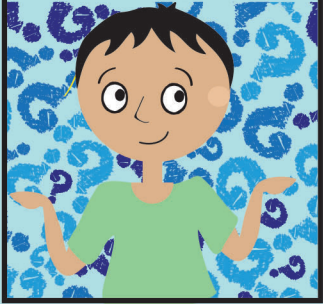


BIG QUESTION 9



What did Jesus come to do?



ANSWER:

Jesus came to bring us to God!

VISUAL
AID

#1

take out

? Big
Question
Briefcase

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 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!

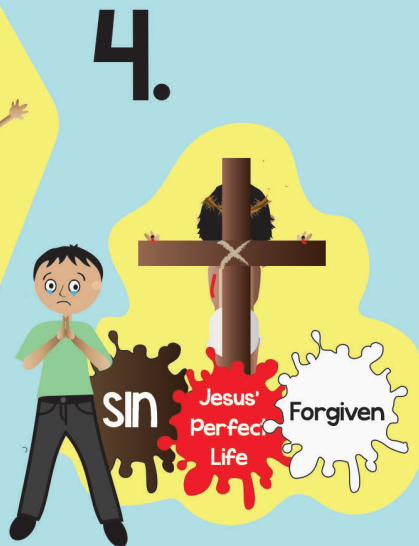
Let's sing our Big Question Song:"

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!

BIG QUESTION 9: Six truths about Jesus



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 four truths about Jesus. They are: "He Left His Home in Heaven to Save Us," "He Never, Ever Disobeyed God," "He Taught about God and Did Amazing Things," and, "He Died on the Cross for the Sins of God's People" (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.

CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 5:

What did Jesus come to do?

Jesus came to bring us to God...

He rose from the ????!"

HINT: What is the opposite
of being alive?

It starts with a "d"
and it rhymes with "red."



VISUAL
AID

#1

take out



of BQB

ANSWER:

He rose from the DEAD!

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 Rose from the ???? !”**

We’re missing one word. Here’s the hint to what the missing word is. It says:
“What is the opposite of being alive? It starts with a “d” and it rhymes with
“red.”

Can you guess? It’s “dead.”

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 Rose from the DEAD !”**

And here is what this Bible Truth means:

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

Jesus suffered on a cross for the sins of God’s people. He took the punishment for sins that they deserved so that they might become God’s dearly-loved people. Jesus died that day. His friends buried His body in a cave-grave. But death could not keep Jesus dead! On the third day, God raised up Jesus’ body from the grave. Yes, Jesus was alive, never to die again! He had beaten sin and death. He had made the way for us to come to God.

Now God’s people could have special closeness with God in their hearts. And when they died, they would go to live with God. And at the end of time, God would raise their bodies from their graves—just like He raised Jesus’ body. New and perfect bodies, ready to live with Him in a beautiful, new heaven and earth forever.

Visual
Aid

#4

Place
verse inDDD
Bible™

take out



of BQB



**"Why do you look for the living among the dead?
He is not here, He's risen!" Luke 24:5-6**

Bible Truth 5 Bible Verse

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

Luke 24:5-6 tells us:

Luke 24:5-6

"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He's risen!"

Learn a Little: "He is not here; He's risen!"

What does that mean?

The Bible tells us that on the third day after Jesus died, some women who loved Jesus went to the cave-grave where He was buried to take care of His dead body. But angels came and told them the good news: "Jesus is alive! He has risen from the dead!" Jesus was not in that cave at all! He was alive forevermore!

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

Why Do You Look?:

Luke 24:5-6

DDD NIV Songs 9, track 30

Why do you look for the living among the dead?
Why do you look for the living among the dead?
He's not here! He has risen.

Jesus has risen.

Why do you look for the living among the dead?
Why do you look for the living among the dead?
Luke Twenty-four, five and six.

"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 Unexpected Ending"

Matthew 27-28; Mark 15-16; Luke 24; John 20-21



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. How did Jesus die?
2. What was unexpected about His death?



