

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. Everything God created was perfect. Best of all, people knew and loved God in a wonderful, perfectly close way. How good was the world that God created!

But sadly, life did not stay this way. People chose to disobey God and this perfect life was broken. Disobeying God is called "sin." People's sin brought sickness, sadness, and death into God's good world. Sin broke our special closeness with God, too. We can see it when we look inside our hearts. We do not love God or others as we should. Saddest of all, sin meant we deserved never to know God's love, only His punishment for our sins.

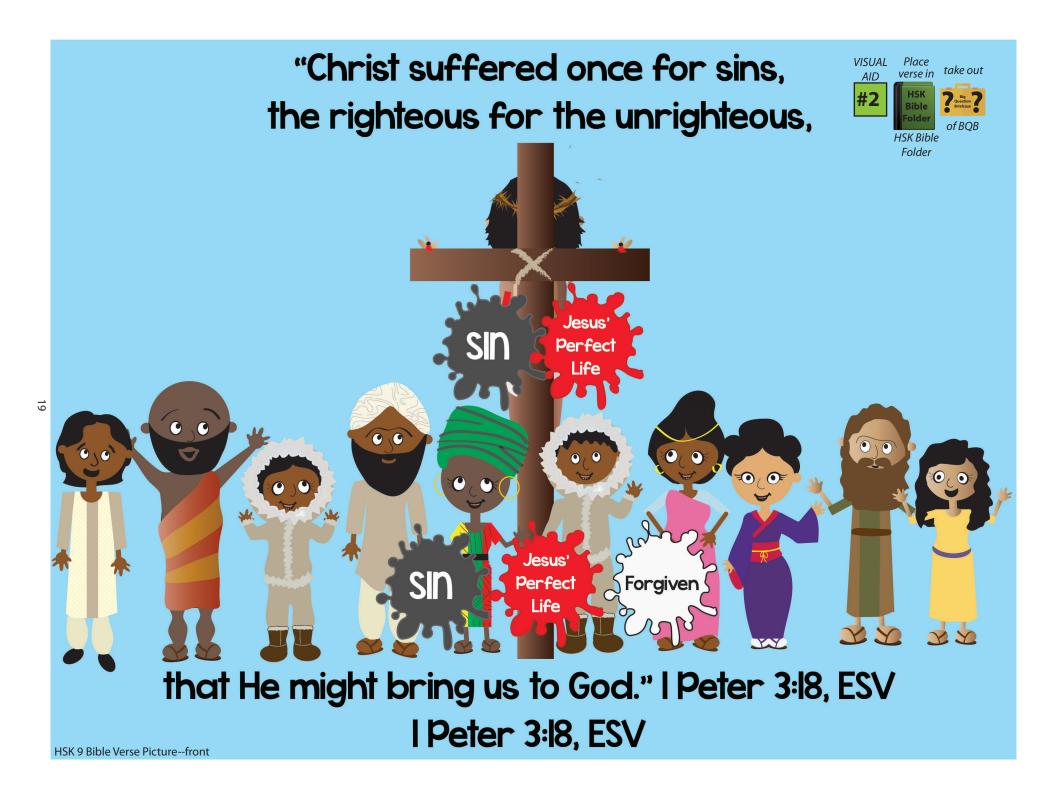
But God has been so kind to us. He has treated us much better than we could ever deserve! Even from the very beginning, God had an amazing plan to rescue us. He promised to send a Savior who would rescue His people. This Savior would take the punishment for their sins, so they wouldn't have to. This is how He would make them God's people. Who was that Savior? God's Son, Jesus. And who are God's people? All who turn away from their disobeying and trust in Him as their Savior. Jesus came to bring us to God! We can be God's people, too, if we trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to help you!

Let's sing our Big Question Song:"

Big Q & A 9 Song

HSK ESV 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!



Unit 9 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:

1 Peter 3:18, ESV

"Christ suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God."

Meaning:

What did Jesus come to do? Jesus came to bring us to God! That's just what this Bible verse tells us. We are all sinners and deserve God's punishment. We could never come to God on our own. But Jesus came to take God's punishment for sin for EVERYONE who turns away from rebelling against God and trusts in Jesus as their Savior! Yes! God forgives them and makes them His very own people. They can know God in their hearts now. And one day, they will get to live with Him forever. This is how we can become God's people, too. Thank You, Jesus! "We've said our Bible verse, now let's sing it!"

Christ Suffered Once for Sins: I Peter 3:16

HSK ESV Songs 9, track 14,14T

Christ suffered once for sins, That He might bring us to God, Christ suffered once for sins, That He might bring us to God.

The righteous for the unrighteous, The righteous for the unrighteous. That He might bring us to God. First Peter Three, eighteen.

"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 Son Who Came Down" The Gospels



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #l

I. Who was the Son who came down?

2. Where did he come down from and what did he come to do?

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

l Peter 3:18, ESV



"Christ suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God."

