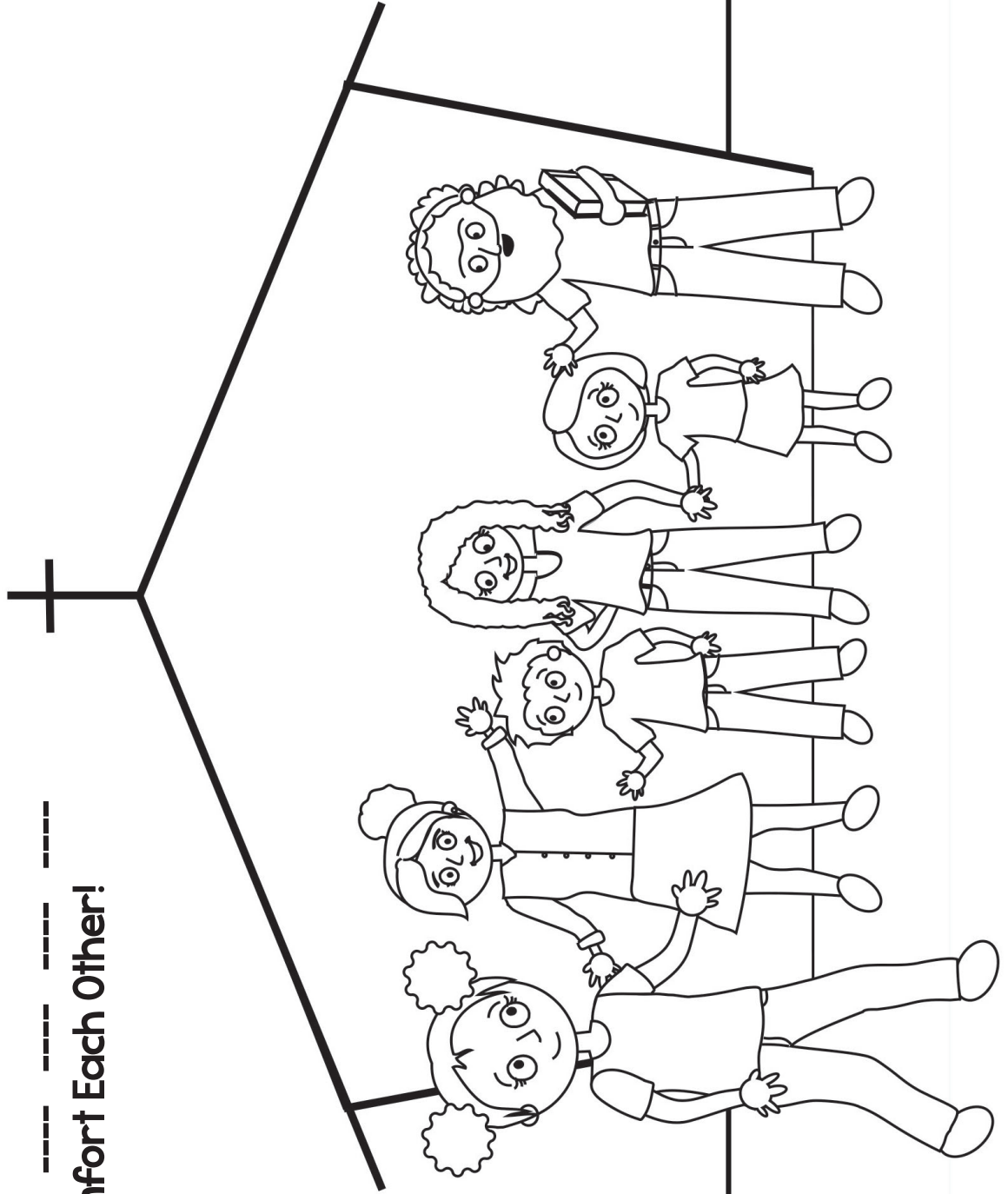


CAN YOU GUESS Bible Truth 6:

Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? It Is God's Sustaining Grace...

God Uses His ----- to Strengthen and Comfort Each Other!

HINT: This word is another word for lots of men, women, boys and girls. It starts with a "p" and it rhymes with "Steeple."



Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 13, Bible Truth 6, Lesson 1



Big Question 13: Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him?

Answer: It Is God's Sustaining Grace... God Uses His People to Strengthen and Comfort Each Other!

