

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.

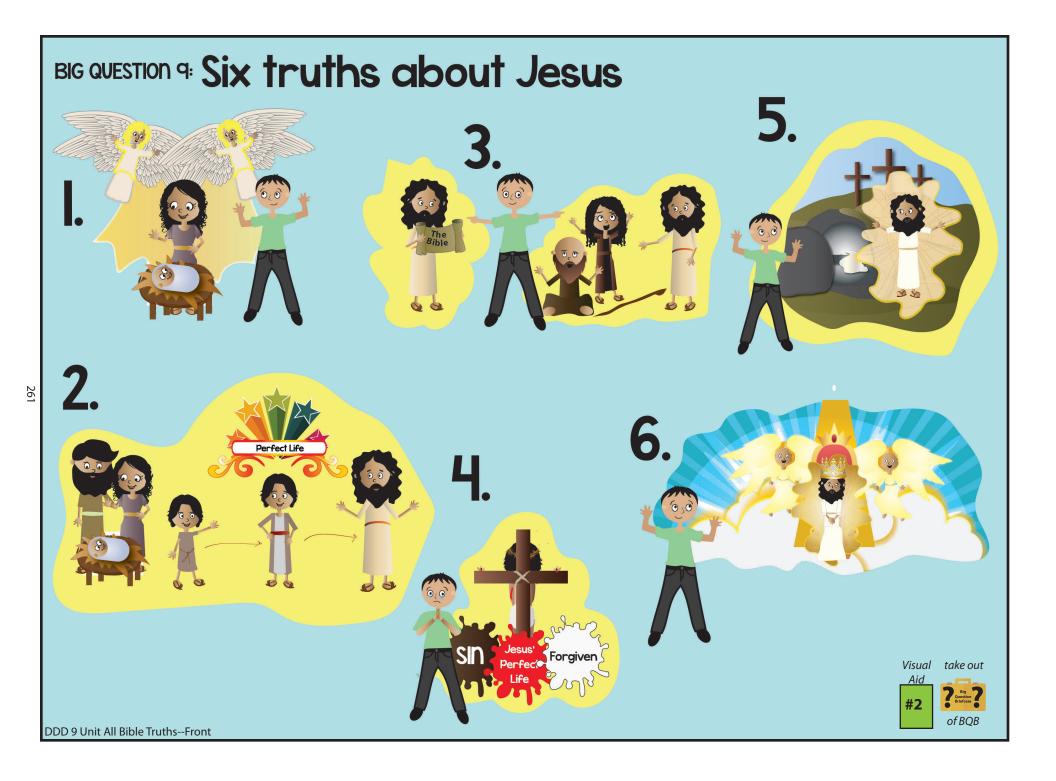
But God treats us so much better than we deserve! From the beginning, He had an amazing plan to bring sinful people like us back to Himself. How? He promised to send a Savior. That Savior was Jesus, God's own Son. Jesus lived a perfect life, then He gave it up as the full payment for sins as He suffered 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!



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, we've learned three truths about Jesus. They are: "He Left His Home in Heaven to Save Us," "He Never, Ever Disobeyed God," and "He Taught about God and Did Amazing Things" (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 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. 262

CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 4: What did Jesus come to do? Jesus came to bring us to God... He died on the cross for the <u>????</u> of God's people!"

HINT: What is the Bible word for the bad things we do that break God's good laws? It starts with an "s" and it rhymes with "hens."



Answer: He died on the cross for the SINS of God's people!

DDD 9.4 Bible Truth 1--Front

VISUAL 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:

"What Did Jesus Come to Do? Jesus Came to Bring Us to God! He Died on the Cross for the ???? of God's People!"

We're missing one word. Here's the hint to what the missing word is. It says: "What is the Bible word for the bad things we do that break God's good laws? It starts with an "s" and it rhymes with "hens."

Can you guess? It's "Sins."