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Luke 24:5-6, NIV

"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."

1. Who was looking for a dead man? What did they find instead?
2. What had happened to the dead man? Why?

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



I. Soldiers led Jesus and two robbers away to the hill called Golgotha, outside of Jerusalem. They put the three men up on crosses to be punished. Everyone knew what would come next. This was the end of Jesus.



2. Jesus' enemies were happy about this. "Jesus was a bad man. He was a fake Savior," they thought. They said mean things to Jesus, as He hung on the cross: "You saved others, now save yourself, if you really are the Savior sent from God!" they shouted at Him. "Come down from that cross, if you can!" But no matter what His enemies said or did to Him, Jesus did not come down. He stayed up on that cross and suffered and died. Were those enemies right? Was Jesus just a fake Savior?



3. Jesus' followers were there, too, watching Jesus as He suffered and died on the cross. They were sad and confused. They believed Jesus was the REAL Savior, but they thought He had come to save God's people by getting rid of the Roman enemies and becoming the great, new, Messiah king in Israel. They cried to see Jesus suffer and die. This wasn't what they thought should happen to Jesus! They had seen God's mighty power at work in Jesus. Would God use it now to rescue Jesus? Would God bring Jesus down off the cross and make Him king after all?



4. No, God would not. Jesus stayed up on that cross and suffered and died. But NOT because He was a fake as His enemies thought, and NOT because He failed to be the new king His followers thought He should be. Jesus stayed on that cross because He loved God, His Father, and He loved God's people.



5. Jesus WAS the Savior, and THIS was God's plan to save God's people. The cross was where Jesus CHOSE to be. He was suffering and dying there to take God's punishment for their sins, so they wouldn't have to. This was the only way they could be forgiven and could live forever with God as His people. So, for three hours, from noon to three, Jesus hung on that cross. And as He did, the sun stopped shining and the land went dark. It was as if the very world was dark with the sadness of what Jesus was doing for God's people.

“My, God, My God, why have you forsaken me?”



6. “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” Jesus cried out, as the punishment for the sins of God’s people bore down upon Him. These were the words that the LORD had given King David, many years earlier, telling what Jesus would do to save God’s people. Oh, what a terrible price Jesus paid for the sins of God’s people, as He hung on the cross! None of us could pay for our sins even if we suffered a lifetime for them. Yet in just three hours, Jesus, the Son of God, paid for all of the sins of all of God’s people with His perfect life. Such a lot of suffering in such a little time!

“It is finished!”



7. At last, Jesus cried out again. “It is finished,” He said, as He breathed His last breath and died. The ground shook and the curtain in the Temple that separated God from the people tore in two. “Surely, this was the Son of God,” exclaimed one soldier, who watched it all.



