

## 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 4:

Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like? and the Answer is: He's Not Like Anyone Else!

### Meaning:

There are many gods that people worship, but none is like the LORD. He is the one, true God. He's not like anyone else! He's always been alive--and He will never die. He's completely good and loving. He's all-powerful and all-wise. And that's just the beginning of what the LORD is like. He is so great! There will always be more of Him to know. Let's sing our Big Question Song:"

# Big Q & A 4 Song

DDD ESV Songs 4, track 12 (adapted version of "Have You Ever Seen a Lassie")

Can anybody tell me, Tell me, tell me, Can anybody tell me, What the LORD is like? He's not like anyone else, Anyone else, anyone else, He's not like anyone else, That's what the LORD is like.



## This Unit's Bible Truths

"He's not like anyone else" 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 EIGHT Bible truths that all tell us more about what God is like.

Who would like to hand me the picture with our eight Bible truths on it? It's in the Big Question Box/Briefcase."

Who would like to hand me the picture with our eight Bible truths on it? It's in the Big Question Box/Briefcase."

Choose a child to get it and hand it to you, then hold it up and show them the pictures of the eight truths they will be learning.

After everyone has had a good look say...

"Ok, we've learned one truth about the LORD. It's this one: "He is a Glorious Spirit" (point to pictures as you identify each Bible Truth). Now let's look at our Bible Truth Clue sign and see if we can figure out which of these 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 sign and hand it to you. CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 2?

Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like? He's Not Like Anyone Else...

# He Is the <u>????</u> True God!

HINT: "How many true Gods are there? It starts with an "o" and it rhymes with "done."

ANSWER: He is the One, True God!



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DDD 4.2 Bible Truth 2--Front

# 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:

## "Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like? He's Not Like Anyone Else! He Is the <u>????</u> True God!"

We're missing one word. Here's the hint to what the missing word is. It says: "How many true Gods are there? It starts with an "o" and it rhymes with "done."

Can you guess? It's "One."

So the Bible Truth we are learning today is:

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

## "Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like? He's Not Like Anyone Else! He Is the ONE, True God!"

And here is what this Bible Truth means: (read the meaning off of the back of the sign, say:)

People look for a god to worship: someone or something that they honor as best; who is most important to them; who they will love most of all; and, serve. And, someone or thing they can depend on to take care of them.

Sometimes, people make their own gods. They cut them out of wood or stone and worship them. Sometimes, people make things their god. They make having many nice things most important. They trust in their money to take care of them. They never seem to have enough of it. Sometimes people worship other people or even themselves! People are most important to them. They change what they say and do to please them, even if it's wrong. What others think of them matters to them too much.

Money, people, and even wood and stone are all good things, but they were not meant to be worshipped. There is really only one SOMEONE we are made to worship: it is the LORD, the one, true God. The LORD made heaven and earth and everything in it... even us! He is all-loving and all-good. He knows everything there is to know and He can do whatever He wants to do. He's the one who can we can depend on to take care of us. He is the only one who is really worthy of our worship. There is no one like Him.

Seek after the LORD! Live for Him! He promises that all who seek Him will find Him. How wonderful it is to know and live for the LORD, the one, true God!





## For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God." Psalm 86:8,10, ESV



# 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:

Psalm 86:8,10 tells us:

#### Psalm 86: 8,10, ESV

"There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours...For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God."

Learn a Little: "O LORD ... you alone are God."

#### What does that mean?

This verse tells us that there is no one like the LORD. If we compare anyone else's deeds to the LORD's, it is easy to see just how great He is. He alone is God and worthy of our worship!

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

# Among the Gods:

# Psalm 86:8,10

DDD ESV Songs 3, track 24

Among the gods, there is none like you, O Lord; Nor are there works like yours. For you are great and do wondrous things, O Lord, You alone are God. Psalm Eighty-six, eight and ten.

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

## The Case of the Fight with Fire | Kings |8



## Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #l

I. What was the fight about?

2. Who won the fight?

## Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

## **Psalm 86:8,10, ESV**



"There is none like you among the gods, 0 LORD, nor are there any works like yours...For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God."

I. What wondrous thing did the LORD do with fire?

2. Who had to agree that there is no god like the LORD?

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



I. The LORD and the people of Israel made big promises to each other. The LORD promised that He would always love them and take care of them. He would keep them safe and give them everything they needed to be happy. Best of all, He would give them Himself to know and enjoy forever. The people of Israel returned His love with a promise to love Him, too.