Bible Truth 6 Meaning

No matter who we are, we all go through times of need. Sometimes, we are learning something new, and we need help learning how to do it. Sometimes, we are going through something that is very sad or very hard, and we need comfort and strength. God loves to help His people all the time, especially in their times of need. He uses His Word, the Bible, to guide and comfort them. His Holy Spirit strengthens them inside their heart. But God also helps His people through their prayers and comfort for each other. God's people comfort each other by reminding one another that God is always with them and how great and good He is. They read the Bible to each other and hold on to His wonderful promises to take care of them. They pray for each other, asking God to give them wisdom, strength, and joy; and, to rescue them from their troubles. They ask God to use their hard and sad times for their good and to bring glory to His name. God loves to sustain His people through their comfort and prayers for one another. It is a wonderful display of His love both to His people and to others who watch how God's people love and care for one another. We, too, can become God's people when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, He can use us to comfort others in this special way, too.

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

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God... On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many." --2 Corinthians 1:3-4,10-11, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Who goes through sad and hard times? *We all do!*
2. Who needs comfort and strength in those times? *We all do.*
3. How does God help His people in these sad and hard times? *He uses His Word, the Bible, to guide and comfort them. His Holy Spirit strengthens them inside their hearts.*
4. How does God use His people to help each other in sad and hard times? *He uses them to comfort and pray for each other.*
5. How do God's people use the Bible to strengthen and comfort each other? *They read the Bible to each other and remind each other of God's wonderful promises to take care of them.*
6. How do God's people pray for each other when they are going through sad and hard times? *They ask God to give them strength and joy. They ask God to rescue them from their troubles. They ask God to use the hard and sad times to make them more like Jesus and to show everybody what a great God He is.*
7. What do others say about God when God's people comfort each other? *They tell what God's love for His people is like. It helps them want to know God, too.*
8. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray

- A** God, we praise You for being the Comforter and Strength of Your People. You help them comfort and strengthen each other.
- C** We confess that many times we forget to pray for others who are struggling with hard or sad times. Many times, we don't take time to comfort and strengthen others who are struggling. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for the comfort God's people receive from You through how they help and pray for each other.
- S** Work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to comfort others with Your Word and by praying for them. Use us to help others in their times of need. Help others to see Your love and kindness as we comfort and pray for each other. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing about What We're Learning!

Go to the Deep Down Detectives Parent Resources for Unit 13 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org.

Big Q & A 13 Song from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 13, track 12 (adapted version of "On Top of Old Smoky")

Why do God's people keep believing in God?
And why do God's people keep living for Him?
Because God sustains them, yes, God alone,
That's why God's people keep believing in God.

