

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES



Unit 8

Simple Story Scenes, ESV

The God Who Loves



Curriculum for preschool and elementary age children,
training tools, music and other resources
are available for download or to order at:
www.praisefactory.org

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Deep Down Detectives Curriculum Resources

There are five companion resources for each of the sixteen units of Deep Down Detectives. Use whichever resources are useful to your setting. Deep Down Detectives resources are available as free, digital downloads at praisefactory.org, or for purchase as hard copies through amazon.com.

Make sure to check out the “Bits and Pieces” section of the Deep Down Detectives curriculum online. It has all of the resources separated out making it easy for you simply to pick, choose and print out whatever you want.

Deep Down Detectives Core Curriculum Book, ESV/NIV for each unit

The Deep Down Detectives Core Curriculum book contains the curriculum introduction, the lesson plans, stories, music, activities and take home sheets for each of the units.

Deep Down Detectives Visual Aids with Simple Story Scenes, ESV/NIV for each unit

This resource provides large, colorful signs of the key concepts used in the unit, PLUS, easy-to-use, colorful scenes that you hold up in sequence as you tell the story. The story text for each scene is printed on the bottom of each scene.

Deep Down Detectives Simple Story Scenes, ESV/NIV for each volume

This resource includes only 2-page overview for Bible Truth, the story scenes, and take home sheets. This is a great, basic resource for use at home and in many classroom teaching situations.

Deep Down Detectives Small Format Visual Aids, ESV/NIV (Small Format Storyboard Pictures) for each volume

This resource provides large, colorful signs of the key concepts used in the unit, PLUS, colorful storyboard (flannelgraph) pictures to cut out and use as you tell each story. These storyboard pictures are for use with storyboards at least 24" x 36" in size.

Deep Down Detectives Large Format Visual Aids, ESV/NIV (Large Format Storyboard Pictures) for each volume

This resource provides large, colorful signs of the key concepts used in the unit. It also provides colorful storyboard (flannelgraph) pictures to cut out and use as you tell each story. These storyboard pictures are for use with storyboards 36" x 48" in size.

All of these materials may be photocopied for non-commercial church, classroom or school use by licensed users.

Other Resources in the Praise Factory Family of Curriculum

Deep Down Detectives is the second in a family of three, inter-related curriculums:

- Hide 'n' Seek Kids (focus group: ages 2-4; adaptable range: ages 2-pre-K 5's)
- Deep Down Detectives (focus group: ages 4--6's; adaptable range: ages 3-2nd grade)
- PFI: (focus group: grades K-5th grade; adaptable range: pre-K 5's-6th grade)

Each curriculum teaches the same biblical themes, but are presented in greater depth as the children grow and develop. Together, the curriculums work like an expanding spiral of truth that returns to reinforce the same truths with each curriculum, yet leading the children to deeper understanding with each step up.

Learn more about these curriculums as well as other resources and ideas for reaching children with the gospel at: www.praisefactory.org.

Unit 8: The God Who Loves

UNIT OVERVIEW

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 are 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. He gives them special closeness with Him in their heart; 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. God just 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 turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

In this unit we will learn four truths about God's love.

UNIT BIBLE VERSE: 1 Chronicles 16:34, ESV

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

BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

ANSWER: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve!

OPTIONAL Big Question 8 INTRODUCTION LESSON (Use Hide 'n' Seek Kids Unit 8 Material)

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

Bible Verse: 1 Chronicles 16:34

BIBLE TRUTH 1: God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Costly Children

Exodus 24, Jeremiah 25, Isaiah 9,42,43,49, Ezekiel 37, Daniel 9, Zechariah 8-14

Bible Verse: 1 John 4:10

BIBLE TRUTH 2: God Always Takes Care of Them (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Woman Who Didn't See *Ruth*

Bible Verse: Psalm 23:1-3,6

BIBLE TRUTH 3: God Uses Their Sadnesses for Good (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Sad Thing that Did Good *John 8-10*

Bible Verse: Romans 8:28-29

BIBLE TRUTH 4: God Will Never Stop Loving His People

(3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the One Who Would Not Stop *1 & 2 Samuel, Psalm 16,23*

Bible Verse: Hosea 2:19

Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs & Track Numbers

This is a listing of all songs mentioned in the unit curriculum. You may or may not choose to use all of the songs. They are listed in easy-reference order--NOT in the order used in the curriculum.

You may choose to simply burn a CD/load them onto an mp3 device in this order. Or, you may want to do what we do: choose the songs we want to use and create a play list of them in that order. Then, we burn a CD/upload the play list onto an mp3 device. A teacher only has to click forward to the next song, instead of hunting for the right track. The track number have been included as part of the title of each song, so teachers will still have a reference to the track number listed in the curriculum (same as those listed below), even if you change the order on your customized play list.

SONGS USED EVERY UNIT OF THE CURRICULUM

- 1 The Classroom Song v.1
- 2 The Classroom Song v.2
- 3 The Classroom Song v.3
- 4 The Classroom Song v.4
- 5 Deep Down Detectives Theme Song
- 6 The Classroom Rules Song
- 7 Let's Pray Song
- 8 The Big Question Box Song
- 9 The Bible Chant Song
- 10 ACTS Prayer Song (Short Version)
- 11 ACTS Prayer Song (Full Version)

Why the Extra Songs?

Deep Down Detectives is a curriculum used by a wide age-span of kids. Sometimes one of the other songs is a better fit for your kids. Or, you may simply want to teach them more songs on the same Bible Truth. Use as many or as few as you want.

listen to or download songs for free at <https://praisefactory.org>: Deep Down Detectives Music page

UNIT 8: THE GOD WHO LOVES

- 12 Big Q & A 8 Song
- 13 Big Question 8 Song: What Is God's Love for His People Like?
- 14 Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: Oh, Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV (full version)
- 15 Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: Oh, Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV (short version)
- 16 *Extra Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV (different version)*
- 17 *Extra Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: The Steadfast Love of the Lord Lamentation 3:22,23, ESV*
- 18 Big Question 8 Hymn: And Can It Be, v.1 refrain
- 19 Big Question 8 Praise Song: God Is So Good

What Is God's Love for His People Like? It's More Than They Could Ever Deserve...

Bible Truth 1: God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them

- 20 Bible Verse: This Is Love 1 John 4:10, ESV
- 21 *Extra Song: God's One, Big Plan*
- 22 *Extra Bible Verse: The LORD Is Good to All Psalm 145:9,13,15-16, ESV*
- 23 *Extra Bible Verse: For God So Loved the World John 3:16, ESV*

Bible Truth 2: God Always Takes Care of Them

- 24 Bible Verse: The LORD Is My Shepherd Psalm 23:1-6, ESV
- 25 *Extra Bible Verse: Who Shall Separate Us Romans 8:35, 37-39, ESV*
- 26 *Extra Bible Verse: If God Is for Us Romans 8:31-32,35,38-39, ESV (different version)*

Bible Truth 3: God Uses Their Sadnesses for Good

- 27 Bible Verse: And We Know Romans 8:28-29, ESV
- 28 *Extra Bible Verse: All Things Romans 8:28-29, ESV*

Bible Truth 4: God Will Never Stop Loving His People

- 29 Bible Verse: I Will Betroth You to Me Hosea 2:19, ESV
- 30 *Extra Bible Verse: Even to Your Old Age Isaiah 46:4,9,11, ESV*
- 31 *Extra Bible Verse: For He Chose Us Ephesians 1:4-5, HCSB*

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES



Simple Story Scenes

Unit 8,

Bible Truth 1

Using Simple Story Scenes as a Curriculum

Introduce the Key Concept and Bible Verse

Simple Story Scenes give you the basics for the core of your lesson. You can use the overview sheet to introduce and explain the key concept and Bible verse.

Give the Case Assignment

Give the children a Detective Dan listening assignment. Two are provided. You can add a third using the ideas on the bonus, third take-home sheet, if desired. Each listening assignment, let's you teach the story with a different learning emphasis.

Show & Tell the Story

Hold up the pictures and tell the story from the story scenes. Alternatively, you can find in the and Pieces section for this unit at praisefactory.org, these same listening assignments and story scenes, gospel and ACTS prayer modified for view on a screen. Simply download them or open them online and show through your own monitor (tablet, big screen, whatever).

Solve the Case

Repeat Detective Dan's listening assignment question and discuss the answer.

Share the Gospel

Share the gospel tie-in with the kids.

Close in ACTS Prayer

Pray the ACTS prayer with the kids. If using the curriculum with older children, give them a chance to think up their own ACTS tie-ins to the story, using the one provided as cues/ideas for you.

Review Time

Give out the take-home sheet (there are three: two that correlates to the two Detective Dan assignments in the Story Scenes, and a bonus third one.) As the children are coloring, use the take-home sheet discussion questions or your own questions to further review and apply the key concepts, Bible verse, and story truths to the children.

Looking for more?

Online, in the Bits and Pieces section for this unit, you will find review games, crafts, storyboard flannelgraph figures, and audio and sheet music for all of the songs. There are also full lesson plans that offer more of a script and take this curriculum's possibilities to much more depth. Don't forget to tell the parents about the Parents Resources section where they can read through the Story scenes and download take homes with their kids.

Unit 8: The God Who Loves

Unit Big Question (and Answer): What Is God's Love for His People Like?
It's More than They Could Ever Deserve!

Unit Bible Verse: "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"
--1 Chronicles 16:34, ESV

Bible Truth 1 Concept: God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them

All people have rebelled against God and have broken His laws. All have chosen to do things their own way, instead of God's way. Their hearts should be full of love for God; but instead, their hearts are dead and empty of love for God and His good ways. That's why all people deserve God's punishment for their sins. They deserve to be separated from Him forever. How sad!

But God is so kind and merciful! He chose to save sinners, like you and me, even though we did not deserve it. Yes, God chose to love sinners, even though their hearts were so dead and empty of love for Him. And He didn't just love them a little bit. He loved them a lot! He loved them so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to live and perfect life and give it up as the full payment for their sins when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really done it! He had redeemed sinners, so that they could become God's special people—His, dearly-loved, adopted children forever! We can be God's special people, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Hasn't God loved us so much through Jesus!

Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse: 1 John 4:10, ESV

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Learn a Little: "[God] sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Meaning

We are all sinners who have rebelled against God, yet God chose to love us, and to love us in the deepest way possible! He sent Jesus to save us. Yes, God sent His dearly-loved Son to earth to be the propitiation for our sins. He was the atoning sacrifice that would pay for our sins and satisfy God's judgment against us. Jesus would live a perfect life, then offer it up as the full payment that would bring the forgiveness we needed. And He chose to do this while we still were rebelling against Him! How wonderful is this free gift of God! How deep is His love! This atoning sacrifice is for us, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 1 ACTS Prayer

- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You were filled with love for them before they loved You or knew You!
- C** God, we should be filled with love for You and Your good ways, but so many times we are not. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for loving sinners, even before they loved You. Thank You for making the way for them to be saved through Jesus.
- S** God, work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Give us new hearts full of love for You. Help us to become Your people. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Bible Truth 1 Story**The Case of the Costly Children**

Exodus 24, Jeremiah 25, Isaiah 9,42,43,49, Ezekiel 37, Daniel 9, Zechariah 8-14

Songs Used in Bible Truth 1

Big Q & A 8 Song

Big Question 8 Song: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: O, Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV

Extra Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV

Extra Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: The Steadfast Love of the Lord Lamentation 3:22,23, ESV

Big Question 8 Hymn: And Can It Be, v.1 refrain

Big Question 8 Praise Song: God Is So Good

Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse: This Is Love 1 John 4:10, ESV

Extra Bible Truth 1 Song: God's One, Big Plan

Extra Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse: The LORD Is Good to All Psalm 145:9,13,15-16, ESV

Extra Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse: For God So Loved the World John 3:16, ESV

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"The Case of the Costly Children"

Exodus 24, Jeremiah 25, Isaiah 9:42, 43, 49, Ezekiel 37, Daniel 9, Zechariah 8-14



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Whom did God adopt as His dearly-loved children?
2. What made adopting them so costly to God?



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

1 John 4:10, ESV

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

1. Whom did God love before they loved Him?
2. Whose sins were forgiven by Jesus' sacrifice?

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

I. The LORD gathered the people of Israel near big Mt. Sinai and spoke to them:

“I have loved you and rescued you from your enemies. I want to be your God. I want you to be my dearly loved people,” He told them. “I want us to make a covenant together. I want to make big, big promises with you, sealed with blood. Promises that must be kept. “Do or die” promises,” the LORD explained.



I. The LORD gathered the people of Israel near big Mt. Sinai and spoke to them: "I have loved you and rescued you from your enemies. I want to be your God. I want you to be my dearly loved people," He told them. "I want us to make a covenant together. I want to make big, big promises with you, sealed with blood. Promises that must be kept. "Do or die" promises," the LORD explained.

2. “I want to give you My big promise to always take care of you and give you many good things,” the LORD told the people through Moses. “I want to give you homes in your own, very special land. A place where you can worship Me and live happily. I will get rid of all your enemies, so you don’t have to worry about them again,” the LORD told the people.

“But, I want you to make Me a big promise, too,” the LORD told them. “A promise to love Me and keep all of My good laws,” He said.



2. "I want to give you My big promise to always take care of you and give you many good things," the LORD told the people through Moses. "I want to give you homes in your own, very special land. A place where you can worship Me and live happily. I will get rid of all your enemies, so you don't have to worry about them again," the LORD told the people. "But, I want you to make Me a big promise, too," the LORD told them. "A promise to love Me and keep all of My good laws," He said.

3. What would the people of Israel say? What would they do? Did they want the LORD to be their God? Did they want Him to take care of them and give them all these good things? Did they want to be His dearly-loved people?

Yes, they did! They wanted the LORD to make His covenant with them. And they wanted these promises to be “Do or die” promises, sealed in blood. What a wonderful life He was offering them!

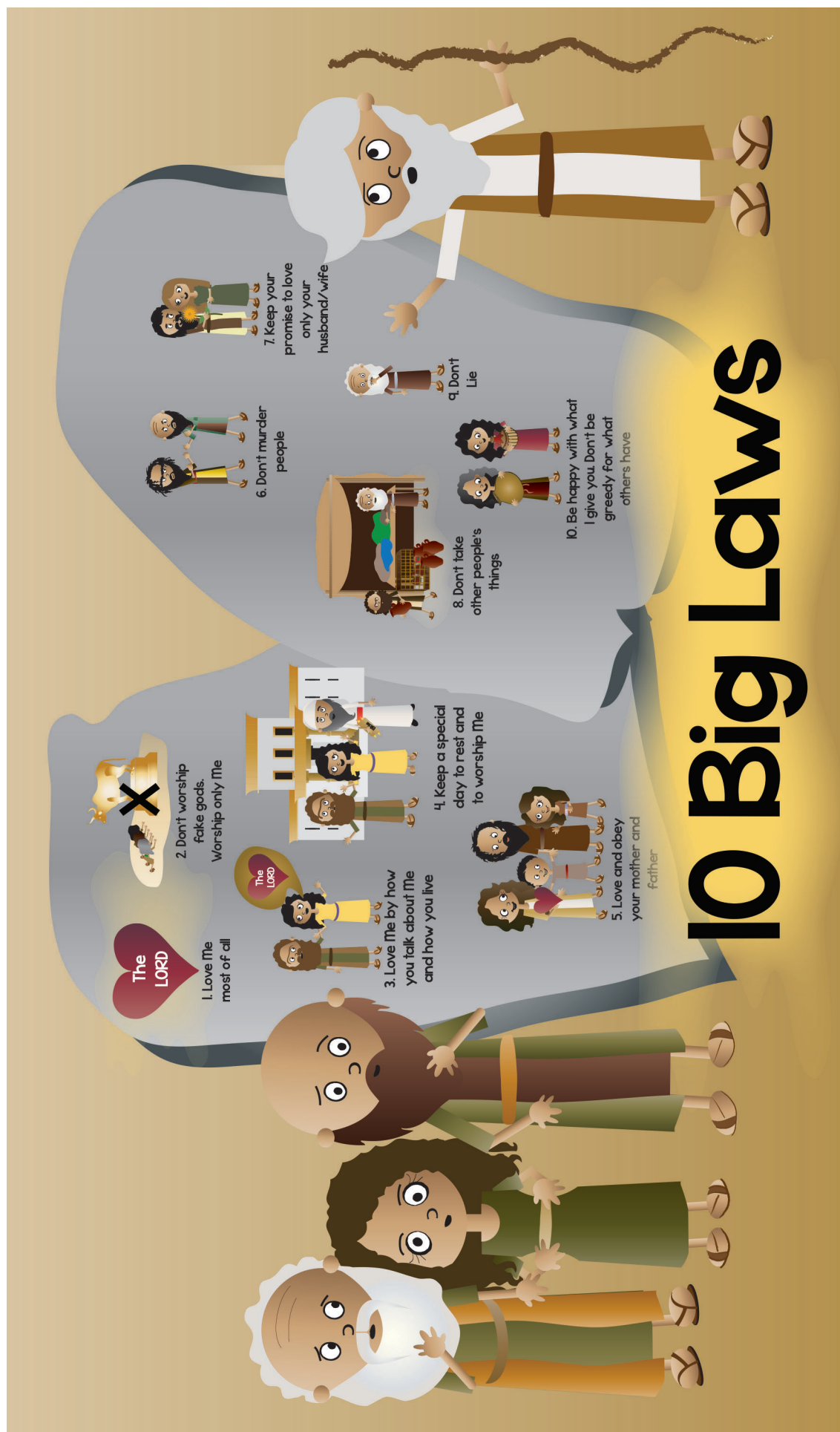


3. What would the people of Israel say? What would they do? Did they want the LORD to be their God? Did they want Him to take care of them and give them all these good things? Did they want to be His dearly-loved people? Yes, they did! They wanted the LORD to make His covenant with them. And they wanted these promises to be “Do or die” promises, sealed in blood. What a wonderful life He was offering them!

4. Ahh, but there was also the OTHER question they had to ask themselves: did THEY want to make a covenant with the LORD?

Did THEY want to promise to love Him and to keep His good laws? Remember: their promises were covenant promises, too. They were also “Do or Die,” sealed-with-blood promises which MUST be kept.

Did they want to make THAT kind of promise to the LORD? What do you think?



4. Ahh, but there was also the OTHER question they had to ask themselves: did THEY want to make a covenant with the LORD? Did THEY want to promise to love Him and to keep His good laws? Remember: their promises were covenant promises, too. They were also "Do or Die," sealed-with-blood promises which MUST be kept. Did they want to make THAT kind of promise to the LORD? What do you think?

5. Yes, they did! The LORD loved them. His laws were good. Why would they NOT want to make this covenant promise with Him?! So they said to the LORD,

“Yes, yes, yes! We will be Your dearly loved people! We will keep all of Your good laws. We will make a covenant with You—our “Do or Die” promise. We want You to be our God!” they told the LORD.



5. Yes, they did! The LORD loved them. His laws were good. Why would they NOT want to make this covenant promise with Him?! So they said to the LORD, “Yes, yes, yes! We will be Your dearly loved people! We will keep all of Your good laws. We will make a covenant with You-our “Do or Die” promise. We want You to be our God!” they told the LORD.

6. So, the LORD and the people made a covenant together.

Moses built an altar at the base of the mountain and set up twelve, stone towers-- one for each of the twelve, family groups among the people. Twelve, young men brought twelve large, worship gifts to offer to the LORD. Everyone listened as Moses read the LORD's promises and laws to the people. Blood was sprinkled on the altar and on the people.

