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 9:

What Did Jesus Come to Do? and the Answer is: Jesus Came to Bring Us to God!

Meaning:

In the beginning, God created the world perfect. What a wonderful, special closeness people enjoyed with Him! Yes, it was "Perfect Wonderfulness" knowing God and living in His world. It could have stayed that way forever... but it did not. All of this perfection was broken when people disobeyed God. The big Bible word for disobeying God is "sin."

When we look around us we can see the sadness that sin brought into God's good world. So much in this world is not perfect or wonderful anymore! We've lost the special closeness with God, too. Yes, when sin came into the world, it spoiled so many things.

But would all this sin and sadness last forever? People certainly deserved for it to. After all, they had turned away from God. Now people deserved His punishment, not His love.

But God treats us so much better than we deserve! From the beginning, He had an amazing plan to bring sinful people like us back to Himself. How? He promised to send a Savior. That Savior was Jesus, God's own Son. Jesus lived a perfect life, then He gave it up as the full payment for sins as He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, showing He had really done it--He had beaten sin and death for God's people! We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, we will get to know God in our hearts; and one day, we will get to go live with God and enjoy all of His Perfect Wonderfulness forever!

Let's sing our Big Question Song: "

Big Q & A 9 Song

DDD NIV Songs 9, track 12 (adapted version of "This Old Man")

What did Jesus come to do? What did Jesus come to do? Jesus came to bring us to God. That's what Jesus came to do!

SIN Jesus Forgiven Life

Visual take out





DDD 9 Unit All Bible Truths--Front

This Unit's Bible Truths

"Jesus Came to Bring Us to God" 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 SIX Bible truths that all tell us more about Jesus.

Who would like to hand me the picture with our six 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 six truths they will be learning.

After everyone has had a good look say...

"Ok, now let's look at our Bible Truth Clue sign and see if we can figure out which of these six 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 !?

What did Jesus come to do?

Jesus came to bring us to God...

He left His home in ????? to save us!

HINT: "Jesus' home is where the angels live. It starts with an "h" and it rhymes with "seven."



He left His home in <u>HEAVEN</u> to save us!

DDD 9.1 Bible Truth 1--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:

"What Did Jesus Come to Do?
Jesus Came to Bring Us to God!
He Left His Home in ???? to Save Us!"

We're missing one word. Here's the hint to what the missing word is. It says: "Jesus' home is where the angels live. It starts with an "h" and it rhymes with "seven.""

Can you guess? It's "heaven."

So the Bible Truth we are learning today is:

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

"What Did Jesus Come to Do?
Jesus Came to Bring Us to God!
He Left His Home in Heaven to Save Us!"

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

Jesus is God's Son. He has always lived in heaven with God, the Father and God, the Holy Spirit. Life with God, the Father and God, the Holy Spirit was Perfect Wonderfulness-- the closest, most wonderful love. Jesus was full of the bright, shininess of the glory of God. He enjoyed all of the riches of heaven and the praise of all the angels.

But Jesus chose to leave His wonderful home in heaven. He came to earth, born a baby boy. Jesus was still God, just like before; but, now He was a human, too. Life as a human wasn't anything like life in heaven. There were so many people who did not love or know God. There was so much sin and death all around Him. Jesus felt the difference inside of Himself, too. He had never known any limits in heaven, as God, the Son. But this human body He had was so weak and small. It needed sleep. It got cold and hungry and thirsty. Yes, life on earth was so very different than life in heaven.

So why DID Jesus choose to leave behind all the wonderful things of heaven and come to earth? Because God loved us and wanted to save us. Only Jesus' perfect life could be the full payment for our sins. Only He could make the way for us to become God's dearly-loved people. Jesus knew this. He wanted fulfill His Father's amazing plan. So He came, and suffered, and died on the cross. On the third day, He rose from the dead in victory. He had saved God's people! And by doing this very difficult and very painful thing for us, Jesus also showed to the whole world just how very deep is God's love for His people. We, too, can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus, this wonderful Savior, ourselves.



Bible Truth | Bible Verse

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

John 6:38 tells us:

John 6:38

"For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but to do the will of him who sent me."

Learn a Little: "I have come from heaven... to do the will of him who sent me."

What does that mean?

