

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES

**Curriculum Resources
for Unit 10, Bible Truth 4:**



**What Does the Holy Spirit
Do in God's People?**

**He Changes Their Hearts
to Be Like Jesus...**

The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church!

Session Prep (especially good for newbies!)

Pray!



Pray for the Holy Spirit to be at work in your and the children's hearts.

Review



If new to the curriculum, look at the **Getting Started with Deep Down Detectives section of the Core Curriculum book.** (p.5) It will be especially helpful to read through the Deep Down Detectives section of **The Praise Factory Tour: Extended Version Book.** This is a visual way to understand what goes on in the classroom. (A pdf of the book is found in the samples section on the website.)

Look through and Learn the Lesson



Read over **lesson plan.** Practice any **songs or action rhymes** you are using. Choose/make up motions to go with these. Choose less with younger children and more with older preschoolers. **Practice the lesson with the visual aids** and using the Big Question Box/Briefcase.

Read and Rehearse the Bible Story with Pictures



Read the Bible story from the Bible. Read the curriculum version. Practice telling it with the storyboard pictures. (If you have not previously laminated the story pictures, do that now.) Or, rehearse it from the Simple Story Scenes, if you are using those.

Let There Be Music



Download the music and listen to the songs. Choose which of the songs you will use with the children. If using live musicians, make sure they have the sheet music (Appendix A, Core Curriculum book).

Put the Props in Place



1. Prepare your Visual Aids. Put the Big Question, Unit Bible Truths, Bible Truth, Bible Verse, and Listening Assignment signs, as well as the Bible Story script in one side of the Bible folder.
2. Get out your storyboard. If using Simple Story Scenes, put these in your Bible Folder. Or, if using the individual storyboard figures, put all background pictures in place (they have a BG by the number). Put the rest of the storyboard pictures (these have a SB by the number) in order of use in the other side of the Bible folder.
3. Put the DDD Bible Folder as well as the Big Question sign in the Big Question Box/Briefcase and shut it. If your box/briefcase has locks and you want to use the unlocking the box as part of your session, lock it now....but make sure you have the key or know the code first.
4. Prepare the music CD or sheet music or mp3 device for use in your session.

Set Out Free Play Activities



Choose and set up free time activities you will use with the children. Choose a variety of different activities that will be enjoyed by different types of children. Rotate the activities you provide to keep them interesting and fresh to your children. (Suggestions in Appendix D, Core Curriculum books.)

Prepare Any Activities



Choose which (if any) of the Bible Truth games and crafts activities you want to use in the session. Bear in mind your time frame as well as the developmental abilities and attention span of your children as you decide which/how many to prepare. **Look over the Discussion Sheet** and choose a few questions you might use to spark discussion with the children as they do their activities (especially good for ages 3's+). Pray for God to give you opportunities to talk about these things with the children.

Let Them Take It with Them



Make copies of the craft/take home sheets, if you are not already using them as one of your activities. You may also want to make copies of the story (see take-home version of each story included in Appendix C with the other take home resources) to have for parents to use with their children at home. There's a link on each craft/take home sheet to the story, if you don't make hard copies.

Store It



After your session is over, collect the resources and store them for future use. This curriculum can be used over and over for years to come.

Unit 10: The Holy Spirit, the Indwelling God

UNIT OVERVIEW

God's Holy Spirit works in our hearts as we hear God's Word, the Bible. He gives us the gift of faith in Jesus. He helps us to turn away from living for ourselves and to live for God instead. This is how we become God's people.

But that's just the beginning of what the Holy Spirit does in God's people! He goes on living inside of them their whole lives, helping them, and changing their hearts. He helps them to know God and obey His laws. He helps them to love God and others as Jesus did. He comforts them when they are sad and helps them to be brave when they are scared. He helps them know the right way to live. The Holy Spirit in our hearts is a wonderful gift that God loves to give to us when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

In this unit, we will learn four truths about God's Holy Spirit.

UNIT BIBLE VERSE: Ezekiel 36:26, ESV

"I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you."

BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION: What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?

ANSWER: He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...

OPTIONAL Big Question 10 INTRODUCTION LESSON (Use Hide 'n' Seek Kids Unit 10 Material)

Story: The Case of the Heart Helper *Acts 1-2*

Bible Verse: Ezekiel 36:26-27, ESV

BIBLE TRUTH 1: The Holy Spirit Lives in God's People (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Eager Waiters

Acts 1-2

Bible Verse: 1 Corinthians 6:19, ESV

BIBLE TRUTH 2: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Scaredy Cat Scat *Matthew 26-28; Mark 14-16; Luke 22-24; John 13-21; Acts 1-2*

Bible Verse: 2 Timothy 1:6-7, ESV

BIBLE TRUTH 3: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Wisdom (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Secret Weapon Within *Mark 13:9-13; 15-16; Acts 1-4*

Bible Verse: Ephesians 1:17, NIV 1984

➔ BIBLE TRUTH 4: The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church

(3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the World's Biggest Building *Genesis; the Gospels; Acts*

Bible Verse: Acts 9:31, NIV 1984

Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 10 Track Numbers

This is a listing of all songs mentioned in the unit curriculum. You may or may not choose to use all of the songs. They are listed in easy-reference order--NOT in the order used in the curriculum.

You may choose to simply burn a CD/load them onto an mp3 device in this order. Or, you may want to do what we do: choose the songs we want to use and create a play list of them in that order. Then, we burn a CD/upload the play list onto an mp3 device. A teacher only has to click forward to the next song, instead of hunting for the right track. The track number have been included as part of the title of each song, teachers will still have a reference to the track number listed in the curriculum (same as those listed below), even if you change the order on your customized play list.

SONGS USED EVERY UNIT OF THE CURRICULUM

- 1 The Classroom Song v.1
- 2 The Classroom Song v.2
- 3 The Classroom Song v.3
- 4 The Classroom Song v.4
- 5 Deep Down Detectives Theme Song
- 6 The Classroom Rules Song
- 7 Let's Pray Song
- 8 The Big Question Box Song
- 9 The Bible Chant Song
- 10 ACTS Prayer Song (Short Version)
- 11 ACTS Prayer Song (Full Version)

Why the Extra Songs?

Deep Down Detectives is a curriculum used by a wide age-span of kids. Sometimes one of the other songs is a better fit for your kids. Or, you may simply want to teach them more songs on the same Bible Truth. Use as many or as few as you want.

listen to or download songs for free at <https://praisefactory.org>: Deep Down Detectives Music page

UNIT 10: THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE INDWELLING GOD

- 12 Big Q & A 10 Song
- 13 Big Question 10 Song: What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?
- 14 Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: I Will Give You a New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV
- 15 *Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: A New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV (other version)*
- 16 *Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: Within You Ezekiel 36:26, ESV (other version)*
- 17 *Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: You Shall Be Clean Ezekiel 36:25-27, ESV*
- 18 Big Question 10 Hymn: The Church's One Foundation, v.1
- 19 Big Question 10 Praise Song: Create in Me a Clean Heart

What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People? He Changes Their Heart to Be Like Jesus...

