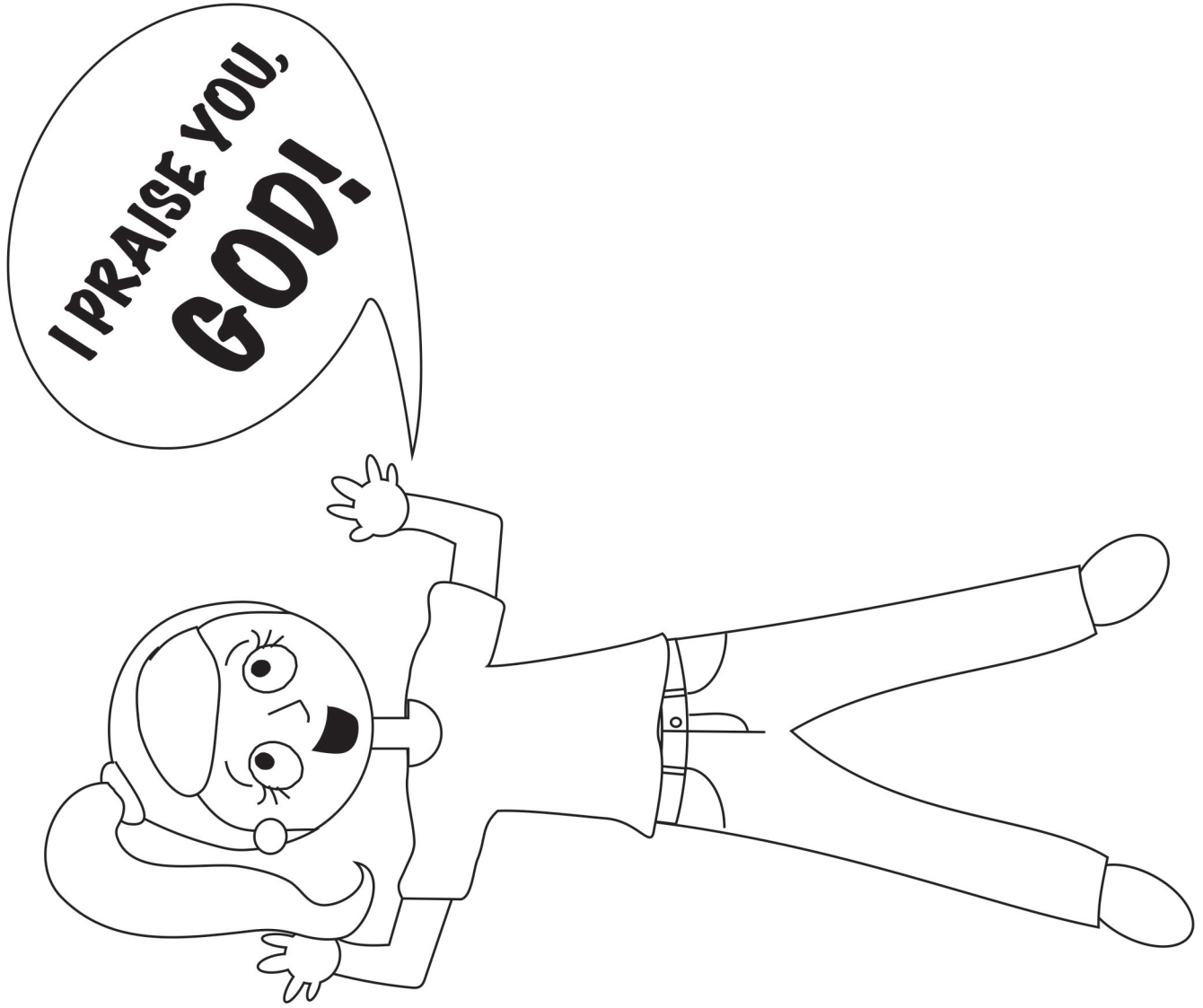


CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH!
How Does God Want Us to Pray?
Every Night and Day...

He Wants Us to

Him

HINT: This word means telling
someone how wonderful they are.
This word starts with the
letter "p" and it rhymes with "raise."



Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 14, Bible Truth 1, Lesson 1



Big Question 14: How Does God Want Us to Pray?

