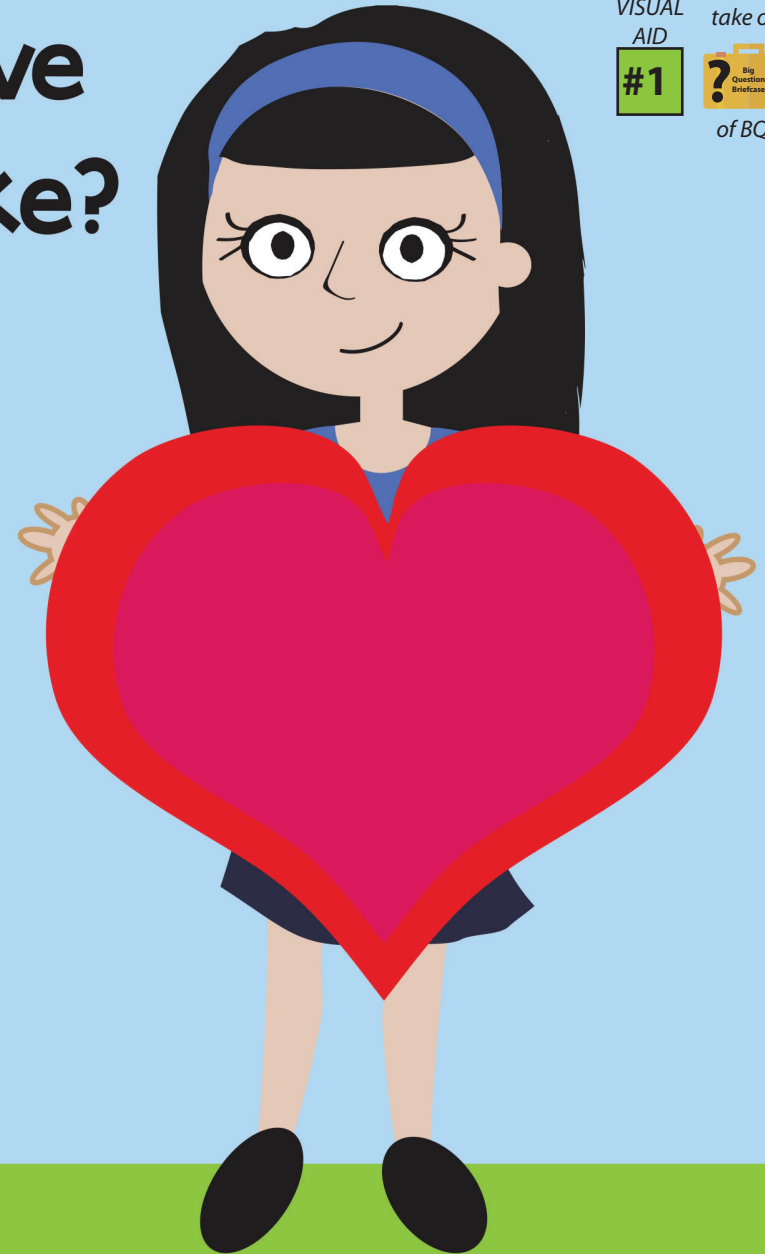




What is God's love for His people like?

VISUAL
AID
#1

take out
Big
Question
Briefcase
of BQB



ANSWER:

It's more than they could ever deserve!

HSK 8 Big Question and Answer Sign Front

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 8:

What Is God's Love for His People Like?
and the Answer is:
It's More than They Could Ever Deserve!

Meaning:

God has a special people He loves. They come from all over the world. They've lived in every time --from long ago, all the way up to today. And there's millions and millions of them!

There is nothing better than being one of God's special people! God has adopted them as His children. He promises to love and care for them always. They have special closeness with Him in their hearts; and one day when they die, they will go to live with Him forever.

God's people know His love for them is more than they could ever deserve. They know God didn't make them His special people because they were so good. They are sinners who have disobeyed His good laws, just like everyone else. They know that God loves them just because He loves them.

God's love for His people is the biggest love there will ever be. It's so big that God sent His Son, Jesus, to suffer and die on the cross to pay for their sins. That was the only way they could become His people. You and I can become God's people when we say sorry to Him for our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior

Let's sing our Big Question Song:"

Big Q & A 8 Song

*HSK ESV Songs 8, track 12
(Adapted version of "Baa. Baa. Black Sheep")*

What is God's love for His people like?
More than they could ever deserve!
What is God's love for His people like?
What is God's love for His people like?
What is God's love for His people like?
More than they could ever deserve!