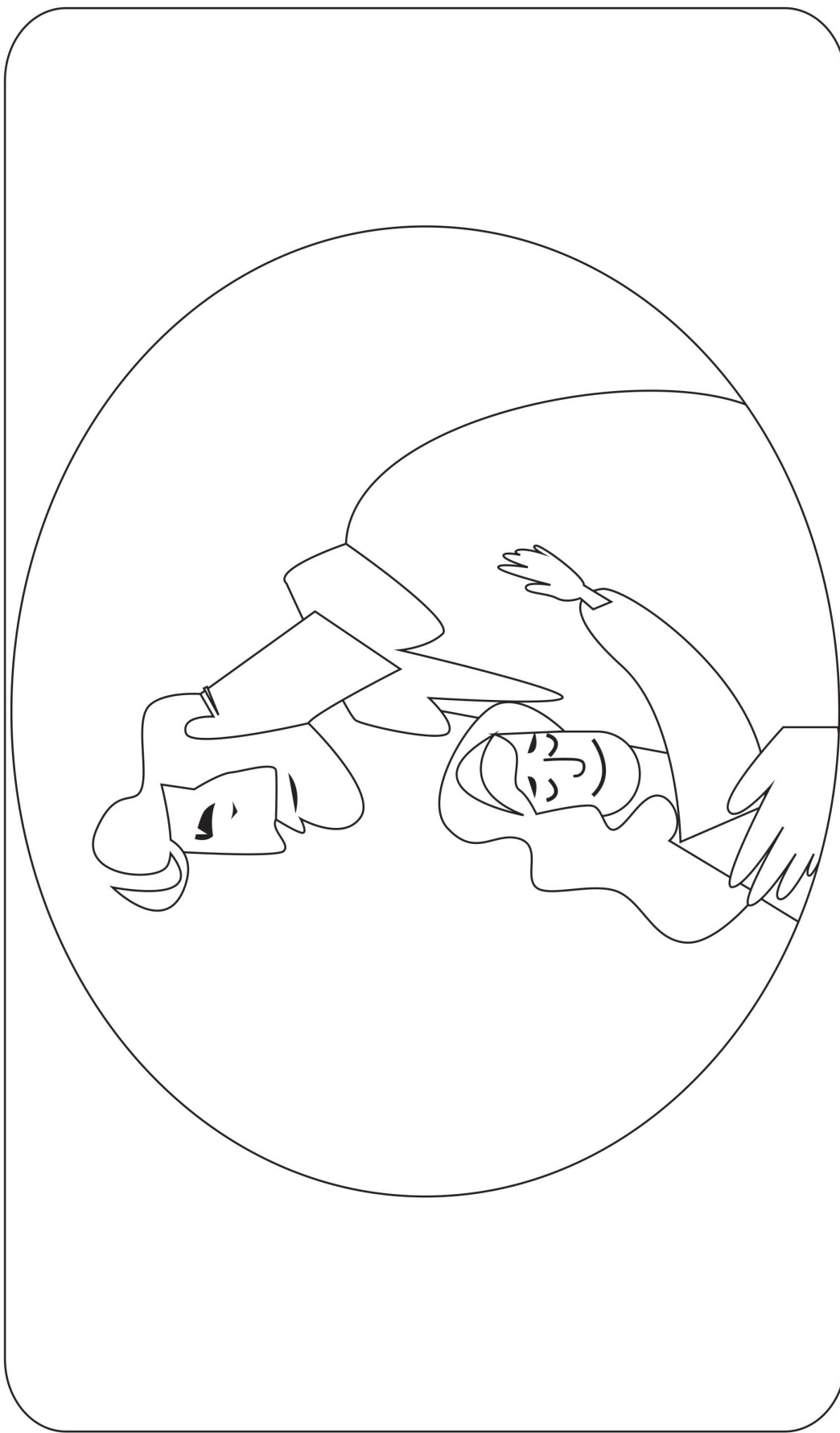
Big Question 13 Action Rhyme Song from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 13, track 13

Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him?
Why do God's people keep believing in Him?
What keeps them going? Why do they persevere?
There's just one reason for their lasting faith,
It is grace, God's sustaining grace.

Refrain

That's why God's people say:
"I'm gonna keep on believing in God,
I'm gonna keep on living for Him,
Yes, I'm gonna keep on believing in God,
And It's all thanks to Him, thanks to Him."

God sustains His people in many ways,
His Spirit works inside them
As they read His Word and pray,
He gives them faith
to keep in trusting in Him,
To keep on living for Him
to the very end. *Refrain*



"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God..."

On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.

You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many." --2 Corinthians 1:3-4,10-11, ESV

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 13, Bible Truth 6, Lesson 2

Big Question 13: Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him?

Answer: It Is God's Sustaining Grace... God Uses His People to Strengthen and Comfort Each Other!



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

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God... On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many."

--2 Corinthians 1:3-4,10-11, ESV

Learn a Little: "We comfort those in any affliction, with the comfort we are comforted by God."

Meaning:

God loves His people so much! He is full of mercy and compassion. He cares about their sadnesses and troubles, and He comforts them. Many times, God uses His people to comfort each other. They listen to each other. They encourage each other and pray. They remind each other of God's promises. They help each other turn away from disobeying God. No wonder God's people praise Him for giving them each other! He uses them to show His love to each other and to keep on believing in Him their whole lives. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Some Questions for You

1. Who comforts God's people in all of their afflictions (sad and hard times)? Why? *God does. God comforts His people in sad and hard times because he cares for them; but also, because He wants them to use the comfort He gives them to comfort others when they need it.*
 2. Who does God want His people to comfort? *He wants them to comfort other people, especially God's people.*
 3. Who do God's people hope in when they need help? *They hope in God to help them and deliver them.*
 4. Who do God's people comfort by praying for them? *They pray for other people, especially God's people.*
- How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

