

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES



Simple Story Scenes

Unit 2,

Bible Truth 2

Using Simple Story Scenes as a Curriculum

Introduce the Key Concept and Bible Verse

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

Give the Case Assignment

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

Show & Tell the Story

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

Solve the Case

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

Share the Gospel

Share the gospel tie-in with the kids.

Close in ACTS Prayer

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

Review Time

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

Looking for more?

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

Unit 2: God's Wonderful Word, the Bible

Unit Big Question (and Answer): "What's so special about the Bible? It alone is God's Word!"

Unit Bible Verse: "This God--His ways are perfect. The word of the LORD proves true. The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation." Psalm 18:30,46, ESV

Bible Truth 2 Concept: It Tells Us about God and His Plans

Do you know what a plan is? It's thinking about WHAT you want to do before you do it. We make plans most every day. Sometimes our plans work out. Sometimes they don't. That's because our plans are only hopes and guesses.

God makes plans, too, but His plans are different. They always happen. They always work out just like He wants them to. They are all good and perfect, just like He is. Some of God's plans are secrets, but some He has shared with us. Can you guess where they are written down? In the Bible! There in His Word, we can read of wonderful God's plan to love and save people through His Son, Jesus. He would make them His special people. Every day of their lives He planned out to be for their good and His glory—to show how good and great He is. And one day, they will go to live with Him forever, just as He planned. God shares His wonderful plans with us because He wants us to turn to Him and be His special people, too.

Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse: Isaiah 46:9-11

"I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose...I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it.'"

Learn a Little: "I am God, and there is no other... I have purposed, and I will do it."

Meaning

People worship many things, but only the LORD is the one, true God. There is no one like Him! Everything God plans to happen, will happen. Everything God tells us will happen, will happen.

People worship many things as gods, but only the LORD is the one, true God. There is no one like Him! Everything He plans to happen, will happen. Everything He tells us will happen, will happen. Where has God written down many of His plans? Where He has written down the many other words He was spoken: in the Bible! It alone is God's Word. He helped godly people write it down just right. We can trust its every word!

Bible Truth 2 ACTS Prayer

- A** We praise you, God for being so good and perfect. We praise You for making good and perfect plans.
- C** God, You've told us that Your plans are good and perfect, but sometimes we don't trust You. Please forgive us.
- T** Thank You for sharing some of Your good and perfect plans with us. Thank You for making sure that all Your plans happen. Thank You for planning to save people through Jesus.
- S** Work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, that we might be Your special people, too. Help us to trust Your good and perfect plans, even when we don't understand them completely. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Bible Truth 2 Story**The Case of the New King**

Matthew 2

Songs Used in Bible Truth 2

Big Q & A 2 Song

Big Question 2 Song

Big Question 2 Bible Verse Song: As For God, His Way Is Perfect: Psalm 18:30

Big Question 2 Hymn: How Precious Is the Book Divine, v.1

Big Question 2 Praise Song: The Best Book to Read Is the Bible

Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse Song: I Am God and There Is No Other Isaiah 46:9,11

Extra Bible Verse: As the Rain Isaiah 55:10,11 ESV

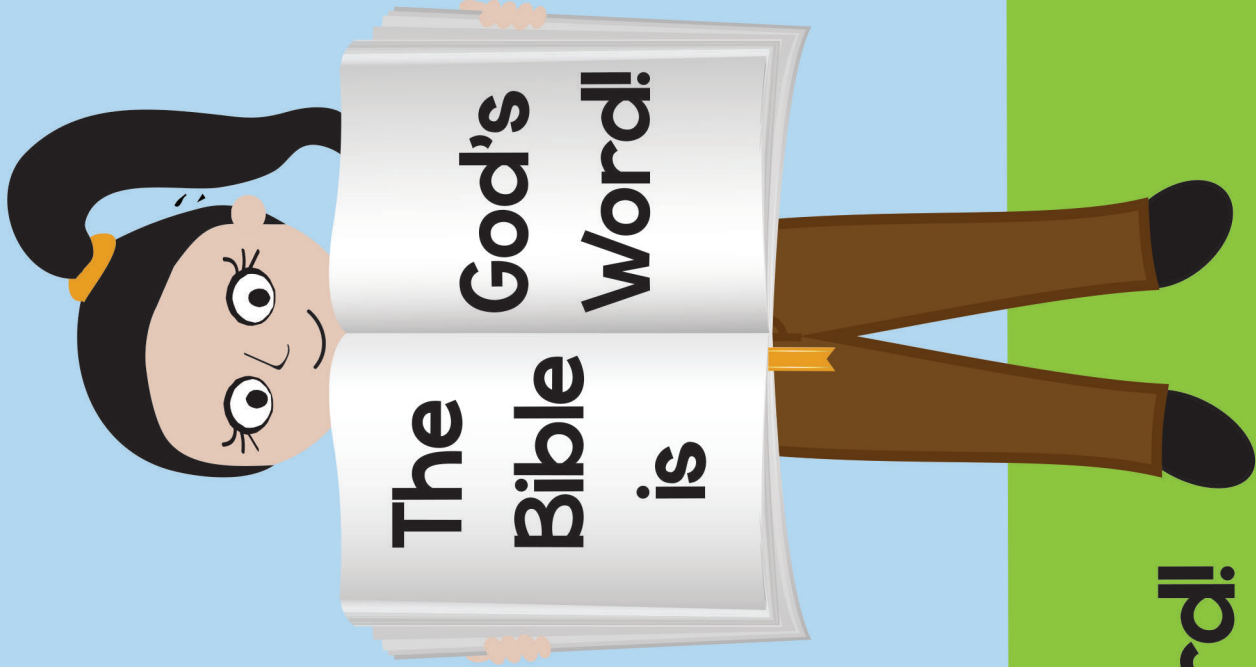
Extra Bible Verse: For I Know the Plans Jeremiah 29:11,12 ESV