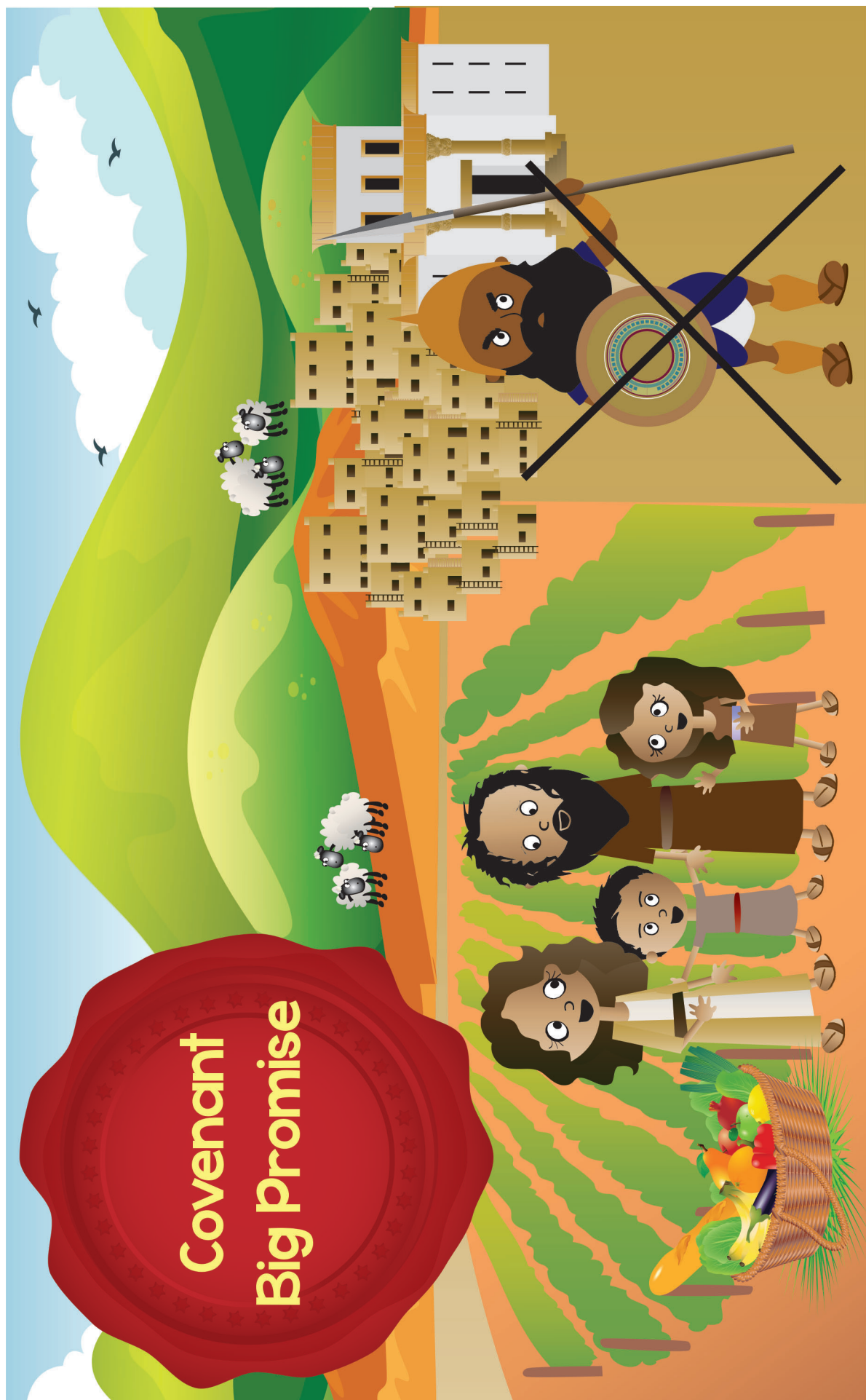
"We will do everything the LORD has said. We will obey Him and keep the covenant.. we will do or die," the people promised. The covenant was made. The LORD was their God, and they were His people.



6. So, the LORD and the people made a covenant together. Moses built an altar at the base of the mountain and set up twelve, stone towers-- one for each of the twelve, family groups among the people. Twelve, young men brought twelve large, worship gifts to offer to the LORD. Everyone listened as Moses read the LORD's promises and laws to the people. Blood was sprinkled on the altar and on the people. "We will do everything the LORD has said. We will obey Him and keep the covenant... we will do or die," the people promised. The covenant was made. The LORD was their God, and they were His people.

7. The LORD kept all of His covenant with His people --every one of His big, “Do or Die” promises.

He gave them a special land to live in. He gave them their own homes. He gave them fields full of good food and lots of children. He told them how to build a special worship place so they could meet with Him. And, He protected them from their enemies.



7. The LORD kept all of His covenant with His people--every one of His big, "Do or Die" promises. He gave them a special land to live in. He gave them their own homes. He gave them fields full of good food and lots of children. He told them how to build a special worship place so they could meet with Him. And, He protected them from their enemies.

8. But what about the people of Israel? Did they keep the covenant promises they made to the LORD?

They did NOT! They did NOT love the LORD or keep His good laws as they promised.



8. But what about the people of Israel? Did they keep the covenant promises they made to the LORD? They did NOT! They did NOT love the LORD or keep His good laws as they promised.

9. You see, it is one thing to MAKE a big promise to the LORD and another thing to KEEP it.

The people WANTED to be God's dearly-loved people. They WANTED to love Him and obey Him. They WANTED Him to bless them with all the good things He promised to give them.

But there was something that the people of Israel had in their hearts--that we have in our hearts, too--that was causing a big problem. Do you know what it was?



q. You see, it is one thing to MAKE a big promise to the LORD and another thing to KEEP it. The people WANTED to be God's dearly-loved people. They WANTED to love Him and obey Him. They WANTED Him to bless them with all the good things He promised to give them. But there was something that the people of Israel had in their hearts--that we have in our hearts, too--that was causing a big problem. Do you know what it was?

10. It was sin!

Yes, ever since Adam and Eve first disobeyed God in the Garden, there has been sin in everyone's heart. Sin that kept those people of Israel from obeying all of the LORD's good laws. Sin that kept them from worshipping and loving Him as they should. Sin that kept them from loving each other the way they should, too.



10. It was sin! Yes, ever since Adam and Eve first disobeyed God in the Garden, there has been sin in everyone's heart. Sin that kept those people of Israel from obeying all of the LORD's good laws. Sin that kept them from worshipping and loving Him as they should. Sin that kept them from loving each other the way they should, too.

II. And so, the people broke their covenant to the LORD, that big “Do or Die” promise, over and over. And that meant the people no longer deserved to be the LORD’s dearly-loved people and He should no longer be their God.

What would the LORD do, now that the people had disobeyed Him?



II. And so, the people broke their covenant to the LORD, that big “Do or Die” promise, over and over. And that meant the people no longer deserved to be the LORD’s dearly-loved people and He should no longer be their God. What would the LORD do, now that the people had disobeyed Him?

12. What would the LORD do? He did plenty!

He warned them over and over to turn away from their sin. He sent godly men like Jeremiah to them, saying, “Remember your big promise to the LORD! He wants to be your God. He wants you to be His dearly-loved people. Turn away from disobeying His good laws. Turn back to worshipping and loving Him! If you do, He will forgive you. If you do not, then He will send punishments to help you turn back to Him,” Jeremiah warned.



12. What would the LORD do? He did plenty! He warned them over and over to turn away from their sin. He sent godly men like Jeremiah to them, saying, “Remember your big promise to the LORD! He wants to be your God. He wants you to be His dearly-loved people. Turn away from disobeying His good laws. Turn back to worshipping and loving Him! If you do, He will forgive you. If you do not, then He will send punishments to help you turn back to Him,” Jeremiah warned.

13. Did the people of Israel listen to the LORD's warnings? Did they turn back to worship and love Him?

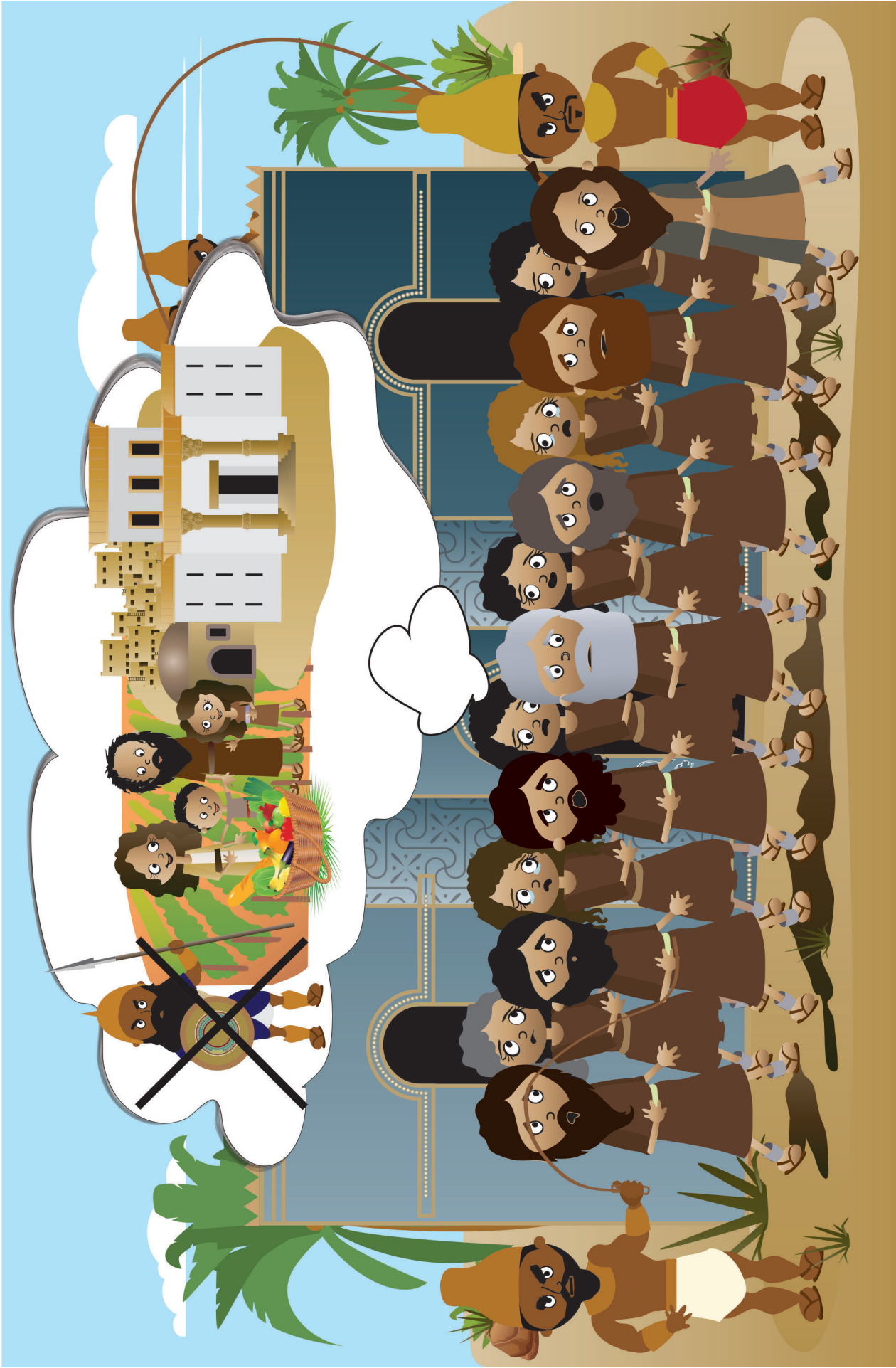
Not really. So at last, the LORD sent punishments. He let their enemies come into their land and destroy their homes and worship place. He let them take the people of Israel far away and made them work very, very hard for them.