2. Now, that might sound very simple at first. But the love the LORD asked His people to have for Him was not a little, tiny love. It wasn't a love that wakes up in the morning and says "Good morning, LORD! I love you," but forgets Him the rest of the day. The LORD was asking for a BIG LOVE. A love that loved Him with their whole lives, through the whole day, in everything they did and said and thought. It meant obeying His good laws about worshipping Him as the One, True God.



3. It meant obeying all of His good laws about loving others, too. So you see, this was a very BIG love that the LORD asked the people to promise Him... and they happily promised Him they would.



4. But it's one thing to make promises and another to keep them. So, while the LORD kept His promises to the people of Israel, they broke their promises to Him. They forgot Him as they lived each day. They broke His good laws. They stopped worshipping Him as the One, True God. They worshipped fake gods instead, especially the fake god of their neighbors--Baal. And who led the people of Israel in worshipping Baal? None other than their king--King Ahab.



5. Baal was supposed to be the god who gave people rain, good crops, and big families. Those were the three, big things that the people especially cared about back then. Now, you might think of three OTHER things you especially care about, but back in those days there were no grocery stores or hospitals. You needed rain to grow your crops (crops are food you grow) and to keep you and your animals alive. And since there weren't really doctors back then, getting sick was very scary. Rain, big families, and good crops meant LIFE to these people! Who WOULDN'T want to worship Baal if he could give them all of these good things?



6. But what about the people of Israel? Didn't they need rain, big families, and good food to live, too? Yes, they did! But they SHOULDN'T have turned to Baal for them. They SHOULD have turned to the LORD. He had already made big promises to always love them and take care of them. Hadn't He always provided them with rain, big families, and good food in the past? Wouldn't He keep on giving these good gifts to them? Of course, He would! The LORD never breaks His promises!



7. But, the people of Israel chose to forget all of this. They chose to worship the fake god, Baal, like the peoples around them. This was SAD news! This was BAD news! The people of Israel had turned away from the LORD. They had broken their promises to Him. What would the LORD do? Would He turn away from them and stop caring for them, as they deserved?



8. The LORD COULD have turned away from His people, but He did not. He chose to go on loving them. He would bring them back to Him. He would show them in a mighty way that Baal was just a fake, and that He, the LORD, was the one, true God. And He would do it by stopping the very thing that Baal was supposed to be in charge of: the rain.



9. The LORD sent His special messenger, Elijah, to tell King Ahab and the people what He was going to do. "The LORD says: 'You have broken your promise to love Me," Elijah told them. ""You have chosen to worship Baal as giver of rain, big families, and good food, but he isn't. He is just a fake god. He is not the One True God. I am, as I am going to show you!" the LORD told the people.



10. "I am going to take away all the rain. I am going to take away all the good food from you ...the food you need so you can have big families. And no matter how much anyone prays to Baal, there will be no more rain or good food until I say so. Then, you will see that I, not Baal, am the One True God," the LORD warned the people through Elijah. Those were big words. Could the LORD really do this? Could He really stop Baal's power? Everyone waited and watched.



II. Sure enough, day after day went by, and there was no rain. The water in the streams dried up. The good food that should have grown in the fields, died. The big families and their animals grew hungry and thirsty. The people took their worship gifts to Baal and prayed, "Oh, Baal, send us the rain we need to grow good food and feed our big families." But for one, two, THREE whole years, no matter how much anyone prayed to Baal, there was no rain or good food. Oh, how sad the neighbors were! Oh, how sad the people of Israel were!



12. At last, the LORD knew the people had learned enough from their suffering. They were ready for the great showdown--the big fight with fire that would make it clear to them and their neighbors who really was the one, true God.

Elijah went back to King Ahab with a new message from the LORD: "The LORD says: 'For three years I've taken away your rain and good food. It has been hard to feed your big families. I did this because the people and you chose to stop worshipping Me and obeying My good laws. I wanted you to see that I am the one, true God, not Baal," the LORD said.



13. "I'm not done yet. There's more thing I want to do. Gather all of the people and all of the messengers of Baal on top of Mount Carmel. There, you will see who really is the One, True God," the LORD promised. So, up, up, up to the top of dry Mount Carmel went Elijah along with King Ahab, the people of Israel, and the messengers of Baal. It was time for the big showdown.



I4. Elijah gathered them all together and said, "The time has come to see who is the One, True God. If it is Baal, follow him. If it is the LORD, follow Him. I am the only messenger of the LORD here, but Baal has many messengers," Elijah told them. "We will each give a worship gift of a bull to our god. Baal's messengers will give Baal their worship gift; and I will give my worship gift to the LORD," Elijah explained.