So the Bible Truth we are learning today is:

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

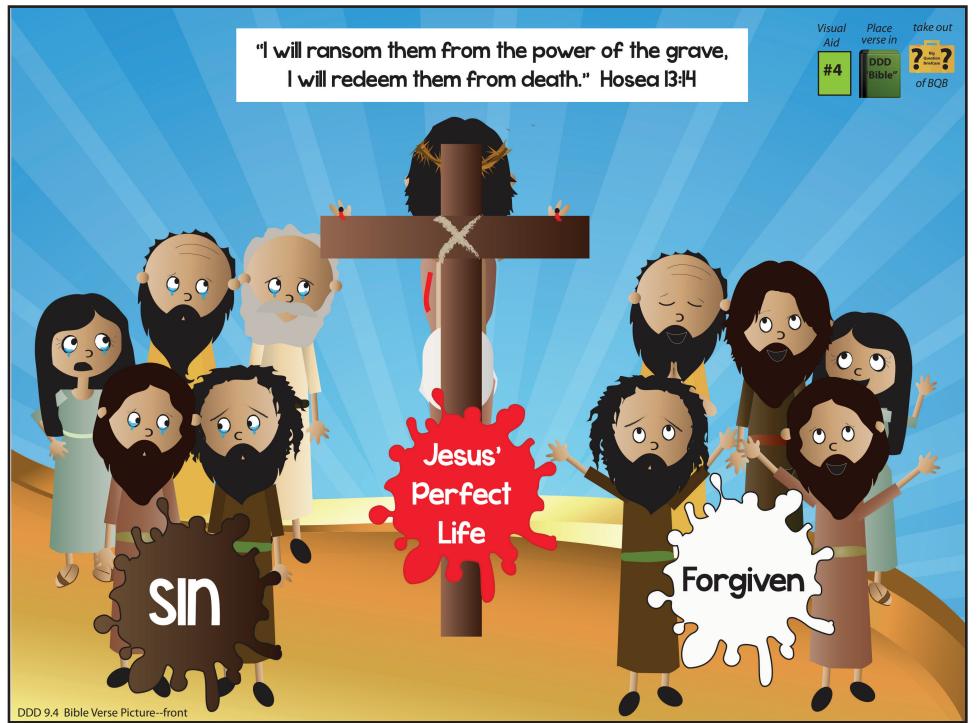
"What Did Jesus Come to Do? Jesus Came to Bring Us to God! He Died on the Cross for the SINS of God's People!" And here is what this Bible Truth means:

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

Sadly, we are all sinners who disobey God. We all deserve God's punishment for our sins. But Jesus never, ever sinned. He never deserved any punishment from God. Yet Jesus chose to suffer and die on the cross. He didn't suffer and die because He deserved to. He suffered and died in the place of God's people so they wouldn't have to. Yes, He offered up His perfect life as the full payment for their sins.

Jesus suffered so much on the cross! His body hurt so badly as He hung there by the nails. But Jesus' spirit inside Him hurt even more, as He took the punishment for our sins and was separated from God, His Father. But when at last Jesus finished suffering on the cross, He had paid for all of the sins of God's people.

Jesus died and was buried in a cave-grave that day, but He didn't stay there! On the third day, Jesus rose from the grave to live forevermore. He had really done it! He had beaten sin and death for God's people. Now they could have special closeness with God in their hearts. Now they would be His dearly-loved people forever. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God will forgive our sins. He will give us special closeness in our hearts with Him now. And one day, we can go to live with God forever.



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:

Hosea 13:14 tells us:

Hosea 13:14

"I will ransom them from the power of the grave, I will redeem them from death."

Learn a Little: "I will redeem them from death."

What does that mean?

Ransom! Redeem! What do those big words mean? To pay the price to rescue someone and make them your very own. What did God ransom His people from? The power of the grave and death ("Sheol" is another Bible word for the grave and death.)

Yes, indeed! When Jesus suffered and died on the cross, He paid for all of the sins of God's people so they could be forgiven! When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus, we can be God's people, too. All of our sins will be forgiven through Him, so we can know God now and get to live with Him forever!

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

I Will Ransom Them:

Hosea 13:14 DDD NIV Songs 9, track 28

I will ransom them from the power of the grave, I will redeem them from death. I will ransom them from the power of the grave, I will redeem them from death.

Where, O death, are your plagues? Where, O grave, is your destruction?

I will ransom them from the power of the grave, I will redeem them from death. I will ransom them from the power of the grave, I will redeem them from death. Hosea Thirteen, fourteen.