Jesus left His wonderful home in heaven to live on earth. Why? To carry out God's amazing plan. What's that plan? To save His sinful people from their sins so they could know Him and enjoy Him forever! What an amazing plan! What a wonderful God! Let's praise Him right now!

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

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

Down, Down, Down: John 6:38

DDD NIV Songs 9, track 19

Down, down, down, I have come down, Down, down, down, I have come down. I've come down from heaven, Not to do my own will, But the will of him, Of him, who sent me. (Repeat) John Six, thirty-eight.

"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?"



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #I

- I. Who was the lover? Whom did He love?
- 2. What did He leave behind, and why?

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



John 6:38, NIV

- "For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but to do the will of him who sent me."
- I. Whose will (plan) did Jesus come down from heaven to do?
- 2. What was the plan, and did Jesus do it?

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



I. On one, special night, baby Jesus was born to Mary. Jesus cried like other babies. He was hungry like other babies. He needed his mother to care for him like other babies, too. Yes, in many ways Jesus was just like us.





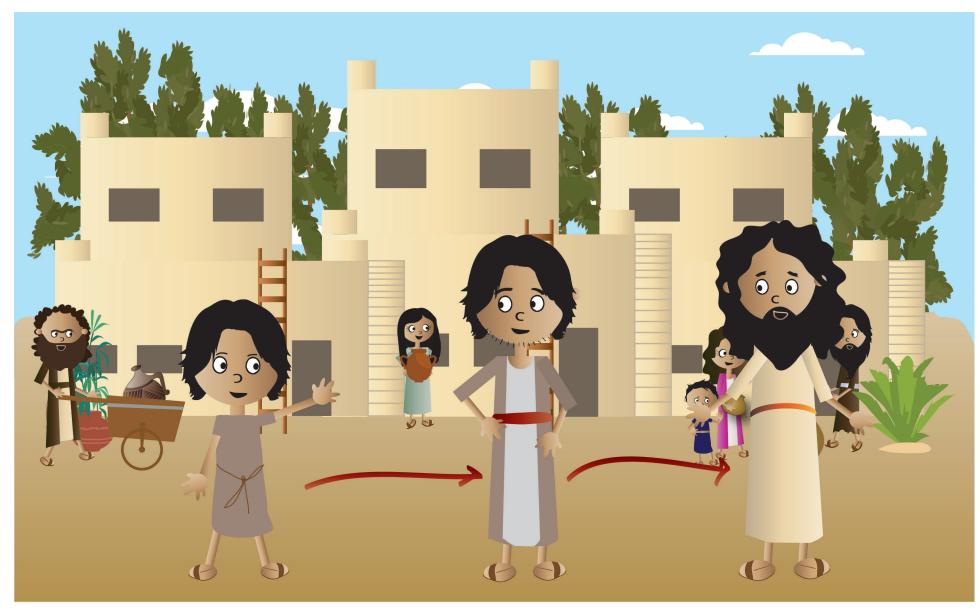
2. But there were some things that were very different about baby Jesus, too. Jesus wasn't ONLY human, like we are. He didn't have a man for a father like we do. Jesus was GOD's Son! And what had God's Son come to do? The angel told the shepherds on the night Jesus was born. Do you know what he said? "A Savior has been born to you; the Messiah, the Lord," the angel said. This was God's Son, the Messiah, come to save God's people!



3. And what's more, Jesus didn't just begin His life as a baby, like you and I did. No! Jesus had always been alive. He had always been enjoying the Perfect Wonderfulness of love and fellowship with God, His Father, and God, the Holy Spirit. And oh, how perfect and wonderful that life was! It was the kind of life no one would ever want to leave.



4. But Jesus DID leave that home of Perfect Wonderfulness. Not because He was bored or didn't like it anymore. Jesus left it because He was going to carry out God's great plan. Can you remember what that plan was? It was to save people from their sins, so they could be God's dearly-loved people and enjoy Him forever. Yes, it was for love of God, His Father, and for love of us, that Jesus left His home in heaven to come to earth and be born a baby.



5. Jesus was born a baby, but He didn't stay that way. Up, up, up, He grew, just like we do. And when Jesus had grown up to be a full-grown man, it was time for Him to TEACH people about God and to TELL them why God had sent Him. It was time to SHOW them by God's amazing power that He really was God's Son, sent to save them.



