

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES



**Unit 10,
Bible Truth 4
Simple Story Scenes**

Using Simple Story Scenes as a Curriculum

Introduce the Key Concept and Bible Verse

Simple Story Scenes give you the basics for the core of your lesson. You can use the overview sheet to introduce and explain the key concept and Bible verse.

Give the Case Assignment

Give the children a Detective Dan listening assignment. Two are provided. You can add a third using the ideas on the bonus, third take-home sheet, if desired. Each listening assignment, let's you teach the story with a different learning emphasis.

Show & Tell the Story

Hold up the pictures and tell the story from the story scenes. Alternatively, you can find in the and Pieces section for this unit at praisefactory.org, these same listening assignments and story scenes, gospel and ACTS prayer modified for view on a screen. Simply download them or open them online and show through your own monitor (tablet, big screen, whatever).

Solve the Case

Repeat Detective Dan's listening assignment question and discuss the answer.

Share the Gospel

Share the gospel tie-in with the kids.

Close in ACTS Prayer

Pray the ACTS prayer with the kids. If using the curriculum with older children, give them a chance to think up their own ACTS tie-ins to the story, using the one provided as cues/ideas for you.

Review Time

Give out the take-home sheet (there are three: two that correlates to the two Detective Dan assignments in the Story Scenes, and a bonus third one.) As the children are coloring, use the take-home sheet discussion questions or your own questions to further review and apply the key concepts, Bible verse, and story truths to the children.

Looking for more?

Online, in the Bits and Pieces section for this unit, you will find review games, crafts, storyboard flannelgraph figures, and audio and sheet music for all of the songs. There are also full lesson plans that offer more of a script and take this curriculum's possibilities to much more depth. Don't forget to tell the parents about the Parents Resources section where they can read through the Story scenes and download take homes with their kids.

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 in you." -- Ezekiel 36:26

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

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

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

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: There Was A Great Multitude Revelation 7:9-10, NIV 1984

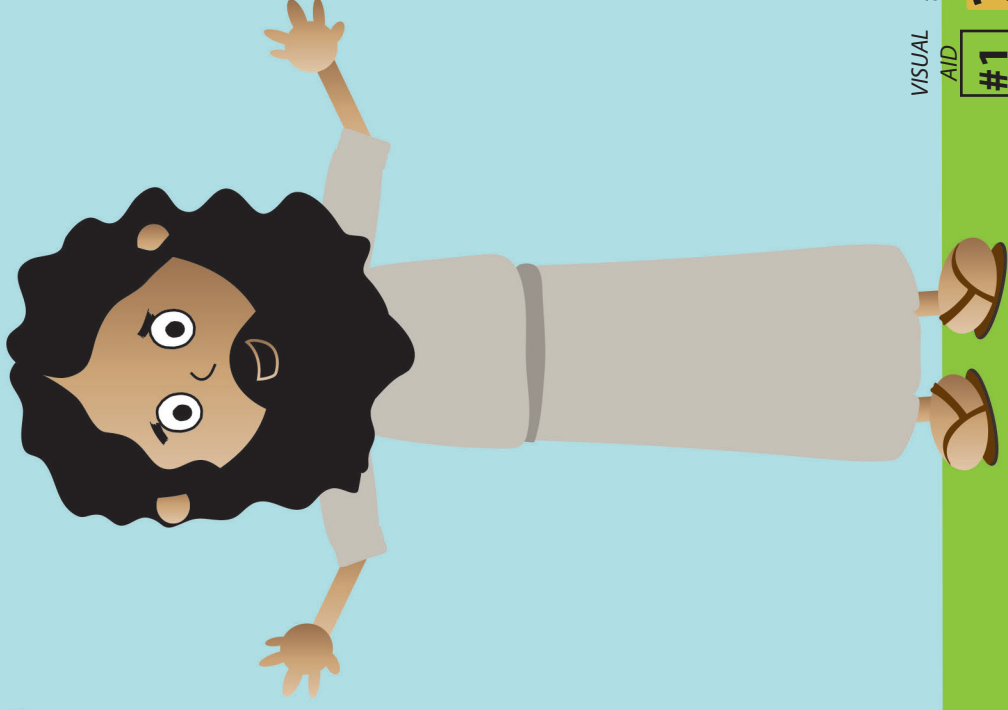
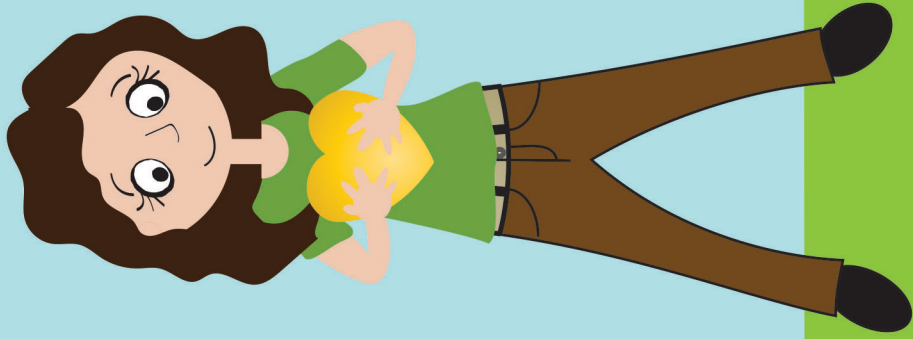
Bible Truth 4 Extra Song: God's One Big Plan