Bible Truth 1: The Holy Spirit Lives in God's People

- 20 Bible Verse: The Temple of the Holy Spirit 1 Corinthians 6:19, ESV
- 21 Bible Verse: Do You Not Know? 1 Corinthians 6:19, ESV (other version)
- 22 *Extra Bible Verse: I Will Ask the Father John 14:16-17, ESV*
- 23 *Extra Bible Verse: What Father Among You? Luke 11:11-13, ESV*

Bible Truth 2: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage

- 24 Bible Verse: Fan into the Flame 2 Timothy 1:6-7, ESV
- 25 *Extra Bible Verse: And Now, Lord Acts 4:29,31, ESV*
- 26 *Extra Bible Verse: Now, Lord, Look upon Their Threats Acts 4:29,31, ESV (other version)*

Bible Truth 3: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Wisdom

- 27 Bible Verse: I Keep Asking Ephesians 1:17, NIV 1984
- 28 *Extra Bible Verse: If Any of You James 1:5, ESV*
- 29 *Extra Bible Verse: If Any of You Lacks Wisdom James 1:5, ESV (other version)*

Bible Truth 4: The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church

- 30 Bible Verse: The Church Was Strengthened Acts 9:31, NIV 1984
- 31 *Extra Bible Verse: Behold, A Great Multitude Revelation 7:9-10, ESV*
- 32 *Extra Song: God's One Big Plan*

Big Question 10, Bible Truth 4 Overview: Key Concepts

p.1

Unit 10: The Holy Spirit, the Indwelling God

Unit Big Question (and Answer): What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?
He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus!

Unit Bible Verse: "I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you." -- Ezekiel 36:26, ESV

Bible Truth 4 Concept: The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church

Many people think that a church is a building, but it's not. "Church" is the name for all of God's people.

God's Church is built by the Holy Spirit, one person at a time. The Holy Spirit works in the hearts of people, giving them the gift of faith as they hear God's Word, the Bible. The Holy Spirit helps them believe God's Word, turn away from their sins, and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

God has always planned for the Holy Spirit to bring people from everywhere in the whole world to be part of His people, the Church. The Bible tells us that the Church will be made up of people from every people and language in the world.

Each week, groups of God's people meet together to worship God in gatherings all over the world. This is what we call "going to church." But in heaven, the whole Church --all of God's people, from every place and every time-- will gather together to worship God forever. What a gathering that will be! The Bible tells us that it will be so many people that we won't even be able to count them. We can be part of God's Church --God's people-- too, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse: Acts 9:31

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."

Learn a Little: "[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit."

Meaning

The Holy Spirit strengthens and encourages God's people, the Church. He works in their hearts, giving people faith to repent of their sins and believe in Jesus as their Savior as they hear God's Word. He fills their hearts and helps them to grow in understanding God's Word and in loving God and one another. He helps them to live in the fear of the Lord --that is, He helps them want to honor and obey God most of all.

We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, we will be part of God's Church, too. We will enjoy the encouragement of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

Bible Truth 4 ACTS Prayer

- A** God, we praise You for being the Builder of Your Church by Your Holy Spirit.
- C** God, we confess that we have sinful hearts. We need You to give us faith to believe in Jesus. We need Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. We need Jesus to be our Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for calling people from every tribe, nation, and language to be Your people, the Church.
- S** God, work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts, so we might know and love You. Build Your Church, in us and in people throughout the whole world! In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Bible Truth 4 Story**The Case of the World's Biggest Building**

Genesis; the Gospels; Acts

Big Question 10, Bible Truth 4 Overview: Key Concepts**Songs Used in Bible Truth 4**

Big Q & A 10 Song

Big Question 10 Song: What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?

Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: I Will Give You a New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV

Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: A New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV (other version)

Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: Within You Ezekiel 36:26, ESV (other version)

Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: You Shall Be Clean Ezekiel 36:25-27, ESV

Big Question 10 Hymn: The Church's One Foundation, v.1

Big Question 10 Praise Song: Create in Me a Clean Heart


Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse Song: The Church Was Strengthened Acts 9:31, NIV 1984



Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse: Behold, A Great Multitude Revelation 7:9-10, ESV

Bible Truth 4 Extra Song: God's One Big Plan

listen to or download songs for free at <https://praisefactory.org>: Deep Down Detectives Music page

1. GETTING STARTED

 = follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

<p>Intake Activity Ideas</p>	<p>Choose one of these open-ended activities to include children as they join the class:</p>																						
<p>Free Play Time <i>suggestions in Appendix D</i></p>	<p> Offer your own or some of the easy-to-make, free play activities suggested in Appendix D.</p>																						
<p>OR Sing-along Music Time <i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i> <i>listen to or download songs for free at https://praisefactory.org:Deep Down Detectives Music page</i></p>	<p>Music from Deep Down Detectives (DDD) ESV Songs 10:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Big Q & A 10 Song</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 12</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Big Question 10 Song</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 13</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Big Question 10 (Unit) Bible Verse Song: I Will Give You a New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 14</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extra Big Question 10 (Unit) Bible Verse Song: A New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 15</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extra Big Question 10 (Unit) Bible Verse Song: Within You Ezekiel 36:26, ESV</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 16</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extra Big Question 10 (Unit) Bible Verse Song: You Shall Be Clean Ezekiel 36:25-27, ESV</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 17</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Big Question 10 Hymn: The Church's One Foundation, v.1</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 18</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Big Question 10 Praise Song: Create in Me a Clean Heart</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 19</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse Song: The Church Was Strengthened Acts 9:31, NIV 1984</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 30</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse Song: Behold, A Great Multitude Revelation 7:9-10, ESV</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 31</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bible Truth 4 Extra Song: God's One Big Plan</td> <td><i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 32</i></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Add more fun to Sing-along Music Time by adding a Music, Movement & Memory Activity. These activities are listed on p.10 of this lesson plan with the Response Activities. Instructions found in Appendix B.</i></p>	Big Q & A 10 Song	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 12</i>	Big Question 10 Song	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 13</i>	Big Question 10 (Unit) Bible Verse Song: I Will Give You a New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 14</i>	Extra Big Question 10 (Unit) Bible Verse Song: A New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 15</i>	Extra Big Question 10 (Unit) Bible Verse Song: Within You Ezekiel 36:26, ESV	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 16</i>	Extra Big Question 10 (Unit) Bible Verse Song: You Shall Be Clean Ezekiel 36:25-27, ESV	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 17</i>	Big Question 10 Hymn: The Church's One Foundation, v.1	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 18</i>	Big Question 10 Praise Song: Create in Me a Clean Heart	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 19</i>	Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse Song: The Church Was Strengthened Acts 9:31, NIV 1984	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 30</i>	Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse Song: Behold, A Great Multitude Revelation 7:9-10, ESV	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 31</i>	Bible Truth 4 Extra Song: God's One Big Plan	<i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 32</i>
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<p>OR Bible Verse Memory Game <i>instructions found in Appendix B</i></p>	<p>Lesson 1 Game: Block Clapping Lesson 2 Game: Meet, Greet and Keep It Up Lesson 3 Game: Bean Bag Catch</p> <p><i>These activities are also included on p.10 of this lesson plan with the Response Activities.</i></p>																						
<p>2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME (introduce the Bible Truth and tell the related Bible story)</p>																							
<p>Gathering the Children <i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p><i>Sing verse 1 of The Classroom Song to gather the children for Circle Time.</i></p> <p>The Classroom Song, verse 1 <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 1</i> Let's gather together to worship God, Let's gather together to worship God, Let's gather together to worship God, Come gather here with me!</p>																						
<p>Welcome to Deep Down Detectives</p>	<p> "Welcome to Deep Down Detectives. We're so glad you've joined us! Detectives are people who look for answers to questions. In Deep Down Detectives, we look for answers to big questions about God. We dig deep down in the truths of God's Word to find them."</p>																						