Extra Bible Verse: Even to Your Old Age Isaiah 46:4,10,11 ESV

Extra Song: God's One, Big Plan



What's so special about the Bible?



ANSWER:

It alone is God's Word!

VISUAL
AID

#1

take out



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 2:

What's So Special about the Bible?

and the Answer is:

It Alone Is God's Word!

Meaning:

There are millions of books in the world, but none is like the Bible. It alone is God's perfect Word! God made sure it was written down just right. It tells us everything we need to know God and to live for Him. It is powerful to do everything God wants it to do. Everything else in this world may come and go, but God's Word will last forever. It will always prove true.

Let's sing our Big Question Song: "

Big Q & A 2 Song

DDD NIV Songs 2, track 12

(adapted version of "Three, Blind Mice")

What's so special about the Bible?

It alone is God's Word!

It alone is God's Word!

It's always true,

It can make you wise,

It can work pow'rf'ly in your life.

It alone is God's Word!

It alone is God's Word!

BIG QUESTION 2: Four ways God's Word Is Special

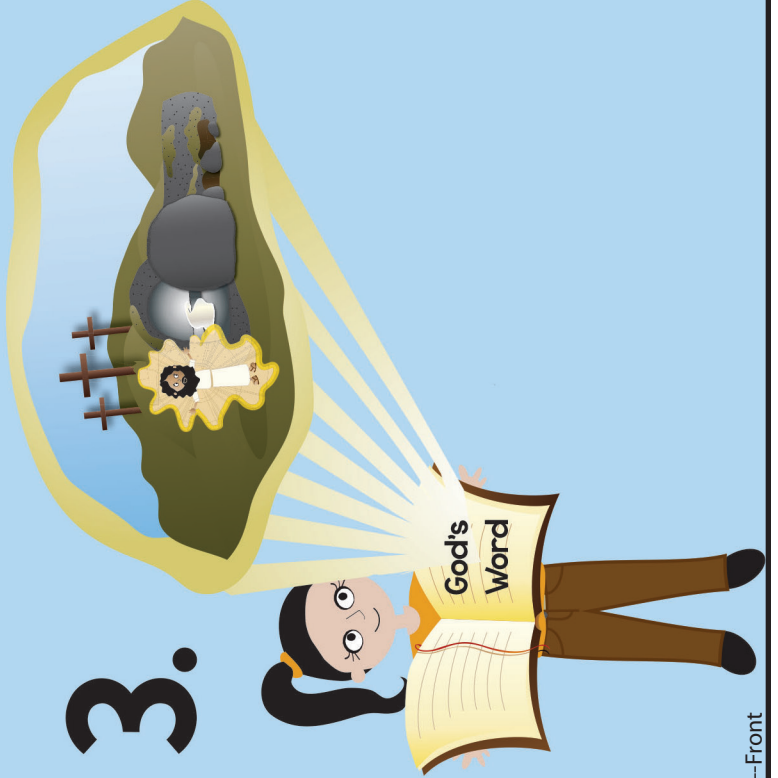
1. Holy Spirit



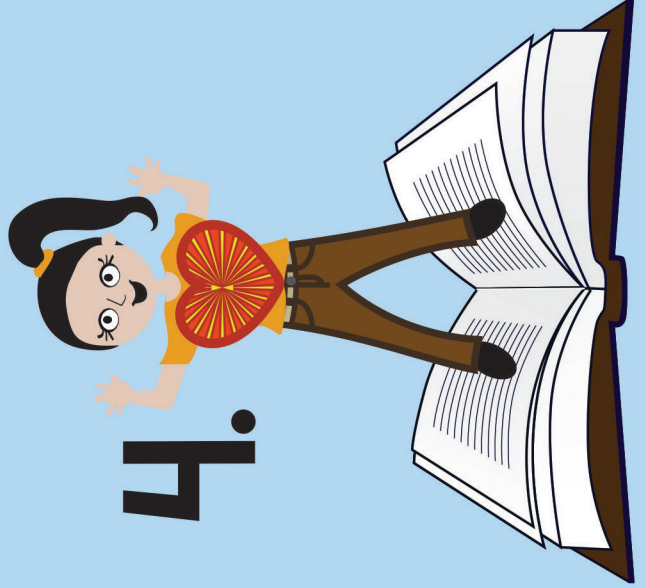
2.



