

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES



Unit 4,

Bible Truth 4

Story Scene Pictures

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 4: The God Like None Other

Unit Big Question (and Answer): Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like? He's Not Like Anyone Else!

Unit Bible Verse: "O LORD... there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below." 1 Kings 8:23

Bible Truth 4 Concept: He's Not Like Anyone Else... He Is Everywhere, All the Time!

How many places can you be at once? Can you be here with us and out on the playground at the same time? Can you hear what your parents are saying in the kitchen and what the king in a faraway country is saying at the same time? No, you can't and neither can I!

But God is very different from us. He is everywhere, all the time. He is with you and me right here. He is with your friends and family in their homes and at work. He is even with all the people who live far away in other parts of the world... and all at the same time! There is nowhere we can go, where God will not be, too. He sees everything everyone is doing, all the time. He is always there to comfort us, to help us, and to save us, when we trust Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse: Psalm 139:1-3,7-10

"O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar... you are familiar with all my ways... Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast."

Learn a Little: "O LORD... You are familiar with all my ways."

Meaning

These verses tell us that God is everywhere, all the time. There is nowhere we can flee from God's Spirit. Everywhere we are, He is, too. God knows us inside and out. He hears all of our prayers. He will help and protect those who trust in Him, no matter where they are. He will always be guiding them according to His perfect plans. Ask Him to help you trust in Him!

Bible Truth 4 ACTS Prayer

- A** We praise You, God, that You are the great and awesome God. There is no God like you. You are everywhere, all the time. You see everything there is to see. You are always with us.
- C** God, You are always with us. Nothing is hidden from You. We know You see us disobey You every single time. We need a Savior! Please forgive us through Jesus!
- T** Thank You, God, for always being with us wherever we are. Thank You that even when we feel very alone, You are there. We can always turn to You and ask You for help.
- S** Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to live to please You as You watch us. Help us to depend on You to take care of us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Bible Truth 4 Story

The Case of the God Who Would Never Leave *Genesis 27-28*

Songs Used in Bible Truth 4

Big Q & A 4 Song

Big Question 4 Song: Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like?

Inspector Graff's Rap: The ABC's of God

Big Question 4 Bible Verse Song: There Is No God Like You 1 Kings 8:23, NIV 1984

Extra Big Question 4 Bible Verse Song: I Am God Isaiah 46:9,11, NIV 1984

Big Question 4 Hymn: Praise Him, Praise Him, All Ye Little Children

Big Question 4 Praise Song: God Is So Good

Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse Song: Where Can I Go? Psalm 139:7-10, NIV 1984

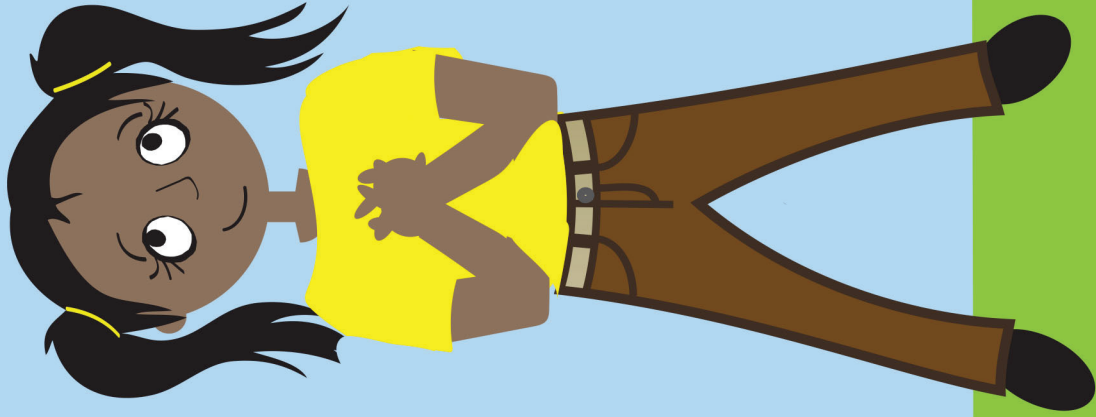
Extra Bible Verse Song: From Heaven the LORD Looks Down Psalm 33:13-14, NIV 1984

listen to or download songs for free at <https://praisefactory.org>: Deep Down Detectives Music page

BIG QUESTION 4



Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like?



ANSWER:

He's Not Like Anyone Else!

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 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: "



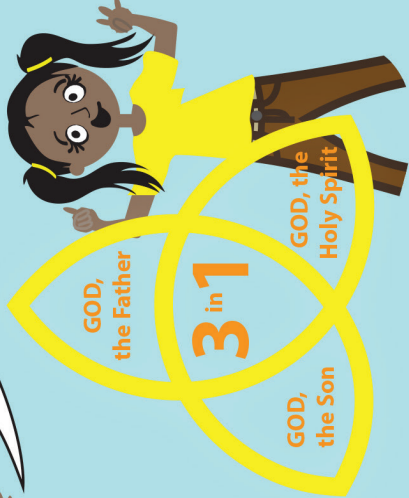

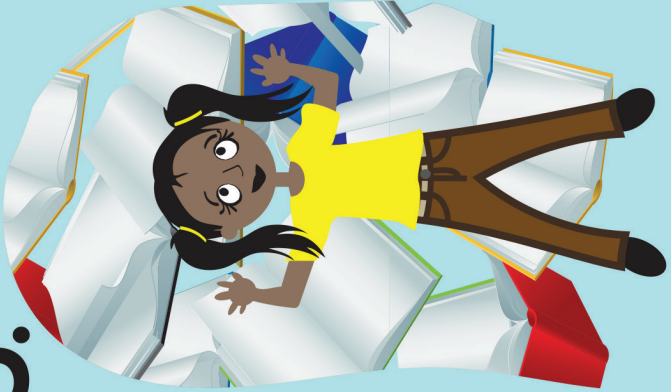
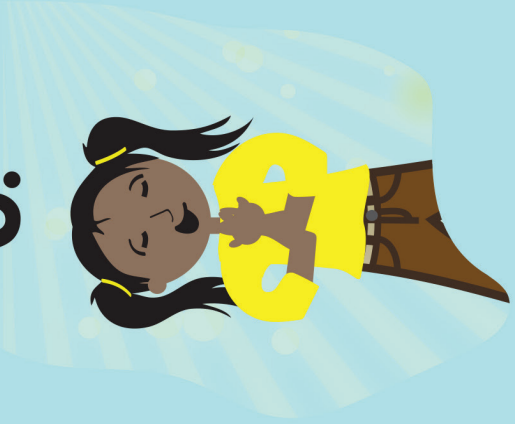


Big Q & A 4 Song

DDD NIV 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.