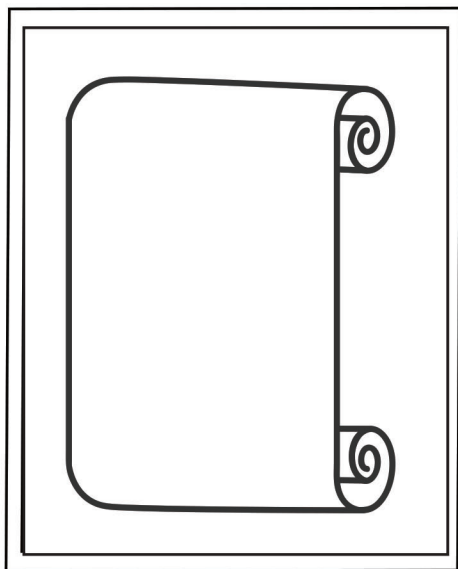
- A** God, we praise You for being the Comforter and Strength of Your People. You help them comfort and strengthen each other.
- C** We confess that many times we forget to pray for others who are struggling with hard or sad times. Many times, we don't take time to comfort and strengthen others who are struggling. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for the comfort God's people receive from You through how they help and pray for each other.
- S** Work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to comfort others with Your Word and by praying for them. Use us to help others in their times of need. Help others to see Your love and kindness as we comfort and pray for each other. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

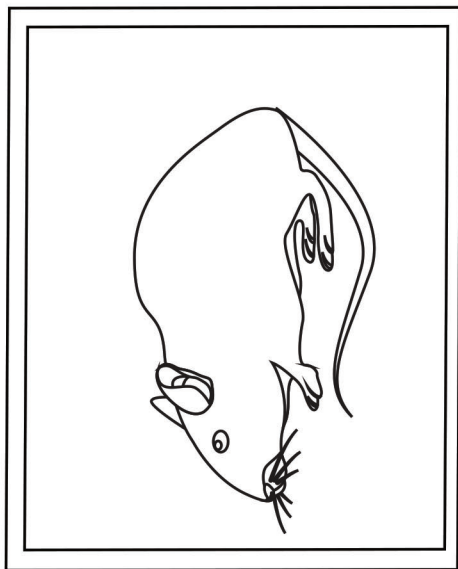
Blessed Be the God and Father: 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, ESV from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 13, track 37

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
The Father of mercies and God of all comfort,
Blessed be the God, blessed be the God,
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

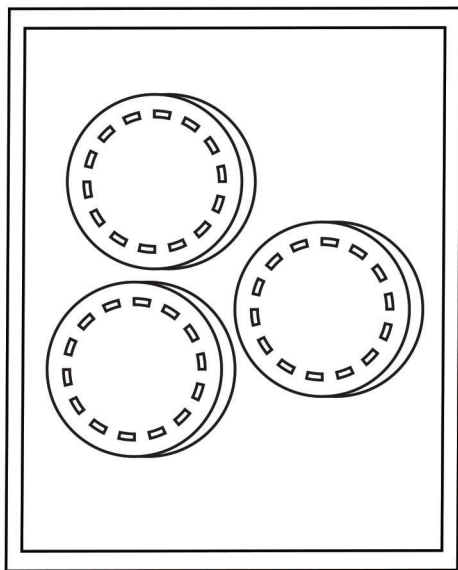
Which four of these clues belong in our story? Which two do not? Put an X in the boxes of the four that belong.