3.



4.



Visual Aid

#2

take out
Big Questions
of BOB

This Unit's Bible Truths

"Knowing that the Bible alone is God's Word is a good beginning, but there's so more to learn. So it's time for us to dig down even deeper for more answers to our Big Question about God. We're going to be learning **FOUR** Bible truths that all tell us more about what makes the Bible so special.

Let's look at our Bible Truth Clue and figure out which of these four truths we will be learning about today. Who would like to get it out of the Big Question Briefcase for me?"

Choose a child to get it out and hand it to you. Then hold it up and show them the pictures of the four truths they will be learning.

After everyone has had a good look, say...

"Ok, we've learned one way the Bible is so special. It's this one: God made sure it was written down just right (Point to pictures as you identify each Bible Truth.) Now let's look at our Bible Truth Clue and see if we can figure out which of these four truths we will be learning about today. Who would like to get it out of the Big Question Briefcase for me?"

Choose a child to open the briefcase, take out the Bible Truth Clue and hand it to you.

CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 2?

What's So Special about the Bible?

**It Alone Is God's Word...
God uses it to ???? us!**

HINT: What is the word for
all the things God will do,
but hasn't done yet?
It rhymes with the word "man."

Visual
Aid

#3

take out



of BQB



ANSWER:

It tells about God and His PLANS!

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’s So Special about the Bible?
It Alone Is God’s Word...
It tells us about God and His ???? !**

We are missing one word. Here’s the hint to what the missing word is. It says: “All the things God will do, but hasn’t done yet. It starts with a “p” and it rhymes with the word “man”?”

Can you guess? It’s a “plan”!

So the Bible Truth we are learning today is:
(uncover answer from bottom of sign, show it to them and say:)

**“What’s So Special about the Bible?
It Alone Is God’s Word...
It tells us about God and His PLANS !**

And here what this Bible Truth means:

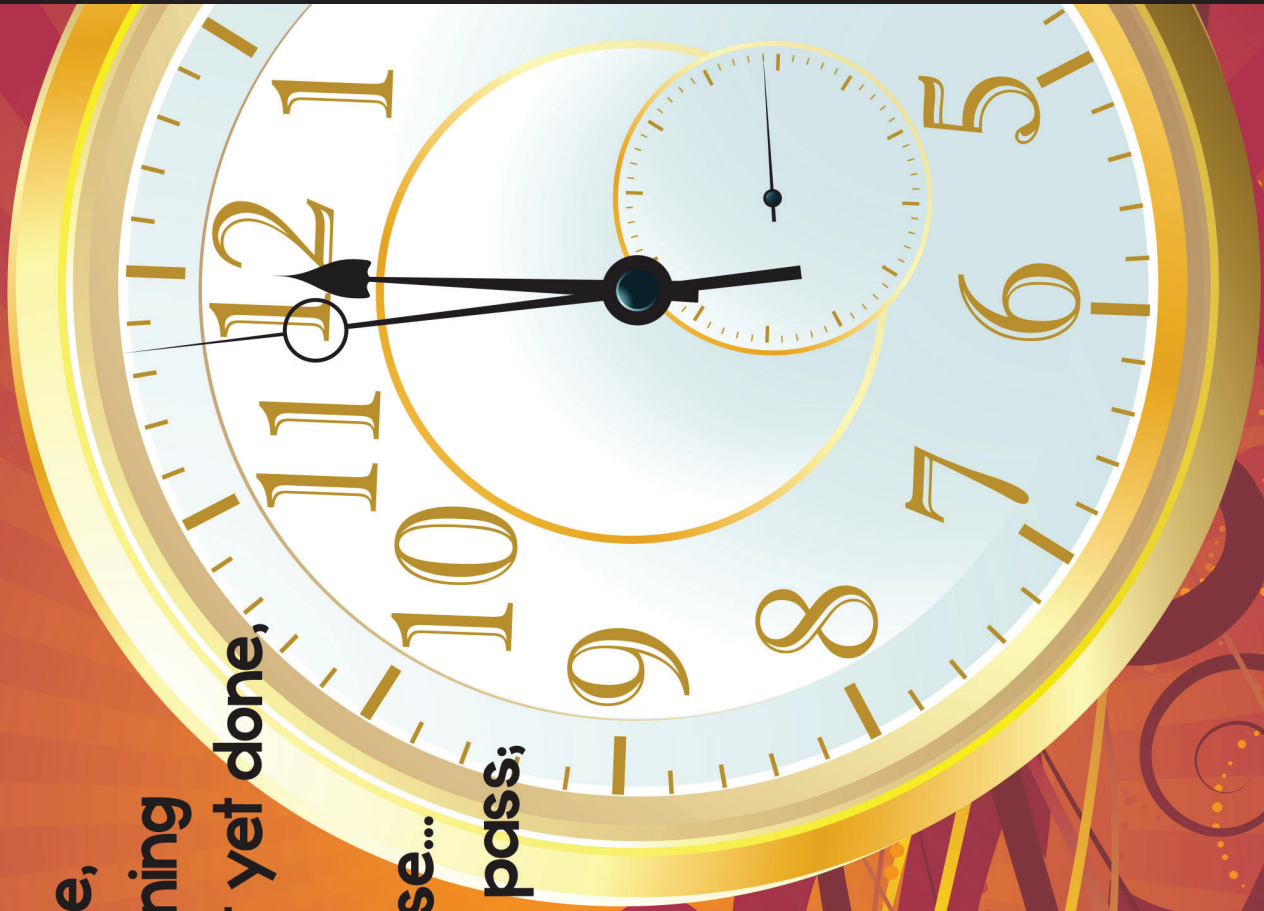
(read the meaning off of the back of the sign, say:)