6. So, off went Jesus and His disciples. To the fish town of Capernaum, by the Sea of Galilee. To the big city of Jerusalem, in the hills of Judea. And even to some of the cities of Israel's enemies, in other, nearby lands.



7. And everywhere Jesus went, He TAUGHT the people about God and TOLD them why God had sent Him. He SHOWED them by God's amazing power that He was God's Son, sent to save them. As Jesus spoke about God, people wanted to hear more that He had to say. And, as Jesus did amazing things by God's power, people wanted to see Him do even more. No one had ever heard someone teach about God as Jesus did, or seen someone do the things He did by God's power.



8. News about Jesus spread quickly. Soon, big crowds followed Him. One day, a huge crowd sailed with Jesus to a mountain on the other side of the Sea of Galilee. They docked the boats and climbed with Jesus and His disciples to the top of the mountain. More and more people gathered until there were over five thousand people. What a crowd! They listened to Jesus tell about God from God's Word. They brought their sick to Him to be healed by God's power.



9. The people stayed up on that mountain with Jesus all day. They stayed so long that they had to spend the night there, too. They stayed so long that they ran out of food and were hungry. "Grumble! Grumble!" went those thousands of hungry stomachs. "We need food," said those thousands of hungry mouths, but no one had any food with them in that faraway place.



10. No one, that is, except a boy with two fish and five, little loaves of bread. But that little bit of fish and bread could never feed thousands of grumbly stomachs ...or could it?



II. Jesus took the fish and bread, gave thanks to God, His Father, and gave it to the crowds to eat. God's power was at work through Jesus once more. Wonders of wonders, that little bit of fish and bread spread further and further and further until everyone there had bellies full of food! Why, there were even twelve baskets of fish and bread scraps left over after they had all finished eating!



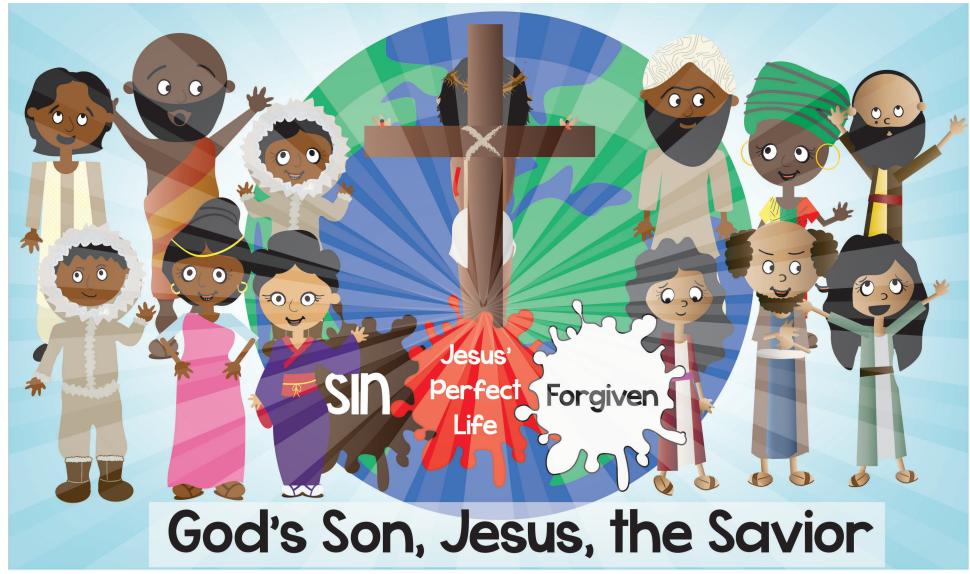
12. How excited the crowd was when they saw what Jesus had done! "Surely Jesus is the Messiah, the special leader Moses promised God would send us one day," the people told each other. "Let's grab him and make him our king," they decided.



13. "Just think: if Jesus is our king, he could use his amazing powers to give us everything we want. It could be like the days of Moses when God gave our people manna--the yummy food, straight from heaven," they thought. "Why, he could give us more than that! He could give us ALL the good things we want and he could give them to us RIGHT NOW. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have a king like that?" they exclaimed.