13. Did the people of Israel listen to the LORD's warnings? Did they turn back to worship and love Him? Not really. So at last, the LORD sent punishments. He let their enemies come into their land and destroy their homes and worship place. He let them take the people of Israel far away and made them work very, very hard for them.

14. Boo, hoo! Boo, hoo! How sad the people of Israel were!

They missed the good things that God had given them. They missed their homes. They missed the place where they worshipped the LORD. They did not like working for their enemies.



14. Boo, hoo! Boo, hoo! How sad the people of Israel were! They missed the good things that God had given them. They missed their homes. They missed the place where they worshipped the LORD. They did not like working for their enemies.

15. But most of all, they were sad that they had not kept their big promise to the LORD.

They knew that they had not worshipped or loved Him as they promised they would. They knew that they had not loved others as they promised they would, either. They knew that they should not be His dearly-loved people anymore and He should not be their God. This is what they deserved for breaking their “Do or Die” promises with the LORD.

They knew they had sin in their hearts; and at last, they began to turn away from their sins. But was it too late? Was this really the end of the LORD’s love for His people?



15. But most of all, they were sad that they had not kept their big promise to the LORD. They knew that they had not worshipped or loved Him as they promised they would. They knew that they had not loved others as they promised they would, either. They knew that they should not be His dearly-loved people anymore and He should not be their God. This is what they deserved for breaking their "Do or Die" promises with the LORD. They knew they had sin in their hearts; and at last, they began to turn away from their sins. But was it too late? Was this really the end of the LORD's love for His people?

16. No, it wasn't! They didn't deserve to be God's dearly-loved people anymore, but God kept on loving them.

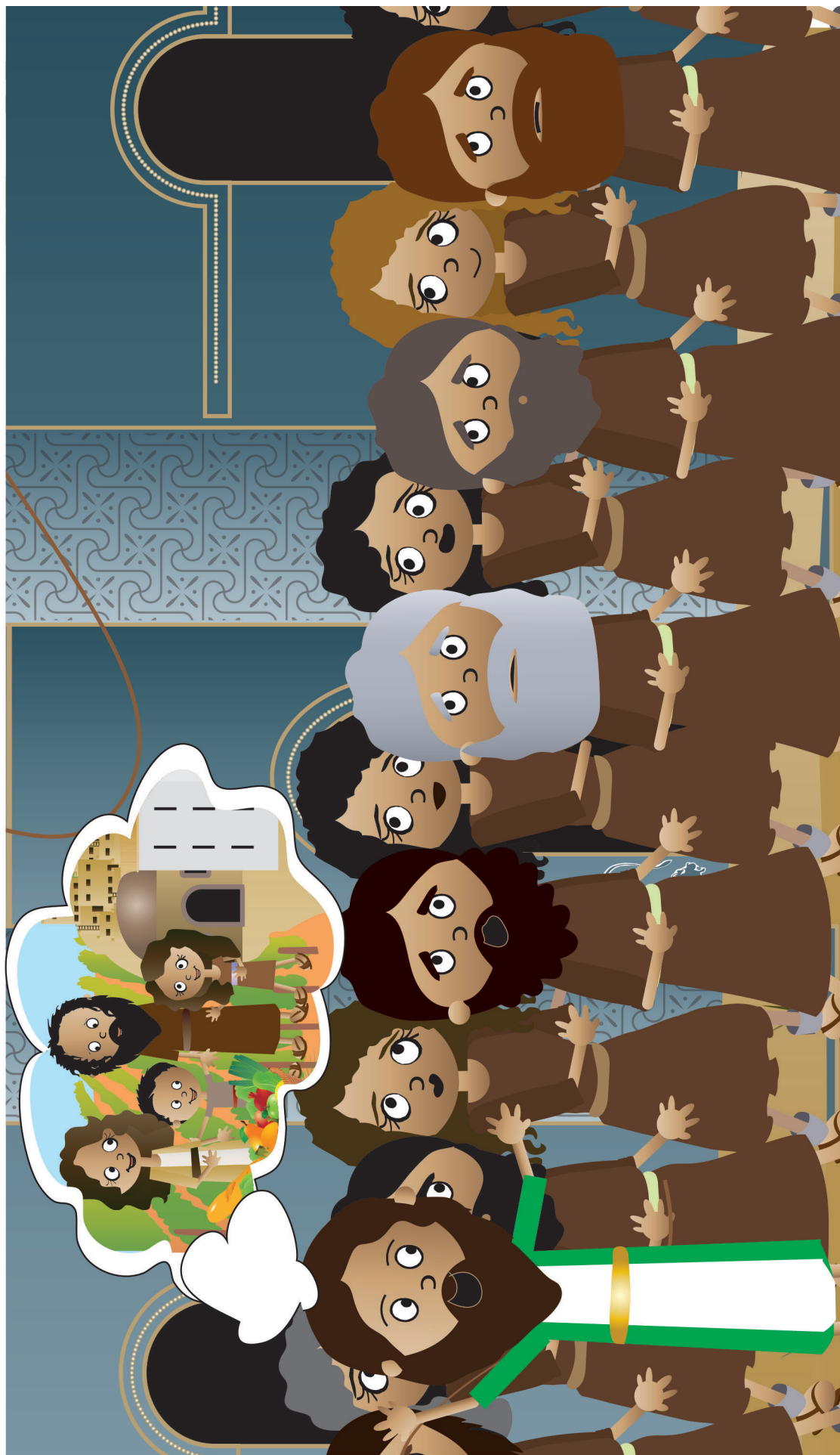
The LORD sent godly men like Daniel, Ezekiel, and Zechariah to encourage the people with wonderful news: "You have broken your promises to the LORD, but He still loves you," they told the people.



16. No, it wasn't! They didn't deserve to be God's dearly-loved people anymore, but God kept on loving them. The LORD sent godly men like Daniel, Ezekiel, and Zechariah to encourage the people with wonderful news: "You have broken your promises to the LORD, but He still loves you," they told the people.

17. “Hear the LORD’s good plans for you,” these men said.

“I have punished you so you would turn back to me, but I won’t keep on punishing you,” the LORD told them. “On just the right day, your punishment will be over. I will free you from your enemies. You won’t have to work for them anymore. You will get to go back to your homes in the special land. You can build a new place to worship Me. I will take care of you and give you good things,” the LORD promised them.



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18. “But I have even better plans for you than freeing you from your enemies and bringing you back home,” the LORD told them.

“I’m going to make a NEW covenant with you. A new “Do or Die” promise sealed with new blood. I’m going to beat your even bigger enemy: the sin in your hearts that keeps you from loving and obeying Me!” He promised.



18. "But I have even better plans for you than freeing you from your enemies and bringing you back home," the LORD told them. "I'm going to make a **NEW** covenant with you. A new "Do or Die" promise sealed with new blood. I'm going to beat your even bigger enemy: the sin in your hearts that keeps you from loving and obeying Me!" He promised.

19. “Yes, I’m going to send you a Messiah, a Savior,” the LORD promised.

“He will be My Son. He is going to come to earth. He is going to take the punishment that all My people deserve for disobeying Me. It will be gone for good. His blood will take away their sins. His blood will seal this new “Do or Die” covenant.

God's Son, Jesus, the Savior



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20. “I will give My people new hearts filled with My Holy Spirit.”