Do you know what a plan is? It’s thinking about WHAT you want to do before you do it. We make plans most every day. Sometimes our plans work out. Sometimes they don’t. That’s because our plans are only hopes and guesses.

God makes plans, too, but His plans are different. They always happen. They always work out just like He wants them to. They are all good and perfect, just like He is. Some of God’s plans are secrets, but some He has shared with us. Can you guess where they are written down? In the Bible! There in His Word, we can read of wonderful God’s plan to love and save people through His Son, Jesus. He would make them His special people. Every day of their lives He planned out to be for their good and His glory—to show how good and great He is. And one day, they will go to live with Him forever, just as He planned. God shares His wonderful plans with us because He wants us to turn to Him and be His special people, too.

**“I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like me,
declaring the end from the beginning
and from ancient times things not yet done,
saying, ‘My counsel shall stand,
and I will accomplish all my purpose...
I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass;
I have purposed, and I will do it.”**

Isaiah 46:9-11



Visual Aid #4
Place verse in
DDD Bible
take out
? ?
Question Bible
of BQB

Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse

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

Isaiah 46:9-11 tells us:

Isaiah 46:9-11

"I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose...I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass; I have purposed, and I will do it:"

Learn a Little: "I am God, and there is no other... I have purposed, and I will do it:"

What does that mean?

People worship many things, but only the LORD is the one, true God. There is no one like Him! Everything God plans to happen, will happen. Everything God tells us will happen, will happen.

Where has God written down many of His plans? In the same book where He has written down the other words He has spoken: in the Bible! It alone is God's Word. God helped godly people write it down just right. We can trust its every word!

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

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

I Am God and There Is No Other:

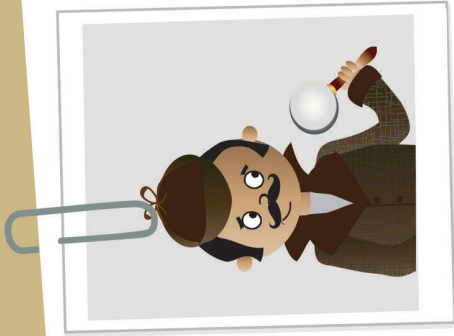
Isaiah 46:9,11

DDD NIV Songs 2, track 21

I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there's none like me,
Declaring the end from the beginning,
From ancient times, things not yet done.
I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there's none like me,
I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass,
I have purposed, and I will do it.
Isaiah Forty-six, nine and eleven.

"Now it's time to do a bit more deep down investigating. Let's read what Detective Dan wants us to help him figure out. Would someone like to get it out for me?"

The Case of the New King Matthew 2



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who was the new king and who was looking for him?
2. How did they find him?



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Isaiah 46:9, 11, ESV

"I am God, and there is no other... I have purposed, and I will do it."