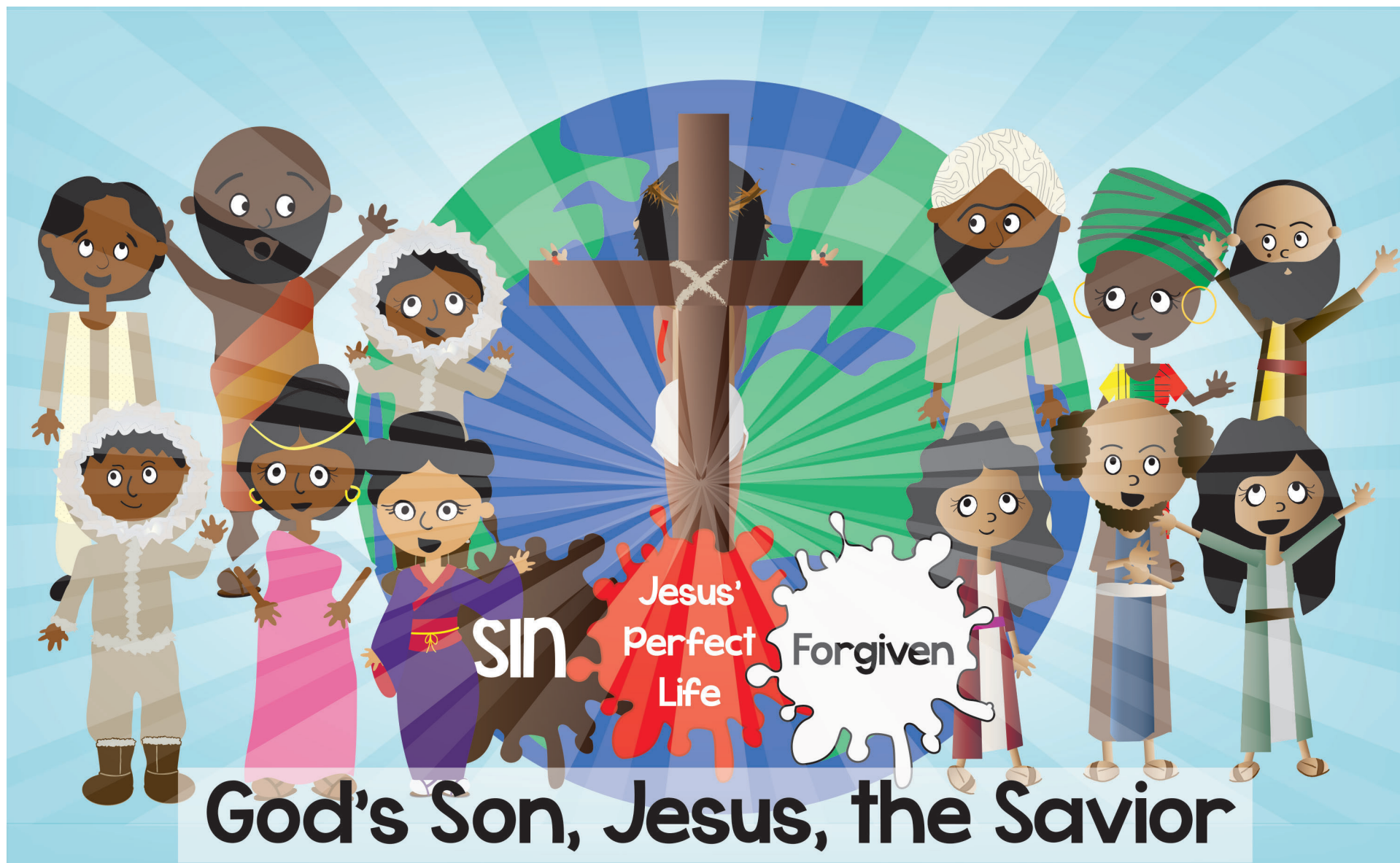
8. Jesus' followers took Jesus' body down from the cross. They wrapped it in linen and nice-smelling spices and placed it in a cave-grave. They rolled the huge stone in place. Soldiers stood guard outside the cave-grave to make sure no one took Jesus' body. Jesus was dead and His enemies wanted to make sure everyone knew that.



9. Friday passed, then Saturday. Day One and Two. Jesus' body lay dead in that grave. "It is finished," Jesus' enemies happily thought. "Jesus is dead. His life is over. That fake is gone for good."



10. "It is finished," Jesus' friends sadly thought. "Jesus is dead. His life is over. The Messiah King is gone for good." It certainly looked like Jesus' friends and enemies were both right. Jesus' life seemed finished.



II. But they were all **WRONG!** They didn't understand what Jesus meant when He said, "It is finished." Jesus didn't mean His **LIFE** was finished. He meant His **JOB** was finished. He had finished suffering and dying for the sins of God's people. He had beaten sin and death for them. Jesus was **NOT** gone, only the sins of God's people were!