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



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<p>Deep Down Detectives Theme Song</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>"Let's sing our Deep Down Detectives Theme Song."</p> <p>Deep Down Detectives Theme Song <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 5</i></p> <p>We're Deep Down Detectives, diggin' deep in God's Word, For truths about God and His plans for this world, We're seeking to love Him, with all of our heart, We're Deep Down Detectives! Come on! Let's start!</p>
<p>Classroom Rules Song</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>There are two very important things that Deep Down Detectives do together: we worship God and we love one another. Our Classroom Rules Song reminds us how we should act. Let's sing it."</p> <p>Classroom Rules Song <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 6</i></p> <p>Shh, be quiet while someone is talking, Raise your hand, if you have something to say, Don't touch your friend, sitting beside you, Obey your teachers, Be kind as you play. These are our classroom rules, These are our classroom rules, They help us worship God and love one another, These are our classroom rules.</p>
<p>Opening Prayer Time</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>"Children, we need God's help to keep these rules. Let's ask Him to help us right now. Let's get ready and pray."</p> <p>Let's Pray <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 7</i></p> <p>1-2-3! Fold your hands, Bow your head, Close your eyes. Let's pray! (<i>repeat</i>)</p> <p>"Let's pray:"</p> <p>Opening Prayer</p> <p>Dear Lord, We're so glad to get to gather together to worship You! Please help us keep the classroom rules. Please help us to love You and learn about You today. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.</p>

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

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Reveal the Big Question
Introduce the Big Question Box/Briefcase

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

“Detectives INVESTIGATE things. That means they ask questions and look for answers. Deep Down Detectives investigate big questions about God. The Big Question we are investigating today is right inside our Big Question Box/Briefcase.

The Big Question Box Song

DDD ESV Songs 10, track 8

We’ve got a big box,
All closed up and locked,
Filled with the truths of God’s Word.

We’ve got a brief case,
There’s no time to waste,
Come on, kids, let’s open it up!

The Big Question under Investigation

VISUAL take out AID



of BQB

Big Question & Answer Sign, front side

**found in the DDD Unit 10 Visual Aids, ESV Book*

Ok, who would like to open for me and pull out the Big Question?”

Choose a child to open the box/briefcase, take out the Big Question and hand it to you, then hold up the Big Question sign for all the children to see, and say:

★ The Big Question we are investigating today is Big Question Number 10:

What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God’s People?

and the Answer is:

He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...

Big Question Meaning

God’s Holy Spirit works in our hearts as we hear God’s Word, the Bible. He gives us the gift of faith in Jesus. He helps us to turn away from living for ourselves and to live for God instead. This is how we become God’s people.

But that’s just the beginning of what the Holy Spirit does in God’s people! He goes on living inside of them their whole lives, helping them, and changing their hearts. He helps them to know God and obey His laws. He helps them to love God and others as Jesus did. He comforts them when they are sad and helps them to be brave when they are scared. He helps them know the right way to live. The Holy Spirit in our hearts is a wonderful gift that God loves to give to us when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Big Question Songs

★ “Let’s sing our Big Question Song:

Big Q & A 10 Song

Big Q & A 10 Song

DDD ESV Songs 10, track 12

(adapted version of “Pop! Goes the Weasel)

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

What does the Holy Spirit do,
Inside of God’s people?
What does the Holy Spirit do?
He changes their heart!

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



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Learning about the Big Question (use one or both)



Repeat the Big Question and Answer again:

“What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God’s People? He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus!”

Say: “Hmmm, I wonder what that means... Let’s do our action rhyme/sing our song that explains it.”

Then do the action rhyme or sing the song using any of the optional motions suggested, if desired.

Big Question (Action Rhyme) Song

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A



Big Question 10 Action Rhyme/ Song

DDD ESV Songs 10, track 13

Refrain

What does the Holy Spirit do in God’s people?

What does the Holy Spirit do in God’s people?

He changes their hearts, He changes their hearts,

He changes their hearts to be like Jesus!

(POSSIBLE ACTIONS)

Place hand on heart

Verse 1

He gives life to the hearts of God’s people,

He gives them the gifts of repentance and faith,

He puts love in the hearts of God’s people,

He helps them love God and others always. *Refrain*

make prayer hands and bow head

point up to heaven and out to others

Verse 2

God gives power to the hearts of God’s people,

He gives them the courage to live boldly for Him,

He gives wisdom to the hearts of God’s people.

He reveals His Holy Word to them. *Refrain*

hold up your arms and flex your muscles

make an open Bible with your two palms

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

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Learning the Bible Truth

VISUAL take out

AID



of BQB

VISUAL AID

All the Bible Truths Sign

★ "He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus" is a good beginning, but there's so more to learn. So it's time for us to dig down even deeper for more answers to our Big Question about God. We're going to be learning **FOUR** Bible truths that all tell us more about the Holy Spirit.

Who would like to hand me the picture with our four Bible truths on it? It's in the Big Question Box/Briefcase." *Choose a child to get it and hand it to you, then hold it up and show them the pictures of the four truths they will be learning.*

Bible Truth Clue

VISUAL take out

AID



of BQB

Bible Truth Clue Sign,
front side
VISUAL AID

After everyone has had a good look, say...

"Ok, we've learned three truths about the Holy Spirit. They are: "The Holy Spirit Lives in God's People," "The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage," and "The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Wisdom" (point to pictures as you identify each Bible Truth). Now let's look at our Bible Truth Clue sign and see if we can figure out which of these four truths we will be learning about today. Who would like to get it out of the Big Question Briefcase for me?"

Choose a child to open the briefcase, take out the Bible Truth Clue sign and hand it to you. Hold up the front side for the children to see. Cover up the answer, written along the bottom, and say:

"What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?