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

BIG QUESTION 10



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



VISUAL
AID

#1

take out



of BQB

ANSWER:

He changes their hearts to be like Jesus!

The Big Question

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...

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.

Let's sing our Big Question Song: "

Big Q & A 10 Song

DDD NIV Songs 10, track 12

(adapted version of "Pop, Goes the Weasel")

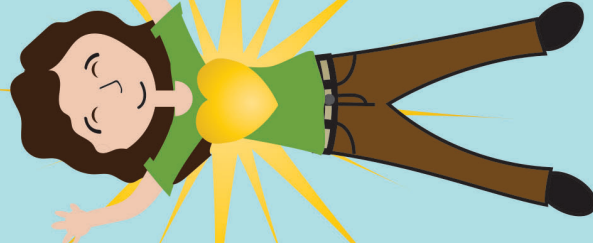
What does the Holy Spirit do,
Inside of God's people?
What does the Holy Spirit do?
He changes their heart!

BIG QUESTION 10: Four truths about the Holy Spirit

1.



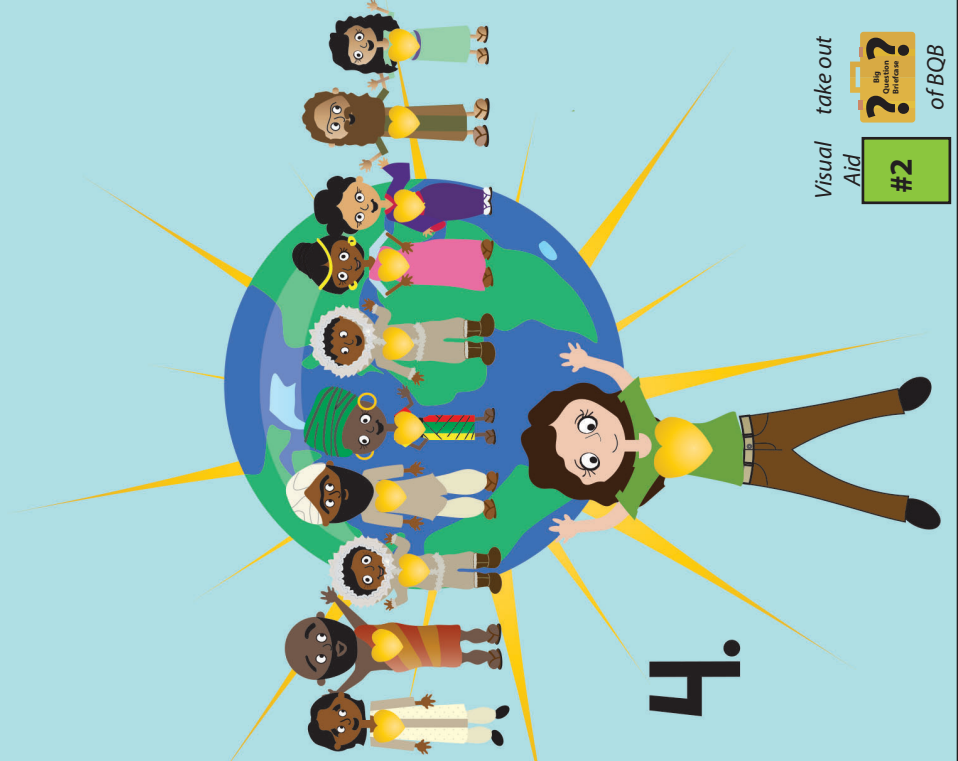
2.