BIG QUESTION 4: Eight truths about the LORD

- 1.**  **THE LORD**
- 2.**  Only the LORD is God!
- 3.**  GOD, the Father
GOD, the Son
GOD, the Holy Spirit
3 in 1
- 4.** 
- 5.** 
- 6.** 
- 7.** 
- 8.** 

Visual Aid #2 of BQB

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 the 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."

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 three truths about the gospel. They are: "He is a Glorious Spirit", "He Is the One, True God"; and, "He is God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: One God, but Three Persons." (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 4?

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

He Is ???,

All the Time!

HINT: "It's a word that
means all places?
It rhymes with "teddy bear."

ANSWER:

He Is EVERYWHERE, All the Time!

VISUAL

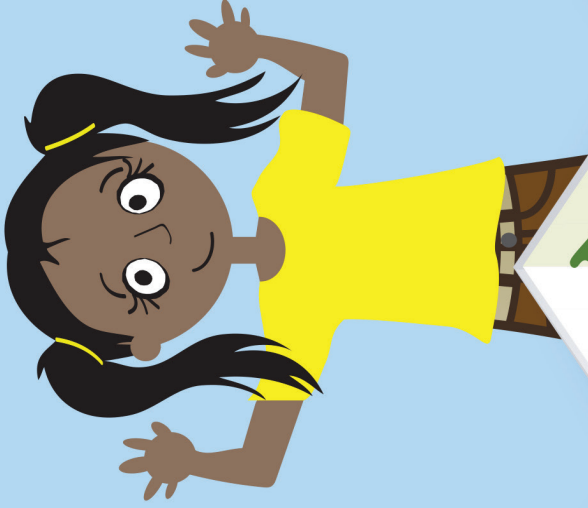
AID

#1



of BQB

take out



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 ????, All the Time!”**

We’re missing one word. Here’s the hint to what the missing word is. It says: “It’s a word that means all places? It rhymes with “teddy bear.”

Can you guess? It’s “Everywhere.”

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 EVERYWHERE, All the Time!”**

And here is what this Bible Truth means:

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

How many places can you be at once? Can you be here with us and out on the playground at the same time? Can you hear what your parents are saying in the kitchen and what the king in a faraway country is saying at the same time? No, you can’t and neither can I!

But God is very different from us. He is everywhere, all the time. He is with you and me right here. He is with your friends and family in their homes and at work. He is even with all the people who live far away in other parts of the world.... and all at the same time! There is nowhere we can go, where God will not be, too. He sees everything everyone is doing, all the time. He is always there to comfort us, to help us, and to save us, when we trust Jesus as our Savior.



“O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar... you are familiar with all my way... Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.”

Psalm 139:1-3, 7-10

Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse

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

Psalm 139:1-3,7-10 tells us:

Psalm 139:1-3,7-10

"O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar... you are familiar with all my way... Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast."

Learn a Little: O LORD... You are familiar with all my ways."

What does that mean?

These verses tell us that God is everywhere, all the time. There is nowhere we can flee from God's Spirit. Everywhere we are, He is, too. God knows us inside and out. He hears all of our prayers. He will help and protect those who trust in Him, no matter where they are. He will always be guiding them according to His perfect plans. Ask Him to help you trust in Him!

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

Where Shall I Go?

Psalm 139:7-10

DDD NIV Songs 4, track 22

Where can I go from your Spirit? (no where!)
Where can I flee from your presence? (no where!)
If I go up to the heavens, you are there,
If I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
If I settle on the far side of the sea,
Even there your hand will guide me,
Your right hand will hold me fast.
Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
Psalm One-thirty-nine, seven through 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 God Who Would Never Leave Genesis 27-28



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who ran away from home? Why?
2. Who was the God who didn't leave him? Why was it so amazing that He didn't leave him?



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Psalms 139:1-3, NIV

"O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar... you are familiar with all my ways."

1. Who went far away from his home?
2. How did the LORD show him that He was still with him, guiding him and helping him?

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

I. Jacob was up to his tricky tricks again, and what big, tricky tricks they were! Jacob had already tricked his big brother, Esau, out of the special, firstborn gift he was supposed to get from their father.

And now, Jacob wanted to trick their father into giving him the special, firstborn-blessing Esau was supposed to get from him, too. But time was running out. Jacob needed to think fast, if he was to get Esau's blessing.



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2. Their father, Isaac, was a very old man now. Soon, he would die. Before he died, Isaac would give each of his sons a blessing.

Isaac called for Esau first. Esau was the oldest son in the family. Isaac would give him the best blessing—the special, firstborn blessing. (That’s what fathers did back then.)

“Esau, come here. I want to give you my special, firstborn blessing,” Isaac told him. “But first, go hunting and bring me back some meat and make it into my favorite stew,” Isaac said.



2. Their father, Isaac, was a very old man now. Soon, he would die. Before he died, Isaac would give each of his sons a blessing. Isaac called for Esau first. Esau was the oldest son in the family. Isaac would give him the best blessing—the special, firstborn blessing. (That’s what fathers did back then.) “Esau, come here. I want to give you my special, firstborn blessing,” Isaac told him. “But first, go hunting and bring me back some meat and make it into my favorite stew,” Isaac said.

3. Esau happily obeyed. He picked up his bow and arrows, and set off across the fields. He hoped God would help him find good food for his father quickly. How he was looking forward to getting that special, firstborn blessing!

Rebekah, their mother, hurried to Jacob with the news. She wanted Jacob to have that best blessing. It would take tricky tricks to get it. Could Rebekah and Jacob trick Isaac into giving Jacob the firstborn blessing instead?



3. Esau happily obeyed. He picked up his bow and arrows, and set off across the fields. He hoped God would help him find good food for his father quickly. How he was looking forward to getting that special, firstborn blessing! Rebekah, their mother, hurried to Jacob with the news. She wanted Jacob to have that best blessing. It would take tricky tricks to get it. Could Rebekah and Jacob trick Isaac into giving Jacob the firstborn blessing instead?