He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...

The Holy Spirit Builds God's "????!"

Hint

We're missing one word. Here's the hint to what the missing word is. It says: "What's the name for God's people, gathered together? This word starts with the letter "C" and it rhymes with "search."

Can you guess? It's "Church." So the Bible Truth we are learning today is: *(uncover answer from bottom of sign, show it to them and say:)*

★ **"What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?**

He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...

The Holy Spirit Builds God's CHURCH!

Bible Truth Meaning

★ And here is what this Bible Truth means: *(read the meaning off of the back of the sign, say:)*

Many people think that a church is a building, but it's not. "Church" is the name for all of God's people.

God's Church is built by the Holy Spirit, one person at a time. The Holy Spirit works in the hearts of people, giving them the gift of faith as they hear God's Word, the Bible. The Holy Spirit helps them believe God's Word, turn away from their sins, and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

God has always planned for the Holy Spirit to bring people from everywhere in the whole world to be part of His people, the Church. The Bible tells us that the Church will be made up of people from every people and language in the world.

Each week, groups of God's people meet together to worship God in gatherings all over the world. This is what we call "going to church." But in heaven, the whole Church --all of God's people, from every place and every time-- will gather together to worship God forever. What a gathering that will be! The Bible tells us that it will be so many people that we won't even be able to count them. We can be part of God's Church --God's people-- too, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



= follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

Learning the Bible Verse

The Bible Chant Song

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

"And how do I know this is true? God tells me so in His special book, the Bible."

Say or sing the Bible Chant Song.

The Bible Chant Song

DDD ESV Songs 10, track 9

The Bible, the Bible,
Let's get out the Bible.
Let's hear what God has to say.
The Bible, the Bible,
God's given us the Bible.
It's His Word for us to learn and obey! Yay!

Bible Verse

DDD 10.4 Bible Verse-front side (in the DDD Bible folder)

VISUAL AID Place verse in take out



*found in the DDD Unit 10 Visual Aids, ESV Book

"Who would like to get our Bible folder out of the Big Question Briefcase for me?"

Choose a child to open the briefcase, take out the "Bible" folder and hand it to you. Remove the Bible Verse Picture from the "Bible" folder and hold it up for all the children to see, then say:

Acts 9:31 tells us:



Acts 9:31, NIV 1984

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."

Learn a Little: "[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit."

Bible Verse Meaning




What does that mean?

The Holy Spirit strengthens and encourages God's people, the Church. He works in their hearts, giving people faith to repent of their sins and believe in Jesus as their Savior as they hear God's Word. He fills their hearts and helps them to grow in understanding God's Word and in loving God and one another. He helps them to live in the fear of the Lord --that is, He helps them want to honor and obey God most of all.

We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, we will be part of God's Church, too. We will enjoy the encouragement of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

 = follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

**Bible Verse
Song**

*lyrics and sheet music,
Appendix A*

You might also enjoy:

*Behold, A Great Multitude
Revelation 7:9-10, ESV
DDD ESV Songs 10,
track 31;*

*God's One Big Plan
DDD ESV Songs 10,
track 32*

We've said our Bible verse, now let's sing it!

The Church Was Strengthened: Acts 9:31

DDD ESV Songs 10, track 30








Then the church was strengthened and encouraged,
By the Holy Spirit, by the Holy Spirit
It grew in numbers, It grew in numbers,
Living in the fear,
The fear of the Lord, (repeat)

Acts Nine, thirty-one.

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



= follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

<p>Getting into the Case</p>	<p>"Now it's time to do a bit more deep down investigating. Let's see what Detective Dan wants us to help him figure out. Would someone like to get it out for me?"</p>
<p>Listening Assignments</p> <p>Place in  take out  of BQB</p>	<p>NOTE: Listening assignments are most suitable for ages 3+. Skip straight to the Bible story (see bottom of this page), if working with 2 year olds.</p> <p>"Let's open up our listening assignment and see what we are supposed to figure out today.</p> <p>Choose a child to take out the Listening Assignment (from the DDD Bible Folder) and hand it to you. Read Detective Dan's letter to the children that includes the listening assignment. The listening assignments are summarized below:</p>
<p>VISUAL AID</p> <p></p> <p>DDD Unit 10 Visual Aids, ESV</p>	<p><u>Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:</u></p> <p>I need to find out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who was the builder? 2. What did this builder plan to build? What would it be like when it was finished?
<p>VISUAL AID</p> <p></p> <p>DDD Unit 10 Visual Aids, ESV</p>	<p><u>Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:</u></p> <p>Our Bible Verse is Acts 9:31, NIV 1984:</p> <p>"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."</p> <p>I need to find out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who helped Jesus' disciples obey God's plan to tell others about Jesus? 2. How did Holy Spirit help the Church grow?
<p>VISUAL AID</p> <p></p> <p>*Listening Assignment #3 includes the Assignment Sheet, plus 6 clue pictures*</p> <p>DDD Unit 10 Visual Aids, ESV</p>	<p><u>Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:</u></p> <p>I found six clues, but only 4 of them are in the story. They are: a boat, a kangaroo, a hamburger, a listening man, a big plan, and sunglasses. Hold each of them up for the children to see as you identify them.</p> <p>I need to figure out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which four belong in our story? 2. Who would one day praise God all together, when God's plans were finished?
<p>Tell the Bible Story</p> <p>Place story & pics in  take out  of BQB</p> <p>DDD Unit 10 Visual Aids, ESV</p> <p>Story text included in this book right after this lesson plan and in Visual Aids book</p>	<p>★ Then say, "Ok, Deep Down Detectives! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can hear the answers to Detective Dan's questions. When I finish telling the story, we will see if we can answer all the questions."</p> <p>★ Bible Story: The Case of the World's Biggest Building</p> <p>Genesis; the Gospels; Acts</p> <p>Read the Bible Truth story, putting up the Storyboard Pictures/holding up the Story Scenes as you tell it. Then have the children answer the listening assignment, present the gospel and lead in prayer.</p> <p>*Answers to questions, the gospel and ACTS prayer are included with the story text.*</p>

