium Hydroxide, Phenolphthalein, Vinegar, Science Goggles (2), Lab Coat (2)***

***VFX: Title Slide, Big Point Video***

***SFX: Steam Whistle, Storm***

*Prior to going on stage, place the sodium hydroxide, phenolphthalein, and vinegar each into a different container. Be sure to label them so you can tell which is which. You’ll need at least twice as much vinegar as sodium hydroxide.*

*(VFX: Title Slide) (SFX: Steam Whistle) (SFX: Storm) Host and Co-host enter.*

**Host**

It sounds like there’s a big storm today at the Train Station. Do you ever get nervous or scared when the lights go out during a storm? I do too, sometimes.

**Co-host**

What do you think of my hat? It should help keep the rain away.

**Host**

What does our friend’s hat look like? *(Pause)* That’s right; it looks like an umbrella. Let’s pretend to hold an umbrella over our heads to keep the water from dripping on our noses.

**Co-host**

That thunder is really loud. Can you guys make the sound of thunder? Some of the people at the Train Station wonder if it will ever stop. I think the Big Point will help them. Let’s stand up and practice it again, *(VFX: Big Point Video)* **God Can Turn Things Around!**

**Host**

You can sit down on your pockets. You guys are right; **God Can Turn Things**

**Around!** Would you like to see a fun science experiment to help us understand the Big Point? We’re going to put on our goggles and lab coats. This first cup *(Pick up the sodium hydroxide)* has a clear liquid in it. That’s like life when everything’s going great.

**Co-host**

I like it when things are good, but sometimes bad things do happen. *(Add drops of the phenylethylene solution into the sodium hydroxide solution until it turns red)* Look what changed.

**Host**

The clear turned red. That’s like how problems can mess everything up. Some people wonder if problems will ever go away.

**Co-host**

The good news is that we serve a really powerful God who can do what seems impossible. He can turn bad *(Pour vinegar solution into the red solution)* into good.

**Host**

Look, it’s clear again! God took the problems away. He can do that for all of us. Let’s check in with Conductor Carl and see how he’s doing in the storm.

**Conductor Carl & Friends, Part 2**

**Engage 2**

***PROPS: Overalls (2), Train Hat (2), Handkerchief (2), Clown Punching Bag***

***VFX: Title Slide, Big Point Video, Big Verse Slide***

***SFX: Steam Whistle, Storm***

*(VFX: Title Slide) (SFX: Steam Whistle) (SFX: Storm) Host and Co-host enter.*

**Host**

Conductor Carl is staying brave in the middle of a scary storm. I’m glad that he knows the Big Point is true. Let’s stand and say it again, *(VFX: Big Point Video)* **God Can Turn Things Around!**

**Co-host**

He’s using the Bible to help him. Let’s read the verse that Conductor Carl shared with us. *(VFX: Big Verse Slide)* Philippians 3:13 (NIrV) says, *“I forget what is behind me. I push hard toward what is ahead of me.”* What does that mean?

**Host**

That verse means that it doesn’t help us to keep thinking about all the bad stuff that has happened. Instead, we want to think over and over about what God has done and the good things He can do. I’ll show you an example.

*Host brings out the clown punching bag.*

**Co-host**

What does that look like, Jr. Conductors? Yep, it’s a very silly looking clown. Why do we have a clown?

**Host**

Watch what happens when I punch this clown. *(Punch the clown)* It pops back up! It doesn’t stay on the ground. Let’s have some Jr. Conductors come up here and try it.

*Choose some kids to try punching the clown.*

**Co-host**

I think I understand. When something bad happens, it’s like we get knocked down. But because we believe in Jesus, we know that He can turn things around.

**Host**

That’s right! And since we know that **God Can Turn Things Around**, we can get right back up and keep making wise choices. I’m so glad that Jesus can help us. Let’s stand and sing a song to worship Him.

**Worship**

**Big Story**

***PROPS: Dollar Bill Illusion***

***VFX: Big Story Slides 1-3***

***SFX: Soft Instrumental Song***

**Storyteller**

*(VFX: Big Story Slide 1) (SFX: Soft Instrumental Song)* Jr. Conductors, our Big Point says, **God Can Turn Things Around!** We’ve heard a lot about Job’s story. He was a man who loved God. Job had a great family, servants, and lots of animals. Things were really good until our enemy, Satan, attacked Job. Satan thought that Job didn’t really love God. But no matter what happened, Job kept on choosing to love God.