4. This wasn't going to be easy. You see, Esau and Jacob might have been brothers (they were even twins!), but they were very, very different, as their father, Isaac, knew.

Esau had very hairy arms and legs, but Jacob had silky smooth skin. Jacob and Esau's voices were very different, too. Esau loved to work and hunt outdoors. He smelled of the fresh air and the fields. Jacob loved to stay near the family tent. He helped their mother, Rebekah, cook and do other chores, so he smelled more like smoke from the fire and the food they cooked over it.



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5. Yes, it was going to take a very good tricky trick to fool Isaac into thinking Jacob was really Esau.

Before long, they had come up with just the trick... and it all depended on Isaac's bad eyes. Here's what they did: Jacob helped Rebekah make Isaac's favorite stew.

Rebekah helped Jacob dress up in Esau's best clothes. She helped him put hairy goat's fur on his neck and hands. Now, Jacob would have the food Isaac thought Esau would bring. Now, Jacob would smell like Esau and feel hairy like Esau.

Would this be enough to fool father Isaac? Jacob and Rebekah hoped so.



5. Yes, it was going to take a very good tricky trick to fool Isaac into thinking Jacob was really Esau. Before long, they had come up with just the trick... and it all depended on Isaac's bad eyes. Here's what they did: Jacob helped Rebekah make Isaac's favorite stew. Rebekah helped Jacob dress up in Esau's best clothes. She helped him put hairy goat's fur on his neck and hands. Now, Jacob would have the food Isaac thought Esau would bring. Now, Jacob would smell like Esau and feel hairy like Esau. Would this be enough to fool father Isaac? Jacob and Rebekah hoped so.

6. While Esau was still hunting far from the tents, Jacob put his tricky trick into action. He filled up a bowl with his mother's yummy goat stew. He went to his father, pretending to be his brother: "Here I am, father. It's your son, Esau," Jacob lied.



6. While Esau was still hunting far from the tents, Jacob put his tricky trick into action. He filled up a bowl with his mother's yummy goat stew. He went to his father, pretending to be his brother: "Here I am, father. It's your son, Esau," Jacob lied.

7. Jacob thought this was odd: “Hmmm... Esau has come back from hunting very quickly! Too quickly. And this voice. It doesn’t sound like Esau. It sounds like Jacob! Could this be Jacob, up to another of his tricky tricks?” Isaac wondered.

“Are you really my son, Esau?” Isaac asked the son standing before him.

“Yes, Father, it is I,” Jacob lied. “The LORD helped me get some meat quickly. Eat your delicious stew and bless me. Please, bless me!”



7. Jacob thought this was odd: "Hmmm... Esau has come back from hunting very quickly! Too quickly. And this voice. It doesn't sound like Esau. It sounds like Jacob! Could this be Jacob, up to another of his tricky tricks?" Isaac wondered. "Are you really my son, Esau?" Isaac asked the son standing before him. "Yes, Father, it is I," Jacob lied. "The LORD helped me get some meat quickly. Eat your delicious stew and bless me. Please, bless me!"

8. Something still didn't seem right to Isaac. Since his old eyes didn't work very well, Isaac decided to use his nose and hands to make sure this was really Esau.

Isaac stretched out his arm and placed it on his son. He felt lots of hair. Yes, this felt like Esau all right! Then, Isaac leaned over to kiss his son and smell his clothes. They smelled like the outdoors. Yes, this son certainly smelled like Esau.

Now, Isaac was sure. This really WAS Esau! So, Isaac stretched out his arm, put his hand on his son's head, and gave him the special, firstborn blessing.



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q. Ha! Jacob's tricky trick had worked! Their father had given him the best blessing! How pleased Jacob was, as he hurried away from Isaac's tent!

Jacob was very happy, but soon, there was SOMEONE ELSE who wasn't happy at all. SOMEONE who came back from hunting and went to his father with his favorite stew, only to find out that his brother had already been there with his tricky trick. Can you guess who it was? It was Esau... the REAL Esau!



9. Ha! Jacob's tricky trick had worked! Their father had given him the best blessing! How pleased Jacob was, as he hurried away from Isaac's tent!

Jacob was very happy, but soon, there was **SOMEONE ELSE** who wasn't happy at all. **SOMEONE** who came back from hunting and went to his father with his favorite stew, only to find out that his brother had already been there with his tricky trick. Can you guess who it was? It was Esau... the **REAL Esau!**

10. Esau was FURIOUS! Jacob had already tricked him out of their father's firstborn gift. And now, Jacob had tricked him out of their father's special, firstborn blessing, too! BOTH of their father's best gifts, that should have been his, were both GONE!

So, now it was Esau's turn for a tricky trick. As soon as old, father Isaac died, Esau would get rid of Jacob and take back those best gifts for himself! That would take care of Jacob, once and for all!



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II. There was only one thing Jacob could do: run away. But, to where?

Rebekah had an idea: “Run away to the faraway country where my family lives. They will take care of you, and you can find a wife there,” she told Jacob. Isaac agreed. This was the best plan.



II. There was only one thing Jacob could do: run away. But, to where? Rebekah had an idea: “Run away to the faraway country where my family lives. They will take care of you, and you can find a wife there,” she told Jacob. Isaac agreed. This was the best plan.

12. Jacob packed up his little bundle of things and set off at once.



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13. The trip to Rebekah's family was long and hard. Jacob had to walk many days through the lonely wilderness to get there. The good, green hills became dusty, dry land, the farther away Jacob travelled. Each day, the hot sun beat down on him. Each day, he had to find his own water and food. And each day, he could easily get lost in all that wilderness.



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14. The nights could be as hard as the days. It was so very dark and Jacob was so all alone. The desert-y wilderness could be windy and cold at night. The ground was bumpy and hard. Jacob had only a rock for a pillow and his coat for a blanket. Ooh... ouch... brrrr... Cover up, Jacobi!

The desert-y wilderness was home to lots of creepy, crawly bugs. Spiders, scorpions and other little wiggling, biting creatures that could wriggle their way up inside his clothes and bite him as he lay on the ground. Wriggle... wriggle... nip... nip... snap... snap... Watch out, Jacobi!



