



How should God's people live?



ANSWER:

They should live like Jesus!

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 12:

How Should God's People Live?

and the Answer is:

They Should Live Like Jesus!

Meaning:

We become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God forgives our sins and we begin a whole new way of life. God's people no longer live life just to please themselves. They want to honor God with their whole lives, like Jesus did. They seek to love God most of all and love all people, too.

Let's sing our Big Question Song:"

Big Q & A 12 Song

HSK NIV Songs 12, track 12

(adapted version of "Pop, Goes the Weasel")

How should God's people live each day?
They should live like Jesus!
How should God's people live each day?
How should God's people live each day?
How should God's people live each day?
They should live like Jesus!

“Be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us.” Ephesians 5:1,2



**Love God
Most of All!**

**Love All
People!**

VISUAL
AID

#2

Place
verse in

**HSK
Bible
Folder**

HSK Bible
Folder

take out

**? Big
Question
Briefcase ?**

of BQB

Unit 12 Bible Verse

"Who would like to get our Bible verse out of the Big Question Briefcase for me?"

Choose a child to open the briefcase, take out the "Bible" with the Bible Verse in it and hand it to you. Remove the Bible Verse Picture from the "Bible" (held in place by velcro) and hold it up for all the children to see, then say:

Ephesians 5:1,2

"Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us."

Meaning:

When you imitate someone, you try to act like them. God's people honor God by imitating His good ways. There's no one better for us to imitate than Jesus Christ, God's Son. He loved God and loved others in everything He did. His perfect life shows us how God wants us to live. God's people know they are God's dearly loved children. How they want to live like Jesus did!

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

Live a Life of Love: Ephesians 5:2

HSK NIV Songs 12, track 14

Live a life of love just as Christ loved you.
Live a life of love just as Christ loved you.
Live a life of love, Live a life of love,
Live a life of love,
Just as Christ loved you.
Ephesians Five, Two. O-le!

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

"The Case of the Runaway Who Ran Back" The Book of Philemon



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who ran away?
2. Why did he run back?

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

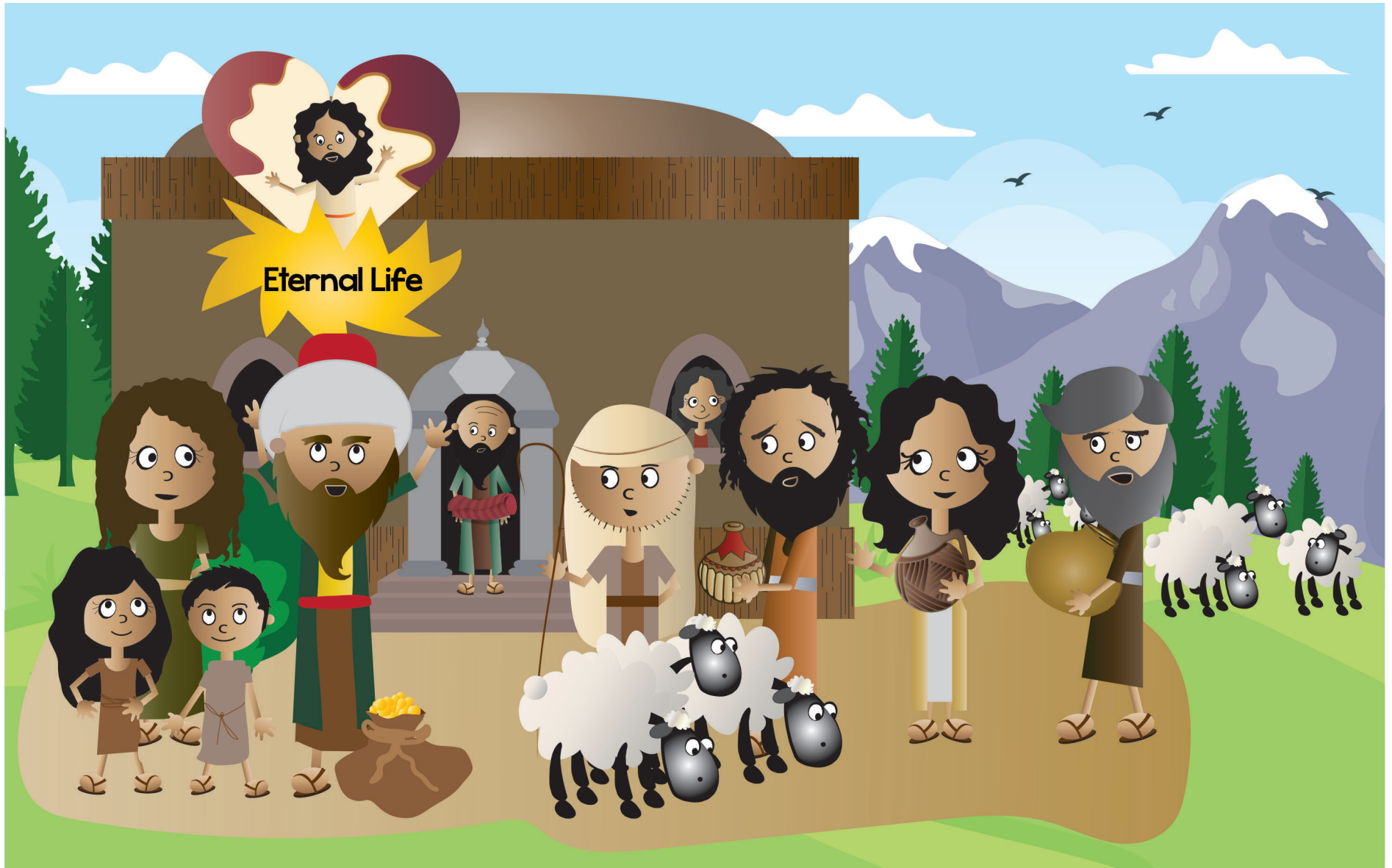


Ephesians 5:1,2, NIV

"Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us."