☐

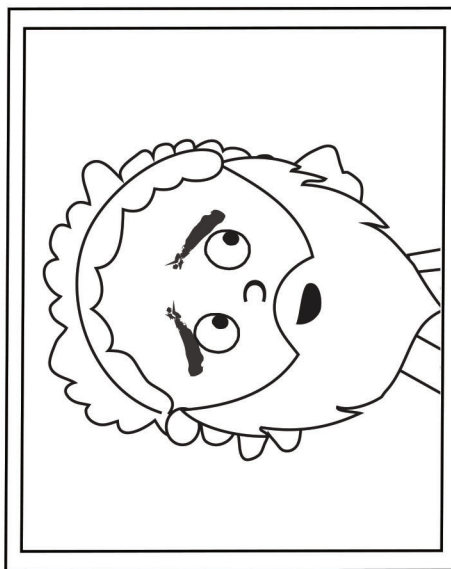
A Letter


☐

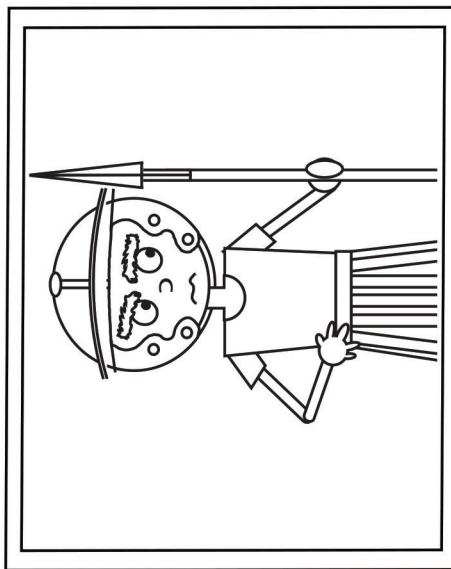
A Mouse


☐

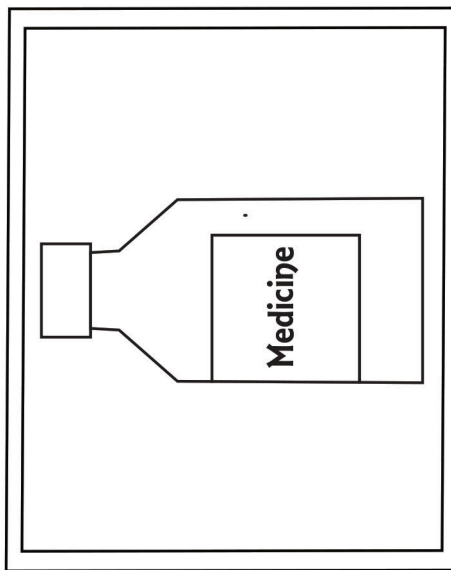
Some Money


☐

Epaphroditus


☐

A Soldier


☐

Some Medicine

Answer: The bad teacher, God's Word, a magic stone, and the "bad" food belong. The rabbit and the tree do not.

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 13, Bible Truth 6, Lesson 3



Big Question 13: Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him?

Answer: It Is God's Sustaining Grace... God Uses His People to Strengthen and Comfort Each Other!

Bible Truth 6 Meaning

No matter who we are, we all go through times of need. Sometimes, we are learning something new, and we need help learning how to do it. Sometimes, we are going through something that is very sad or very hard, and we need comfort and strength. God loves to help His people all the time, especially in their times of need. He uses His Word, the Bible, to guide and comfort them. His Holy Spirit strengthens them inside their heart. But God also helps His people through their prayers and comfort for each other. God's people comfort each other by reminding one another that God is always with them and how great and good He is. They read the Bible to each other and hold on to His wonderful promises to take care of them. They pray for each other, asking God to give them wisdom, strength, and joy; and, to rescue them from their troubles. They ask God to use their hard and sad times for their good and to bring glory to His name. God loves to sustain His people through their comfort and prayers for one another. It is a wonderful display of His love both to His people and to others who watch how God's people love and care for one another. We, too, can become God's people when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, He can use us to comfort others in this special way, too.

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

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God... On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many." --2 Corinthians 1:3-4, 10-11, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. What was the exciting news that everyone was talking about in Jerusalem? *That Jesus had rose from the dead.*
2. Who did Jesus appear to after God Uses His People to Strengthen and Comfort Each Other? *His friends... one time even 500 of them at once!*
3. What did Jesus do with His friends after God Uses His People to Strengthen and Comfort Each Other? *He ate and drank with them. He showed them everything the Bible had to say about Him. He taught them more of God's plans for the world.*
4. Where did Jesus tell His friends He was going? *Back home to heaven to be with God His Father and the Holy Spirit. And, to be the great King of Kings and rule over everything.*
5. Who did Jesus promise to send His friends? *The Holy Spirit, to teach them more about God, to comfort them in their hearts and to give them power to do everything God wanted them to do.*
6. What did Jesus want His friends to do? *Tell the whole world how they could be saved by turning away from disobeying God and trusting in Jesus as their Savior.*
7. How did Jesus go to heaven? *He rose up in the sky.*
8. How will Jesus come back one day? *He will come back in the same way He left.*
9. What is Jesus doing in heaven even now? *He is ruling as the great King of Kings, praying and caring for God's people. And, bringing about all of God's good plans for this world.*

Let's Pray

- A** God, we praise You for being the Comforter and Strength of Your People. You help them comfort and strengthen each other.
- C** We confess that many times we forget to pray for others who are struggling with hard or sad times. Many times, we don't take time to comfort and strengthen others who are struggling. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for the comfort God's people receive from You through how they help and pray for each other.
- S** Work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to comfort others with Your Word and by praying for them. Use us to help others in their times of need. Help others to see Your love and kindness as we comfort and pray for each other. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Praise God Right Now!

Big Q & A 13 Hymn: Jesus Paid It All

from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 13, track 17

Verse 1

I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small,
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all."