Answer: Every Night and Day...He Wants Us to Praise Him!

Bible Truth 1 Meaning

Prayer is talking to God and listening to Him. Prayer is a little taste of the forever happiness God's people will have with Him in heaven. God's people praise God when they pray. They think about what God is like and they tell Him how wonderful He is. God's people praise Him for being their Maker. They praise Him for being all-powerful and all-loving. They praise Him for knowing everything and using all their sadnesses for good. They praise Him for being holy. Most of all, they praise Him for being their Savior. In heaven, God's people will praise God forever and ever. They will never run out of ways to praise Him. We can be God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God wants us to praise Him, too!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he." -- Deuteronomy 32:3-4

Some Questions for You

1. What is the big word for telling God how wonderful He is? *Adoration or praise.*
2. What are some things that God's people praise God for being? *Their Maker; all-powerful; all loving; holy; knowing everything; etc.*
3. What is the biggest thing they praise God for being? *Their Savior!*
4. Will God's people run out of things to praise God for in heaven? *No, never!*
5. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God. You are the great, one, true God, yet You invite us to talk to You. How amazing!
- C** God, You alone are God, and how very good You are! Yet, we so often do not praise You as You deserve. We forget who You are and what You have done. Too often, we think more about ourselves than You. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for always deserving our praise! You never change! You treat us so much better than we could ever deserve! You are so patient with us! You give us so many reasons to praise You every day.
- S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to praise You throughout the day. Fill our hearts with love for You. Help us live our lives for You so that others can see how good You are and will want to praise You, too. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Let's Sing about What We're Learning!

Big Q & A 14 Song from *Deep Down Detectives NIV Songs 14, track 12* (adapted version of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm")

How does God want us to pray?	Ev'ry night, ev'ry day,
Ev'ry night and day!	Ev'ry night, ev'ry day,
How does God want us to pray?	Ev'ry night and day!
Ev'ry night and day!	How does God want us to pray?
	Ev'ry night and day!

Big Question 14 Action Rhyme Song from *Deep Down Detectives NIV Songs 14, track 13*

How does God want us to pray?
Every night and day the ACTS way!
How does God want us to pray?
Every night and day the ACTS way!
The ACTS way, what's it all about?
The ACTS way, I just can't figure out!

Refrain

A-C-T-S, say it with a shout, ACTS!
I could tell you more,
But I'd rather act it out.