**Storyteller**

*(VFX: Big Story Slide 2)* Job did have some big questions. He wondered why

God hadn’t fixed everything. Job thought God would make it all better right away. When someone gives you a present, do you like to wait and open it later, or do you like to open it right away? Let’s pretend to tear open the wrapping paper on a present. I like things right away, and I’m sure Job did, too.

Sometimes we have to wait for good things. God wasn’t being mean to Job. Job had some things he needed to learn about God. God always wants to help us make wise choices and have great lives. Raise your hand if you know your ABC’s. Wow! You guys are really smart. You didn’t know the ABC’s as a baby. You had to learn them, and it took some time. It takes time to learn good things from God, too. Thankfully God is always helping us.

*(VFX: Big Story Slide 3)* God didn’t forget about Job. The Bible says that God healed Job from being sick. God even gave Job more servants and more animals than he had before. Job got a bunch of sheep. Let’s say, “Baa.” God gave Job a bunch of camels. Let’s pretend to spit like a camel. God gave Job bunches of cows and donkeys. Say, “Hee-Haw!” Job even had ten more kids. That’s a lot of babies. Let’s cry like a baby, “Waaah!”

Things looked bad for Job, but God took bad things and made them good. Look at this dollar bill. It looks small. But watch how it changes. Are you ready? Let’s count. 3…2…1 *(Transform the dollar bill from small to large)* Look how it changed. Just because something bad happens doesn’t mean God can’t change it into something good. He loves to help us, and God is powerful. He can do amazing things.

*(VFX: Big Story Slide 1)*If something bad happens, you don’t have to stay mad or sad. Instead, you can be thankful that you get to see God do something amazing for you. I am so glad that **God Can Turn Things Around!**

**Respond**

***VFX: Big Story Slide 1***

***SFX: Soft Instrumental Song***

**Storyteller**

*(VFX: Big Story Slide 1)**(SFX: Soft Instrumental Song)* Jr. Conductors, have you ever had something bad happen? Maybe you got a boo-boo, or your feelings got hurt, or maybe you felt scared at nighttime. That’s no fun, but the good news is we can always ask God for help. Let’s close our eyes and pray quietly, asking God to help us and turn those things around. *(Pause)* We believe that God can turn that bad thing into something good. Let’s all pray together and thank God.

**Worship**

**Conductor Carl & Friends, Part 3**

**Engage 3**

***PROPS: Overalls (2), Train Hat (2), Handkerchief (2)***

***VFX: Title Slide, Big Point Video, Big Do Slide***

***SFX: Steam Whistle***

*(VFX: Title Slide) (SFX: Steam Whistle) Host enters.*

**Host**

The storm is over. Whew, that’s a relief! Conductor Carl never stopped believing our Big Point. Let’s say it again, *(VFX: Big Point Video)* **God Can Turn Things Around!**

**Co-host**

That’s a fun thing to talk about when you do the Big Do with your family. *(VFX: Big Do Slide)* Have a backward walking race with your family. I think that racing backward will make everyone seem extra silly.

**Host**

I think running forward is much easier. Raise your hand if you think you could win the race at home. Let’s play a fun game before we leave the Train Station. We discovered that **God Can Turn Things Around!** Let’s see how many times we can spin around. Everyone, stand up.

*Have the kids stand and spin. Encourage them to spin slowly at first and then do the last couple spins faster.*

**Co-host**

That was fun, but it made me dizzy. Everyone, shake your head like you’re dizzy.

**Host**

I hope you will remember that when bad things happen, they don’t have to stay that way. That’s because we serve a God who can do incredible things.

**Co-host**

I think we should practice our Big Point again, *(VFX: Big Point Video)* **God Can Turn Things Around!**

**Big Review**

1. Did our Big Point say God Can’t Turn Things Around or **God Can Turn Things Around**?
2. I’m going to describe an animal to you. Can you figure out what kind of animal I’m talking about? It has a hump, walks in the desert, it’s brown, and it spits. Yep, it’s a camel. Who gave Job animals? **God** Did God give Job back a lot of animals? **Yes**
3. Can you show me some things that a baby does? What are some things that babies say? Who gave more kids to Job? **God** Did God give Job lots of kids? **Yes**
4. What is the name of your best friend? What do you call your grandma or grandpa? Do you know your mommy or daddy’s name? Do you think that God can help them when they have a problem? **Yes** If something bad happens to you, can God help you? **Yes**
5. Stand up and pretend to push something heavy. Push really hard. What are you pushing that is so heavy? What does our Big Verse say? Philippians 3:13 (NIrV), *“I forget what is behind me. I* (pull / **push**) *hard toward what is ahead of me.”*