Refrain

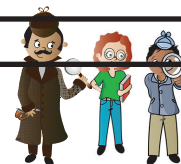
Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Words: Elvina M. Hall Music: John T. Grape
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

Big Question 13 Praise Song: I Will Sing of the Mercies

from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 13, track 18

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing, I will sing,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.
With my mouth will I make known
Thy faithfulness, Thy faithfulness,
With my mouth will I make known
Thy faithfulness to all generations.

Bible Story for Big Question 13, Bible Truth 6**P.1****The Case of the Prayed-for Prisoner***Philippians*

Dear Parents,

Big Question #13 is: "Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him?" Your child is learning that "It Is God's Sustaining Grace... God Uses His People to Strengthen and Comfort Each Other."

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 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 the prisoner? Why was he in jail?**
- 2. Who prayed for him?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, 10-11, ESV**

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God...On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many."

I need to find out:

- 1. Who did God use to comfort Paul?**
- 2. What did they do that was comforting?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

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

They are: a letter, a mouse, some money, Epaphroditus, a soldier, and some medicine.

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 did Paul thank God for using to comfort him?**

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.

Bible Story for Big Question 13, Bible Truth 6

use with all THREE lessons

P.2**The Case of the Prayed-for Prisoner***Philippians**Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)*

"Oh no! Paul is in prison again for telling people about Jesus!" the believers in Philippi exclaimed. Prisoners weren't taken care of very well. They depended on friends on the outside to give them what they needed. Paul might be cold or hungry. He could be sick or lonely. He could be discouraged and scared. Who was there to help Paul, the believers in Philippi wondered.

God uses His people to help each other keep on living for Him and believing in Him. He uses them to comfort them and take care of their needs, too. These Philippians wanted to be part of God helping Paul. "WE must help Paul!" the believers in Philippi decided. But what could THEY do for him? How could THEY help him? They were in Philippi, and he was hundreds of miles away in Rome. How could God use THEM, to help PAUL, from so far away?

Can you guess what they could do?

The Philippians knew what they could do. They could pray for Paul. Perhaps they were far away from Paul, but God wasn't. He was with Paul all the time and He could do ANYTHING! They could ask God to work in the heart of Nero, the Roman leader, that he would free Paul. They could ask God to keep Paul from getting sick. They could ask the Holy Spirit to comfort Paul with God's Word and help him stay strong in his faith. Yes, there was so much the Philippians could do for Paul simply by praying for him, right there in Philippi.

But there was something ELSE the Philippians could do for Paul. What could that be?

Can you think of what else they could do to care for Paul?

They could send a gift of money to him. The believers in Philippi weren't rich, but they loved Paul! He was the one who first came to their city shared the gospel with them. Down by the river, Paul had told them the good news of Jesus for the first time. Many, like Lydia, heard and believed. But others were so angry that they had soldiers grab Paul, hurt him and threw him into jail in chains!

Paul suffered like this, so the Philippians might hear about Jesus. He risked his life that God might save theirs! Now it was their turn to do something for Paul, even if it was very hard.

So, the believers worked together to save money to send to Paul. Many chose to do without things they needed. "No, thank you, just one loaf of bread. No, thank you, only three fish, today," was heard around the marketplace, as some may have chosen to have a little less food on their tables, so they could give more to Paul. "Sheep for sale, goats for sale," others yelled out at the marketplace. These chose to sell some of their own things to get money to give Paul.

At last, enough money was collected. Who would take the money all the way to Paul in Rome? "I'll take it," a godly man named Epaphroditus offered. "I'll take the money and stay and help Paul," he said. The Philippians prayed for Epaphroditus and sent him on his way with their gift.

Walk! Walk! Walk! Epaphroditus made the long trip from Philippi to Rome. There were no cars, trains, or planes back then. It would have taken weeks for Epaphroditus to get there, but he was happy to do it. Paul had done so much for them. Epaphroditus was eager to see Paul and help him.

At last, Epaphroditus made it to the big city of Rome. Past the temples of the fake, Roman gods. Through the busy marketplace. Down the winding streets, went Epaphroditus. Finally, he found the house where Paul was being held prisoner. "Knock, knock, knock," Epaphroditus knocked on the door of the little, prison house. "Creak," the door opened. Epaphroditus looked in and what did he see?

What do you think he saw?

Bible Story for Big Question 13, Bible Truth 6

use with all THREE lessons

P.3*Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)*

There was Paul, chained to a soldier. He was an old man, now. His body was sick and hurting. But even so, Paul was joyful. He was still living for God and telling people about Jesus. He had even shared the gospel with the soldiers who guarded him. Some were becoming Christians! What good news this was!