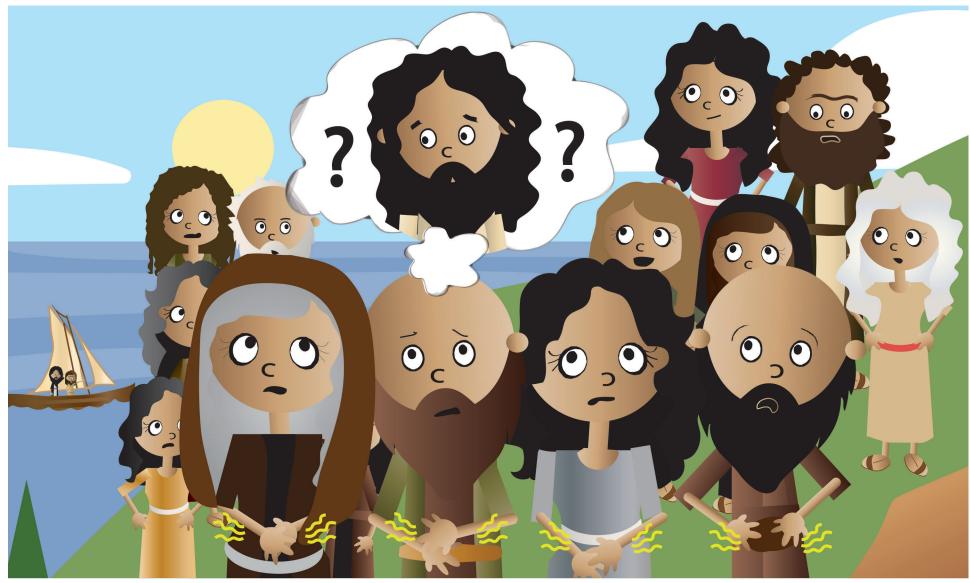
IH. But Jesus knew just what those people were thinking. They had it all wrong! Yes, He WAS the special leader God had promised to send. And yes, He was a king --their king. But He wasn't the kind of king they thought He was. Jesus hadn't come just to fill their bellies with good food from heaven or to give them other good things they wanted right then. He had come to do God's will and give them something they needed much more. Do you remember what Jesus came to do?



15. Jesus had come to save them from sin and death, so they could be God's dearly-loved people forever. Now, the people might LIKE their bellies filled with bread. They might LIKE to get whatever good things they wanted. But what they really NEEDED was what Jesus had come to do: to save them from their sins. So, Jesus refused to do things the way these people wanted Him to. He would do things God's way. He would be their Savior!



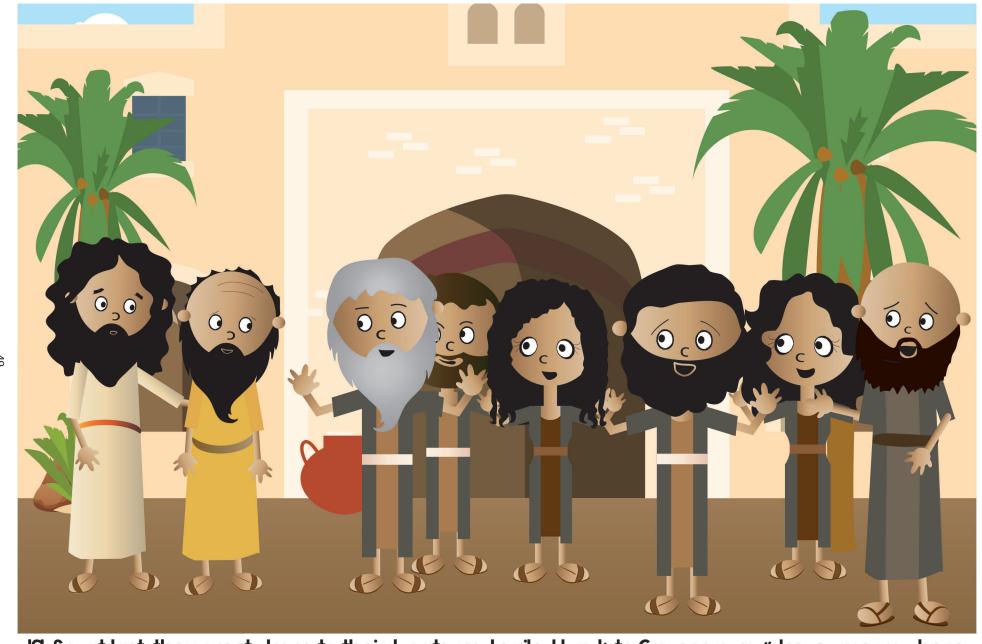
16. Jesus went further into the mountains, away from the crowd, so they couldn't find Him. Then late that night, Jesus and His disciples sailed back across the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum, without the crowd knowing where He had gone.