12. That's why on Sunday, Day Three, a mighty change happened in that dark cave-grave that neither Jesus' enemies nor His followers expected. Jesus had beaten sin and death, and death could no longer hold Him. God raised up Jesus and filled Him with new life. Off came the white, grave sheets wrapped around Jesus' body! Now, Jesus had a new resurrection body, specially made to live forever in heaven. Jesus was alive forevermore! It was time to tell the world!



13. The ground had shaken when Jesus died, and now it shook again when He rose to life. An angel came down from heaven and rolled away the huge stone from the opening to the cave-grave. Oh, how terrified were those soldiers as they watched! Jesus' friends were scared, too. "He's not here, He has risen! Look for yourselves," the angel told them. Yes, the cave-grave was empty! Jesus was alive!



14. Jesus appeared to many of His followers on that wonderful Sunday. He appeared to the women who had come to His grave to care for His dead body. "It is I! I am alive! I have risen from the dead!" Jesus told them. How happy they were!



15. Then, Jesus appeared to other of His friends, as they walked down the road to Emmaus. "God's Word promised I would suffer and die for God's people. Now, it is done," Jesus told them. How happy they were! Jesus had beaten sin and death for God's people.



16. And last of all, Jesus appeared to ten of His closest followers on that wonderful Sunday, "It is I! I am alive! I have risen from the dead!" Jesus told them. How happy they were! Now, they understood what had been finished when Jesus suffered and died on the cross. It wasn't Jesus' life but the punishment for the sins of God's people that was finished that day.

Perfect Wonderfulness

GOD

17. Yes, Jesus had beaten sin and death for God's people --all people who would ever turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. And now, because of what Jesus did on the cross, they could know and love God in their hearts through the Holy Spirit. And one day, they would get to live happily with God forever in heaven. "Thank You, Jesus, for what You did for God's people! Thank You, for making the way for us to be God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in You as our Savior."

"The Case of the Unexpected Ending" Matthew 27-28; Mark 15-16; Luke 24; John 20-21

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. How did Jesus die?
He suffered and died on a cross.

2. What was unexpected about His death?
Jesus died on a cross like a bad man, but He had done nothing wrong. On the third day, He rose from the grave. He had beaten sin and death for God's people.

For You and Me:
Jesus died on the cross for the sins of God's people. He rose from the dead, 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.



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Luke 24:5-6, NIV

"Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."

1. Who was looking for a dead man? What did they find instead?

Some women who were Jesus' friends went to the cave-grave to tend to His dead body. They didn't find His body. Instead, they found an angel and an empty cave-grave.

2. What had happened to the dead man? Why?
Jesus had risen from the dead. He had beaten sin and death for God's people. God raised Him up from the dead to live forevermore. Death could not hold Him in the grave.

For You and Me:
Jesus died on the cross for the sins of God's people. He rose from the dead, 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.

What Did Jesus Come to Do?
Jesus Came to Bring Us to God...
He Rose from the Dead!

The Gospel



What a wonderful day it was when Jesus rose from the dead! That was proof that Jesus had really paid for the sins of God's people. You see, we have all chosen to disobey God and His good ways. We all deserve His punishment for our sins, and our sins are more than we can ever pay for, ourselves.

God would have been perfectly fair to give all of us His punishment for sins. But, He is so full of mercy and love that He chose to save His people through Jesus. On the cross, Jesus died, taking the punishment for their sins in their place.

But Jesus didn't stay dead! On Day Three, God raised Him up to live forever. Jesus had done it! He had saved God's people.

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.



A Prayer

A Jesus, we praise You for being our Savior. You came to bring us to God. We praise You for being powerful enough to beat sin and death.

C Jesus, we are all sinners who have chosen to disobey God and His good laws. We deserve His punishment. We need to turn to You for forgiveness. We need You to be our Savior!

T Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the cross to save all who trust in You as their Savior. Thank You for rising from the dead in victory! You show us that You really have beaten sin and death for all who turn away from their sins and trust in You as their Savior.

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 more and live for You more. Jesus, come back soon! We long for the day when You will bring sin and death to an end forever. Help us to be ready for that day!

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