1. Where did God plan for the new king to be born?
2. What did God plan for the new king to do?

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

I. “Have you heard the exciting news? Have you seen who has come to town?” the people of Jerusalem asked each other.

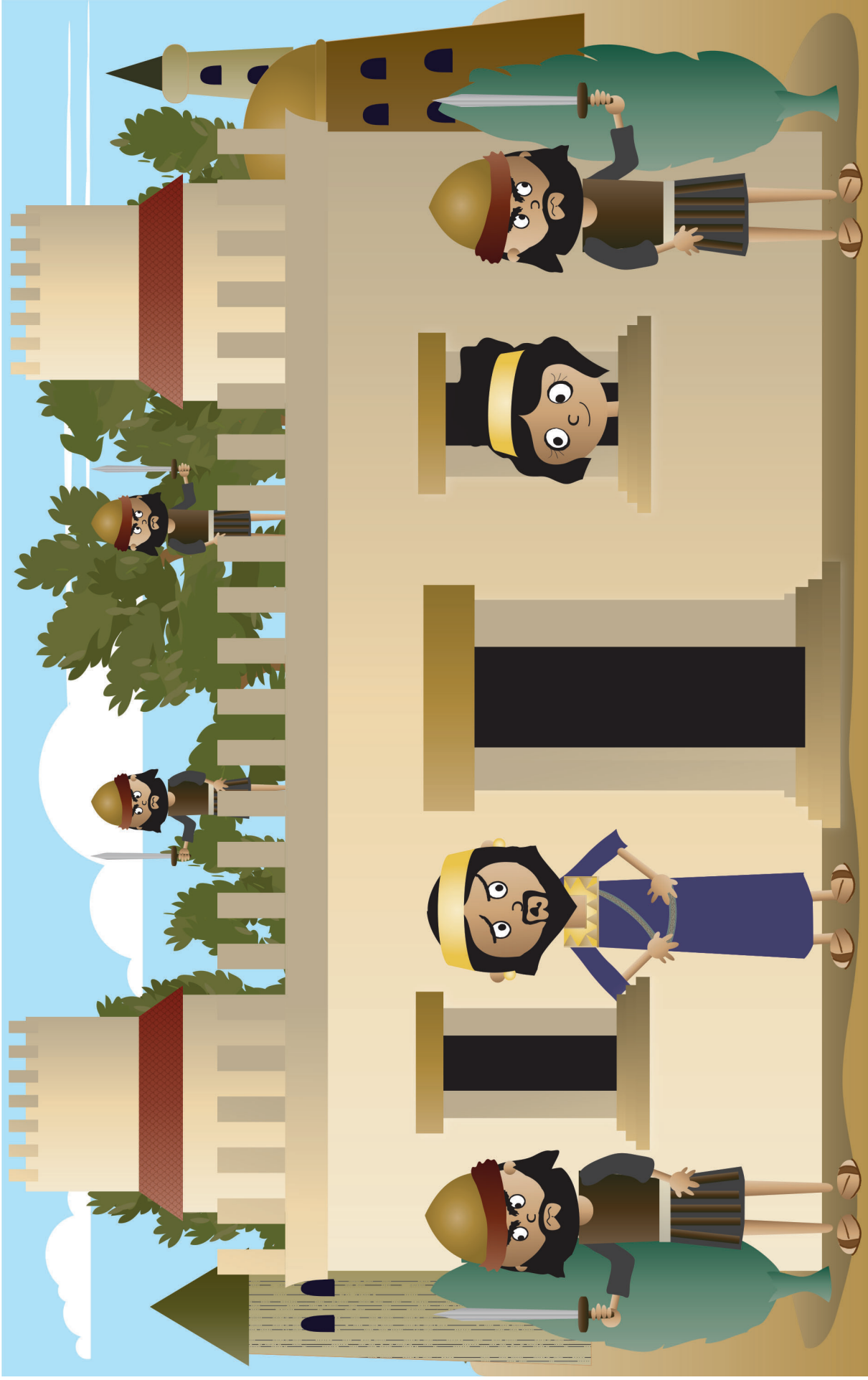
“Magi! Important men from a faraway land are here! And they’re asking the most amazing question: ‘Where is your new king? We saw a bright, new star in the sky. It tells us that he’s been born and must be very great. Take us to him so we can worship him,’ they say!

Can you imagine that! A great, new king of the Jews has been born! Where is he? What could this mean!?” everyone in Jerusalem wondered.



1. "Have you heard the exciting news? Have you seen who has come to town?" the people of Jerusalem asked each other. "Magi! Important men from a faraway land are here! And they're asking the most amazing question: 'Where is your new king? We saw a bright, new star in the sky. It tells us that he's been born and must be very great. Take us to him so we can worship him,' they say! Can you imagine that! A great, new king of the Jews has been born! Where is he? What could this mean!?" everyone in Jerusalem wondered.

2. Now, it made perfect sense for the Magi to come to Jerusalem. This was where the kings of the Jews had been born and had lived for years, and years, and years. And there most certainly was a king living there right now, up in his magnificent palace. His name was King Herod the Great.



2. Now, it made perfect sense for the Magi to come to Jerusalem. This was where the kings of the Jews had been born and had lived for years, and years, and years. And there most certainly was a king living there right now, up in his magnificent palace. His name was King Herod the Great.

3. Why was Herod called “the Great?” Well, he certainly lived a great, rich life, in his great, rich palace. He even did some great things. So, yes, perhaps in a way he was a great king.