"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 Great Price" Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 23; John 19



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #l

I. What did Jesus do that cost a great price?

2. Who did He do it for? Why?

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Hosea 13:14, NIV



"I will ransom them from the power of the grave, I will redeem them from death."

To ransom means to pay whatever it costs to rescue someone.

I. Who ransomed God's people from death?

2. What had to be done to ransom God's people from death?

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



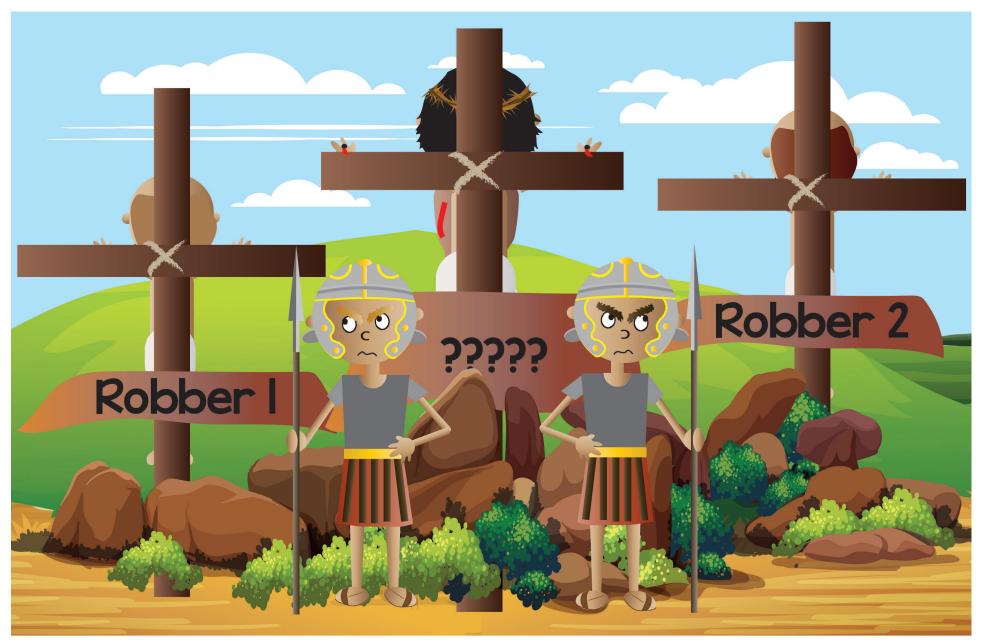
I. The Roman king did NOT put up with lawbreakers! Some lawbreakers he punished by putting them in jail for a long time. And some, he punished by whipping them with painful, sharp ropes. Others, he sent away to sea to row big warships for his soldiers.



2. But the worst kinds of lawbreakers, the king sent to a hill outside of Jerusalem called Golgotha. And there, these worst kinds of men were given the worst kind of punishment. They were put up on big, wooden crosses (with nails!), and they were left there to suffer and die. How terrible it was to suffer and die on a cross! It was so terrible that people long ago would not even say the word "cross". "Cross" was a bad word that good people did not say, let alone think about.



3. What kinds of lawbreakers died on crosses? Traitors died on crosses (men who tried to get rid of the king). Murderers died on crosses (men who killed other people). Robbers died on crosses (men who took other people's things). These worst kinds of lawbreakers were given the worst kind of punishment. The cross. It was for bad men being punished for the bad things they had done. That's the way it was back in those days. At least, that was the way it was supposed to be.