3.



4.



Visual take out
Aid



This Unit's Bible Truths

"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.

After everyone has had a good look say...

"Ok, we've learned three truths about the Holy Spirit's work inside of God's people. 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.

CAN YOU GUESS 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 ????!**

**HINT: What's the opposite of being dead? This
word starts with the letter "C" and rhymes
with "search."**

**ANSWER:
The Holy Spirit Builds God's CHURCH!**

Visual Aid take out

#3



of BQB



Revealing the Bible Truth We Are Learning

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 ?????!”**

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 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!!”**

And here is what this Bible Truth means:

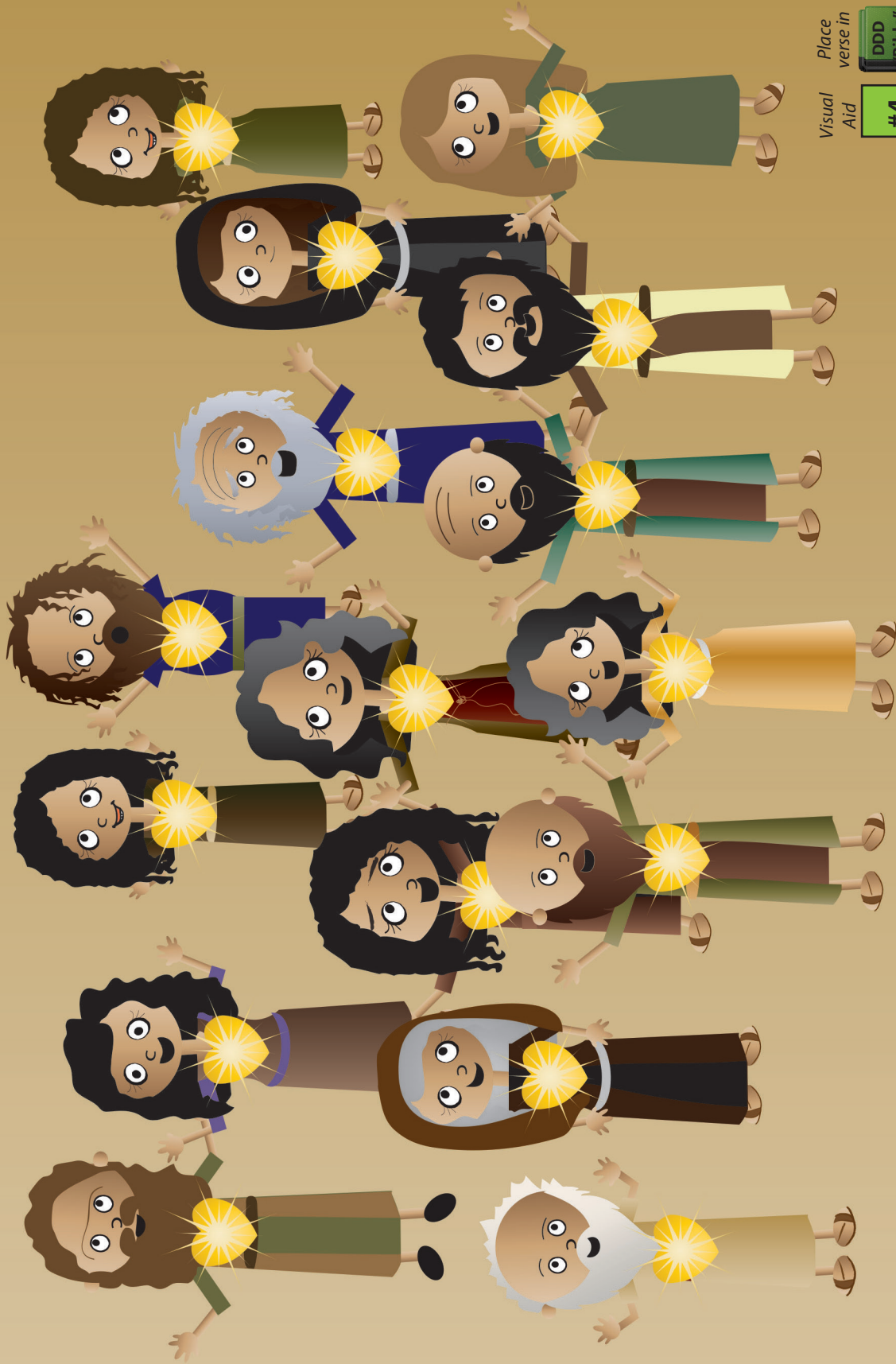
(read the meaning off of the back of the sign, say:)