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

★ = follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

<p>Story Response Song(s)</p> <p>Hymn</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p><i>As attention span and time allow, you might want to end with one of the following songs which also tie in with the unit. If desired, use the Music and Movement activity ideas while singing (listed with the Response Activities).</i></p> <p>The Church's One Foundation <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 18</i></p> <p>Verse 1</p> <p>The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord; She is His new creation, By Spirit and the Word; From heav'n He came a sought her, To be His holy bride, With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.</p> <p>Tie-in: "Church is the Bible word for God's people. How did God's people become God's people? It's all because God sent Jesus. Jesus came from heaven to live a perfect life, then give it up as the perfect payment for the sins of God's people. With His very own blood, He paid for all of their sins. Jesus rose from the dead on the third day and went back up to heaven. He had beaten sin and death for them. Now they could be God's people! Jesus went up to heaven, but He leave God's people alone. He left His Word for them to read. And, He sent the Holy Spirit to come and live in their hearts so they might know God and love Him more and more. And one day, when they die, they will go to live with Him forever. What a wonderful day that will be! They will be as happy as a groom with His bride, happily married at last. You and I can be part of God's Church, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior."</p>
<p>Praise Song</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>Praise Song: Create in Me a Clean Heart <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 19</i></p> <p>Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me. Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me.</p> <p>Tie-in: "We all have hearts that choose to disobey God. We have broken the special closeness with God that He created us to enjoy. But it does not have to stay that way. We can ask God to work in our hearts and give us a new heart--a clean heart--that knows and loves Him. God loves to answer these prayers by sending His Holy Spirit to change our heart and make it new. Yes! God's Holy Spirit does wonderful things in our heart that we could never do on our own!"</p>

3. TAKING ACTION: Response Activities *(choose from among these activities)*






<p>Transition to Activities</p>	<p>★ Well, Deep Down Detectives, you've done a great job diggin' deep down for answers in the truths of God's Word. Now it's time to enjoy some activities."</p> <p><i>Tell children what activity/s you are providing for them: either free play or some of the response activities listed below. When you are ready to dismiss them, use this song to help the children transition in an orderly fashion to their next activity.</i></p>
<p>Classroom Song, verse 2</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>"Children, let's sing our Time to Play Song. When we are finished you may get up and walk over to our next activity."</p> <p>Classroom Song, verse 2 <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 2</i></p> <p>We've gathered together to worship God, We've gathered together to worship God, And now it's time to play.</p> <p><i>Dismiss the children to whatever activities you have prepared for them to do.</i></p>

Lesson Plan: Big Question 10, Bible Truth 4

use with all THREE lessons

p.10

3. TAKING ACTION: Response Activities (choose from among these activities) ★ = short & simple lesson plan

<p>Response Activities</p>	<p>Choose one or more activities appropriate for your children, based on classroom time and developmental needs. Add the Discussion Sheet to any activity for deeper learning. ★</p>
<p>Bible Verse Memory Game</p> <p><i>game directions, Appendix B</i></p>	<p>Though listed with the opening activities, you may choose to use this Bible verse game here instead (or as a repeat).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 1 Game: Block Clapping • Lesson 2 Game: Meet, Greet and Keep It Up • Lesson 3 Game: Bean Bag Catch <p>Use the Discussion Sheet with this activity for even deeper learning ★</p>  <p>Discussion Questions</p>
<p>Music, Movement & Memory Activity</p> <p><i>game directions, Appendix B</i></p>	<p>A music activity that uses the songs from the Bible Truth and Big Question unit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DDD Songs for this Bible Truth, plus: • Lesson 1 Activity: Thumping Drums • Lesson 2 Activity: Say, Spring Up and Shout • Lesson 3 Activity: Freeze Frame <p>Use the Discussion Sheet with this activity for even deeper learning ★</p>  <p>Discussion Questions</p>
<p>Bible Story Review Game</p> <p><i>game directions, Appendix B</i></p>	<p>A game that uses the storyboard pictures from the story to review the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 1 Game: Look Who's Coming Down the Tracks • Lesson 2 Game: Can You Remember? • Lesson 3 Game: Clothespin Line Up and Drop <p>Use the Discussion Sheet with this activity for even deeper learning ★</p>  <p>Discussion Questions</p>
<p>Coloring Pages/ Take Home Sheets</p> <p><i>in Appendix C</i></p> <p>★</p>	<p>A coloring page related to the lesson assignment question is provided for each lesson. On the back of each are the key concepts, a few questions and a song for parents to use with their children.</p> <p>NOTE: Upgrade your coloring sheet to a more interesting craft by offering simple embellishments, such as jiggly eyes, craft sand, glitter, glitter glue, colored paper dots (made with a hole punch), fabric scraps, etc. Make cut-to-size glued-on clothes, hair, etc for characters by using a copy of the coloring sheet, cutting out the selected portions and making them the patterns for whatever you want to cut out of fabric, paper, foil, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 1 Coloring Sheet Emphasis: Bible Truth • Lesson 2 Coloring Sheet Emphasis: Bible Verse • Lesson 3 Coloring Sheet Emphasis: ACTS Prayer <p>Use the Discussion Sheet with this activity for even deeper learning ★</p>  <p>Discussion Questions</p>
<p>Extra Crafts: Big Question Craft <i>in Appendix C</i></p> <p>Bible Verse Craft <i>in Appendix C</i></p> <p>Bible Story Puzzle <i>in Appendix C</i></p>	<p>These crafts are slightly more complex than the coloring/take home sheets:</p> <p>The Bible Concept Go-and-Tell Craft is a craft that summarizes the Bible concept and includes the Bible verse is included for those desiring more than a coloring sheet. This more complex craft will involve gluing, sticking, etc. Can be used at any time.</p> <p>The Bible Story Coloring Sheet provides a tie in between the Bible story and the Bible truth they are learning.</p> <p>The Storyboard Picture Placement Page has been made into a puzzle that can be cut out and re-assembled by the children. This provides a nice summary of the story.</p> <p>Use the Discussion Sheet with these activities for even deeper learning ★</p>  <p>Discussion Questions</p>
<p>Free Play Activities ★ <i>ideas in Appendix D</i></p>	<p>Offer your own or some of the easy-to-make, free play activities suggested in Appendix D.</p>