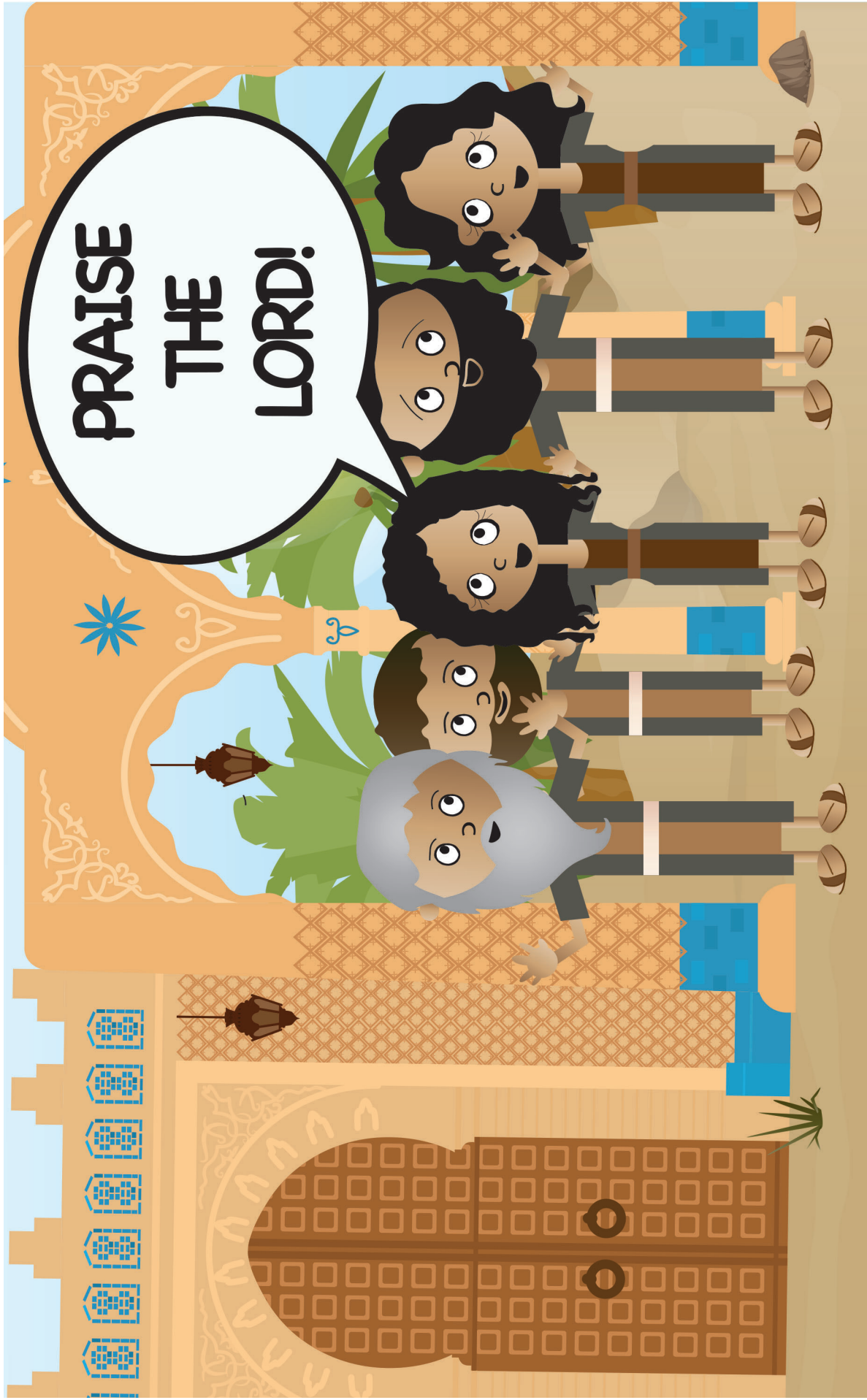
“Then, all My people, from every place in the whole world, will be saved to know Me and love Me and obey Me. And one day, they will all come live with Me, forever happy,” the LORD promised. “This covenant will last forever.”



20. "I will give My people new hearts filled with My Holy Spirit. Then, all My people, from every place in the whole world, will be saved to know Me and love Me and obey Me. And one day, they will all come live with Me, forever happy," the LORD promised. "This covenant will last forever."

21. What wonderful news this was! The people of Israel were so happy!

They believed God's big promise to free them from their enemies. They believed His promise to send them back home to their special land. And, they believed that one day God would send a Messiah, a Savior, to beat their biggest enemy of all: the sin in their hearts that kept them from loving and obeying Him.



21. What wonderful news this was! The people of Israel were so happy! They believed God's big promise to free them from their enemies. They believed His promise to send them back home to their special land. And, they believed that one day God would send a Messiah, a Savior, to beat their biggest enemy of all: the sin in their hearts that kept them from loving and obeying Him.

22. The people waited and waited. They looked for the day God promised. And at last, it came! They left working for their enemies and went back home to their special land. They built new homes, and they built a new place to worship God.

Then, they waited and waited some more. They waited for the day the Savior would come. And while they had to wait a very long time, at last, that day came, too.

Who was the Messiah, the Savior, God's Son? It was Jesus!



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23. Jesus was born a baby in Bethlehem. He grew up, up, up until He was a man.

And what a man Jesus was! He kept all of God's laws His whole life. He was perfect!



23. Jesus was born a baby in Bethlehem. He grew up, up, up until He was a man. And what a man Jesus was! He kept all of God's laws His whole life. He was perfect!

24. And what did Jesus do with that perfect life? He did just exactly what God promised He would do. He saved all God's people when He took the punishment for their sins on the cross.

With His own blood, Jesus sealed the new covenant that God was making with His people. A covenant that could NEVER be broken, because it was the blood of God's perfect Son, Himself, that was keeping the promises for God's people.



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25. Yes, Jesus suffered and died on the cross that day. He was buried in a cave grave and watched over by guards.

But that was not the end of the story, was it? On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, never to die again. He had really done it! He had beaten sin and death for God's people, once and for all!



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25. How great is God's love for His people!

Even though they do not love Him or obey Him as they should, He loved them more than they deserved. He loved them so much that He chose to send His Son, Jesus, to save them from their sins, so that they could know Him in their hearts now, and one day, go to live with Him forever.

We can be God's people, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to help you. He loves to answer this prayer!

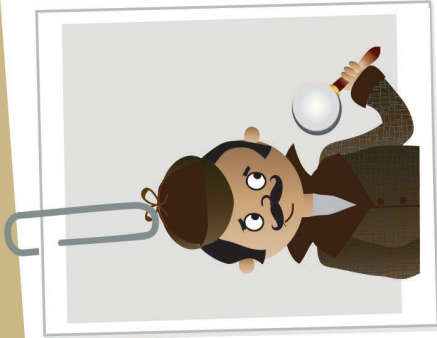


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DDD 8.1 Simple Story Scenes

"The Case of the Costly Children"

Exodus 24, Jeremiah 25, Isaiah 9, 42, 43, 49, Ezekiel 37, Daniel 9, Zechariah 8-14



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Whom did God adopt as His dearly-loved children?

All who would turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. His promises began with the people of Israel, but have spread out to include people from the whole world.

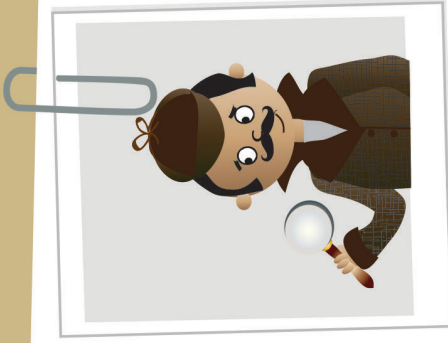
2. What made adopting them so costly to God?

God adopted them by paying for their sins, Himself, when Jesus suffered and died on the cross.

For You and Me:

We, too, can become God's dearly-loved, adopted children 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!

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

1 John 4:10, ESV

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

1. Whom did God love before they loved Him?

God loved all His people before they loved Him--the people of Israel, and all others who would turn to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

2. Whose sins were forgiven by Jesus' sacrifice?

All of God's people--all who would turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

For You and Me:

We, too, are sinners who have broken God's laws. We, too, deserve His punishment for our sins. But the good news is that we, too, can be forgiven our sins 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!

DDD 8.1 Simple Story Scenes

What Is God's Love for His People Like?
It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...
God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them!

The Gospel

The Bible, tells us that we have all chosen to turn away from God and disobey Him. That's why we all deserve His punishment for our sins. How sad!

But God is so rich in mercy. He sent His Son, Jesus, save His people, even though they did not love or obey Him. Jesus came and lived a perfect life. He always loved God and loved people. Then, He offered up His life to God as the full payment for the sins of God's people, when He suffered and died on the cross. Then on Day Three, Jesus rose from the dead in victory.

Jesus had beaten sin and death for God's people!

We can be God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. He loves to help us do this. Ask Him!



DDD 8.1 Simple Story Scenes

A Prayer

A We praise you, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You were filled with love for them before they loved You or knew You!

C God, we should be filled with love for You and Your good ways, but so many times we are not. We need a Savior!

T Thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for loving sinners, even before they loved You. Thank You for making the way for them to be saved through Jesus.

S God, work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Give us new hearts full of love for You. Help us to become Your people.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



DDD 8.1 Simple Story Scenes

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES



Simple Story Scenes

Unit 8,

Bible Truth 2

Using Simple Story Scenes as a Curriculum

Introduce the Key Concept and Bible Verse

Simple Story Scenes give you the basics for the core of your lesson. You can use the overview sheet to introduce and explain the key concept and Bible verse.

Give the Case Assignment

Give the children a Detective Dan listening assignment. Two are provided. You can add a third using the ideas on the bonus, third take-home sheet, if desired. Each listening assignment, let's you teach the story with a different learning emphasis.

Show & Tell the Story

Hold up the pictures and tell the story from the story scenes. Alternatively, you can find in the and Pieces section for this unit at praisefactory.org, these same listening assignments and story scenes, gospel and ACTS prayer modified for view on a screen. Simply download them or open them online and show through your own monitor (tablet, big screen, whatever).

Solve the Case

Repeat Detective Dan's listening assignment question and discuss the answer.

Share the Gospel

Share the gospel tie-in with the kids.

Close in ACTS Prayer

Pray the ACTS prayer with the kids. If using the curriculum with older children, give them a chance to think up their own ACTS tie-ins to the story, using the one provided as cues/ideas for you.

Review Time

Give out the take-home sheet (there are three: two that correlates to the two Detective Dan assignments in the Story Scenes, and a bonus third one.) As the children are coloring, use the take-home sheet discussion questions or your own questions to further review and apply the key concepts, Bible verse, and story truths to the children.

Looking for more?