VISUAL
AID

#2

Place
verse in

HSK
Bible
Folder

HSK Bible
Folder

take out

Big
Question
Briefcase

of BQB

**“Oh give thanks to the LORD,
for he is good;**



**for his steadfast love endures forever!”
I Chronicles 16:34, ESV**

Unit 8 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" and hold it up for all the children to see, then say:

1 Chronicles 16:34, ESV

"Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"

Meaning:

The LORD is God's name. The LORD loves His people with a love that will never end. How wonderful to know a love like that! And we all can, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Don't we have so much to thank the LORD for!

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

Oh Give Thanks:

1 Chronicles 16:34

HSK ESV Songs 8, track 14, 14T, 15

Oh give thanks to the LORD,
Oh give thanks,
O give thanks to the LORD,
Oh give thanks.
For He is good,
And His steadfast love,
Endures forever. *Repeat*

Forever and ever and
ever and ever,
Forever and ever and
ever and ever.
First Chronicles Chapter Sixteen,
verse thirty-four.

"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 Eager Enemy's End Acts 7-9



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who was the Eager Enemy and what was he eager to do?
2. What happened to the Eager Enemy that changed what he wanted to do?



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

1 Chronicles 16:34, ESV

"Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!"

1. How did the LORD love and change the Eager Enemy?
2. Why was it so amazing that the LORD would love him?

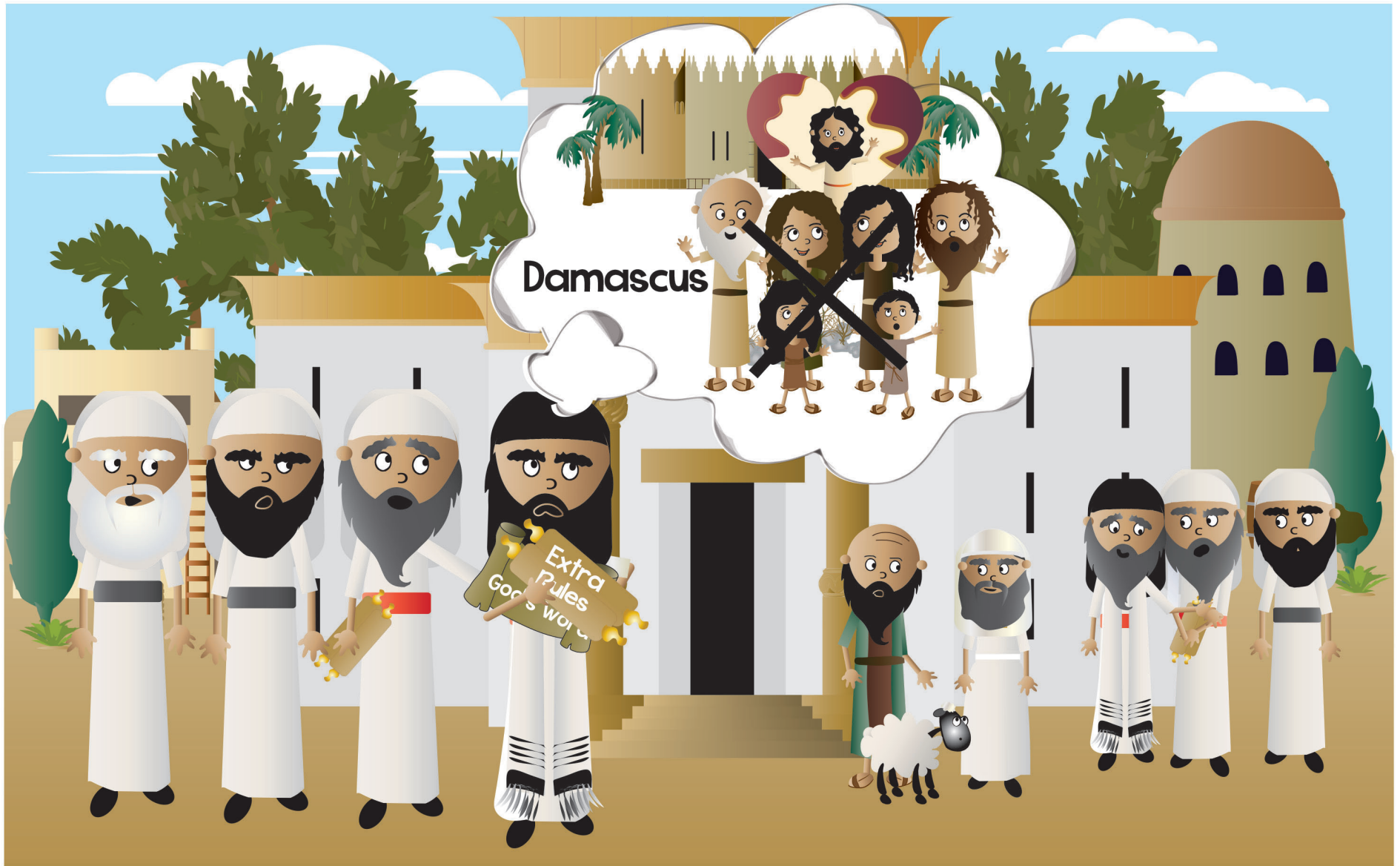
(more listening and discussion
questions are included in the
curriculum at praisefactory.org)