1. What did Onesimus know he needed to do to live a life of love towards Philemon?
2. How could Philemon live a life of love towards Onesimus when Onesimus asked him for forgiveness?

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



I. Philemon was a rich man who lived in Colossae. He had a family, and a big house with lots of land, and animals, and people who worked for him. Philemon was a very rich man in another way, too. He had been given a very special gift from God --the one gift that makes a person richest of all: eternal life through Jesus! Here's how it happened...



2. Philemon travelled to a faraway city where he met Paul. Philemon listened as Paul shared the good news of Jesus. As Philemon listened, the Holy Spirit worked in his heart. Philemon turned away from his sins and trusted in Jesus as his Savior. God forgave his sins and Philemon became one of God's people. Philemon was so happy and so was Paul!



3. The Holy Spirit kept on working in Philemon's heart. Philemon did things differently when he went home. Now, Philemon prayed to God, "Help me to live for You." Now, he told others the good news of Jesus. They trusted in Jesus as their Savior, too. Soon, a little church of people gathered at Philemon's house to worship God and help each other live for God. How happy Philemon was!



4. But there was someone else at Philemon's house who was NOT happy at all! His name was Onesimus. Onesimus was a worker at Philemon's house. Onesimus became so unhappy that he decided to run away and never come back. Onesimus knew it was wrong to run away, but he did it anyway. Philemon looked and looked, but he never found Onesimus.



5. Onesimus ran far away to the big city of Rome. Philemon would never find him there. But someone who knew Philemon DID find him. It was Paul. Paul shared the gospel with Onesimus, and the Holy Spirit worked in Onesimus' heart. Onesimus turned away from disobeying God and trusted in Jesus as His Savior. Onesimus became one of God's people. Paul and he were so happy!



6. The Holy Spirit kept on working in Onesimus, helping him love God and live for Him, more and more. God used Paul to help Onesimus, too. "God's people turn to God when they are in trouble. They don't run away," Paul told Onesimus. "They ask Him to help them do the right thing. You must go back and make things right with Philemon. This is what pleases God," Paul said.



7. "I will help you, too," Paul told Onesimus. "I will write a letter to Philemon. He may be a very rich man, and, you may be just his worker; but most of all, both of you love God and want to live for Him. That means loving and forgiving each other, too," Paul told him.



8. Onesimus knew Paul was right. He must go home. What would happen? Would Philemon be mad? Would he punish him? Would he forgive him? Going home to Philemon was scary. But as scared as Onesimus might have been to go back, he loved God even more. He wanted to live like Jesus. So, Onesimus said goodbye to Paul and he went back home to Philemon, with Paul's letter in his hand. Onesimus trusted God to help Philemon and him with whatever happened next. And God did!

"The Case of the Runaway Who Ran Back" The Book of Philemon

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who ran away?
Onesimus ran away from working for Philemon.

2. Why did he run back?
When Onesimus believed in Jesus, his life changed. Now he lived for Jesus. That even meant going back to Philemon and asking his forgiveness for running away.

For You and Me:
Believing in Jesus means we should live for Jesus, too. God tells us in His Word, the Bible, how He wants us to live. Sometimes it means doing things we don't like to do, but that we know God wants us to do, just like Onesimus did when he went back to Philemon. And just like God helped Onesimus, He will help us to live for Him, too. It's His promise to all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Ask Him to help you! He loves to answer prayers like this.



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Ephesians 5:1,2, NIV

"Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us."

1. What did Onesimus know he needed to do to live a life of love towards Philemon?

He needed to go back home and ask for Philemon's forgiveness for running away.

2. How could Philemon live a life of love towards Onesimus when Onesimus asked him for forgiveness?

He should forgive him.

For You and Me:

If we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, we become God's people. That's just the beginning. God wants His people to live a life of love, just as Jesus Christ has loved them. Sometimes this is very hard, like it was for Onesimus and Philemon; but, God always promises to help His people live for Him. Thank you, God!

**Our Bible Truth is:
How Should God's People Live?
They Should Live Like Jesus!**

The Gospel



All of us were created to love God and others like Jesus did. But the sad news is that none of us do. We all have sinful hearts and choose to live our own way, instead of God's good way. That's why we all deserve God's punishment.

But even though we all deserve God's punishment, God is so merciful that He chose to send His Son, Jesus, to become a man and to be our Savior. Jesus lived a perfect life, and offered it up on the cross as the full payment for the sins of God's people.

Jesus died and was buried, but on the third day, He rose up from the dead. He had beaten sin and death for God's people.

We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. And if we do, God's Holy Spirit will come live inside us, helping us love God and live for Him. HE will help us live like Jesus! Then one day, we will go to live happily with God forever. That will be best of all!



A Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the God who shows us how You want us to live. You show us through Your Son, Jesus. We praise You for being the God who helps live like Jesus, too, through Your Holy Spirit.

C God, many time we don't love You or others as You want us to. We choose to not live like Jesus did. Please forgive us. We need a Savior!

T Thank You, God for promising to help Your people live like Jesus, by Your Holy Spirit. Thank You that You love to help us become Your people.

S Please work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us Your people. Give us Your Holy Spirit to help us to live like Jesus did. Help us to love others, and to love You most of all.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