Online, in the Bits and Pieces section for this unit, you will find review games, crafts, storyboard flannelgraph figures, and audio and sheet music for all of the songs. There are also full lesson plans that offer more of a script and take this curriculum's possibilities to much more depth. Don't forget to tell the parents about the Parents Resources section where they can read through the Story scenes and download take homes with their kids.

Unit 8: The God Who Loves

Unit Big Question (and Answer): What Is God's Love for His People Like?
It's More than They Could Ever Deserve!

Unit Bible Verse: "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"
--1 Chronicles 16:34, ESV

Bible Truth 2 Concept: God Always Takes Care of His People

Everyone who turns away from their sins and trusts in Jesus as their Savior becomes one of God's people. And they don't just become one of His people! He makes them His adopted children! God becomes their Father in heaven. They are part of His family forever!

God is kind to give us a mother and father, and even sisters and brothers, in the families we are a part of, here on earth. What good gifts they are! They love us and care for us, the best they can. God helps them love us. But no matter how good and loving our parents might be here on earth, they will never love us or take care of us as well as God can. God is the best Father we can ever imagine. He is perfect! He is all-wise: He always knows what is best for His children. He is always faithful: He always gives them what He promises them. He's all-powerful: He can always give His children everything they need and so much more. He is all-loving: He only does what is good for them.

God's adopted children never need to worry. They know that God, their Father in heaven, is always with them, always taking care of them. We can become one of God's children, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God loves to help us become His children!

Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse: Psalm 23:1-3,6

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

Learn a Little: "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want."

Meaning

These verses remind us that God loves His people and cares for their needs completely, just like a good shepherd loves and takes care of his sheep. That's what it means to not be in want. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 2 ACTS Prayer

- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You are their heavenly Father. You care for all of their needs in the way that You know is best.
- C** God, You promise to take care of those who put their trust in Jesus, but many times we doubt Your promises. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for being so faithful and good to those who trust in You. Thank You for taking care of all their needs in the way You know is best for them. What a wonderful thing it is to get to be Your adopted child!
- S** God, work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Fill our hearts with love for You. Take care of us and help us to trust in You. Be our heavenly Father. Make us Your adopted children. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Bible Truth 2 Story

The Case of the Woman Who Didn't See *The Book of Ruth*

Songs Used in Bible Truth 2

Big Q & A 8 Song

Big Question 8 Song: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: O, Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV

Extra Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV

Extra Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: The Steadfast Love of the Lord Lamentation 3:22,23, ESV

Big Question 8 Hymn: And Can It Be, v.1 refrain

Big Question 8 Praise Song: God Is So Good

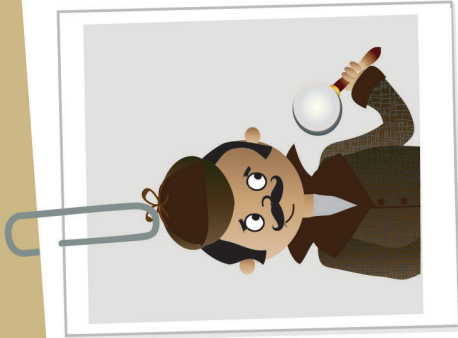
Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse: The LORD Is My Shepherd Psalm 23:1-6, ESV

Extra Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse: Who Shall Separate Us Romans 8:35, 37-39, ESV

Extra Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse: If God Is for Us Romans 8:31-32,35,38-39, ESV

listen to or download songs for free at <https://praisefactory.org>: Deep Down Detectives Music page

"The Case of the Woman Who Didn't See" The Book of Ruth



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Why was Naomi so sad?
2. What about God did she not see?



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Psalms 23:1-6, ESV

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

1. Who did the LORD take care of and make sure she was not in want?
2. How did the LORD show His goodness and love to her?

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

I. “Boo hoo! Boo hoo!” Naomi cried. Her husband had died. Her two sons had died. Naomi was so sad. She missed them so much!



I. "Boo hoo! Boo hoo!" Naomi cried. Her husband had died. Her two sons had died. Naomi was so sad. She missed them so much!

2. But Naomi wasn't just sad. She was scared, too. Only Orpah and Ruth, the wives of her sons, were left. Surely, they would go back home to live with their mother and father. That's what wives did back then when their husbands died. They knew that their mother and father would take care of them.

But poor Naomi, she didn't have a mother or father to go home to. And she was far, far away from her home in Bethlehem. Who would take care of her? Who would see that she had food to eat and clothes to wear? How would she get back home all by herself? What was Naomi to do?

This is why Naomi was so scared.

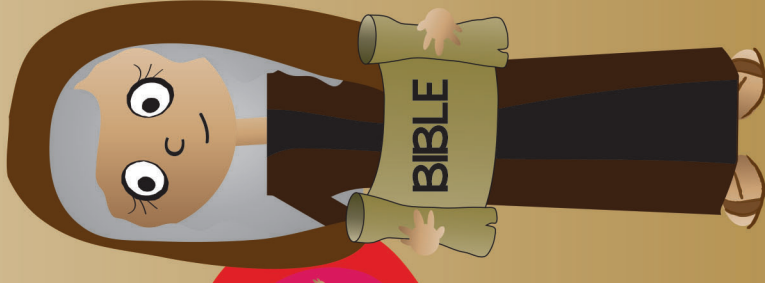


2. But Naomi wasn't just sad. She was scared, too. Only Orpah and Ruth, the wives of her sons, were left. Surely, they would go back home to live with their mother and father. That's what wives did back then when their husbands died. They knew that their mother and father would take care of them. But poor Naomi, she didn't have a mother or father to go home to. And she was far, far away from her home in Bethlehem. Who would take care of her? Who would see that she had food to eat and clothes to wear? How would she get back home all by herself? What was Naomi to do? This is why Naomi was so scared.

3. Naomi was right to be sad. It is a sad thing when your husband and sons die. But, Naomi did NOT have to be scared. She did NOT need to worry about who would take care of her.

Why? Because Naomi was one of God's people. She knew God's Word, the Bible. She knew God's promises to always take care of His people. She could trust Him to take care of her, even though she didn't know how.

THE LORD my Your Good people



3. Naomi was right to be sad. It is a sad thing when your husband and sons die. But, Naomi did NOT have to be scared. She did NOT need to worry about who would take care of her. Why? Because Naomi was one of God's people. She knew God's Word, the Bible. She knew God's promises to always take care of His people. She could trust Him to take care of her, even though she didn't know how.

4. But right then, all Naomi could think about were the sad things that had happened to her. She thought about all those sad things and decided that God had stopped taking care of her.

How wrong Naomi was! God had NOT stopped taking care of her. God is so kind to His people. He treats them better than they deserve. He would treat Naomi better than she deserved, too. So, even though Naomi was scared and did not think God would take care of her, God most certainly would.

Let's find out how.



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How wrong Naomi was! God had NOT stopped taking care of her. God is so kind to His people. He treats them better than they deserve. He would treat Naomi better than she deserved, too. So, even though Naomi was scared and did not think God would take care of her, God most certainly would. Let's find out how.

5. At last, it was time for Naomi to say goodbye to Orpah and Ruth, the wives of her sons. It was time for them to go live with their mother and father. And, it was time for Naomi to make the long walk back home to Bethlehem by herself.

“Goodbye, Orpah! Goodbye, Ruth!” Naomi told them. She kissed them goodbye and they all wept aloud. They were sad to leave each other.



5. At last, it was time for Naomi to say goodbye to Orpah and Ruth, the wives of her sons. It was time for them to go live with their mother and father. And, it was time for Naomi to make the long walk back home to Bethlehem by herself.

“Goodbye, Orpah! Goodbye, Ruth!” Naomi told them. She kissed them goodbye and they all wept aloud. They were sad to leave each other.

6. “Wait,” said Orpah and Ruth. “We won’t go back home to our parents. We will go with you instead. We will walk with you back to Bethlehem. We will take care of you,” they offered.

“No,” Naomi said. “You must go home to your father and mother,” she insisted. “Where I am going there is no one to take care of me and there will be no one to take care of you either. Not even God will take care of me,” she said.



6. "Wait," said Orpah and Ruth. "We won't go back home to our parents. We will go with you instead. We will walk with you back to Bethlehem. We will take care of you," they offered.

"No," Naomi said. "You must go home to your father and mother," she insisted. "Where I am going there is no one to take care of me and there will be no one to take care of you either. Not even God will take care of me," she said.

7. Oh, Naomi! You shouldn't say that! You know God's Word, the Bible. You know that God promises to always take care of His people. He will take care of you! Keep trusting in God!

And so God did, even though Naomi did not trust Him to take care of her. God loves His people so much that He treats them better than they deserve. He would treat Naomi better than she deserved, too.

For, though Orpah said goodbye to Naomi and went home to her father and mother, God had given Ruth a special love for Naomi and for Himself.



7. Oh, Naomi! You shouldn't say that! You know God's Word, the Bible. You know that God promises to always take care of His people. He will take care of you! Keep trusting in God!

And so God did, even though Naomi did not trust Him to take care of her. God loves His people so much that He treats them better than they deserve. He would treat Naomi better than she deserved, too. For, though Orpah said goodbye to Naomi and went home to her father and mother, God had given Ruth a special love for Naomi and for Himself.

8. Ruth clung to Naomi and said, “Please don’t make me go back home! I want to worship the LORD. He’s the one, true God. I want to take care of you the rest of my life! Please let me go back home with you to Bethlehem!” she begged.

Naomi looked at Ruth. She could see that nothing would change Ruth’s mind. Ruth refused to go home to her father and mother, so Naomi agreed.

God was showing Naomi that He *WOULD* take care of her, if Naomi would only see! He was giving Naomi Ruth to walk the long walk back to Bethlehem and to take care of her the rest of her life.



8. Ruth clung to Naomi and said, "Please don't make me go back home! I want to worship the LORD. He's the one, true God. I want to take care of you the rest of my life! Please let me go back home with you to Bethlehem!" she begged. Naomi looked at Ruth. She could see that nothing would change Ruth's mind. Ruth refused to go home to her father and mother, so Naomi agreed.