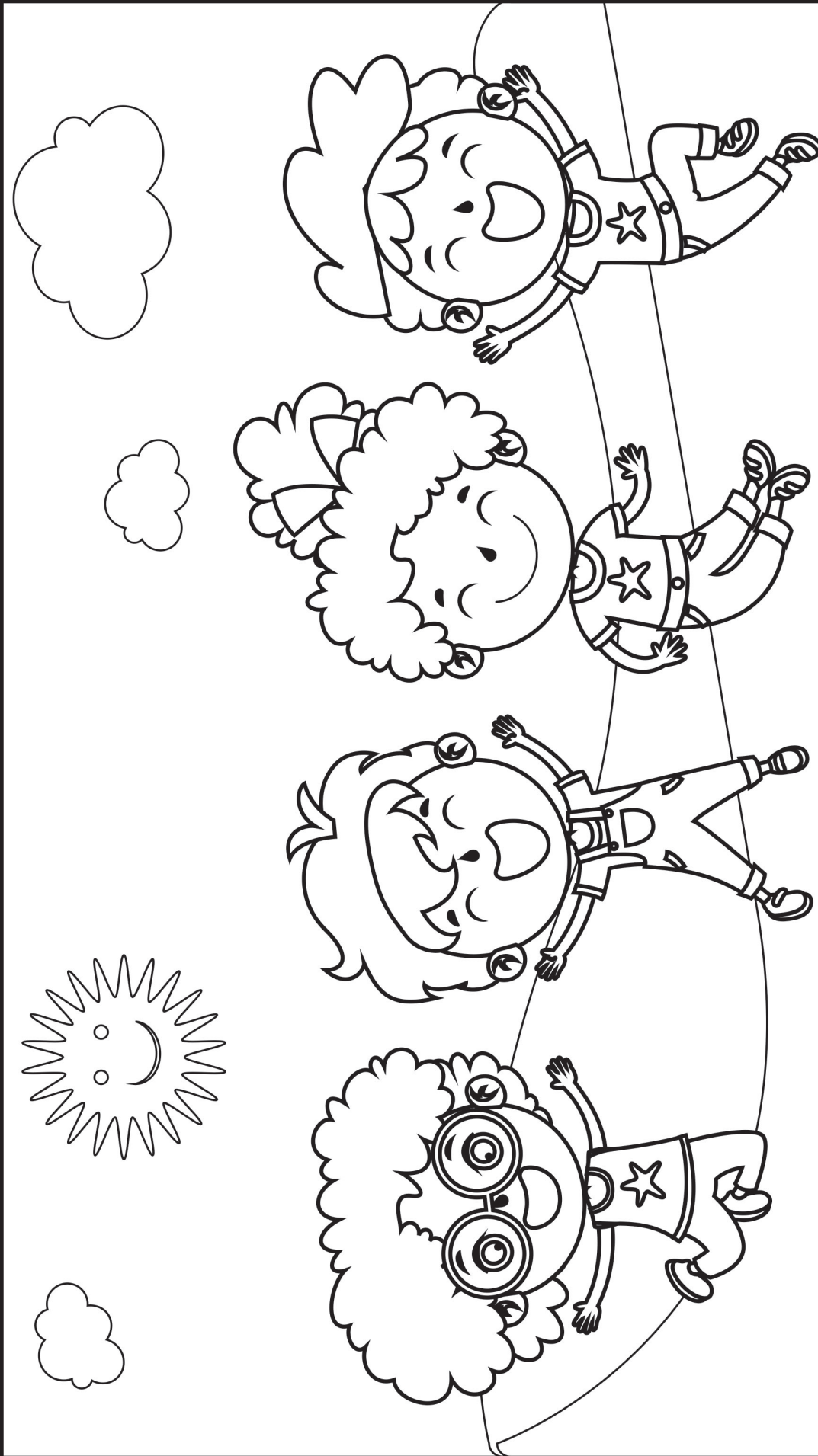
Verse 1:

A, A, A, stands for Adoration,
We praise You, God of all creation,
C, C, C, stands for Confession,
We're sorry, God,
To You our sins confessin',
Refrain

Verse 2:

T, T, T, stands for Thanksgiving,
Thank You, God,
For the good things You have given,
S, S, S, Stands for Supplication,
Help us, Lord, the God of our salvation.

Now I've told you,
Now let's go and act it out.



**“I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God!
He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just.
A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he.” Deuteronomy 32:3-4**

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 14, Bible Truth 1, Lesson 2



Big Question 14: How Does God Want Us to Pray?

Answer: Every Night and Day...He Wants Us to Praise Him!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he." -- Deuteronomy 32:3-4

Learn a Little: "Praise the greatness of our God!"

Meaning

Each day the LORD displays His wonderful ways and perfect care of His people. He is the LORD—the I Am Who I Am, who is eternal, like no one else, and the source and sustainer of life. He is like a Rock they can always depend on. They have nothing but praise for His name.

Some Questions for You

1. Whose name do God's people love to proclaim? Who do they like to praise? *The LORD.*
2. Who can God's people depend on? Who is strong to take care of them, like a rock? *The LORD is.*
3. What are the LORD's ways like? Does He ever do anything wrong? *His ways are perfect. He never does anything wrong.*
4. How can we become God's people and have God as our strong and faithful God? *We can turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