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15. Danger could be anywhere. There were lions and bears and other creatures around. These were animals with hungry tummies and sharp teeth. They prowled around in the dark, looking for food to eat. Roar... growl... chomp, chomp... Hide, Jacob! There might even be bad guys who could sneak up on Jacob and take his bundle of things. Whoo, whoo... ha, ha! Beware, Jacob!

Jacob had never been away from home like this before, so very all alone, in the middle of nowhere. Who would be with him, as he traveled so far from home? Could anyone help him?



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Jacob had never been away from home like this before, so very all alone, in the middle of nowhere. Who would be with him, as he traveled so far from home? Could anyone help him?

16. Yes, there was Someone who could. The LORD! He is the God who is everywhere, all the time.

The LORD had been there and seen Jacob trick their father and take his brother's special firstborn blessing. The LORD had been there and seen when Esau wanted to kill Jacob and Jacob had to run away. And now, the LORD was right there, out in that deep, dark wilderness, where Jacob camped that night.



16. Yes, there was Someone who could. The LORD! He is the God who is everywhere, all the time. The LORD had been there and seen Jacob trick their father and take his brother's special firstborn blessing. The LORD had been there and seen when Esau wanted to kill Jacob and Jacob had to run away. And now, the LORD was right there, out in that deep, dark wilderness, where Jacob camped that night.

17. Now, Jacob's tricky tricks were very bad things. Jacob deserved nothing but the LORD's punishment for them. After all, the LORD is good. He hates wrong-doing... and Jacob had most certainly done wrong!

But the LORD is also so very kind and merciful to sinners, even sinners like Jacob. And many times, the LORD takes very bad things and does very good things, things that we could never, ever deserve.

And so it was that the LORD chose to be very kind and merciful to Jacob. The LORD chose to use the bad things that Jacob did to do some very good things. Things that would one day bring good to all people, everywhere... even to people like you and me.



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18. So right there, in the middle of nowhere, in that deep darkness, on that cold ground, with that hard, rock pillow. Right there, with those bugs wriggling, those wild animals prowling, (and maybe even bad guys lurking), the LORD helped Jacob fall asleep. And as Jacob slept, the LORD gave him a dream about the good things He would do through Jacob and his family.



18. So right there, in the middle of nowhere, in that deep darkness, on that cold ground, with that hard, rock pillow. Right there, with those bugs wriggling, those wild animals prowling, (and maybe even bad guys lurking), the LORD helped Jacob fall asleep. And as Jacob slept, the LORD gave him a dream about the good things He would do through Jacob and his family.

19. In his dream, Jacob saw a VERY tall ladder. It was so tall that it stretched from the ground, all the way up to heaven.

**And who did Jacob see climbing up and down that giant ladder?
Lots of God's angels! Amazing! But even more amazing than all those
angels ON the ladder, was who Jacob saw at the very TOP of the
ladder in heaven: it was the LORD!**



19. In his dream, Jacob saw a VERY tall ladder. It was so tall that it stretched from the ground, all the way up to heaven. And who did Jacob see climbing up and down that giant ladder? Lots of God's angels! Amazing! But even more amazing than all those angels ON the ladder, was who Jacob saw at the very TOP of the ladder in heaven: it was the LORD!

20. In the dream, the LORD spoke to Jacob: “I am the LORD, the God of your father, Isaac, and your grandfather, Abraham. I made big promises to them, and now I’m making them to you, too.”

“The land you are sleeping on, I will give to you and all your family after you. Your family is going to grow and grow and grow until it’s so big, you can’t even count everyone.

“And one day, I will bless the whole world through your family.” the LORD said. (The LORD was promising the Savior, Jesus, to be born into Jacob’s family one day. He would be the blessing to the whole world.)



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21. “Jacob, you may be far away from your family, all alone in the dark; but, I am with you,” the LORD told him. “I will take care of you wherever you go. I will bring you back to this land one day. I will do everything I’ve promised you,” the LORD said to Jacob.

Jacob woke up from the dream. He was excited and a little scared. “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it. How awesome it is! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven,” he exclaimed.



21. “Jacob, you may be far away from your family, all alone in the dark; but, I am with you,” the LORD told him. “I will take care of you wherever you go. I will bring you back to this land one day. I will do everything I’ve promised you,” the LORD said to Jacob.

Jacob woke up from the dream. He was excited and a little scared. “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it. How awesome it is! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven,” he exclaimed.

22. Jacob never wanted to forget what had happened that night. So the next morning, he took the stone that had been his pillow and he stood it up on end like a tower. Then he poured oil on the stone as a sign that God had done something special. He named the place, “Bethel,” which means “House of God.”



22. Jacob never wanted to forget what had happened that night. So the next morning, he took the stone that had been his pillow and he stood it up on end like a tower. Then he poured oil on the stone as a sign that God had done something special. He named the place, "Bethel," which means "House of God."

23. Then, Jacob made a big promise to the LORD:

“If You will be with me and will keep me as I go far away from home. If You will give me food to eat and clothes to wear, so that I come home one day to my father’s house safely, and with no one mad at me, then You shall be my God. And this stone, which I have set up as a tower, shall be a special place where people come to worship You and meet with You. And I will give You worship gifts from everything You give me.” Jacob promised.

The LORD was pleased with Jacob’s promise and accepted it.



23. Then, Jacob made a big promise to the LORD: "If You will be with me and will keep me as I go far away from home. If You will give me food to eat and clothes to wear, so that I come home one day to my father's house safely, and with no one mad at me, then You shall be my God. And this stone, which I have set up as a tower, shall be a special place where people come to worship You and meet with You. And I will give You worship gifts from everything You give me," Jacob promised. The LORD was pleased with Jacob's promise and accepted it.

24. Then Jacob picked up his bundle and went on his way.

Day after day, he traveled on through the desert-y wilderness-- under the hot sun, looking for food and water, and trusting that he wasn't lost. Night after night, he lay down in the deep darkness, on the cold ground, with the creepy, crawlies wriggling, the growling, animals prowling, and maybe even the bad guys lurking near by.

Jacob went farther and farther away from home and everything he had known, but now everything was better. Why?