God was showing Naomi that He **WOULD** take care of her, if Naomi would only see! He was giving Naomi Ruth to walk the long walk back to Bethlehem and to take care of her the rest of her life.

9. Together, Naomi and Ruth walked to Bethlehem. Up mountains and down mountains. Through green valleys, along dusty roads, and beside grassy fields, they walked. On and on and on.



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10. At last, they came to Naomi's home in Bethlehem. Many people came out to greet Naomi. It had been so long since they had seen her.

But when they looked at her, they were surprised at what they saw. "Is this really Naomi?" the women asked. "She seems so different! Where is her husband? Where are her sons? Where is her smile?" they wondered.



10. At last, they came to Naomi's home in Bethlehem. Many people came out to greet Naomi. It had been so long since they had seen her. But when they looked at her, they were surprised at what they saw. "Is this really Naomi?" the women asked. "She seems so different! Where is her husband? Where are her sons? Where is her smile?" they wondered.

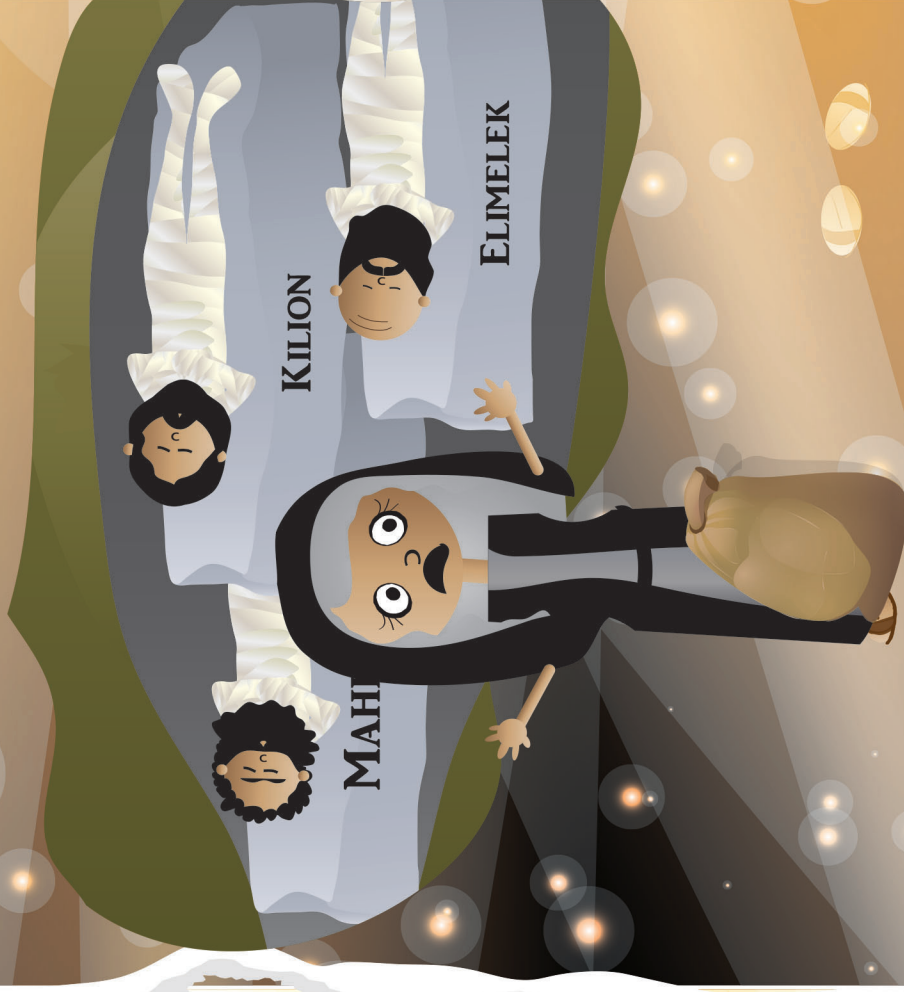
II. Naomi told them her sad news.

“My husband and sons have died. I am all alone. I am so sad that I want you to stop calling me ‘Naomi’. That name means ‘happy things.’ I want you to call me ‘Marrah’ now,” she told them. “‘Marrah’ means ‘bitter (sad) things.’ This is a better name for me since God has filled my life with so many sad things. I don’t even think He cares about me anymore,” she told them.

Naomi = Happy Things



Marah = Bitter Things



II. Naomi told them her sad news. "My husband and sons have died. I am all alone. I am so sad that I want you to stop calling me 'Naomi'. That name means 'happy things.' I want you to call me 'Marah' now," she told them. "'Marah' means 'bitter (sad) things.' This is a better name for me since God has filled my life with so many sad things. I don't even think He cares about me anymore," she told them.

12. Oh, Naomi! You shouldn't say that! You know God's Word, the Bible. You know that God promises to always take care of His people. He will take care of you! Keep trusting in God!

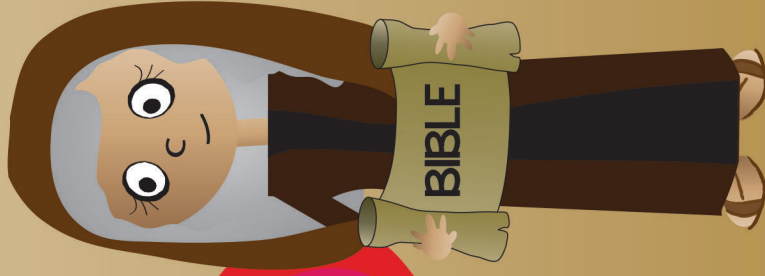
Yes, there are sad things in your life, but there are good things in your life, too. God helped you get safely back home to Bethlehem. He gave you Ruth to take care of you your whole life.

Would Naomi not see how good God had been to her?

THE LORD my Your Good people



Covenant
Big Promise



12. Oh, Naomi! You shouldn't say that! You know God's Word, the Bible. You know that God promises to always take care of His people. He will take care of you! Keep trusting in God! Yes, there are sad things in your life, but there are good things in your life, too. God helped you get safely back home to Bethlehem. He gave you Ruth to take care of you your whole life. Would Naomi not see how good God had been to her?

13. No, Naomi would not.

Naomi certainly didn't deserve for God to keep on taking care of her, but He kept on taking care of her anyway. God loves His people so much that He treats them better than they deserve. He would treat Naomi better than she deserved, too.

And so God did, and in bigger ways than Naomi could have ever dreamed!



13. No, Naomi would not. Naomi certainly didn't deserve for God to keep on taking care of her, but He kept on taking care of her anyway. God loves His people so much that He treats them better than they deserve. He would treat Naomi better than she deserved, too. And so God did, and in bigger ways than Naomi could have ever dreamed!

14. God provided Naomi and Ruth with food to eat from the barley fields of a rich man named Boaz. Boaz loved God, and before long, he loved Ruth, too. He married Ruth, and brought Naomi and her to his home to live. Boaz shared all he had with them.

How richly the LORD took care of Ruth and Naomi through Boaz!



14. God provided Naomi and Ruth with food to eat from the barley fields of a rich man named Boaz. Boaz loved God; and before long, he loved Ruth, too. He married Ruth, and brought Naomi and her to his home to live. Boaz shared all he had with them. How richly the LORD took care of Ruth and Naomi through Boaz!

15. And if this was not enough, Boaz and Ruth soon had a son for Naomi to love as her grandchild. Baby Obed! And one day, through Obed would come the great, king David, and much later, even the Savior, Jesus, Himself. Wow!

Hadn't God been kind to Naomi? Hadn't He taken care of her? Yes, He had! More than she could have ever imagined, and better than she ever deserved!

Could Naomi see it now, at last?



15. And if this was not enough, Boaz and Ruth soon had a son for Naomi to love as her grandchild. Baby Obed! And one day, through Obed would come the great, king David, and much later, even the Savior, Jesus, Himself. Wow!

Hadn't God been kind to Naomi? Hadn't He taken care of her? Yes, He had! More than she could have ever imagined, and better than she ever deserved! Could Naomi see it now, at last?

16. Yes, she could! Naomi took little baby Obed and put him on her lap and cared for him, just like she used to care for her own sons, long ago.

And the women of Bethlehem gathered around Naomi and said, “Praise the LORD, He has taken care of your needs. He has given you Ruth and Boaz to take care of you. He has even given you a little boy to care for like a son. Surely God has plans to take good care of you all the rest of your life!”

And Naomi had to agree. The LORD had taken care of her. He took away her bitter sadnesses, and even used them all to do her good!

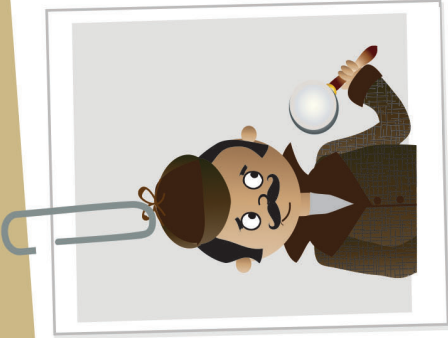


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DDD 8.2 Simple Story Scenes

"The Case of the Woman Who Didn't See" The Book of Ruth

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Why was Naomi so sad?
Her husband and sons had died.

2. What about God did she not see?
She could not see how God was taking care of her.

For You and Me:
God's people can know that God will always take care of them, even if they can't see how. He is always at work. If we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, we can be God's people, too. We can know that God will always take care of us, too.



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Psalms 23:1,6 ESV

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever."

1. Who did the LORD take care of and make sure she was not in want?
Naomi.

2. How did the LORD show His goodness and love to her?
He gave her Ruth to help her. He gave Ruth a husband and even a baby. He took care of Naomi through them all the days of her life.

For You and Me:

How good God is to always take care of His people! How wonderful it is to know that He makes sure that goodness and love will follow them all the days of their life and that they will go to live with Him forever one day! God offers us this kind of care, too, 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.

DDD 8.2 Simple Story Scenes

What Is God's Love for His People Like?
It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...
God always takes care of them!