4. CLOSING CIRCLE TIME *(End-of-session activities for the last 5-10 minutes of class time)*

 = short & simple lesson plan

<p>Transition to Closing Circle</p> <p>Classroom Song, verse 3</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p><i>Use this song to help the children transition in an orderly fashion. Start singing this song and ask the children to gather with you for Closing Circle Time.</i></p> <p>Classroom Song, verse 3 <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 3</i></p> <p>It's time to get ready to go and tell, It's time to get ready to go and tell, Come gather here with me.</p>
<p>Closing Circle Time</p> <p>Classroom Song, verse 4</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p><i>When children are settled in the circle, say:</i></p> <p>"It's almost time for your parents to come pick you up. And do you know what that means? It means.... (draw this out to build anticipation and excitement)...that it's almost time to go home and...it's almost time to...Go and Tell! We have learned some big news about God today. God wants us to take and tell it to the whole world!"</p> <p>Classroom Song, verse 4 <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 4</i></p> <p>So what's our big news to go and tell, So what's our big news to go and tell, Can you tell me now?</p>
<p>Big News to Tell</p> <p>Big Question 10</p> <p><i>VISUAL AID</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #90EE90; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 5px auto; text-align: center;">#1</div> <p><i>*found in DDD Unit 10 Visual Aids, ESV Book lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p> <p>Big Question 10, Bible Truth 4</p> <p><i>VISUAL AID</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #90EE90; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 5px auto; text-align: center;">#3</div>	<p>"Let's see....there's so much big news to tell! There's so much we've learned!</p> <p>First of all, can you tell me the answer to our Big Question: "What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?" <i>Hold up the Bible Truth Clue Picture.</i></p> <p>Say the answer with me: "He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus..."</p> <p><i>(If desired, you can sing one/both of the Big Question songs.)</i> <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, tracks 12,13</i></p> <p>And what's one way He does this? What did we learn? <i>Point to the picture.</i></p> <p>The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church!"</p> <p>And how do I know this is true? Can you tell me? Say it with me: "The Bible tells me so!" That's right!</p>
<p>Big Question 10 Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse</p> <p><i>VISUAL AID</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #90EE90; padding: 5px; width: 30px; margin: 5px auto; text-align: center;">#4</div> <p><i>*found in the DDD Unit 10 Visual Aids, ESV Book lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>We learned: Acts 9:31, NIV 1984</p> <p>"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."</p> <p>Learn a Little: "[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit."</p> <p>What This Means: The Holy Spirit strengthens and encourages God's people, the Church. He works in their hearts, giving people faith to repent of their sins and believe in Jesus as their Savior as they hear God's Word. He fills their hearts and helps them to grow in understanding God's Word and in loving God and one another. He helps them to live in the fear of the Lord --that is, He helps them want to honor and obey God most of all. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, we will be part of God's Church, too. We will enjoy the encouragement of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.</p> <p><i>(If desired, you can sing the Bible verse song.)</i> <i>DDD ESV Songs 10, track 30</i></p>

4. CLOSING CIRCLE TIME, continued



= follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

<p>Closing ACTS Prayer Time</p> <p>ACTS Prayer Chant</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p><i>Let's ask God to help us to remember this and even tell others this good news. Let's get ready and pray our ACTS prayer.</i></p> <p><i>And what does ACTS mean? Let's sing/say our ACTS Prayer Chant!</i></p> <p>ACTS Prayer Chant Song <i>DDDESV Songs 10, tracks 10,11</i></p> <p>A, Adoration, God, we praise You! C, Confession, Forgive us our sins. T, Thanksgiving, Thank You for Jesus, S, Supplication, Help us to live like Him.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">That's the ACTS prayer, my friend, Bow your head, Close your eyes, Shhh, Let's begin.</p>
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<p>Closing ACTS Prayer</p>	<p>"Let's pray!"</p> <p><i>Lead the children in the ACTS prayer for this Bible Truth.</i></p> <p>A God, we praise You for being the Builder of Your Church by Your Holy Spirit.</p> <p>C God, we confess that we have sinful hearts. We need You to give us faith to believe in Jesus. We need Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. We need Jesus to be our Savior!</p> <p>T Thank You, God, for calling people from every tribe, nation, and language to be Your people, the Church.</p> <p>S God, work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts, so we might know and love You. Build Your Church, in us and in people throughout the whole world!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.</p>
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5. TAKING IT HOME *(Take Home Sheet)*

<p>Clean up and Dismissal </p>	<p>"Now it's time to work together and clean up." <i>Have the children join you in cleaning up the room.</i></p>
<p>Coloring Pages/ Take Home Sheets </p> <p><i>in Appendix C</i></p>	<p><i>Give out the craft/take home sheet and any other papers from the session, as you dismiss children from class.</i></p> <p><i>(Reminder: The back side of the coloring page is the take home sheet for each lesson.)</i></p>

<p>Bible Story to Take-Home</p> <p><i>in Appendix C</i></p>	<p>You may also want to include a copy of the story along with the take home sheet. (However, each coloring sheet/take home sheet includes a note to parents telling where they can download the story from the Parent Resources section on the website.)</p>
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The Case of the World's Biggest Building*Genesis; the Gospels; Acts*

of BQB

Story-telling Tips

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Choose story action cues and prepare storyboard figures/Story Scenes, if using. (In Visual Aids book)
3. Practice telling story with the storyboard figures/Story Scenes, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary.

During your presentation:

1. Maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story.
2. Put up storyboard figures/add story action cues/hold up Story Scenes as you tell the story. Allow the children to help you put them on the board, if desired.
3. Include the children in your story with a few questions about what they think will happen or words/concepts that might be new to them.
4. Watch the kids for signs that their attention span has been reached. Shorten, if necessary.

INTRODUCTION/ LISTENING ASSIGNMENTS (Optional)

"Our story is called: The Case of the World's Biggest Building. Here is your listening assignment..." *Read the assignment for your lesson using Detective Dan's Listening Assignment sign or the text below:*

Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

I need to find out:

1. **Who was the builder?**
2. **What did this builder plan to build? What would it be like when it was finished?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is Acts 9:31, NIV 1984:**

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."

I need to find out:

1. **Who helped Jesus' disciples obey God's plan to tell others about Jesus?**
2. **How did Holy Spirit help the Church grow?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found six clues, but only 4 of them are in the story.

They are: a boat, a kangaroo, a hamburger, a listening man, a big plan, and sunglasses.

Hold each of them up for the children to see as you identify them.

I need to figure out:

1. **Which four belong in our story?**
2. **Who would one day praise God all together, when God's plans were finished?**

Read the assignment questions, THEN SAY,

"Ok, Deep Down Detectives! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can hear the answers to Detective Dan's questions. When I finish telling the story, we will see if we can answer all the questions."

Read the Bible Truth story, answer questions, present the gospel and lead in prayer.

Answers to questions; the gospel; and, ACTS prayer are included with the story text.

The Case of the World's Biggest Building *Genesis; the Gospels; Acts**Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)*

It takes many bricks to build a building like that. (The Empire State Building in New York City was built out of 10 million bricks. Now THAT is a BIG building!)

This is the story of God's plan to build the biggest building in the world. Now, this building wouldn't be a skyscraper made out of bricks or even metal. This would be a very different kind of building. put together not with millions, but BILLIONS of something very different from what you might think.

What was the name of this big building God planned to build? It was called "the Church." And from what did He plan to build His Church? Do you have any idea?

Can you guess?

Are you ready for this? God was planning to build His Church from lots and lots of one kind of creature. Yes, it would be a HUGE gathering of millions, even billions, of this LIVING, BREATHING creature, all brought together for God's One, Big Plan. What kind of creature do you think God planned to use? Hmmm... would it be kangaroos? Or rabbits? Trees or birds or bugs?

What do you think?

Nope. God didn't plan to make His Church from any of those creatures. God's Church would be made from a creature who looked a lot like... well... US! Matter a fact, it IS us! People!

That's right! "The Church" is God's name for all of His people, from every time and every place in the world, gathered together and living with Him forever. All of their millions and billions of hearts would be full of His love, like one, happy heart. And all of their millions and billions of mouths would be full of His praise, like one, joyful song. Together, they would enjoy God's Perfect Wonderfulness. God's big building would be very, very special, wouldn't it?