24. Then, Jacob picked up his bundle and went on his way. Day after day, he traveled on through the desert-y wilderness--under the hot sun, looking for food and water, and trusting that he wasn't lost. Night after night, he lay down in the deep darkness, on the cold ground, with the creepy, crawlies wriggling, the growling, animals prowling, and maybe even the bad guys lurking near by. Jacob went farther and farther away from home and everything he had known, but now everything was better. Why?

25. Now, Jacob knew who was with him: the LORD, the God who was everywhere, all the time. HE was always with Jacob. HE would make sure Jacob had everything he needed. HE would keep all of His promises to Jacob.

And He did! The LORD helped Jacob get all the way to his mother's family in the faraway country. He blessed Jacob with a big family and many good things. He worked inside Jacob, too. He changed Jacob into a man who loved Him and trusted in Him.

And at just the right time, the LORD led Jacob and his family safely home. Even Esau was happy to see him!



25. Now, Jacob knew who was with him: the LORD, the God who was everywhere, all the time. HE was always with Jacob. HE would make sure Jacob had everything he needed. HE would keep all of His promises to Jacob. And He did! The LORD helped Jacob get all the way to his mother's family in the faraway country. He blessed Jacob with a big family and many good things. He worked inside Jacob, too. He changed Jacob into a man who loved Him and trusted in Him. And at just the right time, the LORD led Jacob and his family safely home. Even Esau was happy to see him!

26. God also kept His promise to bless all peoples through Jacob's family. At just the right time, Jesus, God's Son, was born --Jacob's great, great, etc. grandson.

He was called Emmanuel, God with us. He came to give us the greatest blessing of all: forgiveness of our sins, when we turn from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior.

If we do, the LORD will be OUR God who is with US, everywhere, all the time, bringing good to us. No matter where we go or what we do, He will be right there with us: loving us, taking care of us, and working inside of our hearts, helping us to love Him and trust in Him.

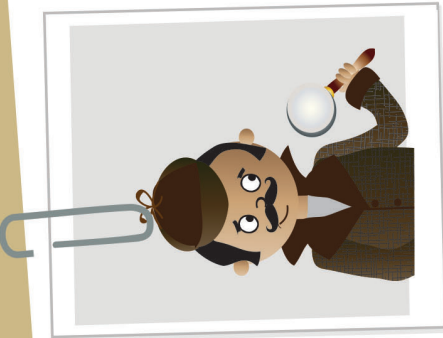
How kind the LORD has been to us through Jacob and his family!



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Simple Story Scenes DDD 4.4

The Case of the God Who Would Never Leave Genesis 27-28



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who ran away from home? Why? Jacob ran away from home because he cheated his brother out of their father's special blessing.
2. Who was the God who didn't leave him? Why was it so amazing that He didn't leave him? The LORD was the God who didn't leave Jacob because the LORD hates that the LORD didn't leave Jacob had done very a bad thing by wrong-doing (sin) and Jacob had done very a bad thing by tricking his father to get the special, firstborn blessing.

For You and Me:
Isn't the LORD amazing! He is good and He hates wrong-doing (sin); but, He is so merciful, too. The LORD stayed with Jacob and promised to bless him. He changed Jacob into a man who loved Him and lived for Him. The LORD even used Jacob to bless us, too. How? By sending Jesus through Jacob's family to be the Savior for the sins of God's people. When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus, the LORD will forgive our sins, too. He will make us His special people who He will bless every day of our lives. And one day, He will take us to live with Him forever. That will be the greatest blessing of all!

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Psalms 139:1-3, NIV

"O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar... you are familiar with all my ways."

1. Who went far away from his home? Jacob did.
2. How did the LORD show him that He was still with him, guiding him and helping him? The LORD helped Jacob find the way to the country where his mother used to live. He took care of Jacob while he lived there, and then He brought Jacob back home. He worked inside of Jacob, changing him into a man who loved and trusted in Him. He helped Esau forgive Jacob, and He blessed Jacob with all of the good things He promised him.

For You and Me:

The LORD knew Jacob's thoughts. He was familiar with all of his ways. He knew Jacob was a sinner and did not deserve His loving-kindness. But the LORD treated Jacob better than he deserved. The LORD loved Jacob and helped him. He took care of his needs and changed his life into one that wanted to love and obey Him. Like Jacob, we are sinners, too. The LORD offers His loving-kindness to us, too. He wants us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. He can be the God who is taking care of us as His special people, everywhere, all the time, too. Ask Him to help you!

Simple Story Scenes DDD 4.4

Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like?
He's Not Like Anyone Else...
He Is Everywhere, All the Time!

The Gospel

Jacob deserved God's punishment for his sins, but God forgave him and became Jacob's God. God changed Jacob's heart and took care of him his whole life.

God promised to bless all peoples through Jacob's family. He did this through Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life and gave it up as the full payment for sins when He died on the cross. On the third day, He rose from the dead, showing He had beaten sin and death for God's people.

Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior are saved! They are God's special people, and He will be with them, doing them good, everywhere they go. He will help and care for them each day, then bring them home to live in heaven with Him forever. We can be God's people, too,

by trusting in
Jesus as
our Savior!



A Prayer

A We praise You, God, that You are the great and awesome God. There is no god like you. You are everywhere, all the time. You see everything there is to see.

C God, You ARE always with us. You DO see everything. Nothing is hidden from You. We know You see us every time we disobey You We need a Savior! Please forgive us through Jesus!

T Thank You, God, for always being with us wherever we are. Thank You that even when we feel very alone, You are there. We can always turn to You and ask You for help.

S Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to live to please You as You watch us. Help us to depend on You to take care of us.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Simple Story Scenes DDD 4.4

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES



Unit 4,

Bible Truth 5

Story Scene Pictures

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 4: The God Like None Other

Unit Big Question (and Answer): Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like? He's Not Like Anyone Else!

Unit Bible Verse: "O LORD... there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below." 1 Kings 8:23

Bible Truth 5 Concept: He's Not Like Anyone Else... He Knows Everything There Is to Know!

God knows everything. He knows everything about the world. He knows everything that has happened and everything that will happen. He knows everything about us, too. He knows everything we do and say. He even knows everything we are thinking in our hearts. There is nothing about us that is hidden from God, good or bad.