17. The next day, the people realized Jesus was missing. They went looking everywhere for Him. They couldn't stop thinking about how He had given them all that yummy fish and bread by God's power. They wanted Jesus to give them more food and other good things like that. They looked and looked for Him. "Jesus, where are you? Are you up on the mountain where you gave us the food yesterday?" they wondered. No, Jesus was not there.



18. "Are you way up on the mountain by yourself somewhere?" they wondered. No, Jesus was not there.



I9. So, at last, they went down to their boats and sailed back to Capernaum. "Jesus, are you here in Capernaum?" they wondered. Yes, there He was! "Teacher, when did you come here?" the crowd asked. They were so excited to be with Him again.



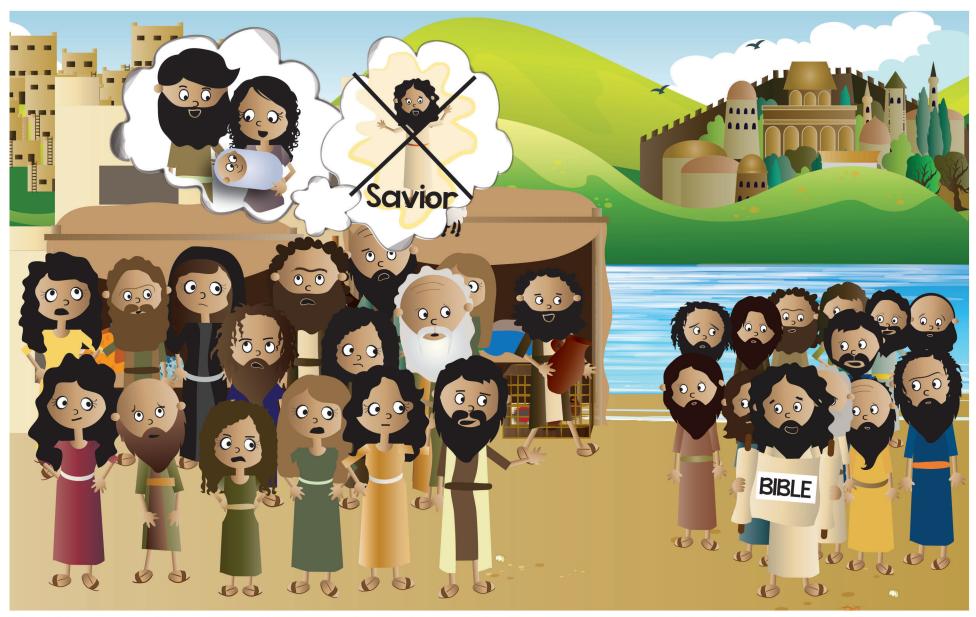
20. But Jesus knew they weren't happy to see Him for the right reasons. They had grumbly stomachs they wanted Him to fill. They had good things they wanted Him to give them by God's power. They wanted Him to be their king and give them these things. Would Jesus give in to them this time?



21. No, Jesus would not. "God gave His people heavenly bread to eat, long ago in Moses' day," Jesus told the people. "But now He's giving you something from heaven that's even better than food," This time He's given ME to you. The Savior!" Jesus explained.