15. "But we're going to make this a fight with fire between the LORD and Baal," Elijah said. "We won't light the wood under the worship gifts, like we usually do. We will leave that to the One, True God. We will ask Him to send down fire from heaven to burn up the worship offering," Elijah told them. "This shouldn't be hard for Baal. He's the rain god. He can throw down one of his lightning bolts and set the worship gift on fire," Elijah said. "I will even let the messengers of Baal go first."



16. Everyone agreed. The messengers of Baal took a bull and set it on top of some stones and firewood. Their worship offering was ready. They began shouting their prayers to Baal: "O great Baal, show that you are the One, True God! Accept our worship gift! Send fire to burn it up!" they prayed. Nothing happened at all. But Baal's messengers didn't give up. Next, they tried shouting louder and dancing a worship dance to Baal. But still, nothing happened. On and on, all day, Baal's messengers tried many things; but still no fire came down.



17. At last they gave up. Now, it was Elijah's turn. With twelve, big stones, Elijah rebuilt the altar to the LORD. He put wood. on it, and the bull on top of the wood. He had men pour lots and lots of water over everything to make it even harder to burn up. Then, Elijah prayed to the LORD: "O LORD, let it be known today that You are the God of Israel and that I am Your servant. Answer me that the people may know that You, O LORD, are the One, True God, and that You have turned their hearts back to loving and obeying You."



18. Would the LORD send down fire? Yes, He would! Suddenly, a huge, hot, blaze of fire down from heaven. WHOOSH! It burned up the bull, the wood, the water, the stones, and even the soil. Can you imagine! Fire so hot that it could burn up stones! When all the people saw this, they fell down on their faces and said, "The LORD, He is God; the LORD, He is the One True God!"



19. The people of Israel knew what to do next! They got rid of all those messengers of Baal. They were turning back to worship and obey the LORD! Elijah bowed down low to the ground, with his face between his knees, he prayed to the LORD. At last, it was time for rain.



20. The skies soon grew black with clouds. A great rain began to fall. The people rejoiced! Here was rain that made their crops grow and would give them good food to eat again! And which God did they thank for the rain? They thanked the LORD! Now, it was clear: Baal was only a fake god. The LORD was the One, True God. There was no other God, and there never will be.

## The Case of the Fight with Fire | Kings |8



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #l

I. What was the fight about? Who was the one, true God.

2. Who won the fight? How did He use fire to show He had

won? The LORD won. He sent down fire from heaven and burned up the worship gifts.

For You and Me: The LORD was the one, true God long ago when this story took place. He is STILL the one, true God today! He wants us to know Him and obey Him, just like He wanted the people of Israel to, long ago. How can we do this? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. Ask God to help you! He loves to answer these prayers! Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



#### Psalm 86:8,10, ESV

"There is none like you among the gods, 0 LORD, nor are there any works like yours...For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God."

I. What marvelous thing did the LORD do with fire? He sent down fire from heaven and burned up the worship gifts.

2. Who had to agree that there is no god like the LORD? Everyone!

#### For You and Me:

Everyone was amazed when the LORD sent fire down to burn up the worship gifts and even the rocks around the altar! The people had to agree that there was no god like the LORD. He was the one, true God, then and He is still, today! And the LORD is still doing amazing deeds. The most amazing of all is His offer to be our Savior. Yes! Even though we have all disobeyed Him and deserve His punishment, He offers us His forgiveness and to make us His people. How? When we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to help you! He loves to do this! Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like? He's Not Like Anyone Else... He Is the One, True God!

The people of Israel are not the only people who disobey the LORD and choose to worship other things. We have all chosen to disobey Him. We have all chosen to worship other things besides Him. How we deserve His punishment!

But how kind is the LORD! He offers us forgiveness through His Son, Jesus! Jesus suffered and died on the cross as the perfect payment for the sins of God's people. On the third day, He rose from the dead, showing He had really beaten sin and death.

We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can know special closeness with God in our hearts now.

> And one day, we will go to live with Him forever

# A Prayer

- A We praise You, LORD, that You are the great and awesome God. There is no god like You!
- C LORD, we should love and worship You alone, but many times we choose to worship other gods. We don't live for You. We don't honor and obey You as best and most important. We don't depend on You to take care of us. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- Thank You, LORD, for making us to know and worship You. Thank You for making the way for us to be forgiven of our sins through Jesus. Thank You that now we can know and worship You because of Him.
- S Work in our hearts! Help us to turn away from other things we are tempted to worship. Help us to trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to worship only You! Make us Your people!

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

A= Adoration (God, we praise You!) C=Confession (God, forgive us!) T= Thanksgiving (Thank You, God) S=Supplication (Make us like Jesus!)