But there was something else that would make God's Church very special. It was WHAT --or really WHO-- God would use to join all those people together. Can you guess Who?

Can you guess?

It would be God, Himself. God, the Father, would send His Son, Jesus, to save them and make them God's people. God, the Holy Spirit, would come live in their hearts, so they could know and love God, and enjoy Him forever, together. What an amazing plan God had!

First comes the plan, then comes the work. God began His work by creating our wonderful world and everything in it, including the people He would make into His Church.

God is spirit, and if people were to know Him and be part of His big, beautiful Church, they would need a spirit, too. So, God put a special spirit inside of their bodies. Now they could know and love Him, in a way no other creature could. God named the first man, "Adam" and Adam named his wife, "Eve".

God told Adam and Eve to fill the whole earth with children, and grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. And that's what they did. These children grew up and spread out across the whole world. Some made ships and sailed to faraway islands. Some climbed tall mountains and made their homes near snowy peaks. Others settled in thick jungles, forests, and many other places. They had families and made their homes throughout the whole world. They had different skin colors and spoke different languages. One day, God's Church would be a great gathering of God's people from all of these different places and languages. Together, they would lift up their praises to God in one, beautiful voice. Together, they would love God and each other perfectly. And it would go on like this forever.

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)

But that wonderful day was not yet. From Adam and Eve on down, all people have chosen to turn away from God and live life their own way. Their hearts --like ours--have become ugly, broken, and even dead to God, all because of this terrible sin. Every one of them deserved to be shut out from God's presence and never know Him or His love. Never, ever! How sad!

But sin wouldn't ruin God's plans to build His Church! God knew that people would rebel against Him. He had always made it part of His plan to rescue them and make them beautiful, Himself, through His Son, Jesus.

So, at just the right time, Jesus came to redeem God's people. He would pay for their sins. He would make them beautiful for God. Jesus lived a perfect life here on earth. Then on the cross, He suffered and died. Jesus gave up His life as the full payment for the sins of God's people, so they could be forgiven.

On Day One and Two, Jesus' body lay dead in a cave-grave; but on Day Three, Jesus rose from the dead in victory! He had made the way for sinners to become God's people, the Church.

Now it was time to take the good news of salvation to the world so that God's Church would be from every people, just as God had always planned. "Go to the whole world, tell them all about Me. Teach them how they can become God's people," Jesus told His disciples, after He rose from the dead.

What? THOSE disciples do ALL THIS? How? They were so fearful, so weak. They didn't know what to say. There were so few of them. They could never do this big job!

Do you think they could do it?

No! There was NO WAY they could do this job ALONE, but God never planned for them to. He would send His Holy Spirit to live inside of them and help them tell others about Jesus. He would send the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of those who listened, helping them turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. The Holy Spirit would help them all grow to love God more and live for Him each day, full of boldness and full of wisdom.

And that's just what happened. Filled with God's Holy Spirit, the disciples went out and told the good news of Jesus to everyone who would listen! And as the disciples spoke, the Holy Spirit worked in the hearts of the listeners. He helped them turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, too. He changed and filled their hearts. He turned their ugly, broken, sinful hearts into the new, beautiful, God-loving hearts of God's people. God's Church was becoming bigger and bigger and bigger! God's plan was coming true!

Now these new believers joined the first disciples in sharing the good news of Jesus. Further and further away they went to new parts of the world.

Some got in ships and sailed to far-away islands. Others climbed over the snowy mountains. Still others made their way through thick jungles, forests, and many other places. Everywhere they went, they shared the good news of Jesus. Everywhere they went, the Holy Spirit worked. People turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior. The Holy Spirit came to live in their hearts. God was building His Church from people of every nation and language.

On and on, for thousands of years now, Jesus' followers have kept on telling the people of the world the good news of Jesus. On and on, the Holy Spirit has been working in their hearts of listeners, building God's Church as more and more people turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

One day, God will be finished building His Church. When will that be? When the good news of Jesus has gone out to the whole world; God's plans for building His Church are completed; and, all His people are saved and filled with His Holy Spirit. And on that day, Jesus will return here to earth. He will take away every last speck of sin in God's people. Sin and pain, sickness and death will be gone for good! Jesus will gather them all together to live with Him in the new heaven and earth He will make for them. What a beautiful, happy sight will be God's people, the Church, in that perfectly happy, new world! They will be the biggest, most beautiful building that has ever been built, made up of people from the whole world. Too many people to count! And they will enjoy God's Perfect Wonderfulness and praise Him FOREVER!

Cracking the Case: (story wrap-up for Listening Assignments)

It's time to see how we did with our Listening Assignment.

Detective Dan's Lesson 1 Listening Assignment:

1. Who was the builder? The LORD.

2. What did this builder plan to build? What would it be like when it was finished? His Church. It would be a huge gathering of all of God's people, loving Him and praising Him forever.

For You and Me:

Did you know that we can be a part of God's people, the Church, too? How? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. God will fill us with His Holy Spirit, and we can join in loving Him and praising Him now and forever.

Detective Dan's Lesson 2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is: Acts 9:31, NIV 1984:**

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."

1. Who helped Jesus' disciples obey God's plan to tell others about Jesus? God's Holy Spirit.

2. How did Holy Spirit help the Church grow? He helped the believers be bold to tell others about Jesus and He gave them words to say. He worked in the hearts of those listening and helped them put their trust in Jesus, too.

For You and Me

God's Holy Spirit can help us become a part of God's people, the Church, too. We can ask Him to work in our hearts and help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to love God and live for Him.

Detective Dan's Lesson 3 Listening Assignment:

Our six clues were: a boat, a kangaroo, a hamburger, a listening man, a big plan, and sunglasses.

1. Which four belong in our story?

The boat, the kangaroo, the listening man and the big plan belong. The hamburger and the sunglasses do not.

2. Who would one day praise God all together, when God's plans were finished? All of God's people, the Church!

For You and Me:

Did you know that we can be a part of God's people, the Church, too? How? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. God will fill us with His Holy Spirit, and we can join in loving Him and praising Him now and forever.

The Gospel (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)**Our Bible Truth is:**

What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?

He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...

The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church!

Isn't it amazing that God chose to build His Church out of people like us? He is our good God, yet we have all chosen to disobey God. We deserve His punishment, but instead, He offers to make us His people.

God sent Jesus to live the perfect life that we should have lived, but never did. On the cross, Jesus gave His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people so they could be forgiven and know special closeness with God as their Heavenly Father.

On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really beaten sin and death for them, once and for all! That's how God could make sinful people like us into His dearly-loved people, the Church!

We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to help you. He loves to do this!

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

- A** God, we praise You for being the Builder of Your Church by Your Holy Spirit.
- C** God, we confess that we have sinful hearts. We need You to give us faith to believe in Jesus. We need Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. We need Jesus to be our Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for calling people from every tribe, nation, and language to be Your people, the Church.
- S** God, work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts, so we might know and love You. Build Your Church, in us and in people throughout the whole world!