But Herod was not THE great king of the Jews, the one the Magi were trying to find. For you see, King Herod only ruled as king OVER the Jews. He was not the real king of the Jews. He was really just an enemy who was put in place to rule over the Jews. And oh, how Herod loved having big, kingly power to rule over the Jews, however he wanted!



3. Why was Herod called “the Great?” Well, he certainly lived a great, rich life, in his great, rich palace. He even did some great things. So, yes, perhaps in a way he was a great king. But Herod was not **THE** great king of the Jews, the one the Magi were trying to find. For you see, King Herod only ruled as king **OVER** the Jews. He was not the real king of the Jews. He was really just an enemy who was put in place to rule over the Jews. And oh, how Herod loved having big, kingly power to rule over the Jews, however he wanted!

4. So, when Herod heard the news about the important Magi coming to worship the new, baby king of the Jews, he was not happy at all! Not one... little... bit! He was UPSET, and very worried!

“What if there really IS a new king?” Herod thought. “What if he really IS great... greater than ME? What if he is the Christ, the great King the Jews believe God will send one day to save them?” he worried.

“This new king might get rid of ME, and take away my magnificent palace! Then HE would be king of the Jews. I can’t let that happen. I want to be king! I must find out more and make a plan,” Herod decided. “There will be NO new king. I will see to that!”



4. So, when Herod heard the news about the important Magi coming to worship the new, baby king of the Jews, he was not happy at all! Not one... little... bit! He was UPSET, and very worried! “What if there really IS a new king?” Herod thought. “What if he really IS great... greater than ME? What if he is the Christ, the great King the Jews believe God will send one day to save them?” he worried. “This new king might get rid of ME, and take away my magnificent palace! Then HE would be king of the Jews. I can’t let that happen. I want to be king! I must find out more and make a plan,” Herod decided. “There will be NO new king. I will see to that!”

5. But if King Herod was to get rid of this new king, he would have to find him first. But, how? HE didn't know where the child was. The PEOPLE didn't know where he was. Not even the MAGI knew where he was.

How could this baby ever be found?! There was just one place to look. In a very old, very special book. God's Book: the Bible!

Long ago, God had godly men write down many of His plans for this world, including His promise to send the Christ, the great Savior-King. Perhaps God had told where this king would be born in God's Word, the Bible, Herod hoped.



5. But if King Herod was to get rid of this new king, he would have to find him first. But, how? HE didn't know where the child was. The PEOPLE didn't know where he was. Not even the MAGI knew where he was. How could this baby ever be found?!! There was just one place to look. In a very old, very special book. God's Book: the Bible! Long ago, God had godly men write down many of His plans for this world, including His promise to send the Christ, the great Savior-King. Perhaps God had told where this king would be born in God's Word, the Bible, Herod hoped.

6. “Get the teachers of God’s Word. Bring them to me!” Herod demanded. “I must speak to them at once.”

Soon, the teachers of God’s Word were gathered before him. “Where is the Christ, God’s great Savior-King, supposed to be born?” Herod asked them.

The teachers knew just where to look. They knew God’s promises well. They had been waiting and waiting for this special Savior-King to come. “Bethlehem. That’s where the Savior-King is to be born,” they replied. “That’s what God promised in His Word many years ago,” the teachers told Herod.



6. "Get the teachers of God's Word. Bring them to me!" Herod demanded. "I must speak to them at once." Soon, the teachers of God's Word were gathered before him. "Where is the Christ, God's great Savior-King, supposed to be born?" Herod asked them. The teachers knew just where to look. They knew God's promises well. They had been waiting and waiting for this special Savior-King to come. "Bethlehem. That's where the Savior-King is to be born," they replied. "That's what God promised in His Word many years ago," the teachers told Herod.

7. “Ah, hai Bethlehem! That’s not far from here at all. I will find this child and get rid of him, before he grows up and gets rid of ME!” King Herod thought. “But I must be sneaky about this. I’ll use these Magi to help me, without them even knowing it,” he decided.

Herod called for the Magi, and said, “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the young child. When you find him, come back and report to me. I want to go worship him, too,” he lied.

What a terrible, tricky plan Herod had made! How he hoped it would work!



7. "Ah, ha! Bethlehem! That's not far from here at all. I will find this child and get rid of him, before he grows up and gets rid of ME!" King Herod thought. "But I must be sneaky about this. I'll use these Magi to help me, without them even knowing it," he decided.

Herod called for the Magi, and said, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the young child. When you find him, come back and report to me. I want to go worship him, too," he lied. What a terrible, tricky plan Herod had made! How he hoped it would work!

8. The Magi obeyed Herod. They set out across the hills of Judah for the village of Bethlehem. What would they find? Would the promise God made so many years ago, really come true? Could God's Word really be trusted?

The beautiful star of the King, itself, seemed to sparkle out a big, bright, beautiful "yes" from the night sky! The star went before the Magi, all the way to Bethlehem. It shone down upon a little house.

Who would they find there? Was this really the home of THE great King? Could it be? The door opened, and who did they see...