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.



Visual Aid #4

Place verse in DDD "Bible"

take out ? in the windows of BQB

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

Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse

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."

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.

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

The Church Was Strengthened:

Acts 9:31, NIV 1984

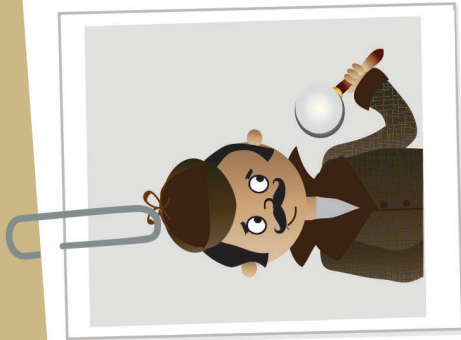
DDD NIV Songs 10, track 21

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 of,
The fear of the Lord, *(repeat)*

Acts Nine, thirty-one.

"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?"

“The Case of the World’s Biggest Building” Genesis; the Gospels; Acts



Detective Dan’s Listening Assignment #1

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 Listening Assignment #2

Acts 9:31, NIV

“[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?
2. How did the Holy Spirit help the Church grow?

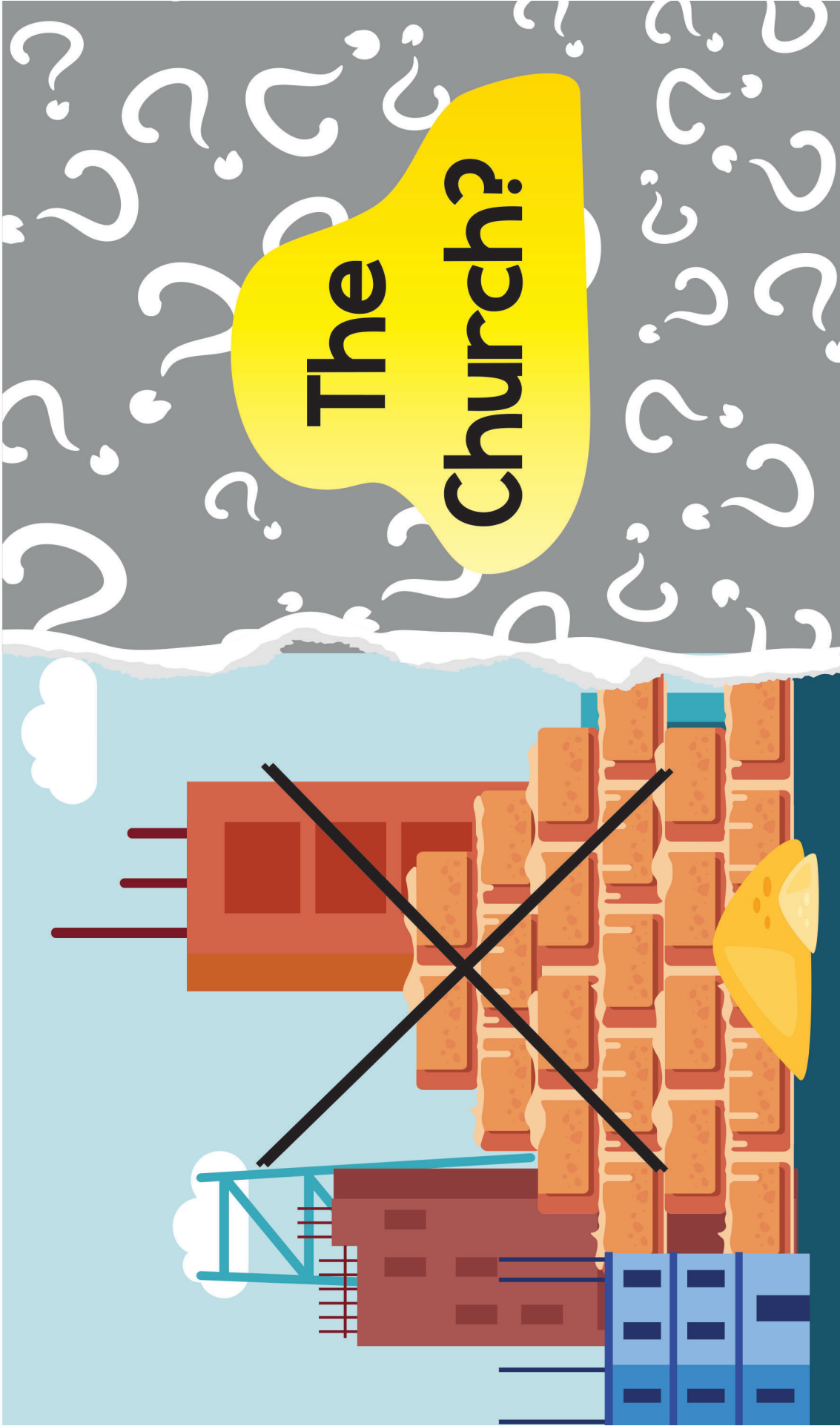
(more listening and discussion questions are included in the curriculum at praisefactory.org)

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



I. Do you know what a skyscraper is? It's a really tall building that sticks high up into the sky. 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!)

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



2. 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. And it would be built not with millions, but with BILLIONS of something. 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?

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



3. 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? Hmmmm... would it be kangaroos? Or rabbits? Trees or birds or bugs?

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes

The Church!



4. 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!

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



Perfect Wonderfulness

5. 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?

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



6. 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**? It was 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!

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



7. 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.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



8. 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".

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



9. 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.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



10. Throughout the whole world, these children of Adam and Eve settled down and had families. 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.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



II. 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 get know Him or His love. Never, ever! How sad!

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



12. 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.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



13. Jesus came and 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.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



Day 3



Day 1

Day 2



14. 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.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



15. 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!