I. Saul was a Pharisee. He tried hard to please God by obeying lots of rules. He didn't think Jesus was God's Son, the Savior. He hated Jesus and the people who believed in Him. Saul would do **ANYTHING** to get the Christians to stop saying one thing: "Jesus is God's Son, the Savior!"



2. "Shhh! Be quiet!" Saul ordered the Christians in Jerusalem. "Jesus isn't God's Son, the Savior!" he told them. "I will hurt you and put you in jail if you say He is." And that's just what Saul did.

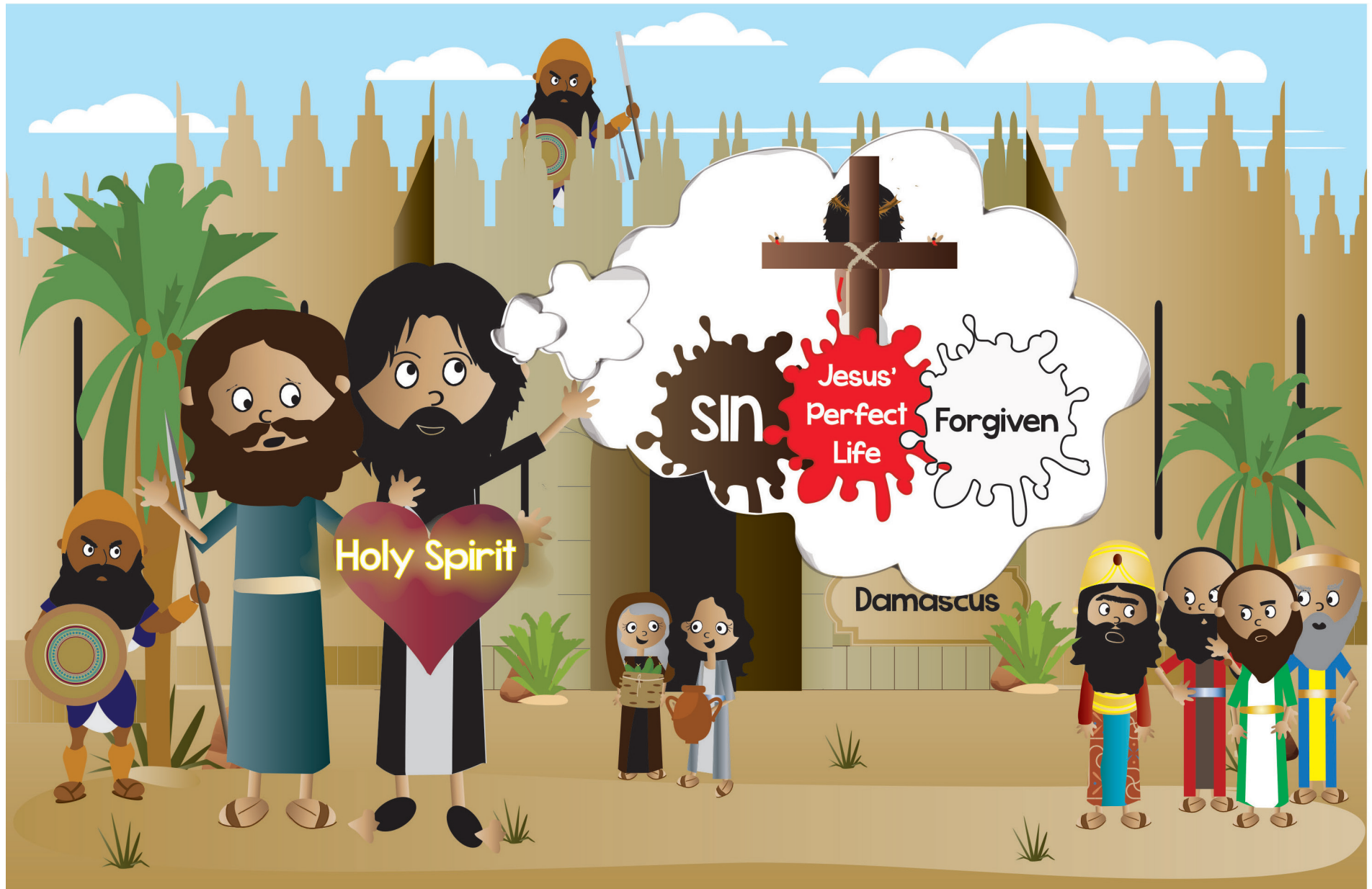


3. Saul wanted to get rid of Christians everywhere. "Send me to Damascus," he asked the leaders at the Temple. "I want to get rid of the Christians there, too." The leaders agreed. Saul and the soldiers set off for Damascus. Saul was going to stop those Christians who said Jesus was God's Son. He would make those believers be quiet, once and for all!



4. But Saul was wrong! A bright light from heaven suddenly shone down on Saul. It was Jesus!

"Stop hurting Me and God's people!" Jesus told Saul. "Who are you?" Saul asked in a scared voice. "I am Jesus, God's Son, the Savior!" Jesus told him. Uh oh! The Christians had been right. What would Jesus do to him? Would Jesus hurt Saul just like Saul had hurt the Christians?



5. Saul deserved God's punishment, but Jesus loved Saul more than Saul could ever deserve! The Holy Spirit worked in Saul's heart. Saul turned away from his life of hating. He trusted in Jesus as his Savior. How amazing that an enemy like Saul could become one of God's dearly-loved people!



6. Everything about Saul changed. God even gave him a new name: Paul. Now, Paul would tell everyone about Jesus, too! "Jesus IS God's Son," Paul told them. "How wonderful is His love!" Come trust in Him!" The Holy Spirit worked in the hearts of many as they listened to Paul, and they believed in Jesus, too. This was just what Jesus planned would happen. It was all more wonderful than Paul could ever deserve!

The Case of the Eager Enemy's End Acts 7-9

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who was the Eager Enemy and what was he eager to do? Saul was the eager enemy of the Christians--the people who believed in Jesus.

2. What happened to the Eager Enemy that changed what he wanted to do? Jesus appeared to Saul. Now Saul knew that Jesus was no fake. He was God's Son. The Holy Spirit worked in Saul's heart. He turned away from his sins and trusted in Jesus as his Savior. Then Saul became an eager FRIEND, instead of an eager enemy of Jesus and His followers.

For You and Me:
God is amazing! That He would love and forgive even His biggest enemies, even people like Saul! God loved Saul and saved him through Jesus. God can change us, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God loves to help us do this!