8. The Magi obeyed Herod. They set out across the hills of Judah for the village of Bethlehem. What would they find? Would the promise God made so many years ago, really come true? Could God's Word really be trusted? The beautiful star of the King, itself, seemed to sparkle out a big, bright, beautiful "yes" from the night sky! The star went before the Magi, all the way to Bethlehem. It shone down upon a little house. Who would they find there? Was this really the home of THE great King? Could it be? The door opened, and who did they see...

q. They saw Mary, Joseph, and little Jesus. God's Word had been true! It could be trusted!

Here was the great King they had been looking for! The magi fell down on their knees and worshipped Jesus. They gave him their expensive gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

How happy they were to have found the special Savior-King at last!



9. They saw Mary, Joseph, and little Jesus. God's Word had been true! It could be trusted! Here was the great King they had been looking for! The Magi fell down on their knees and worshipped Jesus. They gave him their expensive gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. How happy they were to have found the special Savior-King at last!

10. But what about King Herod and his evil plans? Would he really get rid of the Christ, the Savior-- King?

No, he would not! No, he COULD not! Herod could make his plans, but he was just a man. God's Word was filled with God's plans for Jesus, the Savior King, and it would always prove true.

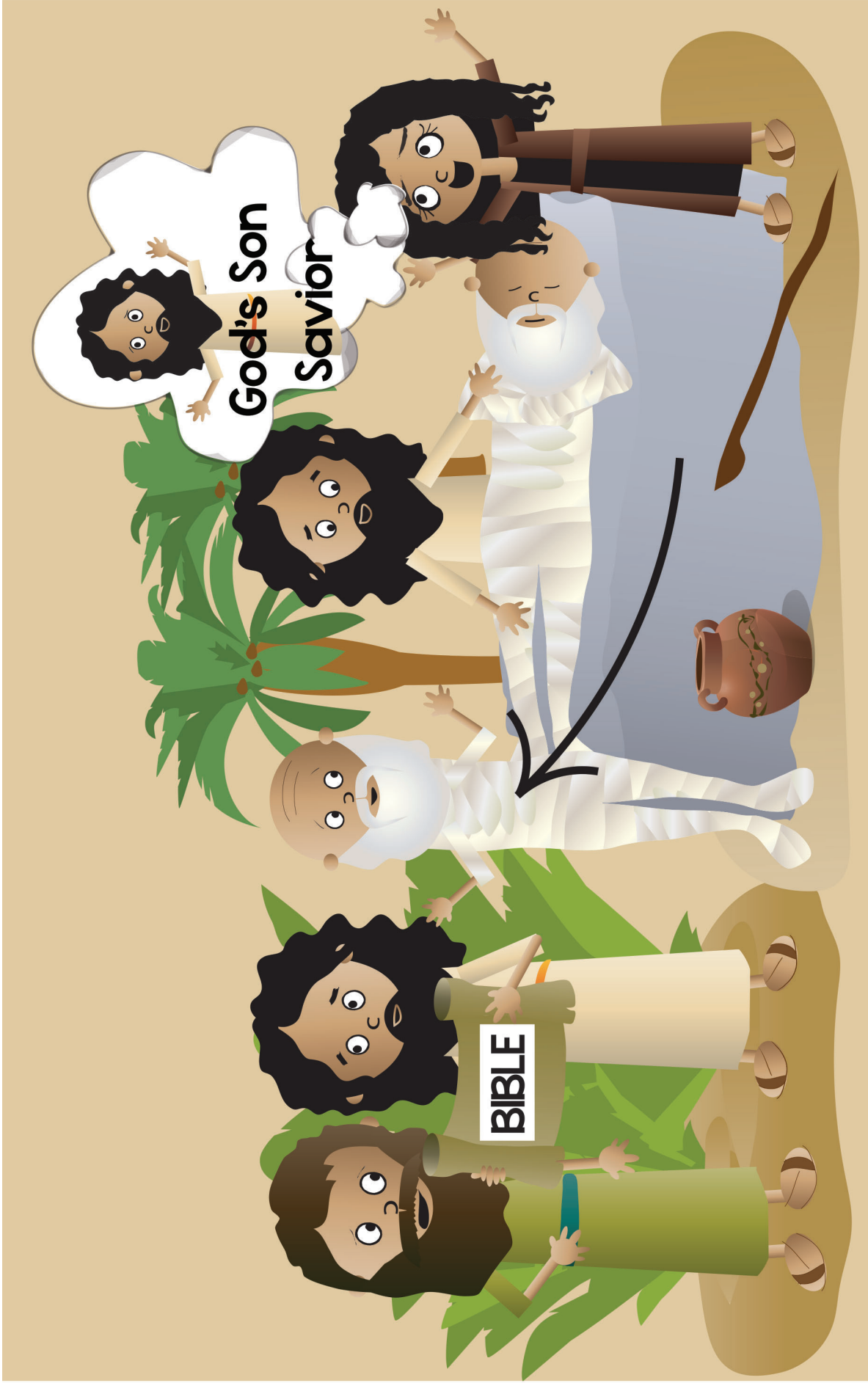
God warned the Magi and they never went back to King Herod. They went back home another way. God sent an angel in a dream to warn Joseph, too. They left Bethlehem before Herod could find them.

