

The Case of the Man Who Never Said "No"*The Gospels; Hebrews 4*

of BQB

Story-telling Tips

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Choose story action cues and/or prepare storyboard figures, if using. (Included in Visual Aids book)
3. Practice telling story with the storyboard pictures, 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 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

"Our story is called: The Case of the Man Who Never Said "No". Here is your listening assignment." Read from Detective Dan's Listening Assignment signs, but questions are summarized below:

Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

I need to know:

- 1. Who was the Man? To whom did He never say "no"?**
- 2. Why was it so important that He never said "no"?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is Hebrews 4:15:**

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin."

I need to know:

- 1. Who was tempted in every way as we are but never sinned?**
- 2. What could He do for us because He never sinned?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:I found six clues, but two of them are **NOT** in the story.

They are: a broom; an enemy; a letter; a heart without sin; a duck; and a cross.

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

I need to know:

- 1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't?**
- 2. Who never had to confess any sins to God and ask for His forgiveness?**

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 Man Who Never Said “No” *The Gospels; Hebrews 4*

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics) Numbers correspond to storyboard pictures and placement upon the storyboard. Always feel free to use less pictures, if it's best for your kids. Simply black out the numbers next to pictures you do not plan to use. All pictures are found in the Visual Aids book. Put BG (background) pictures on storyboard ahead of time. SB pictures (listed below in story text) are added to board as you tell the story. These numbers are also found on the back of each picture.

Tip: Stack pictures in numerical before telling story for easy use. Use sticky-back velcro to attach pictures to storyboard felt. Use sticky-tac putty to stick a picture on top of another picture.

Long ago in Bethlehem, (SB1) baby Jesus was born.

Every baby is special, but there was something that made Jesus the most special baby of all. (SB2) A whole host of angels came to tell about Jesus' specialness that night He was born.

They lit up the sky with God's bright, shiny glory as they sang out their good news.

Let's praise God for Jesus right now! "Praise God! Thank you for Jesus!"

What was it that made Jesus so special that the angels would sing about it?

Can you guess?

This baby was (SB3) God's Son. He was Christ, the Lord! He was coming to save God's people from their sins, just as God promised them He would.

Jesus had a very, very hard job ahead of Him. Jesus would have to do something no human had ever done, if He were to save God's people.

Do you have any idea what it was that Jesus would have to do?

Jesus would have to never, ever disobey God. (SB4) He would have to keep all of God's laws ALWAYS! For you see, only if Jesus was perfectly good could God accept His life to pay for the sins of God's people. Nothing less than perfect would do.

Can you imagine what it would be like for Jesus to NEVER disobey God? It would mean ALWAYS loving God most of all. It would mean ALWAYS loving others as the Bible tells us to.

In everything He said, and did, and even thought in His heart, Jesus would have to never, ever do anything wrong. NEVER!

What would Jesus have been like as a little boy who never, ever disobeyed God? First of all, (SB5) Jesus would have loved spending time praying to God, His Father, and learning the Bible.

If His mother, (SB6) Mary, asked Him to help her sweep the floor, Jesus would have obeyed her RIGHT AWAY, ALWAYS! If (SB7) Joseph asked Jesus to share His favorite toy with another child, Jesus have always shared cheerfully.

And what would (SB8) Jesus do if someone did something mean to Him?

What do you think He would do?

He would NOT do something mean to get back at them. He would have forgiven them, instead!

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

Jesus would have done these things and a lot more when He was a little boy. Day after day, Jesus would have always obeyed God. He would have always done what was right.

Was it easy for Jesus to always obey God and do what was right when He was a little boy?

What do you think?

No, it was not! The Bible tells us that even though Jesus was the perfect Son of God, He was tempted to disobey God in every way, just as we are. But while we give in to disobeying God, (SB9) Jesus never did, not even once! This is what He needed to do if He was to complete His Father's plan and be our Savior.

Jesus didn't stay a little boy. (SB10) He grew up, up, up to be a man. It was time to tell others about God's plans. It was time to show them that He was God's Son, the Savior. And soon, it would be time to suffer and die for God's people. Jesus would have to do all this, and (SB11) still, never, ever disobey God. He would have to obey all of God's laws perfectly. He would have to always love God most of all, and always love others, too. Jesus, the perfect, little boy, now had to be Jesus, the perfect grown-up man! Could He do it?

God's great enemy, Satan, hoped that Jesus could not. Satan wanted to ruin all of God's plans. He wanted Jesus to fail. He didn't want us to have a Savior. (SB12, SB13) Out in the wilderness, Satan came to Jesus with tempting offers. "(SB14) Worship me instead of God, and I will give You the world and all of its riches. You will be king," Satan promised. "Everyone will worship You, if You bow down and worship me."

ALL the best things in the world? Everyone worship Him? Ooh, how tempting that sounded! All Jesus had to do was to bow down to Satan. Ooh, how easy that sounded! Would Jesus give in to Satan?

What do you think?

No, Jesus would NOT! "(SB15) Go away from Me, Satan! I'm only going to worship God, My Father!" Jesus told him. Jesus would be the perfect Savior! He would keep to God's good plan!

Satan wasn't the only one who tempted Jesus to sin and disobey God. Sometimes people said hateful lies about Jesus. (SB16) "You aren't God's Son! You are just like Satan, God's enemy! You do bad things and You should die," they told Him. How easy it would have been for Jesus to break God's plan and prove them wrong! How easy it would have been to hate them back! But, did He?

What do you think?