God even knows every one of our sins. He knows we deserve His punishment and He has provided us with a Savior—Jesus! When we tell God our sins and turn to live for Him and trust in Jesus as our Savior, He will forgive us and make us His dearly loved people. Then we can know and love God in the wonderful special closeness that He made us to enjoy with Him.

Bible Truth 5 Bible Verse: Daniel 2:20

"Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his."

Learn a Little: "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever."

Meaning

God is the good king and creator of us all. God's people love to praise Him and tell Him how great He is. These verses tell us that the LORD is the God who knows everything there is to know. He is completely wise. There is nothing that can be hidden from Him. He is the one who gives wisdom to make wise people wise.

Bible Truth 5 ACTS Prayer

- A** We praise You, God. You know everything there is to know. There is nothing anyone can hide from You. There is nothing You need to learn. You know it already. There is no one like You!
- C** God, You know everything we think, say and do. You know that we have all chosen to disobey You. Please forgive our sins. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for using everything You know for Your good plans. Thank You that we can trust You to take care of us and always do what's best.
- S** Work in our hearts, God. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to trust You even more. Help us to be happy with what Your plans since You know everything and always do what's best. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Bible Truth 5 Story

The Case of the Missing Donkeys *1 Samuel 9*

Songs Used in Bible Truth 5

Big Q & A 4 Song

Big Question 4 Song: Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like?

Inspector Graff's Rap: The ABC's of God

Big Question 4 Bible Verse Song: There Is No God Like You 1 Kings 8:23, NIV 1984

Extra Big Question 4 Bible Verse Song: I Am God Isaiah 46:9,11, NIV 1984

Big Question 4 Hymn: Praise Him, Praise Him, All Ye Little Children

Big Question 4 Praise Song: God Is So Good

Bible Truth 5 Bible Verse Song: Praise Be the Name of God Daniel 2:20-22, NIV 1984

listen to or download songs for free at <https://praisefactory.org>: Deep Down Detectives Music page

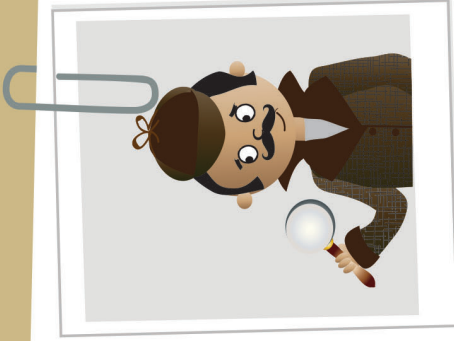
The Case of the Lost Donkeys | Samuel 9

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1



1. Who lost their donkeys?
2. What good, big plan did the LORD use the lost donkeys to bring about?

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



Daniel 2:20, NIV

"Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his."

1. What stranger did the LORD tell Samuel to prepare the for?
2. Why did Samuel trust the LORD to know when this stranger would come to his town?

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

I. Kish had a problem. Some of his animals were missing... animals that were worth a lot!

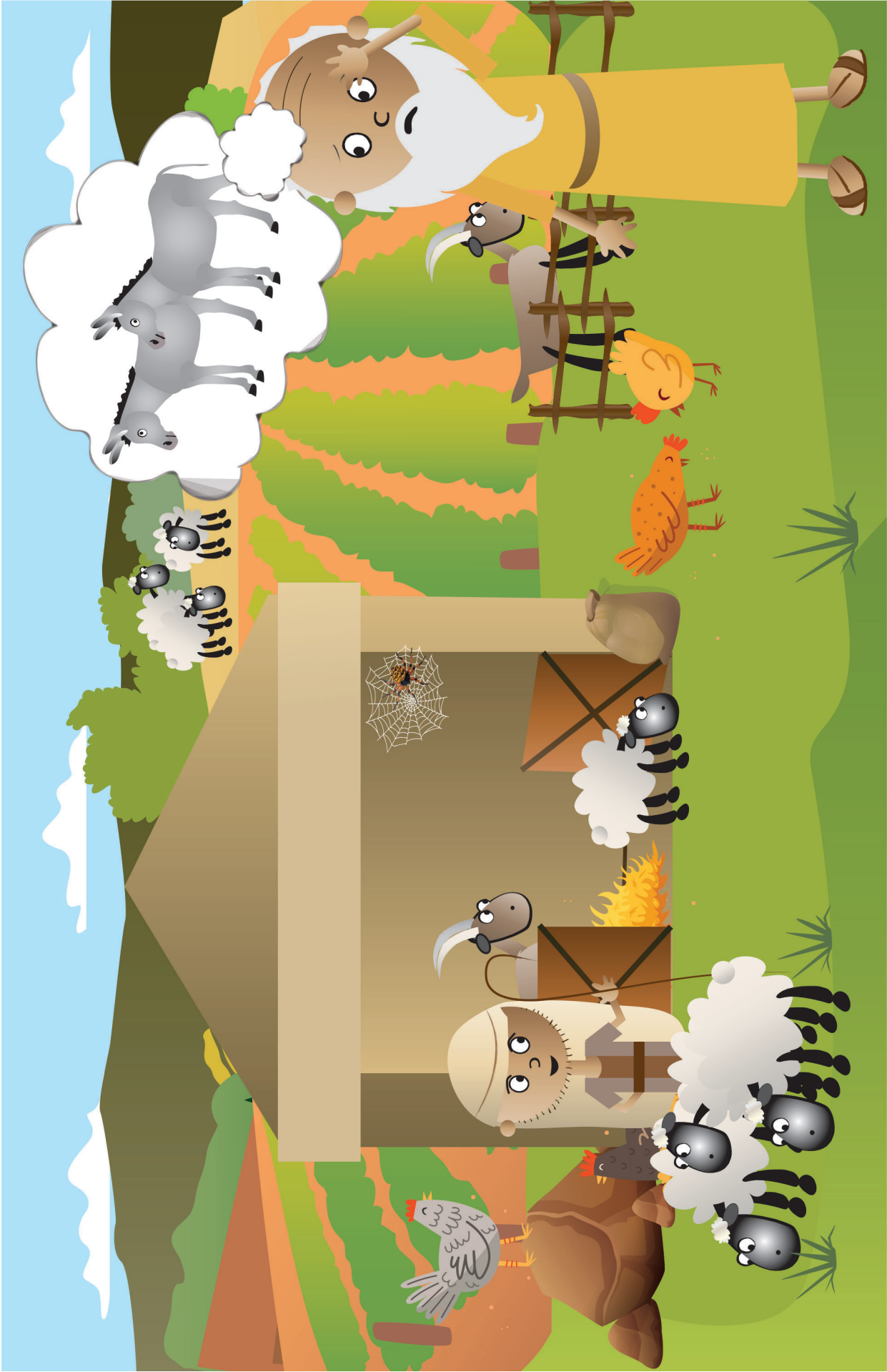
It wasn't his chickens. It wasn't his sheep or goats. It was another kind of animal--the kind that he used to pull his wagon and ride on, like we would use a truck or car. Can you guess what kind of animals were missing?