Herod's plans failed. God's plans came true... and they always will! God always wins!



10. But what about King Herod and his evil plans? Would he really get rid of the Christ, the Savior-King? No, he would not! No, he **COULD** not! Herod could make his plans, but he was just a man. God's Word was filled with God's plans for Jesus, the Savior King, and it would always prove true. God warned the Magi and they never went back to King Herod. They went back home another way. God sent an angel in a dream to warn Joseph, too. They left Bethlehem before Herod could find them. Herod's plans failed. God's plans came true... and they always will! God always wins!

II. Just as God had planned, Jesus would grow up to be a man. He would show everyone what God is like. He would teach them about God. He would show God's great power in the wonderful things He did. Jesus would live a perfect life; and then, He would do the most amazing thing of all...



II. Just as God had planned, Jesus would grow up to be a man. He would show everyone what God is like. He would teach them about God. He would show God's great power in the wonderful things He did. Jesus would live a perfect life; and then, He would do the most amazing thing of all...

12. Jesus would choose to suffer and die on the cross, giving up His life as the perfect payment for the sins of God's people. Then, on the third day, He would rise from the dead in victory, then go home to rule in heaven.

All this was exactly as God promised in His Word. And that's the way it always will be with every plan of God we read in the Bible. They will always come true, just as God tells us they will. You can always count on that!



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DDD 2.2

The Case of the New King Matthew 2

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who was the new king and who was looking for him?
Jesus was the new king. The Magi (and King Herod) were looking for him.
2. How did they find him?
The Bible, God's Word, told them where He would be born.

For You and Me:
The Magi found God's Word to be true. It told them of God's plans to send a Savior; and, it told them where He would be found. But the most wonderful of all God's plans, written down in the Bible, was what God had planned for the Savior to do. This Savior --Jesus-- would choose to suffer and die on the cross to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. That's a plan that God wants you and me to be a part of, too. Ask Him to help you become one of God's people. He loves to answer this prayer!



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Isaiah 46:9, 11, ESV

"I am God, and there is no other... I have purposed, and I will do it."

1. Where did God plan for the new king to be born?
Bethlehem.
2. What did God plan for the new king to do?
He planned for the new king to save God's people from their sins.

For You and Me:

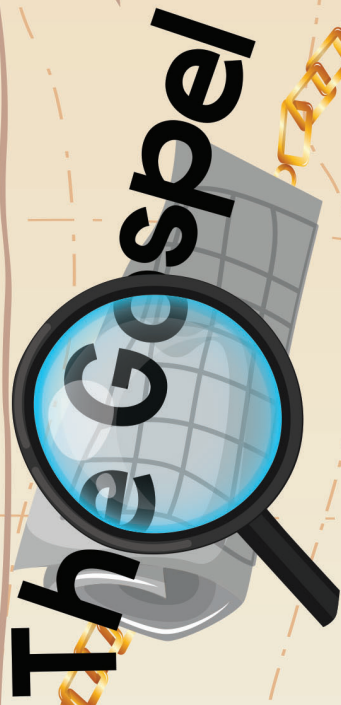
From before the beginning of time, God planned to send Jesus to save His people from their sins. Nothing would ever get in the way of that plan!

God's wonderful plan can be for us, too. How? When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. This is how we can become God's people, too. Ask Him to help you do this. He loves to answer this prayer!

DDD 2.2

What's So Special about the Bible?
It Alone Is God's Word...
It tells us about God and His plans!

The Gospel



How good it is that God's plans always come true! How good it is that no one can stop them! God promised us in His Word, the Bible, that He would send a Savior-King to save sinners and He did! Jesus is that Savior-King!

Jesus offered up His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people, when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, He rose up from from the dead in victory. He had beaten sin and death for God's people!

Because of Jesus, we can have our sins forgiven and become God's people! Ask God to help you to turn away from your sins (repent) and trust in Jesus as your Savior.
He loves to answer this prayer!



DDD 2.2

A Prayer

A We praise you, God for being so good and perfect. We praise You for making good and perfect plans.

C God, You've told us that Your plans are good and perfect, but sometimes we don't trust You. Please forgive us. We need a Savior!

T Thank You for sharing some of Your good and perfect plans with us. Thank You for making sure that all Your plans happen. Thank You for planning to save people through Jesus.

S Work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins (repent) and trust in Jesus as our Savior that we might be Your special people, too. Help us to trust Your good and perfect plans, even when we don't understand them completely.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



DDD 2.2