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Go to Lesson Plan, p.9 for the script to the rest of the lesson.

Deep Down Discussion Sheet

use with all THREE lessons

Use with all response activities for deeper learning



P.1

Questions to aid discussion of the key concepts and for use in games

Be familiar with these questions and answers. Look for opportunities to ask questions and discuss their answers, such as while the children work on their coloring pages, as part of their response games, or during play time. Remember: your goal isn't to ask all these questions or only talk to the children about these things. It is to be deliberate in having good conversations with them, however much or little you have.

<p>BIG QUESTION Meaning</p>	<p>What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People? He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus!! God's Holy Spirit works in our hearts as we hear God's Word, the Bible. He gives us the gift of faith in Jesus. He helps us to turn away from living for ourselves and to live for God instead. This is how we become God's people. But that's just the beginning of what the Holy Spirit does in God's people! He goes on living inside of them their whole lives, helping them, and changing their hearts. He helps them to know God and obey His laws. He helps them to love God and others as Jesus did. He comforts them when they are sad and helps them to be brave when they are scared. He helps them know the right way to live. The Holy Spirit in our hearts is a wonderful gift that God loves to give to us when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.</p>
<p>Discussion Questions <i>choose a few</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does the Holy Spirit do in God's people? <i>He changes their heart!</i> 2. Who works in our heart as we hear God's Word, the Bible? <i>The Holy Spirit.</i> 3. In whom does the Holy Spirit give us faith? <i>Jesus.</i> 4. How long does the Holy Spirit keep working inside of God's people? <i>Their whole lives.</i> 5. Who does the Holy Spirit help us know? <i>God.</i> 6. What does the Holy Spirit help us obey? <i>God's laws.</i> 7. How does the Holy Spirit help God's people when they are sad or scared? <i>He comforts them and helps them to be brave.</i> 8. How can we become one of God's people? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i>
<p>BIBLE TRUTH Meaning</p>	<p>He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church! Many people think that a church is a building, but it's not. "Church" is the name for all of God's people. God's Church is built by the Holy Spirit, one person at a time. The Holy Spirit works in the hearts of people, giving them the gift of faith as they hear God's Word, the Bible. The Holy Spirit helps them believe God's Word, turn away from their sins, and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God has always planned for the Holy Spirit to bring people from everywhere in the whole world to be part of His people, the Church. The Bible tells us that the Church will be made up of people from every people and language in the world. Each week, groups of God's people meet together to worship God in gatherings all over the world. This is what we call "going to church." But in heaven, the whole Church --all of God's people, from every place and every time-- will gather together to worship God forever. What a gathering that will be! The Bible tells us that it will be so many people that we won't even be able to count them. We can be part of God's Church --God's people-- too, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.</p>
<p>Discussion Questions <i>choose a few</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is a church a building? <i>No. It's the name for all of God's people.</i> 2. Who builds God's Church? <i>The Holy Spirit, as He works in the hearts of people and gives them the gift of faith-- trusting in Jesus as their Savior.</i> 3. How does the Holy Spirit work inside someone's heart when they hear God's Word? <i>He helps him to believe what he hears, confess and turn away from his sins, and trust in Jesus as his Savior.</i> 4. What did God always plan for the Holy Spirit to do? <i>God has always planned for the Holy Spirit to bring people from everywhere in the whole world to be part of His people, His Church.</i> 5. What do we mean we say that we are going to church? <i>That we are going to gather together with some of God's people to worship God, learn from His Word, and love one another.</i> 6. What will it be like when God's people, the Church is in heaven together? <i>All of God's people will at last gather together to worship God and be together forever.</i> 7. How can we become part of God's Church--His dearly loved people? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i>

Deep Down Discussion Sheet

use with all THREE lessons

P.2

Questions to aid discussion of the key concepts and for use in games

THE GOSPEL

God's Holy Spirit builds God's Church as He helps people hear and believe the gospel. What is the gospel, the good news about Jesus? *We have all chosen to disobey God and deserve His punishment for our sins! How sad! But God is so rich in mercy that He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross and take the punishment for God's people. On the third day, He rose from the dead, proving He had beaten sin and death for them. Now, all who turn away from their sins and trust Jesus as their Savior God will forgive their sins. They will enjoy special closeness with God now as His special people. And one day, they will get to live with Him forever. How amazing is God's love for His people! We can be God's people, too! When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, He will save us, too! It is His promise to us!*

BIBLE TRUTH BIBLE VERSE

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord." --Acts 9:31, NIV 1984

Learn a Little: "[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit."

Meaning

The Holy Spirit strengthens and encourages God's people, the Church. He works in their hearts, giving people faith to repent of their sins and believe in Jesus as their Savior as they hear God's Word. He fills their hearts and helps them to grow in understanding God's Word and in loving God and one another. He helps them to live in the fear of the Lord --that is, He helps them want to honor and obey God most of all. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, we will be part of God's Church, too. We will enjoy the encouragement of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

Discussion Questions

choose a few

1. What was being strengthened and who was strengthening it? *The church was strengthened by God's Holy Spirit.*
2. What is a church? *A group of Christians gathering together to worship God and love one another.*
3. What does it mean for a church to be strengthened? *Not that everyone has bigger muscles and can lift heavy things, but that their faith in God is growing stronger, they understand more of God and His Word; they are loving and knowing God more; they are becoming more obedient to His good ways; and more lovingly towards each other.*
4. How does the Holy Spirit encourage a church? *He is at work in the hearts of believers, helping them to keep saying "no" to sin; helping them to better understand God's Word; growing their faith in God; helping them become more loving and knowing God better; helping them become more obedient to God's good ways; and helping them to act more lovingly towards each other. He gives them wisdom and courage to live God's way, even when it is very hard.*
5. How were people in the church living? What does that mean? *In the fear of the Lord. It means to live to please God, in your heart, with your words and with all your life.*
6. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

BIBLE STORY

The Case of the World's Biggest Building

Discussion Questions

choose a few

1. Who was planning to build something very, very big? *God was.*
2. What was God planning to build? *His Church--a great gathering of people who love Him and know Him.*
3. What did God give people so that they could know Him and love Him? *A spirit.*
4. What did all people do that made their hearts ugly and full of sin? *They all chose to turn away from God and live life their own way.*
5. What did God plan to do to rescue His people so that they could become His people? *He sent Jesus to die on the cross to pay for their sins.*
6. Who did God send His Holy Spirit to live inside of? *Those who turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior.*
7. What did the Holy Spirit help these new believers do? *To live for God and boldly tell others the good news of Jesus that they might trust in Jesus as their Savior, too.*
8. When will God's Church be finished? *When the whole world has heard the good news of Jesus and His plans for His people here on earth are done.*
9. How can we become God's dearly-loved people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*