I. Kish had a problem. Some of his animals were missing... animals that were worth a lot! It wasn't his chickens. It wasn't his sheep or goats. It was another kind of animal--the kind that he used to pull his wagon and ride on, like we would use a truck or car. Can you guess what kind of animals were missing?

2. Kish was missing his donkeys! He looked everywhere for them.

He looked all over his farm, but no donkeys. He looked in the stable, but no donkeys. He looked in the fields, no donkeys there either. He looked faraway to the hills, but still no donkeys!



2. Kish was missing his donkeys! He looked everywhere for them. He looked all over his farm, but no donkeys. He looked in the stable, but no donkeys. He looked in the fields, no donkeys there either. He looked faraway to the hills, but still no donkeys!

3. Kish's donkeys were lost, there was no doubt about that now. He just had to find them! So, Kish made a plan. He would send his son, Saul, and a servant to look for them.

“Saul, take one of the servants and go look for the donkeys,” Kish told Saul.

Saul obeyed and soon he and the servant were on their way in search of the lost donkeys. Where could they be?



3. Kish's donkeys were lost, there was no doubt about that now. He just had to find them! So, Kish made a plan. He would send his son, Saul, and a servant to look for them. "Saul, take one of the servants and go look for the donkeys," Kish told Saul. Saul obeyed and soon he and the servant were on their way in search of the lost donkeys. Where could they be?

4. For three, long days, Saul and the servant walked and looked.

They climbed up hills and searched there, but no donkeys. They walked down into valleys of green grass and searched there, but no donkeys. They looked by sparkling streams of cool water, too. These were the places donkeys liked to go. But still, there were no donkeys!

Where WERE those donkeys? Kish didn't know. Saul and the servant didn't know. Did anyone know?



4. For three, long days, Saul and the servant walked and looked. They climbed up hills and searched there, but no donkeys. They walked down into valleys of green grass and searched there, but no donkeys. They looked by sparkling streams of cool water, too. These were the places donkeys liked to go. But still, there were no donkeys! Where WERE those donkeys? Kish didn't know. Saul and the servant didn't know. Did anyone know?

5. Yes, someone DID know-- the LORD! He is the God who knows everything there is to know. He knew exactly where those donkeys had gone off to. And not only did the LORD know exactly where the donkeys were, He even planned for something very good to happen to Saul as he looked for them.

The LORD had planned to use this little journey looking for donkeys to put Saul in just the right place, with just the right person, to make Saul the first king of Israel. And the LORD was going to do all of this without Saul knowing even one, little bit of His good, big plan!



5. Yes, someone DID know-- the LORD! He is the God who knows everything there is to know. He knew exactly where those donkeys had gone off to. And not only did the LORD know exactly where the donkeys were, He even planned for something very good to happen to Saul as he looked for them. The LORD had planned to use this little journey looking for donkeys to put Saul in just the right place, with just the right person, to make Saul the first king of Israel. And the LORD was going to do all of this without Saul knowing even one, little bit of His good, big plan!

6. Saul didn't know about God's plans yet, but a man named Samuel did. Samuel was a prophet--one of the LORD's special messengers. The LORD had told Samuel about Saul and His plans to make him king.

"Samuel, tomorrow the man I've chosen to be king over Israel is coming to Zuph. He will lead the people in fighting off their enemies, the Philistines. I want you to pour the special anointing oil on his head and make him king over Israel," the LORD told him.



6. Saul didn't know about God's plans yet, but a man named Samuel did. Samuel was a prophet--one of the LORD's special messengers. The LORD had told Samuel about Saul and His plans to make him king. "Samuel, tomorrow the man I've chosen to be king over Israel is coming to Zuph. He will lead the people in fighting off their enemies, the Philistines. I want you to pour the special anointing oil on his head and make him king over Israel," the LORD told him.

7. This was big news! The LORD had chosen a man to lead the people against their enemies. And, this man was coming to Zuph to be anointed king, the very next day!

A worship feast to the LORD was planned. Samuel and Saul would be there for it. Up in the hills, they would offer worship gifts to the LORD, and would honor Saul with a fine dinner. There was so much to do in so little time! There were guests to invite. There were worship gifts to buy. There was the table to set for the feast, and all of the good food to prepare.



7. This was big news! The LORD had chosen a man to lead the people against their enemies. And, this man was coming to Zuph to be anointed king, the very next day! A worship feast to the LORD was planned. Samuel and Saul would be there for it. Up in the hills, they would offer worship gifts to the LORD, and would honor Saul with a fine dinner. There was so much to do in so little time! There were guests to invite. There were worship gifts to buy. There was the table to set for the feast, and all of the good food to prepare.

8. At last, everything was ready. The worship gifts were offered, and the guests gathered in the dining hall up at the worship place. The delicious food was set out on plates.

It looked like it was time for the feast to begin, but it couldn't. Something --really, someONE-- was missing. It was Saul, the special guest, himself! After all, no one had told HIM about the worship feast. No one had told HIM he was going to be anointed king of Israel. He was just out looking for lost donkeys.



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q. It seemed silly to think that Saul would show up at the worship feast that night, don't you think? I

guess it WOULD be silly, except that this was the LORD's plan, and He is the God who knows everything there is to know. If HE said that Saul would be there, then Saul would be there. Samuel was sure of that.

And sure enough, just as Samuel was on his way up to join the guests at the feast, who should be looking for him at the city gates? You guessed it! Saul and his servant!

"This is the man I told you about," the LORD told Samuel. "The man I've chosen to be king."