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



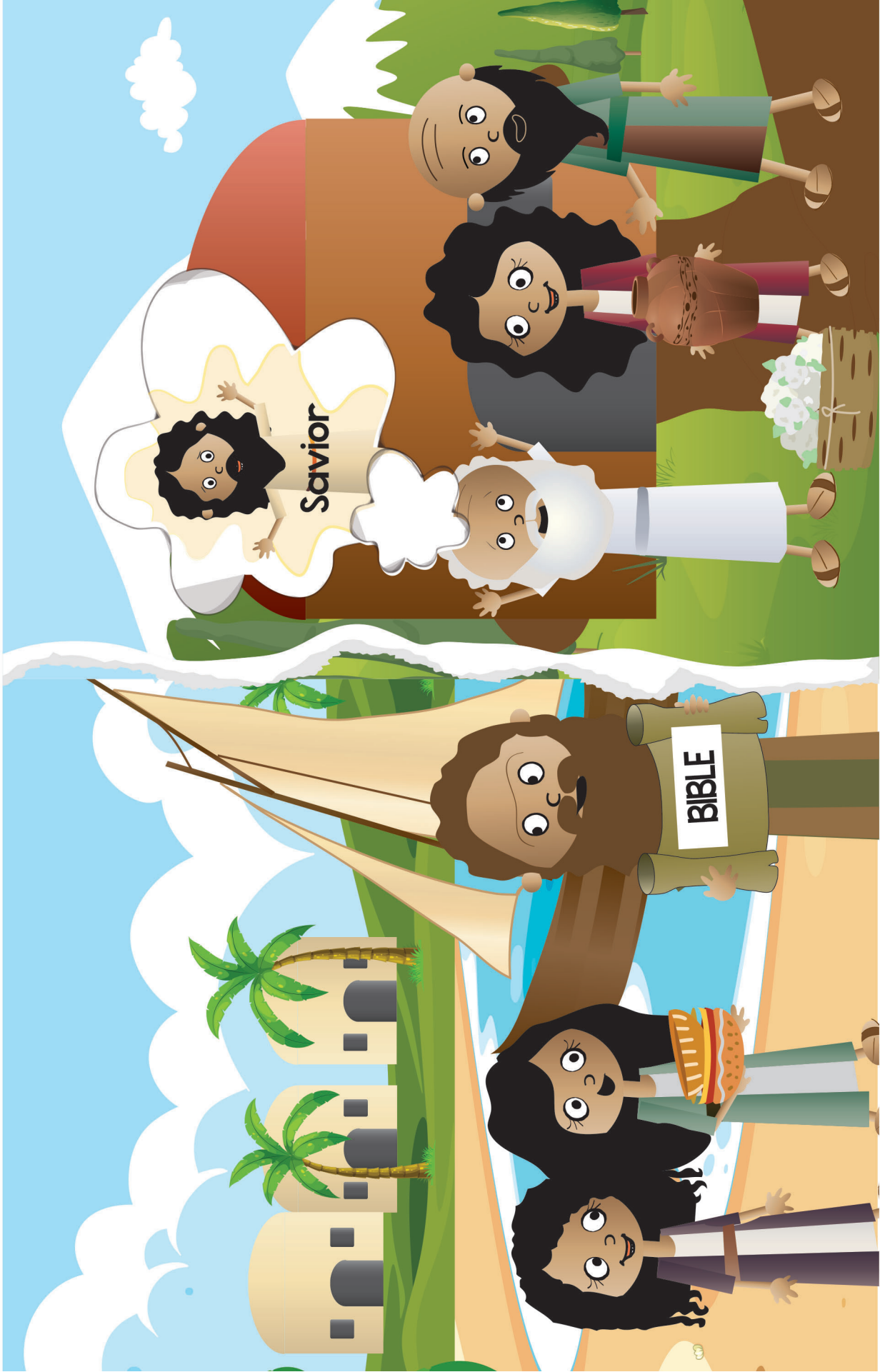
16. No! There was NO WAY they could do this job ALONE, but God never planned for them to. He would send His Holy Spirit to live inside of them and help them tell others about Jesus. He would send the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of those who listened, helping them turn away from their sins and trust 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.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



17. 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. 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!

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



18. 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 faraway islands. Others climbed over the snowy mountains.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



19. Still others made their way through thick jungles, forests, and many other places. 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.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