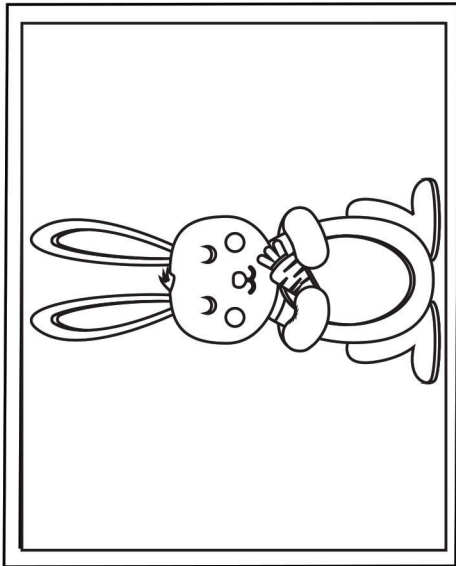
- A** We praise You, God. You are the great, one, true God, yet You invite us to talk to You. How amazing!
- C** God, You alone are God, and how very good You are! Yet, we so often do not praise You as You deserve. We forget who You are and what You have done. Too often, we think more about ourselves than You. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for always deserving our praise! You never change! You treat us so much better than we could ever deserve! You are so patient with us! You give us so many reasons to praise You every day.
- S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to praise You throughout the day. Fill our hearts with love for You. Help us live our lives for You so that others can see how good You are and will want to praise You, too. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

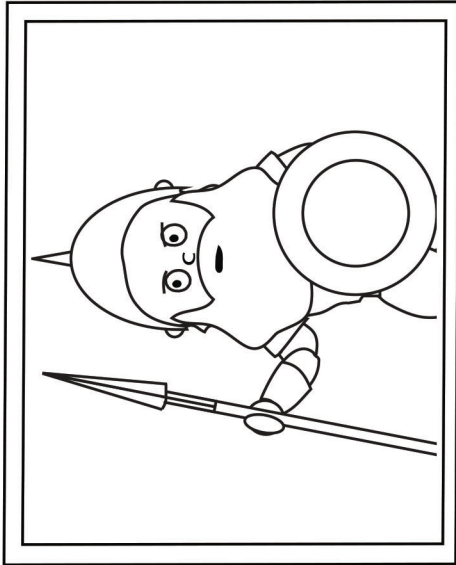
I Will Proclaim: Deuteronomy 32:3-4 from *Deep Down Detectives NIV Songs 14, track 17*

I will proclaim the name of the LORD,
Oh, praise the greatness of our God!
I will proclaim the name of the LORD,
Oh, praise the greatness of our God!
He is the Rock! (He's the rock!)
His works are perfect! (His works are perfect!)
His ways are just! (His ways are just!)
A faithful God who does no wrong.
A faithful God who does no wrong.
Upright and just is He.
Upright and just is He.
Deuteronomy Thirty-two, three and four.

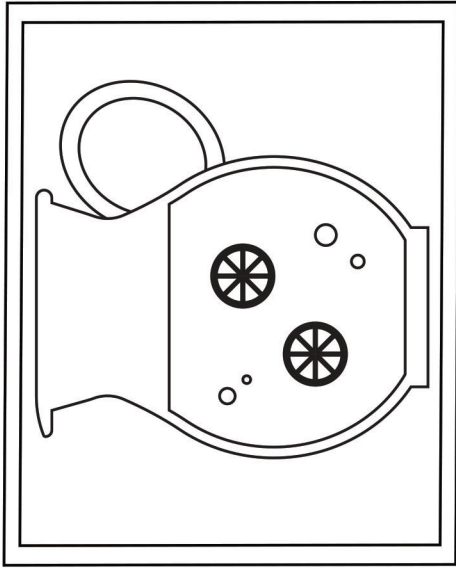
Which four of these clues belong in our story? Which two do not? Put an X in the boxes of the four that belong.