(SB17) No, Jesus did not! He just kept on loving them. He taught them truths from God's Word, so they might turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. Why did Jesus do this? Because Jesus wanted to please God, and He wanted to be the perfect Savior for God's people.

(SB18) Sometimes, Jesus was so tired from caring for the crowds of people. They came day after day after day to be healed and to hear from God's Word. "Heal us, Jesus! Teach us, Jesus!" they pleaded with Him.

Jesus loved healing them and teaching them, but it was a lot of work. (SB19) It would have been easy to get grumpy with them and tell them to go away. But, did He?

What do you think?

No, (SB20) Jesus never made a grumpy face or had a grumpy heart! (SB21) He kept on loving and caring for the people. Jesus wanted to please God, and He wanted to be the perfect Savior for God's people.

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

(SB22) Sometimes, people wanted to make Jesus their king. How nice that must have sounded! Jesus could have a big palace and lots of people to serve Him. That would be much easier than suffering and dying on the cross, as God planned.

But Jesus said, “No.” **(SB23)** He kept to God’s plan. Jesus wanted to please God most of all. He wanted to be the perfect Savior for God’s people. Life in a fancy palace wouldn’t save God’s people. Only by suffering and dying on the cross could Jesus do that.

Even on the last day of His life, Jesus was tempted to disobey God, His Father.

On the way to the cross, **(SB24)** His enemies hit Him, spit on Him, and called Him bad names.

(SB25) As Jesus hung on the cross, suffering for the sins of God’s people, they made fun of Him. **(SB26)** “You say you are God’s Son. Let Him save you! Come down from the cross, if that is who you really are!” they shouted at Him.

Could Jesus have come down from the cross?

What do you think?

Yes, He could have. The Bible tells us that **(SB27)** thousands of angels would have come to help Him, if He had asked them to.

But Jesus did **(SB28)** NOT ask the angels to help Him. He did NOT come down from the cross. Jesus stayed there and suffered and died. He loved His Father and He loved God’s people. This was the way they could be saved from their sins. So, even there, on the cross, Jesus never, ever disobeyed God or His good plan.

Every day of His life, from the day He was born to the day He died, Jesus never, ever disobeyed God or His laws. In everything He thought, and said, and He did, Jesus always loved God most of all, and He always loved others as the Bible tells us to. Jesus lived a PERFECT LIFE!

And so, when Jesus suffered and died on the cross for the sins of God’s people, **(SB29)** His PERFECT life could pay for the sins of God’s people. He was the PERFECT sacrifice, the PERFECT payment needed for their sins. “It is finished,” Jesus said, as He died on the cross.

What was finished? God’s plan to save His people through Jesus! And that’s why on the third day, **(SB30)** Jesus rose from the dead! **(SB31)** He had beaten sin and death for God’s people, once and for all.

Praise God for Jesus! Our perfect Savior who never, ever disobeyed God.

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:

I need to know:

1. Who was the Man? To whom did He never say "no"? Jesus was the man. He never said "no" to God, His Father. Jesus always obeyed Him and His good laws.

2. Why was it so important that He never said "no"? Only by perfectly obeying God and His good laws could Jesus be the perfect Savior to save God's people from their sins.

For You and Me:

Just like those people who lived in Jesus' day, we need a Savior to save us from our sins. Jesus came to be that Savior. He will be our Savior, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Him. Ask God to help you. He loves to do this!

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is Hebrews 4:15:**

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin."

I need to know:

1. Who was tempted in every way as we are but never sinned? Jesus.

2. What could He do for us because He never sinned? He could be our perfect Savior and save us from our sins.

For You and Me:

Just like those people who lived in Jesus' day, we need a Savior to save us from our sins. Jesus came to be that Savior. He will be our Savior, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Him. Ask God to help you. He loves to do this!

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found six clues, but two of them are **NOT** in the story. They were: a broom; an enemy; a letter; a heart without sin; a duck; and a cross.

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

I need to know:

1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't? The broom, the enemy, the heart without sin, and the cross belong. The letter and the duck do not.

2. Who never had to confess any sins to God and ask for His forgiveness? Jesus.

For You and Me:

Jesus never, ever disobeyed God! As a little boy; as a grown man. No matter how terribly others treated Him. No matter how tempting it would have been to do something else. Jesus never, ever disobeyed. He did this all out of love for God and love for us...that we might turn from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior. Ask God to help you do this. He loves to answer this prayer!

The Gospel (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)**Our Bible Truth is:****What Did Jesus Come to Do?****Jesus Came to Bring Us to God...****He Never, Ever Disobeyed God!**

We are not like Jesus, are we? We all have chosen to disobey God and His good ways. That is why we all deserve His punishment for our sins!

God would have been perfectly fair to give us all His punishment. But, He is so full of mercy and love that He chose to save His people!

He sent Jesus to live the perfectly obedient life that none of us have lived. Then, Jesus offered up His perfect life to fully pay for the sins of God's people. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory.

Now, all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior can be forgiven and become God's people. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Isn't that good news!

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

- A** Jesus, we praise You for being our Savior. You came to bring us to God. We praise You for always saying 'no' to sin. You are the perfect One who never, ever sinned!
- C** Jesus, You never disobeyed God, Your Father, but we are not like You. We have all chosen to disobey God and His good ways. Oh, how we need You to be our Savior!
- T** Thank You, Jesus, for living a perfect life. Thank You for offering it up as the full payment for the sins of all who turn from their sins and trust in You as their Savior.
- S** Jesus, help us each to turn away from our sins and trust in You as our very own Savior. Help us to say 'no' to disobeying God. Help us to love You and live for You more and more. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

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