I. Who did Jesus die for?

2. Who did Jesus bring us to?

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



I. This story starts out in the most amazing home there has ever been. A home always filled with love, and goodness, and happiness, and beauty, and light. A home better than anything you can imagine. Why? Because this home was heaven, the home where you can see God in all His glory. A place so perfectly wonderful that you never want to leave.



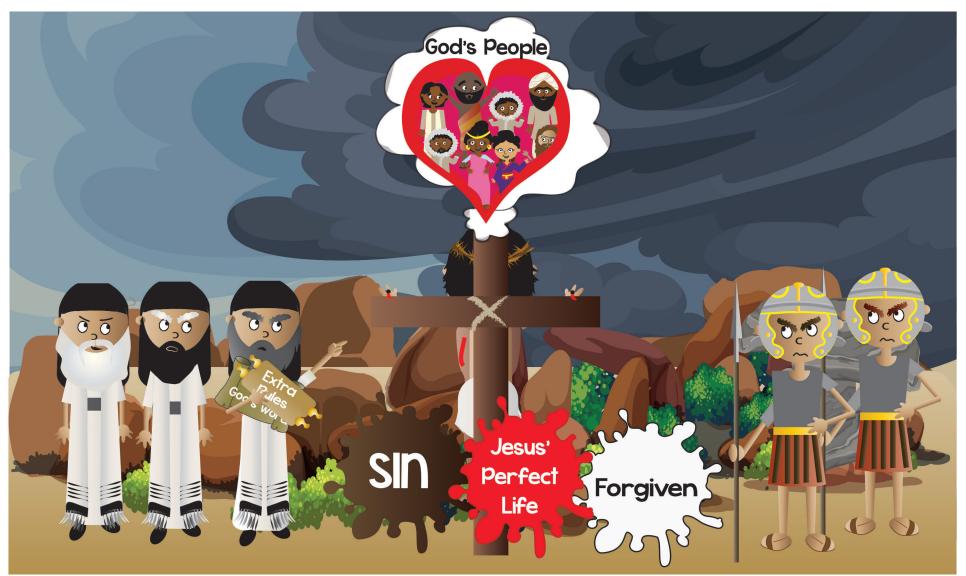
2. But Someone DID choose to leave that perfectly wonderful home. It was Jesus, God's Son. Now, Jesus didn't leave because He didn't like heaven. He LOVED it, especially the closeness of God He enjoyed in all its fullness. But Jesus DID choose to leave this wonderful home. Why? Because of God's great love for people like you and me, sinners who have rebelled against Him and need a Savior. Only Jesus could be this Savior. Only He could bring us to God.



3. So, Jesus left His wonderful home in heaven and was born a baby here on earth. Jesus was still fully God, but now He was fully human, too --like us. But there were some ways Jesus was UNLIKE us when He was born. Jesus was perfect. He had no sin in His heart, only perfect love and goodness. And angels, shining with God's brightness, sang: "God's Son has come from heaven to be your Savior," at His birth. Yet, Jesus had only an animal feeding bowl (manger) to sleep in. How very different this new home was from heaven! How much God loved us to send His Son HERE to be our Savior! There has never been anyone like Jesus, and there never will be again.



4. When Jesus was all grown up, He taught people lots of things about God. By God's power, Jesus also forgave people for disobeying God, made sick people well, and even brought dead people back to life! Jesus showed people what God was like. Many people listened to what Jesus said and saw what He did, and began to think: "Jesus is God's Son! He has come to bring us to God!"



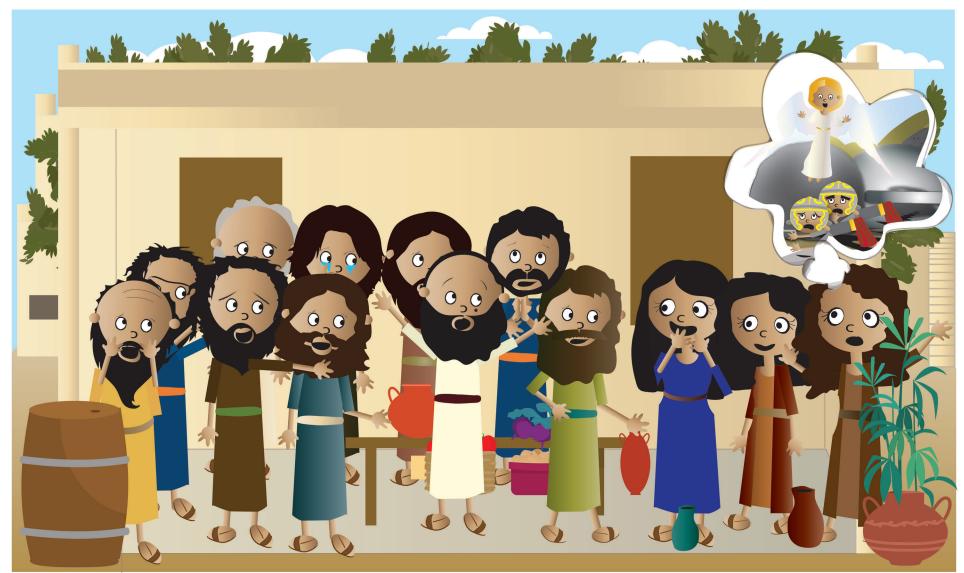
5. One day, Jesus' enemies put Jesus on a cross to suffer and die. Jesus' body hurt so much! His spirit hurt so much, too. Jesus didn't hurt because of anything bad He had done. Jesus was perfect. He never did anything bad. Jesus hurt for God's people. He was giving His perfect life to pay for all their sins. Jesus took their punishment for them. Jesus came to bring us to God, and this was the only way to do it!