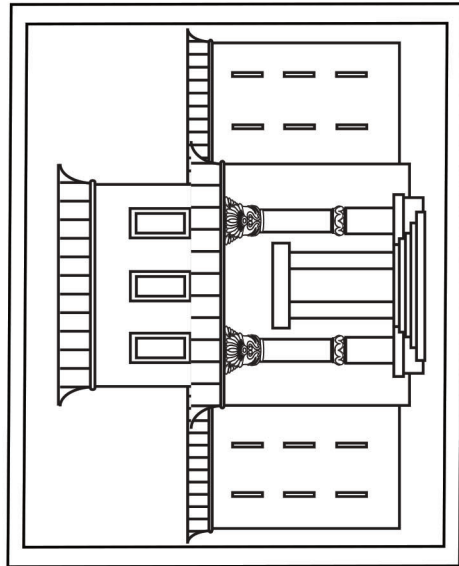
A Rabbit



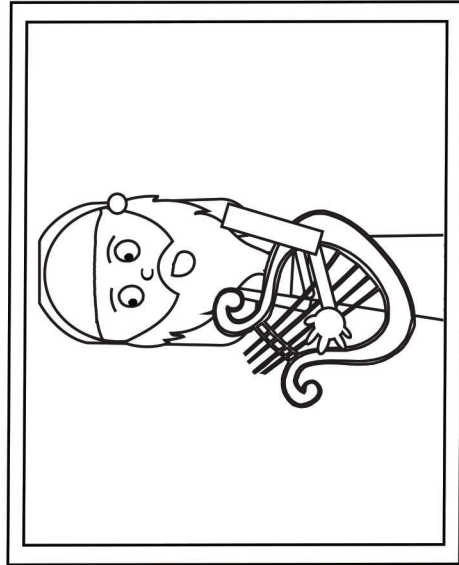
An Enemy



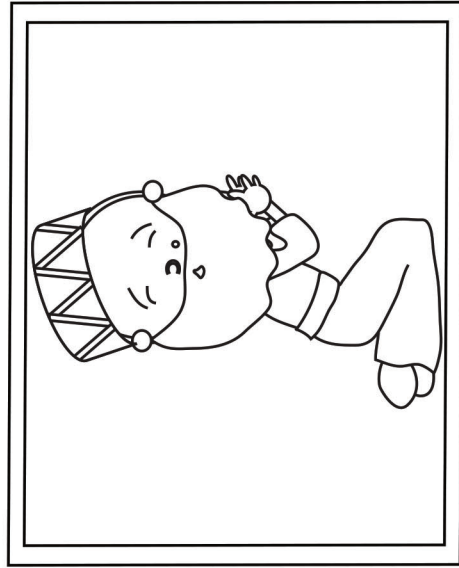
A Pitcher



The Temple



A Song of Praise



A Praying King

Answer: The enemy, Temple, song of praise and the praying king belong. The rabbit and the pitcher do not.

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 14, Bible Truth 1, Lesson 3



Big Question 14: How Does God Want Us to Pray?

Answer: Every Night and Day...He Wants Us to Praise Him!

Bible Truth 1 Meaning

Prayer is talking to God and listening to Him. Prayer is a little taste of the forever happiness God's people will have with Him in heaven. God's people praise God when they pray. They think about what God is like and they tell Him how wonderful He is. God's people praise Him for being their Maker. They praise Him for being all-powerful and all-loving. They praise Him for knowing everything and using all their sadnesses for good. They praise Him for being holy. Most of all, they praise Him for being their Savior. In heaven, God's people will praise God forever and ever. They will never run out of ways to praise Him. We can be God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God wants us to praise Him, too!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"May all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; may those who love your salvation say continually, "Great is the LORD!"
-- Psalm 40:16, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. What was the scary thing that King Jehoshaphat faced? *Enemies surrounded his land and wanted to take it.*
2. What was so special about Israel? What would be so bad about the enemies taking the land? *God gave this land to the people of Israel. This is where His special worship place, the Temple, was. There was no other place like it in the world where the LORD was worshiped and where people could learn and live by His Word, the Bible.*
3. What did King Jehoshaphat do when he heard about all the enemies who were about to attack? *He gathered together the people to pray to the LORD. and ask for His help.*
4. What did the LORD tell King Jehoshaphat and the people to do? *Not to worry. He would fight the battle for them. They were to go out and praise the LORD.*
5. What happened when King Jehoshaphat and the people did this? *The LORD confused the enemies so that they turned on each other and died.*
6. The greatest thing we can praise God for being is our Savior. How can God become our Savior and we become one of God's people? *We can turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God will forgive our sins and send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God. You are the great, one, true God, yet You invite us to talk to You. How amazing!
- C** God, You alone are God, and how very good You are! Yet, we so often do not praise You as You deserve. We forget who You are and what You have done. Too often, we think more about ourselves than You. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for always deserving our praise! You never change! You treat us so much better than we could ever deserve! You are so patient with us! You give us so many reasons to praise You every day.
- S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to praise You throughout the day. Fill our hearts with love for You. Help us live our lives for You so that others can see how good You are and will want to praise You, too. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Let's Praise God Right Now!