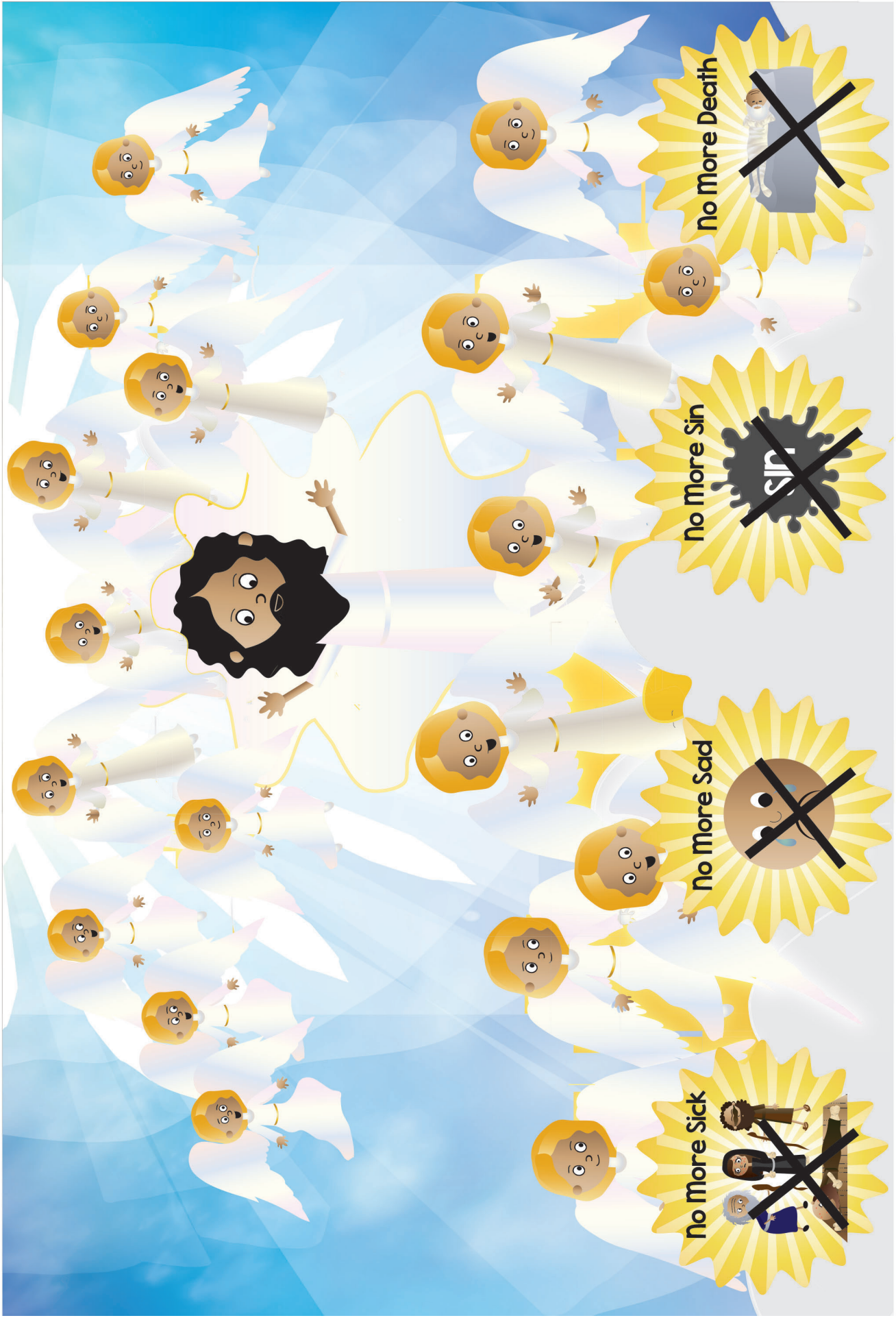
20. On and on, for thousands of years now, Jesus' followers have kept on telling the people of the world the good news of Jesus. On and on, the Holy Spirit has been working in the hearts of listeners, building God's Church as more and more people turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their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

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



21. 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.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



22. 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!

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes



23. Jesus will gather God's people 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!

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes

“The Case of the World’s Biggest Building” Genesis; the Gospels; Acts

SOLVED



Detective Dan’s Listening Assignment #1

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 Listening Assignment #2

Acts 9:31, NIV

“[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 the 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.

DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes

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!

The Gospel



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 Him. We deserve His punishment, but instead, He offers to make us His people through His Son, Jesus.

God sent Jesus to live the perfect life that we should have lived, but never do. Then on the cross, Jesus gave His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people, so they could be forgiven. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead. He had really beaten sin and death for God's people! And that's how

God makes sinful people into His dearly-loved people, the Church. You can become part of the Church, too. Ask God to help you turn away from your sins and trust in Jesus as your Savior. He loves to answer this prayer!



DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes

A 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.



DDD 10.4 Simple Story Scenes