6. Jesus died on the cross that day. His friends buried His body in a cave-grave, sealed shut with a HUGE stone. Jesus' enemies sent soldiers to guard the grave. They wanted to be sure nothing happened to Jesus' body. Jesus' friends were so sad. Jesus had told them that He would rise from the dead, but they didn't understand yet. They thought Jesus was dead and gone. forever.



7. Jesus stayed dead on Day One and Two, but not on Day Three! An earthquake rumbled the ground as a shiny angel came down from heaven. He rolled back the stone and sat on it. The solders and Jesus' friends watched and were so afraid. "Don't be afraid," the angel told Jesus' friends. "Jesus isn't here! He's risen from the dead, just as He said He would. See for yourselves, then go tell the others," he told them.



8. Jesus' friends looked inside the cave. Sure enough... NO JESUS! Jesus was gone, just as the angel said! Jesus' friends ran off to tell the others the good news: God had really raised Jesus from the dead, never to die again. Jesus had beaten sin and death! God had completely forgiven His people for disobeying Him. Now, they could have that special closeness with God He created them to have. Now, they would get to go to heaven to be with Jesus.



9. Jesus appeared to his friends that day and many others. He told them more about God and His good plans. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to live in their hearts, giving them closeness with God in their hearts, now. And one day, they would go to be with Him in heaven, enjoying God and His people, fully and completely, forever. Then up went Jesus, back home to heaven, to fully enjoy all the closeness of God once more. Jesus came to bring us to God... and He had done it!

"The Case of the Son Who Came Down" The Gospels



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #l

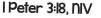
I. Who was the Son who came down? Jesus, the Son of God.

2. Where did he come down from and what did he come to

do? He came down from heaven to bring us to God by being our Savior.

For You and Me: Isn't it amazing that Jesus would leave His wonderful home in heaven, so He could bring us to God! Isn't it amazing that He would love us so much to suffer and die for the sins of God's people! We can be God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. That is how Jesus brings us to God, so we can know Him and enjoy Him forever.

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



"Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God."

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I. Who did Jesus die for?

For the unrighteous--that is, for people like you and me who do bad things.

2. Who did Jesus bring us to?

To God. We can know God and live as His people because of Jesus!

For You and Me:

Only Jesus lived a perfect life that pleased God. He was perfectly good (righteous). But Jesus didn't just come to live a perfect life. He came to give up that perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people. Yes! Jesus gave up His life, so that we could be forgiven for all the bad things we do and could be God's people. You and I can become God's people, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to help you. He loves to answer this prayer! Our Bible Truth is: What Did Jesus Come to Do? Jesus Came to Bring Us to God!

The gospel is the good news that Jesus came to bring us to God. And oh, how we need this good news! You see, we all are unrighteous. That is, we have chosen to rebel against God, our good king. And for this, we deserve God's punishment.

But God chose to send Jesus to live a perfect life and offer it up on the cross, as the full payment for the punishment we deserve. He died that we might know God and live with Him forever.

Jesus suffered and died on the cross. He was buried in a grave, but that wasn't the end of the story. He rose up in victory on Day Three. He had beat sin and death for God's people.

How can we become one of God's people, those who Jesus brings to God? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. And what a wonderful beginning that will be, if we do. We will get to know God in our hearts now. And then one day, we will go to live happily with God forever. That will be best of all!

A Prayer

A Jesus, we praise You for being our Savior. You came to bring us to God.

C God, You sent Jesus to save us, and we certainly do need a Savior! We are all sinners who choose to disobey You and Your good rules. We deserve Your punishment, not Your love. Please forgive us for disobeying You and Your good rules. Please rescue us from the punishment our sins deserve!

T Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the cross to save all who trust in You as their Savior. You took the punishment they deserved for disobeying God. You made the way to bring us to God.

S God, work in our hearts. Help us to see that we are sinners who have disobeyed you. Help us to turn away from our sins and ask You to save us. Help us to trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to know You in our hearts even today.

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!)