

BIG QUESTION 9



What did Jesus come to do?



ANSWER:

Jesus came to bring us to God!

VISUAL
AID

#1

take out

? Big
Question
Briefcase

of BQB

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 9:

What Did Jesus Come to Do?
and the Answer is:
Jesus Came to Bring Us to God!

Meaning:

In the beginning, God created the world perfect. What a wonderful, special closeness people enjoyed with Him! Yes, it was "Perfect Wonderfulness" knowing God and living in His world. It could have stayed that way forever... but it did not. All of this perfection was broken when people disobeyed God. The big Bible word for disobeying God is "sin."

When we look around us we can see the sadness that sin brought into God's good world. So much in this world is not perfect or wonderful anymore! We've lost the special closeness with God, too. Yes, when sin came into the world, it spoiled so many things.

But would all this sin and sadness last forever? People certainly deserved for it to. After all, they had turned away from God. Now people deserved His punishment, not His love.

But God treats us so much better than we deserve! From the beginning, He had an amazing plan to bring sinful people like us back to Himself. How? He promised to send a Savior. That Savior was Jesus, God's own Son. Jesus lived a perfect life, then He gave it up as the full payment for sins as He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, showing He had really done it--He had beaten sin and death for God's people! We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, we will get to know God in our hearts; and one day, we will get to go live with God and enjoy all of His Perfect Wonderfulness forever!

Let's sing our Big Question Song:"

Big Q & A 9 Song

DDD NIV Songs 9, track 12
(adapted version of "This Old Man")

What did Jesus come to do?
What did Jesus come to do?
Jesus came to bring us to God.
That's what Jesus came to do!

BIG QUESTION 9: Six truths about Jesus

1.



3.



5.



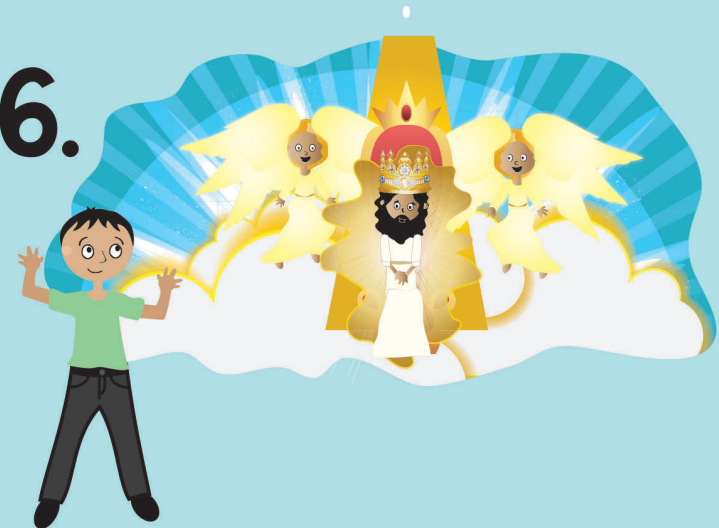
2.



4.



6.



This Unit's Bible Truths

"Jesus Came to Bring Us to God" 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 SIX Bible truths that all tell us more about Jesus.

Who would like to hand me the picture with our six 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 six truths they will be learning.

After everyone has had a good look say...

"Ok, we've learned five truths about Jesus. They are: "He Left His Home in Heaven to Save Us," "He Never, Ever Disobeyed God," "He Taught about God and Did Amazing Things, "He Died on the Cross for the Sins of God's People," and "He Rose from the Dead" (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 six 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 6:

What did Jesus come to do?

Jesus came to bring us to God...

He went up to ???? in heaven!"

HINT: What is another word
for being in charge?

It starts with an "r" and
it rhymes with "jewel"?



ANSWER:

He went up to **RULE** in heaven!

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 Did Jesus Come to Do?
Jesus Came to Bring Us to God!
He Went Up to ???? in Heaven!”**

“What is another word for being in charge? It starts with an “r” and it rhymes with “jewel”?