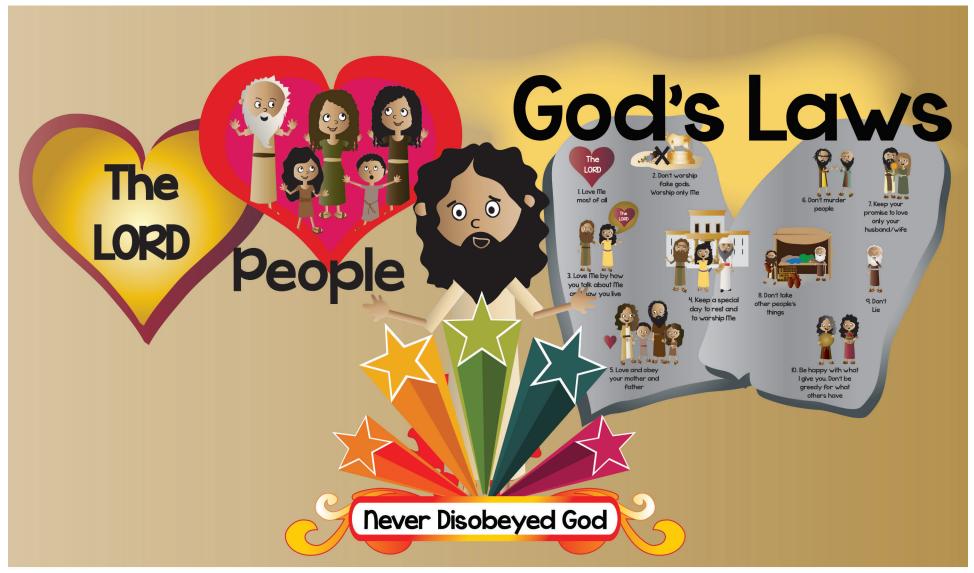
4. But what a strange thing people saw on Golgotha, one Friday long ago! For there, on that hill, stood three crosses for three men. Two of the men were robbers, but the third one was a man no one expected to see there. Can you guess who it was? It was Jesus!



5. Now, everyone could understand why the two robbers had been put on their crosses. These men had snatched other people's things, and now they were being punished for the bad things they had done. That was the Roman king's law.



6. But, Jesus? Why was He there? What bad thing had He done? Had Jesus snatched other people's things, like the robbers? No! Had He killed someone, like the murderers? No! Had He tried to get rid of the king, like the traitors? No! Jesus had never done any of these bad things.



7. As a matter of fact, Jesus had never sinned. He had never done EVEN ONE bad thing in His whole life! Jesus always kept God's laws. He always loved God most of all. He always loved others as the Bible tells us to. In EVERYTHING Jesus thought in His heart; and in EVERYTHING Jesus said and did, He never, ever disobeyed God. Jesus was the only person who ever lived a PERFECT LIFE. That's why Jesus, of all people, did NOT deserve to be up there on that cross!



8. So, why WAS Jesus on that cross? Was it all just a big mistake? Far from it! This was God's plan. Yes, it was the Roman king who ordered Jesus to be put on that cross, and it was his soldiers who put Jesus on it. But God had woven their evil deeds into His much, much bigger, GLORIOUS, LOVING, GOOD plan to rescue His people from their sins. Jesus was up on that cross because He CHOSE to be there to take the punishment God's people deserved from GOD!



9. From God?! Why would GOD need to punish His people? Didn't He love them?



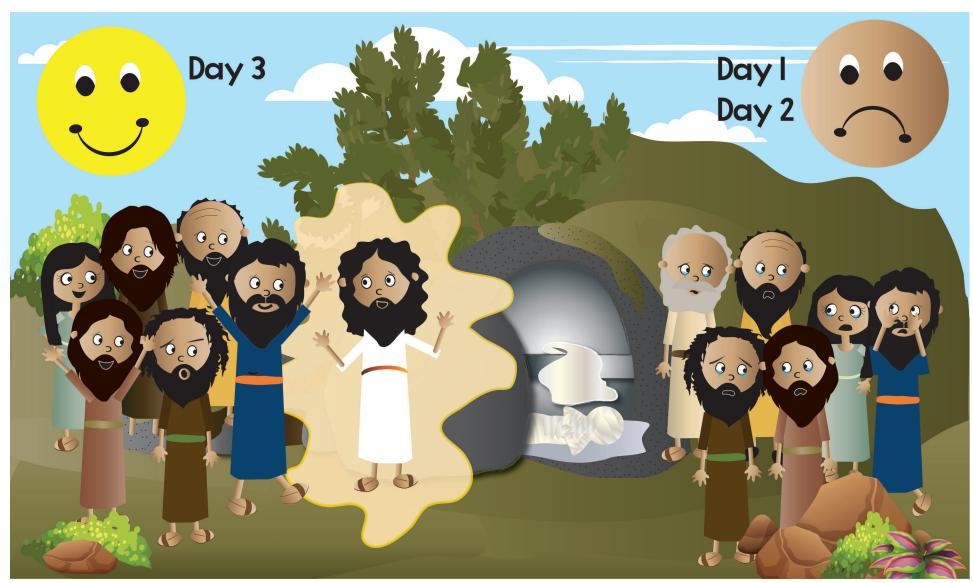
10. Yes, God loved His people very much. But you see, the LORD is the one, true, perfectly good God, and the big king over everyone. He loves what is good and hates what is bad. He has given us His perfectly good laws to live by, but we have ALL disobeyed Him and broken His laws. That makes us sinners. And that means, we ALL deserve God's punishment. And oh, what a terrible punishment we deserve: to be separated from God and all His goodness forever. Forever punishment! Isn't that awful? And God's people deserved this punishment, just like everyone else.