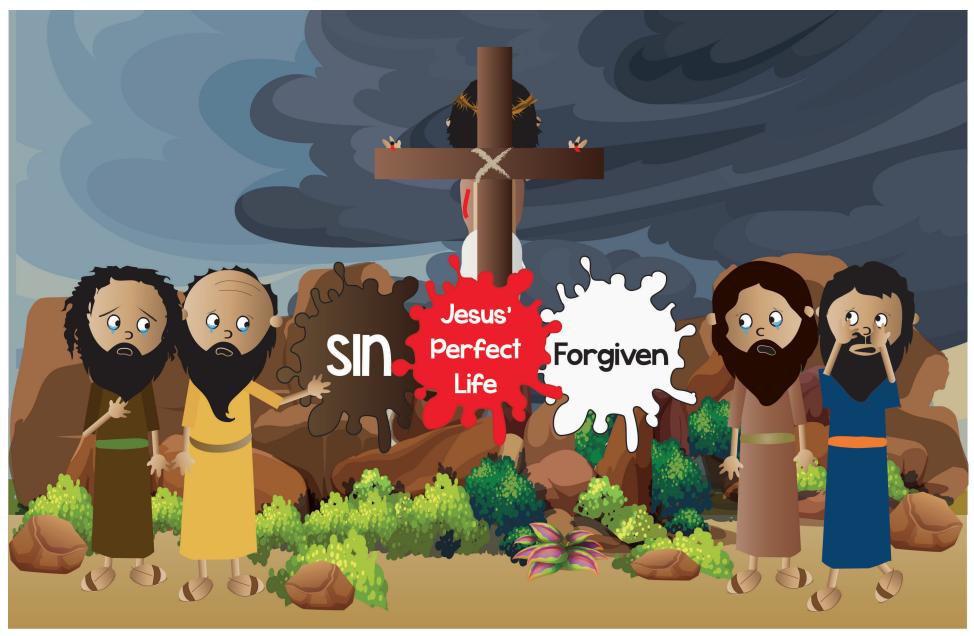
22. "Prove it!" the crowd replied. "Use God's power to give us food from heaven as Moses did," they demanded. But Jesus would not! "I've come down from heaven to do God's will, NOT just to give you bread that fills your grumbly stomachs for just a while, then leaves you hungry; or, to give you good things that will only make you happy for a little while in this life. No! God's will is for Me to give you something far better than these things. His will is for Me to save you from your sins, so you can have wonderful, eternal life with God FOREVER," Jesus explained.



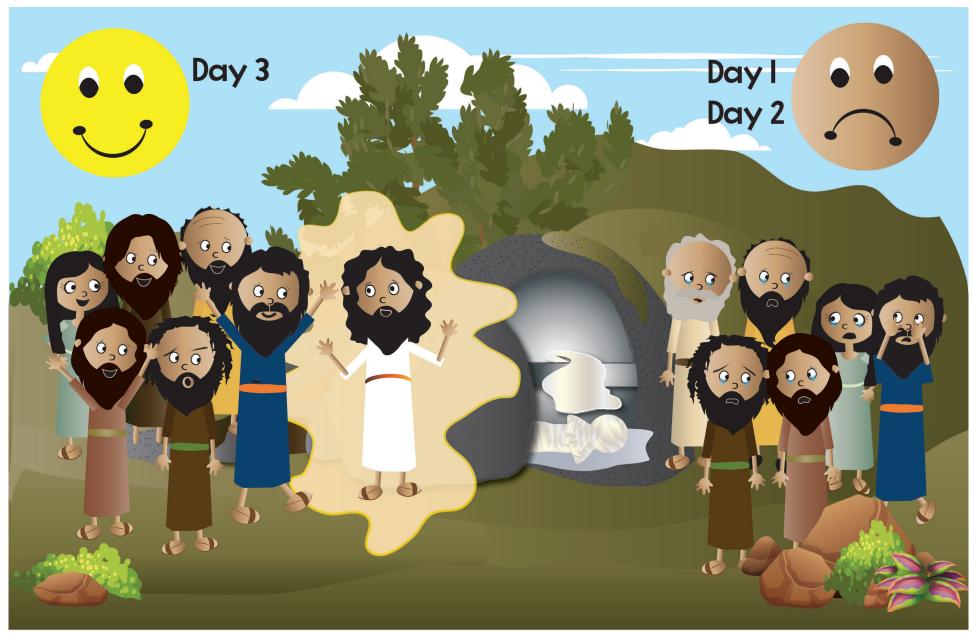
23. "How can Jesus say He came from heaven?" the people grumbled. "Isn't He just the son of Joseph and Mary? We know them! Come on, let's leave. Jesus is just a fake!" they decided, and they left Him. Soon, it was just Jesus and His disciples. Everyone else had gone. "Will you leave Me, too?" Jesus asked His disciples.



24. No, they would not! They had heard Jesus' amazing words about God. They had seen God's power working in Him. The Holy Spirit had been working in their hearts, giving them faith to believe. Yes, Jesus was Mary's son. The crowds had that right. But Jesus most certainly was NOT Joseph's son. No! Jesus was God's Son, the Savior! "How can we leave You?" they said to Jesus. "Where else would we go? We know and believe that God has sent You to save His people from their sins," they told Him.