Can you guess? It’s “rule.”

So the Bible Truth we are learning today is:

(uncover answer from bottom of sign, show it to them and say:)

**“What Did Jesus Come to Do?
Jesus Came to Bring Us to God!
He Went Up to RULE in Heaven!”**

And here is what this Bible Truth means:

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

After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to His followers many times. He showed them from the Bible why He had to suffer and die on the cross. He showed them how He had completed all of God’s plans to save God’s people. Jesus also told them God’s plans for them. They were to go to into the whole world, urging everyone to turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. God would use them to save His people from every part of the world.

After Jesus finished teaching His followers all these things, He went home to heaven. At last, once more, Jesus shone with bright shininess of God’s glory. At last, once more, He delighted in all of the Perfect Wonderfulness of God—that closest, most wonderful love that He had fully enjoyed with God, the Father and God, the Holy Spirit before He had gone to earth to be our Savior.

Jesus’ work on earth was done, but not His work in heaven. Jesus now reigns as king over the whole universe --the King of kings and Lord of lords. He prays and cares for God’s people as God’s plan for them keeps being worked out here on earth. Jesus is there ruling and caring for God’s people even now! And one day, He will come back to earth. He will put an end to sin and death forever. And in the new heaven and earth God will make, He will live face-to-face with God’s people forever. That will be best of all! We can be God’s people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

"Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand -
with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him." 1 Peter 3:21-22



Bible Truth 6 Bible Verse

Remove the Bible Verse Picture from the "Bible" folder and hold it up for all the children to see, then say:

1 Peter 3:21-22 tells us:

1 Peter 3:21-22

"Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand - with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him."

Learn a Little: "Jesus Christ ... has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God."

What does that mean?

The Bible tells us that after Jesus rose from the dead, He taught His disciples many things from the Bible. But at last, when Jesus finished teaching them, He went up to heaven and began His rule as king, just as God promised He would in the Bible.

That's what being at the right hand of God means. That's a Bible way of saying that Jesus is ruling as the promised, great King who would beat sin and death and save God's people--all who turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. (That can even be you and me!).

And that what Jesus is still doing even now. He is ruling over everything—not just all people, but all of the angels and other heavenly powers. He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

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

Gone into Heaven:

1 Peter 3:21-22

DDD NIV Songs 9, track 33

Jesus Christ has gone into heaven,
He's at the right hand, the right hand of God.
Jesus Christ has gone into heaven,
He's at the right hand, the right hand of God.
With angels, authorities, and powers
subjected to him, (that's everything!)
With angels, authorities, and powers
subjected to him. (that's everything!)
First Peter Three, twenty-one and two.

"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 Fluffy Farewell"

Matthew 27-28; Mark 15-16; Luke 23-24; John 19-20; Acts 1



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who said goodbye to Jesus' disciples after teaching them for forty days?
2. Where did He go when He said goodbye? What was fluffy about His farewell (goodbye)?



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

1 Peter 3:21-22, NIV

"Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand - with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him."

1. How did Jesus go up to heaven to rule?
2. What does He rule over from heaven? When will He come back?

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



I. What a strange, three days it had been for the people of Jerusalem! On FRIDAY, they had watched Jesus suffer and die on a cross. He was the teacher who had taught them about God and done such amazing things. Many hoped He was the Messiah God had promised to send to save God's people and to be their King.



2. But those hopes left as they watched Jesus' dead body be taken away to be buried. His body was laid in the cave-grave and a huge stone was rolled across the opening. Jesus was gone.

Who would have imagined that Jesus would die like this! Death on a cross was for men who did terrible things, like the robbers who died next to Jesus that day. But Jesus had never done anything wrong. EVER! How strange! How very strange, that HE should die this way!



3. But if Friday was strange, then what happened on Sunday was even stranger! People --lots of people-- were saying that Jesus was alive, that He had risen from the DEAD! The soldiers who guarded the cave-grave saw with their own eyes what happened early that Sunday morning. So did the women who came with spices to care for Jesus' body. "How will we move the big stone from in front of the cave?" they wondered as they went to the cave-grave.