Epaphroditus stayed and cared for Paul a long time. He used the Philippian's money gift to buy Paul food and the other things he needed. He shared with Paul about the Philippians and how they still cared for him and were praying for God to help him. Oh, how wonderful it was to have a friend to comfort and care for him! Paul loved hearing how the believers in Philippi were doing. The Lord strengthened him as he and Epaphroditus talked about the Lord and prayed together. What comfort God brought Paul through this one man! Paul was so happy!

At last, it was time for Epaphroditus to go. Paul gave Epaphroditus something to take back to the believers in Philippi. He wanted to thank and encourage them. What could a poor, old man in jail give them that would do that?

Can you guess?

A letter! That's what! So, Paul got out a piece of paper and started writing. When he finished, he rolled it up and gave it to Epaphroditus. Then, off went Epaphroditus, back home. How sad Paul must have been to see him go. Yet, how happy Paul would be for the Philippians to read his letter!

Walk, walk, walk. Week after week, Epaphroditus traveled. At last, he made it home to Philippi. The believers gathered together and Epaphroditus read Paul's letter to them. This is what Paul wrote:

Dear Philippians,

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for you, I pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now," Paul said. "I want you to know that it's been good for the gospel for me to be in prison. I've been able to tell many people about Jesus, including all the soldiers who stand guard over me. It makes me happy that so many people are hearing about Jesus," Paul told them.

"Even though life in prison is hard, I am full of joy. God is helping me by your prayers and by His Holy Spirit living in me. God will help me to keep on living for Him and telling others about Jesus," Paul wrote. "And one day, God will take me home to be with Him in heaven forever. That will be best of all."

"Until then, I will be praying for you. I will pray that God strengthen you by His Holy Spirit, just as He is strengthening me. I will pray that He would give you joy; and, that you will keep on living for Him and telling others the good news of Jesus. One day, I hope to be freed from prison and come visit you again."

May Jesus give you strength,
Paul

What happened to Paul after Epaphroditus left? The Lord had promised that one day Paul would stand before Caesar Nero, the great, Roman king, himself. And so he was! Nero heard his case and no doubt Paul would have even tried to share the good news of Jesus with him, too. And while Nero did NOT become a Christian, he did free Paul from prison. The LORD had answered the Philippian's prayers!

And, though Paul probably never got to see his dear friends in Philippi again, he would never forget them. God had used them to give him strength and comfort when he needed it the most. But oh, how sweet would be the meeting of these dear friends in heaven, one day! They had loved each other so well on earth, and now, they would get to go on loving each other forever and ever! And that's what they are doing, even now!

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 prisoner? Why was he in jail? Paul was. He was in jail for telling others about Jesus.

2. Who prayed for him? The believers in the city of Philippi.

For You and Me:

Can you imagine going to jail for something you believe in? Paul did, because he knew the good news of Jesus was true, and that people needed to hear it if they were to be saved from their sins. Paul rejoiced to tell others about Jesus and watch them become God's people. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Detective Dan's Lesson 2 Listening Assignment:
Our Bible Verse is 2 Corinthians 1:3-4,10-11, ESV

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God... On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many."

1. Who did God use to comfort Paul? The believers in Philippi.

2. What did they do that was comforting? They prayed for him, sent him money and Epaphroditus to help him.

For You and Me:

Paul was comforted by the help and prayers of the believers in Philippi. He was comforted by their love and by knowing that God was loving him, too, through them. We, too, can know the comfort of God and of God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. That's how we become God's people.

Detective Dan's Lesson 3 Listening Assignment:

Our six clues were: a letter, a mouse, some money, Epaphroditus, a soldier, and some medicine.

1. Which four belong in our story? The letter, the money, Epaphroditus and the soldier belong. The mouse and the medicine do not.

2. Who did Paul thank God for using to comfort him? The believers in Philippi.

For You and Me:

Paul was comforted by the help and prayers of the believers in Philippi. He was comforted by their love and by knowing that God was loving him, too, through them. We, too, can know the comfort of God and of God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. That's how we become God's people.

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

Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him?

It Is God's Sustaining Grace...

God Uses His People to Strengthen and Comfort Each Other!

Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? It Is God's Sustaining Grace... God Uses His People to Strengthen and Comfort Each Other. God helped Paul and the believers in Philippi comfort and strengthen each other by the good news of Jesus. They remembered that though they were sinners deserving God's punishment, that God had chosen to save them. He sent His Son, Jesus, to give up His life on the cross as the full payment for the sins of all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead. He had beaten sin and death for God's people. He lives and reigns in heaven, caring and praying for God's people, and carrying out God's good plans.