II. But God loved the world so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to suffer and die on the cross. He took the punishment for the sins of God's people upon Himself, so they wouldn't have to. Jesus' perfect life paid for their sins, so they could be FORGIVEN. And, so they could be loved by God forever, instead of punished!



12. Who are God's people? They are all who would ever turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. All who come to Him like this are God's people! So, that's why Jesus suffered and died on the cross that day. Not for anything He had done, but because He loved God and God's people so much. Isn't Jesus amazing!



13. And how do we KNOW that Jesus really took all of the punishment for God's people that day? It's because of what happened on the third day after Jesus died. On Day One, Jesus' body stayed dead in the cave-grave. On Day Two, Jesus' body stayed dead in the cave-grave. But on Day Three, Jesus rose up from the dead, showing that He had really done it! He had beaten sin and death for God's people.



14. Now, God's people were forgiven forever! Now, they never would have to have God's punishment. Now, they would get to know and love Him in their hearts their whole lives! And one day, when they die, they would get to go live with God forever! What a wonderful thing it is to be God's dearly-loved people!



15. "Thank You, Jesus, for taking all of God's punishment for God's people on the cross! Thank You, that You offer for us to become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in You as our Savior! Help us to do this, even today!"

"The Case of the Great Price" Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 23; John 19



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #l

I. What did Jesus do that cost a great price? He suffered and died on the cross.

2. Who did He do it for? Why? He did it for God's people, so they could be saved from their sins.

For You and Me: How amazing is God's love for His people! That He would send His Son, Jesus, to suffer and die in their place. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



Hosea 13:14, NIV

"I will ransom them from the power of the grave, I will redeem them from death."

To ransom means to pay whatever it costs to rescue someone.

I. Who ransomed God's people from death? Jesus did.

2. What had to be done to ransom God's people from death?

Jesus had to pay for their sins, Himself, as He suffered and died on the cross.

For You and Me:

How amazing is God's love for His people! That He would send His Son, Jesus, to suffer and die in their place. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. What Did Jesus Come to Do? Jesus Came to Bring Us to God... He Died on the Cross for the Sins of God's People!

Jesus never, ever disobeyed God, yet He suffered and died on the cross for sin. Why? Because this was God's plan to save sinners, like you and me. This was the only way we could be forgiven our sins and become God's people.

So, God sent His Son, Jesus, to live the perfect life that we should have lived, but never do. Then on the cross, Jesus offered up His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really beaten sin and death for them. Isn't God's love for His people amazing!

We can become God's people, too! How? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to help you. He loves to do this.

A Prayer

- A Jesus, we praise You for being our Savior. You came to bring us to God. We praise You for being willing to suffer and die on the cross for the sins of God's people.
- C Jesus, how we need You to be our Savior! We are all sinners who disobey God. We all deserve God's punishment. Please forgive us!
- Thank You, Jesus, for suffering and dying on the cross to save all who turn away from their sins and trust in You as their Savior. Thank You for taking all of God's punishment, so we might be forgiven. Thank You that no one is too sinful for You to save. You are a big enough Savior for any of us.
- S Jesus, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins. Help us to trust in You as our Savior. Help us to love You and to live for You more and more.

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!)