4. Just then, there was a great earthquake, and an angel in gleaming, white clothes came down from heaven. He pushed the big stone out of the way for the women, and said, "Jesus is not here! He has risen from the dead! Come look in the cave for yourselves. Then go to His disciples. Tell them He is risen and is coming to meet with them." When the guards heard and saw this, they fell down to the ground and shook with fright.



5. After the angel and the women had left, the soldiers ran to tell Jesus' enemies what they had seen and heard. "Shh! Don't tell anyone this story!" Jesus' enemies replied. "Here's lots of money. Keep quiet! Tell everyone that Jesus' disciples stole His body," they ordered the soldiers. "No one must know the truth!"



6. But this news couldn't be kept quiet. Jesus **WAS** alive and He was appearing to His followers! "It's Me! I'm alive," Jesus told the women that Sunday morning, after they had seen the angel and the empty cave-grave.



7. "It's Me! I'm alive," Jesus showed two other friends, as He walked with them to the town of Emmaus that afternoon, and served them bread at dinner, as He used to.



8. "It's Me! I'm alive!" Jesus said to ten of His disciples, when He appeared to them at their house in Jerusalem, that evening.



9. Soon, all Jerusalem was buzzing with the news! Jesus' body was gone! He had risen from the dead! And while some people, like Jesus' enemies, did not believe, many others put their trust in Jesus and were saved.



10. For forty days, Jesus kept on meeting with His followers. One time, Jesus even appeared to a whole crowd of His followers --more than five hundred people at once!



II. And what did Jesus do when He met with His followers? He ate with them, and He encouraged them to believe in Him. Best of all, Jesus taught them about God's plan to save His people from the Bible. God had kept all His promises to His people through Jesus!

"Now we understand why You had to die on the cross," the disciples told Jesus. "Now we see how God sent You to save us from our sins."



12. But Jesus didn't just tell His followers about God's plans, completed. He also told them about God's wonderful plans, yet to come. Plans that THEY were a part of! There was so much for them to learn! For you see, Jesus was about to leave them. He had risen from the dead not just to live on earth again. No, He was about to go HOME! Can you remember where Jesus' home was?



13. That's right! Jesus would be going back home to heaven to enjoy the FULL Perfect Wonderfulness of God again --complete, wonderful closeness with God, His Father, and God, the Holy Spirit.



14. So, for ten, twenty, thirty, forty days, Jesus walked and talked with His followers. He taught them all the things they needed to know, until at last on Day Forty, it was time for Him to go home to heaven. Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives to say goodbye. "I'm going to heaven to rule now, but I'm not leaving you alone," He told them. "I'm sending you Someone special to live in your hearts." Do you know whom Jesus would send? It was God's Holy Spirit!

Holy Spirit



15. "Yes, The Holy Spirit will live inside your hearts," Jesus told them. "He will comfort you. He will teach you more about God and His wonderful plans. And, He will give you power to do everything God, My Father, has planned for you to do," Jesus said. "Power to tell the whole world how they can become God's people by turning away from their sins and trusting in Me as their Savior," He promised. "Power to live for God."



16. Then up, up, up went Jesus into the sky, through the clouds until they couldn't see Him. Jesus' friends stood there staring up into the sky, watching Him rise until they could no longer see Him.



17. "Would Jesus come back? When? How?" Jesus' friends wondered, as they looked up into the sky. God sent two angels in sparkling, white robes to them with the answers: "Why do you stand here looking into heaven?" the angels asked Jesus' friends. "This Jesus who was taken up from you into heaven, will come back one day, in the same way you saw him go up to heaven," they promised.