Big Q & A 14 Hymn: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

from *Deep Down Detectives NIV Songs 14, track 15*

Verse 1

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry,
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Verse 2

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged,
Take it to the Lord in prayer!

Words: Joseph Scriven Music: Charles C. Converse

Big Question 14 Praise Song: Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

from *Deep Down Detectives NIV Songs 14, track 16*

Verse 1

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Verse 2

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Verse 3

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

Words and Music: Traditional Spiritual

The Case of the Middle of the Mess*2 Chronicles 19-20*

Dear Parents,

Big Question #14 is: "How Does God Want Us to Pray?" Your child is learning that "Every Night and Day...He Wants Us to Praise Him."

Here's a copy of the Bible story they are learning along with the "Listening Assignment" for each lesson. These assignments provide a different teaching emphasis for each lesson, helping the children dig deeper into each Bible truth. They match up with your child's take home sheet for each lesson. We hope that these resources help your family to dig down deeper into the truths of God's Word!" Happy digging!

•many more resources for this Big Question can be found online at www.praisefactory.org•

Listening Assignments

"Hey, Kids! Detective Dan, here. Listen carefully to the story and help me answer these questions:

Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

I need to find out:

- 1. Who was stuck in the middle between strong enemies? What (trouble) mess were they in?**
- 2. Who got them out of the mess and how did He do it?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is: Deuteronomy 32:3-4**

"I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he."

I need to find out:

- 1. Who proclaimed the greatness of the LORD?**
- 2. What did he do that was so great?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

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

They are: a rabbit, an enemy, a pitcher, the Temple, a song of praise, and a praying king.

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

I need to figure out:

- 1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't?**
- 2. Who praised the LORD for rescuing them from all of their strong enemies?**

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 Middle of the Mess *2 Chronicles 19-20**Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)*

Our story is about a king named Jehoshaphat. What a funny-sounding name! Can you say it?

Say "Jehoshaphat."

Well, King Jehoshaphat may have had a funny-sounding name, but let me tell you, he had to face some very scary things that were not funny at all!

You see, Jehoshaphat was king in the little land of Israel which was surrounded by lots of powerful enemies! There were the Syrians up in the mountains to the north. And, the Philistines next to the sea in the west. And in the mountains to the east, there were THREE MORE powerful enemies: the Ammonites, Moabites, and the Meunites. Now that's a lot of enemies!

Can you count how many enemies that is? One, two, three, four, five!

And what did all these enemies want? They all wanted the same thing: the little land of Israel, where King Jehoshaphat and the people of Israel lived.

Did King Jehoshaphat and the people of Israel want their enemies to have their land?

What do you think?

No, they certainly did not, and for some very good reasons.

THIS was the special land that the LORD had given the people of Israel to live in. THIS was the place where the Temple was-- the LORD's special worship place. There was no other place in the whole world like Israel. THIS was the place where people could come praise the LORD, learn His Word, and live happily by His good laws.

If these enemies came in and took the land, everything would change. Not only would their enemies get rid of King Jehoshaphat and all the people of Israel, but they would also get rid of the Temple and the Bible, God's Word, too. They had fake gods they worshiped. They would most certainly stop worshipping the LORD and obeying His Word.

King Jehoshaphat knew this. He loved the LORD very much. He wanted the land of Israel to stay a place where people worshiped the LORD, learned the Bible, and happily obeyed His laws. So you can see, it would be a very, very, VERY bad thing for these enemies to come and take the land of Israel. And, you can see why King Jehoshaphat, the king with the very funny-sounding name, had to face something that was not funny at all.

One day, King Jehoshaphat received some awful news. "King Jehoshaphat! King Jehoshaphat! The three, powerful enemies in the east mountains have all joined together!" they exclaimed. "They are planning to attack us and take our land!" they told him. "Oh, king! There are so many of them and so few of us. They know we can't beat them! They are so sure they will win that they are coming with their bags packed. They plan to move in right away!" the messengers said.

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

This really was bad, bad news! King Jehoshaphat was afraid. What could he do? He knew that his people weren't strong enough to fight off all these big enemies.