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

1 Chronicles 16:34, ESV

"Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"

1. How did the LORD love and change the Eager Enemy?

The LORD could have punished Saul for hating Him and being so mean to the Christians. Instead, He showed Saul that Jesus really was God's Son, the Savior. God's Holy Spirit worked in Saul's heart and helped him trust in Jesus as his Savior.

2. Why was it so amazing that the LORD would love him?

Saul deserved God's punishment for how he had hated Jesus and God's people. But instead of punishment, God loved Saul and forgave his sins through Jesus.

For You and Me:

There is no one so bad that God cannot forgive or change them. God can even work in the hearts of people who do not love Him at all. He can work in our hearts, too. He can help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Our Bible Truth is:
What Is God's Love for His People Like?
It's More than They Could Ever Deserve!

The Gospel



How great is God's love, that He would love and forgive someone like Saul!
Someone who had disobeyed Him and done such bad things!

We aren't that different from Saul. There is sin in our hearts, too. We choose to do things our own way. We do bad things and even have hateful thoughts. We need God to work in our hearts that we might know Him and live for Him.

How great is God's love, that He offers to help us, love us, and forgive us, too! Yes, God offers to make us dearly loved His people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, who died on the cross to pay for our sins and rose up from the dead in victory on the third day.

And what a wonderful beginning that will be, if we do! God will make us new, just like He did Saul. We will get to know God in our hearts now. And then one day, we will go to live happily with Him forever. That will be best of all! Ask God to help you. He loves to answer this prayer.



A Prayer

A We praise you, God. How great is Your love! It's more than we could ever deserve.

C God, You have given us Your good laws and we have broken them. We have chosen to do things our own way, not Your good way. We deserve Your punishment, not Your love. We need the Savior You sent us! We need Jesus to save us!

T Thank You for loving sinful people like us. You chose to send Your Son, Jesus, to make the way for us to become Your dearly loved people. Thank You for offering Your love to each of us. A love that will never end.

S Work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to love You and live for You. Make us Your dearly loved people.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