18. How sad Jesus' friends must have been to see Jesus leave! They didn't want to wait to be with Him. They wanted to be with Him right then. There is nothing so wonderful as being close to Jesus. BUT, they were very, VERY happy to know that the Holy Spirit would come live in their hearts. And that one day, they would get to live face-to-face with Jesus forever. They just wished that day was right then!



19. How loudly the thousands and thousands of angels must have sung, as Jesus entered heaven! He had beaten sin and death for God's people! Now, He was back home! Yay!

And once more, Jesus knew full, Perfect Wonderfulness with God, His Father, and God, the Holy Spirit. All of that special closeness Jesus had known before He came to earth was now all His to enjoy again and would be forevermore.



20. Where is Jesus now? He is still in heaven, ruling as the great King of Kings over everything in heaven and earth. He is praying and caring for God's people. He is working out all of God's great plans for this world, until the day when He will come back through the clouds and down to earth again.



21. And what a great day that will be for God's people! Then, Jesus will get rid of sin and sadness, sickness and death forever.



22. And at last, all of God's people will live together with Jesus in the new heaven and earth. They will see Him in all His glory and enjoy as much of the Perfect Wonderfulness of God as they possibly can! I can hardly wait!

"The Case of the Fluffy Farewell"

Matthew 27-28; Mark 15-16; Luke 23-24; John 19-20; Acts 1

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who said goodbye to Jesus' disciples after teaching them for forty days?
Jesus did.

2. Where did He go when He said goodbye? What was fluffy about His farewell (goodbye)? Jesus went up to heaven to rule. He rose up through the fluffy clouds in the sky on His way to heaven.

For You and Me:

Jesus went up to heaven and is there now, ruling over all things. He is still caring for God's people and bringing about God's plans for this world. One day, God's plans will be finished, and Jesus will come back. He will bring an end to sin and death and this world forever. He will make a wonderful, new world for God's people to live in with Him forever. That will be the best of all! We can be 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 answer this prayer!



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

1 Peter 3:21-22, NIV

"Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand - with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him."

1. How did Jesus go up to heaven to rule?

He rose up through the clouds in the sky.

2. What does He rule over from heaven? When will He come back?
Jesus rules over all things. He will come back at the end of time when God's plans for this world are finished.

For You and Me:

Jesus went up to heaven and is there now, ruling over all things. He is still caring for God's people and bringing about God's plans for this world. One day, God's plans will be finished, and Jesus will come back. He will bring an end to sin and death and this world forever. He will make a wonderful, new world for God's people to live in with Him forever. That will be the best of all! We can be 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 answer this prayer!

What Did Jesus Come to Do?

Jesus Came to Bring Us to God...

He Went Up to Rule in Heaven!

The Gospel



Jesus left His home in heaven to be the Savior we needed. You see, we all are sinners who have chosen to disobey God and His good ways. We deserve His punishment for our sins, a punishment too great for us to pay, ourselves.

So, Jesus came and lived a perfect life. He offered it up to God as full payment for the sins of God's people when He died on the cross. On Day Three, Jesus rose from the dead. He had beaten sin and death for them. Then, He went back home to heaven, and there, He rules over all things. One day, He will come back.

Now, all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior can be forgiven and become God's people. They know God in their hearts now, and will go to live with Him forever. Ask Him to help you become one of His people. He loves to help us.



A Prayer

A Jesus, we praise You for being our Savior. You came to bring us to God. You died and rose again. You went up to heaven. We praise You for being our great King of Kings who rules over everything.

C Jesus, we are all sinners who have chosen to disobey God and His good laws. We deserve His punishment. We need to turn to You for forgiveness. We need You to be our Savior!

T Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the cross and for rising from the dead in victory! Thank You for ruling over all things from heaven. Thank You for the promise that You will come back one day and bring an end to sin and death forever. You will be the great King over God's new heaven and earth He will create for His people to live in with Him.

S Jesus, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins. Help us to trust in You as our Savior. We want to become God's people. Jesus, come back soon! We long for the day when You will bring sin and death to an end forever. Help us to be ready for that day!

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