One day, Jesus will come back and put an end to sin and death once and for all; and, God's people will live happy with Him forever. As God's people, Paul and the other believers knew that God would always help them love Him and live for Him... And it was all thanks to what Jesus did! This good news can save us, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, as God's people, we can know that God will always help us love Him and live for Him all of our lives... And it will all be thanks to what Jesus did for us.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

- A** God, we praise You for being the Comforter and Strength of Your People. You help them comfort and strengthen each other.
- C** We confess that many times we forget to pray for others who are struggling with hard or sad times. Many times, we don't take time to comfort and strengthen others who are struggling. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for the comfort God's people receive from You through how they help and pray for each other.
- S** Work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to comfort others with Your Word and by praying for them. Use us to help others in their times of need. Help others to see Your love and kindness as we comfort and pray for each other.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Big Question 13, Bible Truth 6 Overview: Key Concepts**p.1****Unit 13: The God Who Sustains****Unit Big Question (and Answer):** Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? It Is God's Sustaining Grace!**Unit Bible Verse:** "Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved." --Psalm 55:22**Bible Truth 6 Concept: It Is God's Sustaining Grace... God Uses His People to Strengthen and Comfort Each Other!**

No matter who we are, we all go through times of need. Sometimes, we are learning something new, and we need help learning how to do it. Sometimes, we are going through something that is very sad or very hard, and we need comfort and strength. God loves to help His people all the time, especially in their times of need. He uses His Word, the Bible, to guide and comfort them. His Holy Spirit strengthens them inside their heart. But God also helps His people through their prayers and comfort for each other.

God's people comfort each other by reminding one another that God is always with them and how great and good He is. They read the Bible to each other and hold on to His wonderful promises to take care of them. They pray for each other, asking God to give them wisdom, strength, and joy; and, to rescue them from their troubles. They ask God to use their hard and sad times for their good and to bring glory to His name.

God loves to sustain His people through their comfort and prayers for one another. It is a wonderful display of His love both to His people and to others who watch how God's people love and care for one another. We, too, can become God's people when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, He can use us to comfort others in this special way, too.

Bible Truth 6 Bible Verse: 2 Corinthians 1:3-4,10-11, ESV

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God...On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many."

Learn a Little: "We comfort those in any affliction, with the comfort we are comforted by God."**Meaning**

God loves His people so much! He is full of mercy and compassion. He cares about their sadnesses and troubles, and He comforts them. Many times, God uses His people to comfort each other. They listen to each other. They encourage each other and pray. They remind each other of God's promises. They help each other turn away from disobeying God. No wonder God's people praise Him for giving them each other! He uses them to show His love to each other and to keep on believing in Him their whole lives. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 6 ACTS Prayer

- A** God, we praise You for being the Comforter and Strength of Your People. You help them comfort and strengthen each other.
- C** We confess that many times we forget to pray for others who are struggling with hard or sad times. Many times, we don't take time to comfort and strengthen others who are struggling. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for the comfort God's people receive from You through how they help and pray for each other.
- S** Work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to comfort others with Your Word and by praying for them. Use us to help others in their times of need. Help others to see Your love and kindness as we comfort and pray for each other. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

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Bible Truth 6 Story

The Case of the Prayed-for Prisoner

Philippians

Songs Used in Bible Truth 6

Big Q & A 13 Song

Big Question 13 Song: Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him?

Big Question 13 Bible Verse Song: Christ Once Suffered for Sins 1 Peter 3:18, ESV

Extra Big Question 13 Bible Verse Song: For Christ Suffered Once for Sin

Extra Big Question 13 Bible Verse Song: For God So Loved the World John 3:16, ESV

Big Question 13 Hymn: To God Be the Glory, v.1

Big Question 13 Praise Song: Blessed Be the Name

Bible Truth 6 Bible Verse: Blessed Be the God and Father 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, ESV

Bible Truth 6 Extra Bible Verse: Praise be to the God and Father 2 Corinthians 1:3-4,10-13, NIV 1984

Bible Truth 6 Extra Bible Verse: Help Us 2 Corinthians 1:13, ESV

Bible Truth 6 Extra Bible Verse: Let Us Hold Fast the Confession Hebrews 10:23-25

Bible Truth 6 Extra Bible Verse: Encourage One Another 1 Thessalonians 5:11-15, ESV

Bible Truth 6 Extra Bible Verse: Build One Another Up 1 Thessalonians 5:11-15, ESV

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