But, even though he was afraid, and, even though he knew that he and the people of Israel weren't strong enough to fight off all these enemies, King Jehoshaphat DID know who WAS strong enough. Do you know who? I bet you can guess.

Who do you think it was?

It was the LORD! HE was strong enough to fight off even the strongest enemies!

So, as scared as King Jehoshaphat was, he gathered all the people together in Jerusalem at the Temple, the LORD's special worship place. And there, he led them in praising the LORD: "LORD, You are God in heaven. You rule over everyone, even all of our enemies. You are so powerful that no one can beat You!" he exclaimed.

Then King Jehoshaphat prayed: "LORD, You gave us this land, and now our now our enemies want to take it away. We can't beat them. They are too powerful for us. We don't know what to do, but our eyes are on You. Please help us!" he pleaded. Would the LORD hear their prayers? Would He help them?

What do you think?

Yes, indeed! The LORD heard their prayers and answered them through Jahaziel, a teacher of God's Word. "Listen, King Jehoshaphat and people of Israel! The LORD says to you: Don't be afraid or worried about all these enemies. The battle is Mine, not yours. I will fight it for you. Go out and face your enemies tomorrow. Have faith in Me and watch Me save you," the LORD promised.

How happy were King Jehoshaphat and the people of Israel! They bowed down before the LORD. As they worshiped Him with their faces to the ground, the teachers of God's Word stood up, raised their hands, and praised the LORD with a very LOUD VOICE!

The people of Israel went out early the next morning to face their enemies. Oh, what a lot of enemies there were! All were fierce and all were ready to fight. They came with all of their packed things. They were sure they would beat the soldiers of Israel and make Israel their new home that very day!

But King Jehoshaphat and the people stood firm. "Believe in the LORD," King Jehoshaphat told the people. "Teachers of God's Word, walk in front of our soldiers. Sing and praise the LORD," he ordered them.

Everyone did just what King Jehoshaphat told them to do. The teachers stepped out first and faced the enemies. The soldiers came and stood behind them. "Give thanks to the LORD for He is faithful. His love never stops," the teachers praised the LORD in their songs.

And as they sang, the LORD kept His promise. He caused the enemies to turn on each other and fight until they were all gone. The LORD had fought the battle and WON!

Then, how King Jehoshaphat and all the people rejoiced! How they praised the LORD! Their enemies were gone! Their land was safe! They didn't have to be afraid anymore! And best of all, Israel would still be the place where people could praise the LORD, learn His Word, and live happily by His good laws.

Once more King Jehoshaphat, the people, and the teachers of God's Word gathered together to praise the LORD. With harps, trumpets, and lyres they went back to the Temple and sang their joyful praises to the LORD. He was the great, one true God. He had rescued them from their strong enemies!

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 stuck in the middle between strong enemies? What (trouble) mess were they in? King Jehoshaphat and the people of Israel. Their strong enemies were planning to take their land and live in it, themselves.

2. Who got them out of the mess and how did He do it? The LORD got them out of the mess. He fought for them. He got rid of their enemies and rescued them.

For You and Me:

King Jehoshaphat and the people praised the Lord for rescuing them! He is the great God who does even impossible things to rescue His people. Even greater than the rescue in our story today, is how God rescues us through His Son, Jesus. He sent Jesus to suffer and die on the cross to save all who turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. God can rescue us from our sins, too. Ask Him to help you become one of His people. He loves to help us do this!

Detective Dan's Lesson 2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible Verse is: Deuteronomy 32:3-4

"I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he."

I need to find out:

1. Who proclaimed the greatness of the LORD? King Jehoshaphat and the people of Israel.

2. What did He do that was so great? He fought against their enemies, Himself, and got rid of them.

For You and Me:

King Jehoshaphat and the people praised the Lord for rescuing them! He is the great God who does even impossible things to rescue His people. Even greater than the rescue in our story today, is how God rescues us through His Son, Jesus. He sent Jesus to suffer and die on the cross to save all who turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. God can rescue us from our sins, too. Ask Him to help you become one of His people. He loves to help us do this!

Detective Dan's Lesson 3 Listening Assignment:

Our six clues were: a rabbit, an enemy, a pitcher, the Temple, a song of praise, and a praying king.