25. Jesus' disciples were right, weren't they? For on just the right day, Jesus suffered and died on the cross to take the punishment for the sins of all God's people --all who would ever turn away from disobeying God and would trust in Jesus as their Savior.



26. Then on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead. He had beaten sin and death for God's people! Jesus had come down from heaven to do God's will and He had done it! Now, we can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

"The Case of the Lover Who Left It All Behind" Luke I-2; John I,6



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

- I. Who was the lover? Whom did He love? Jesus was the lover. He loved God and He loved sinners, like you and me.
- 2. What did He leave behind, and why? Jesus left behind the Perfect Wonderfulness of life with God, the Father, and God, the Holy Spirit, in heaven. He left it behind, so He could be our Savior.

For You and Me:

Jesus didn't just come to earth to save people who lived long ago. He came to save people from every time and place. He even came to save us! How can we be saved? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



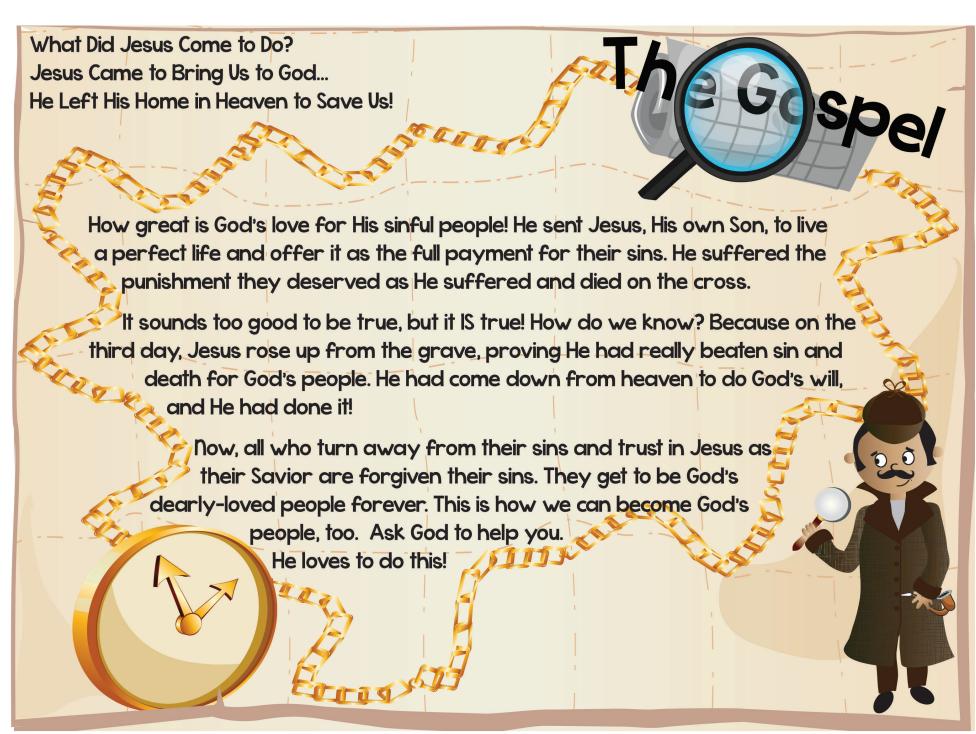
John 6:38, NIV

- "For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but to do the will of him who sent me."
- I. Whose will (plan) did Jesus come down from heaven to do? God's plan.
- 2. What was the plan, and did Jesus do it? God's plan was for Jesus to be our Savior. Yes, He did!

For You and Me:

How amazing that Jesus would choose to leave His home in heaven to come to be our Savior! How amazing that He would suffer and die on the cross in the place of God's sinful people! But that's exactly what He did. And He rose from the dead on the third day, proving He had really done it! We, too, can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.





A Prayer

- A Jesus, we praise You for choosing to leave the Perfect Wonderfulness of heaven to be our Savior. You came to bring us to God.
- C Jesus, we are all sinners who deserve God's punishment. We could never be God's people on our own. Only You could bring us to God.
- Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the cross to save all who turn away from their sins and trust in You as their Savior.
- S Work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins. Help us to trust in You as our Savior. Help us to tell others about You.