9. It seemed silly to think that Saul would show up at the worship feast that night, don't you think? I guess it **WOULD** be silly, except that this was the LORD's plan, and He is the God who knows everything there is to know. If HE said that Saul would be there, then Saul would be there. Samuel was sure of that. And sure enough, just as Samuel was on his way up to join the guests at the feast, who should be looking for him at the city gates? You guessed it! Saul and his servant! "This is the man I told you about," the LORD told Samuel. "The man I've chosen to be king."

10. Saul went up to Samuel and said, “My servant says you are a great man of God and God tells you things. Can you tell me where my father’s donkeys are?”

“Don’t worry about your father’s donkeys,” Samuel told Saul.

“They’ve been found. They are back at home. Go with me to the worship feast up in the hills. Sit at the most important place. Eat the best food. I’ve been waiting for you to come,” Samuel said.



10. Saul went up to Samuel and said, "My servant says you are a great man of God and God tells you things. Can you tell me where my father's donkeys are?"

"Don't worry about your father's donkeys," Samuel told Saul. "They've been found. They are back at home. Go with me to the worship feast up in the hills. Sit at the most important place. Eat the best food. I've been waiting for you to come," Samuel said.

II. Saul didn't understand why Samuel had been waiting for him, but he didn't complain. He went with Saul up to the worship place and took the place of honor next to Samuel. He enjoyed the good food and the worship feast. And what a feast it was! Why, Samuel had even saved the very best piece of meat for Him! Yum!



II. Saul didn't understand why Samuel had been waiting for him, but he didn't complain. He went with Saul up to the worship place and took the place of honor next to Samuel. He enjoyed the good food and the worship feast. And what a feast it was! Why, Samuel had even saved the very best piece of meat for HIM! Yum!

12. After dinner, Samuel took Saul and his servant to his house for the night. He made them a bed on the roof, and there, they slept out under the stars.



12. After dinner, Samuel took Saul and his servant to his house for the night. He made them a bed on the roof, and there, they slept out under the stars.

13. At sunrise, Samuel woke Saul and his servant. “Get up, so I may send you on your way,” Samuel told them.

Samuel walked with them out of town. “Send your servant on ahead, Saul. I have something important from God to tell you alone,” Samuel said. Saul and his servant obeyed.



13. At sunrise, Samuel woke Saul and his servant. "Get up, so I may send you on your way," Samuel told them. Samuel walked with them out of town. "Send your servant on ahead, Saul. I have something important from God to tell you alone," Samuel said. Saul and his servant obeyed.

14. When the servant had passed ahead of them, Samuel took out his jar of anointing oil and poured it on Saul's head. He kissed Saul, then said, "I have poured this oil on your head as a sign that you are to be king of Israel. The LORD has chosen you of all men. You will rule over them and you will rescue them from the enemies who live in the lands around them. In a few days, we will tell all the people. But for now, keep this a secret."



14. When the servant had passed ahead of them, Samuel took out his jar of anointing oil and poured it on Saul's head. He kissed Saul, then said, "I have poured this oil on your head as a sign that you are to be king of Israel. The LORD has chosen you of all men. You will rule over them and you will rescue them from the enemies who live in the lands around them. In a few days, we will tell all the people. But for now, keep this a secret."

15. What a lot Saul had to think about as he went home with his servant! The LORD had planned to use those lost donkeys to make him king over Israel! And, the LORD had told Samuel what he would do and where he would go, even before he did it!

How could the LORD do this? Because He is the God who knows everything there is to know! He is like no one else. How amazing is the LORD!



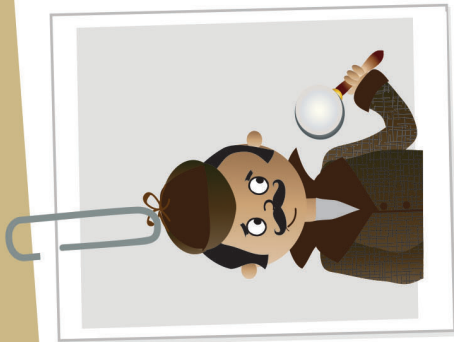
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Simple Story Scenes DDD 4.5

The Case of the Lost Donkeys | Samuel 9

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who lost their donkeys?
Kish did.
2. What good, big plan did the LORD use the lost donkeys to bring about?
His plan to make Saul king over the people.

For You and Me:
The LORD still knows everything there is to know and He still weaves His good plans into everything that happens to us and to this world. We can always trust the promises that He gives us in His Word, the Bible. We can always trust Him to carry out His good plans.



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Daniel 2:20, NIV

"Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his."

1. What stranger did the LORD tell Samuel to prepare for?
Saul.
2. Why did Samuel trust the LORD to know when this stranger would come to his town? Samuel knew that the LORD was the God who knows everything there is to know. All wisdom (and power) are His. Samuel knew that if the LORD planned for Saul to come, then Saul would most definitely come. And so, he did!

For You and Me:
The LORD still knows everything there is to know and He still weaves His good plans into everything that happens to us and to this world. We can always trust the promises that He gives us in His Word, the Bible. We can always trust Him to carry out His good plans, even when we don't understand how and when He will carry them out.

Simple Story Scenes DDD 4.5

Can Anybody Tell Me What the LORD Is Like?
He's Not Like Anyone Else...
He Knows Everything There Is to Know!

The Gospel

Sometimes it is scary that God knows everything about us. We can hide some of the bad things we think or say or do from others, but we can't hide anything from God. We know that He hates sin and He will punish sin. We know that we all deserve His punishment because we have all chosen to sin.

But God is so kind to us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to live a perfect life and to offer it as full payment for the sins of God's people. Jesus died on the cross, then He rose from the dead on the third day, proving He had really beaten sin and death for them.

We can be God's people, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. He loves to help us do this! Ask Him to help you!



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A Prayer

A We praise You, God. You know everything there is to know. There is nothing anyone can hide from You. There is nothing You need to learn. You know it already. There is no one like You!

C God, You know everything we think, say and do. You know that we have all chosen to disobey You. Please forgive our sins. We need a Savior!

T Thank You for using everything You know for Your good plans. Thank You that we can trust You to take care of us and always do what's best.

S Work in our hearts, God. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to trust You more every day. Help us to be happy with Your plans, since You know everything and always do what's best.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



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