1. Which four belong in our story?

The enemy, Temple, song of praise and the praying king belong. The rabbit and the pitcher do not.

2. Who praised the LORD for rescuing them from all of their strong enemies? King Jehoshaphat and all of the people of Israel with him.

For You and Me:

King Jehoshaphat and the people praised the Lord for rescuing them! He is the great God who does even impossible things to rescue His people. Even greater than the rescue in our story today, is how God rescues us through His Son, Jesus. He sent Jesus to suffer and die on the cross to save all who turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. God can rescue us from our sins, too. Ask Him to help you become one of His people. He loves to help us do this!

The Gospel (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)

Our Bible Truth is:

How Does God Want Us to Pray?

Every Night and Day...

He Wants Us to Praise Him!

How does God want us to pray? Every night and day... He wants us to praise Him. There are many things God's people can praise Him for being, but the greatest one is for being their Savior.

God's people praise Him for sending Jesus to die on the cross and pay the punishment for their sins. They praise Him for working in their hearts and helping them turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

If we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, God will forgive us and save us. Then, we, too, will be able to join all of God's people in praising God as our great Savior.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

- A** We praise You, God. You are the great, one, true God, yet You invite us to talk to You. How amazing!
- C** God, You alone are God, and how very good You are! Yet, we so often do not praise You as You deserve. We forget who You are and what You have done. Too often, we think more about ourselves than You. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for always deserving our praise! You never change! You treat us so much better than we could ever deserve! You are so patient with us! You give us so many reasons to praise You every day.
- S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to praise You throughout the day. Fill our hearts with love for You. Help us live our lives for You so that others can see how good You are and will want to praise You, too.

In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Big Question 14, Bible Truth 1 Overview: Key Concepts

p.1

Unit 14: The God Who Delights in Our Prayers

Unit Big Question (and Answer): How Does God Want Us to Pray?
Every Night and Day!!

Unit Bible Verse: "...always pray and do not give up." -- Luke 18:1

Bible Truth 1 Concept: He Wants Us to Praise Him

Prayer is talking to God and listening to Him. Prayer is a little taste of the forever happiness God's people will have with Him in heaven.

God's people praise God when they pray. They think about what God is like and they tell Him how wonderful He is. God's people praise Him for being their Maker. They praise Him for being all-powerful and all-loving. They praise Him for knowing everything and using all their sadnesses for good. They praise Him for being holy. Most of all, they praise Him for being their Savior. In heaven, God's people will praise God forever and ever. They will never run out of ways to praise Him.

We can be God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God wants us to praise Him, too!

Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 32:3-4

"I will proclaim the name of the Lord. Oh, praise the greatness of our God! He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he."

Learn a Little: "Praise the greatness of our God!"

Meaning

Each day the LORD displays His wonderful ways and perfect care of His people. He is the LORD—the I Am Who I Am, who is eternal, like no one else, and the source and sustainer of life. He is like a Rock they can always depend on. They have nothing but praise for His name.

Bible Truth 1 ACTS Prayer

- A** We praise You, God. You are the great, one, true God, yet You invite us to talk to You. How amazing!
- C** God, You alone are God, and how very good You are! Yet, we so often do not praise You as You deserve. We forget who You are and what You have done. Too often, we think more about ourselves than You. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for always deserving our praise! You never change! You treat us so much better than we could ever deserve! You are so patient with us! You give us so many reasons to praise You every day.
- S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to praise You throughout the day. Fill our hearts with love for You. Help us live our lives for You so that others can see how good You are and will want to praise You, too. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Bible Truth 1 Story**The Case of the Middle of the Mess**

2 Chronicles 19-20

Big Question 14, Bible Truth 1 Overview: Key Concepts

p.2

Songs Used in Bible Truth 1

Big Q & A 14 Song

Big Question 14 Song: How Does God Want Us to Pray?

Big Question 14 Bible Verse Song: Always, Always Pray Luke 18:1, NIV 1984

Big Question 14 Hymn: What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Big Question 14 Praise Song: Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse: I Will Proclaim Deuteronomy 32:3-4, NIV 1984

Bible Truth 1 Extra Bible Verse: Shout for Joy Psalm 100:1-4, NIV 1984

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