The Gospel

How kind God is to care for His people's needs, even when, like Naomi, they think He won't.

But the greatest way that God has cared for His people is by saving them. You see, we all disobey God and deserve His punishment. But God is so rich in mercy that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and take the punishment for His people's sins. On Day Three, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really beaten sin and death for them. Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in

Jesus can be God's people. Their sins are forgiven, and they will enjoy special closeness with God in their hearts, now. Then one day, they will go live with Him forever. How amazing is God's love for His people! We can be His people, too, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Ask Him to help you!



DDD 8.2 Simple Story Scenes

A Prayer

A We praise you, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You are their heavenly Father. You care for all of their needs in the way that You know is best.

C God, You promise to take care of those who put their trust in Jesus, but many times we doubt Your promises. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!

T Thank You, God, for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for being so faithful and good to those who trust in You. Thank You for taking care of all their needs in the way You know is best for them. What a wonderful thing it is to get to be Your adopted child!

S God, work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Fill our hearts with love for You. Take care of us and help us to trust in You. Be our heavenly Father. Make us Your adopted children.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



DDD 8.2 Simple Story Scenes

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES



Simple Story Scenes

Unit 8,

Bible Truth 3

Using Simple Story Scenes as a Curriculum

Introduce the Key Concept and Bible Verse

Simple Story Scenes give you the basics for the core of your lesson. You can use the overview sheet to introduce and explain the key concept and Bible verse.

Give the Case Assignment

Give the children a Detective Dan listening assignment. Two are provided. You can add a third using the ideas on the bonus, third take-home sheet, if desired. Each listening assignment, let's you teach the story with a different learning emphasis.

Show & Tell the Story

Hold up the pictures and tell the story from the story scenes. Alternatively, you can find in the and Pieces section for this unit at praisefactory.org, these same listening assignments and story scenes, gospel and ACTS prayer modified for view on a screen. Simply download them or open them online and show through your own monitor (tablet, big screen, whatever).

Solve the Case

Repeat Detective Dan's listening assignment question and discuss the answer.

Share the Gospel

Share the gospel tie-in with the kids.

Close in ACTS Prayer

Pray the ACTS prayer with the kids. If using the curriculum with older children, give them a chance to think up their own ACTS tie-ins to the story, using the one provided as cues/ideas for you.

Review Time

Give out the take-home sheet (there are three: two that correlates to the two Detective Dan assignments in the Story Scenes, and a bonus third one.) As the children are coloring, use the take-home sheet discussion questions or your own questions to further review and apply the key concepts, Bible verse, and story truths to the children.

Looking for more?

Online, in the Bits and Pieces section for this unit, you will find review games, crafts, storyboard flannelgraph figures, and audio and sheet music for all of the songs. There are also full lesson plans that offer more of a script and take this curriculum's possibilities to much more depth. Don't forget to tell the parents about the Parents Resources section where they can read through the Story scenes and download take homes with their kids.

Unit 8: The God Who Loves

Unit Big Question (and Answer): What Is God's Love for His People Like?

It's More than They Could Ever Deserve!

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

--1 Chronicles 16:34, ESV

Bible Truth 3 Concept: God Uses Their Sadnesses for Good

Everyone has troubles. We all have times when we are sad or scared. Sometimes people are mean to us. Sometimes bad things happen to us or to the people we love.

When bad things happen to God's people, they keep on trusting in Him. They know God loves them and that He is in control. They know that He promises to use every trouble they have for their good and to show how good and powerful He is. And, while sometimes it may be hard to see what good God could possibly bring through their troubles, God's people know that one day they will understand His good plans. And on that day, they will have nothing but praise for God, when they see how He truly did work all things for good in their lives.

And that's why God's people can praise and thank God now for those good things, even before they know what they are, and even while they are still in the middle of their sadnesses. God is that good! They can trust Him that much, even with what they don't yet understand. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 3 Bible Verse: Romans 8:28, ESV

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Learn a Little: "For those who love God, all things work together for good."

Meaning

These verses remind us that God's people are those who love Him. In His great love, He has called them to turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins. This is what it means to be justified.

But being justified is just the beginning of God's good plans for His people. He also planned for all things in their lives—both enjoyable things and hard things—to be for the good purpose of making them more like Jesus. Yes, God planned to use all of these things to prepare His people for life with Him in heaven. What will life in heaven be like for them? There, they will be glorified! They will be freed from sin forever! God will make them a pure reflection of His glory. This is God's wonderful plan for making everything in His people's lives for their good and His glory. We can become God's people by turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 3 ACTS Prayer

- A** We praise You, God, for being so good and so powerful! You even use all of Your people's sadnesses for their good. You show how good and great You are!
- C** God, You promise to use all things for the good in the lives of Your people, but many times we don't trust that You will. We act like Your plans aren't good or that You aren't really in control. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for Your amazing promises to work good even in all of our sadnesses, when we trust in You as our Savior. Thank You that You can work good things in even the biggest sadnesses and the scariest things that happen to us. Thank You for the good You will do that we do not yet see.
- S** God, 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 trust You. Do many good things even through our sadnesses --good things that show others how good and great You are. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Bible Truth 3 Story

The Case of the Sad Thing that Did Good John 8-10

Songs Used in Bible Truth 3

Big Q & A 8 Song

Big Question 8 Song: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: O, Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV

Extra Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV

Extra Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: The Steadfast Love of the Lord Lamentation 3:22,23, ESV

Big Question 8 Hymn: And Can It Be, v.1 refrain

Big Question 8 Praise Song: God Is So Good

Bible Truth 3 Bible Verse Song: Bible Verse: And We Know Romans 8:28-29, ESV

Bible Truth 3 Extra Bible Verse: All Things Romans 8:28-29, ESV

listen to or download songs for free at <https://praisefactory.org>: Deep Down Detectives Music page

"The Case of the Sad Thing that Did Good" John 8-10



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. What was the sad thing the parents found out about their baby?
2. What good did Jesus use this sad thing to do?



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Romans 8:28, ESV

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose."

1. What did many people say about the baby's blind eyes?
2. What good purpose did God have for the baby's blind eyes?

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

I. This story takes place in Jerusalem. Jerusalem was a beautiful city with thousands of people living in it. It had big, tall, stone walls all around it, and big, wide gates where important men would talk about important things.



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2. Jerusalem had lots of houses, big and small, along its twisty-turny, narrow, cobblestone streets. It had fountains of sparkling water to drink from and pools of water to wash in.

It had a big marketplace where farmers would sell their delicious fruits and vegetables, and where shepherds would sell their baa-ing sheep and maa-ing goats. Bakers would sell their warm, tasty bread there; and merchants, their fine-feeling fabrics and glittering necklaces from other parts of the world.



2. Jerusalem had lots of houses, big and small, along its twisty-turny, narrow, cobblestone streets. It had fountains of sparkling water to drink from and pools of water to wash in. It had a big marketplace where farmers would sell their delicious fruits and vegetables, and where shepherds would sell their baa-ing sheep and maa-ing goats. Bakers would sell their warm, tasty bread there; and merchants, their fine-feeling fabrics and glittering necklaces from other parts of the world.

3. But Jerusalem was most famous for its big, beautiful building made of glittering, white stones. It was the LORD's special worship place.

Do you know what this building was called? It was called the Temple. People would come from far and wide to worship the LORD at the Temple with their prayers, and songs, and worship gifts. They would gather in the courts around the Temple and listen to teachers tell them about the LORD and His good laws.



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4. Not too far from the Temple lived a man and his wife.

How happy this man and his wife were! They were so happy because the wife had just had a baby. It was a baby boy. Oh, what good news this was!

“Yay! Yay!” the man and his wife thought. “We have a boy! We will love him and care for him. What a joy that will be! He will be a great help to our family, too. He will grow up strong and will help us make money to take care of our family, as sons always do.”

What a lot this man and his wife had to celebrate!



4. Not too far from the Temple lived a man and his wife. How happy this man and his wife were! They were so happy because the wife had just had a baby. It was a baby boy. Oh, what good news this was! "Yay! Yay!" the man and his wife thought. "We have a boy! We will love him and care for him. What a joy that will be! He will be a great help to our family, too. He will grow up strong and will help us make money to take care of our family, as sons always do." What a lot this man and his wife had to celebrate!

5. But soon the man and his wife weren't happy anymore. They were sad! There was something wrong with their baby boy's eyes. He couldn't see. Perhaps his eyes would get better, they must have hoped. But soon it was clear: their little boy's eyes would NOT get better. He would always be blind.



5. But soon the man and his wife weren't happy anymore. They were sad! There was something wrong with their baby boy's eyes. He couldn't see. Perhaps his eyes would get better, they must have hoped. But soon it was clear: their little boy's eyes would NOT get better. He would always be blind.

6. How sad this man and woman were for their little boy!

He would never see their faces. He would never see Jerusalem's big, tall walls or gates. He would never see its houses along the narrow, cobblestone streets. He would never see its fountains or pools of sparkling water. He would never see its markets filled with good food and supplies. He would never see the beautiful Temple where people came to worship the LORD.



6. How sad this man and woman were for their little boy! He would never see their faces. He would never see Jerusalem's big, tall walls or gates. He would never see its houses along the narrow, cobblestone streets. He would never see its fountains or pools of sparkling water. He would never see its markets filled with good food and supplies. He would never see the beautiful Temple where people came to worship the LORD.

7. And to make things worse, this little boy would never be able to help his father make money to take care of the family. All he would ever be able to do is to ask people for money. Yes, this boy's blindness was very sad, indeed!



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8. But there was something else that made the man and his wife sad. It was what other people said about their family.

Some people saw the little, blind baby, and kindly said, “It is sad, sad, sad, that this little baby can’t see. How hard that must be for him and his mother and father!” And, of course, the man and his wife had to agree. This blindness was sad, sad, sad!

What good could come out of this blindness? It brought sadness! Only sadness!



8. But there was something else that made the man and his wife sad. It was what other people said about their family. Some people saw the little, blind baby, and kindly said, "It is sad, sad, sad, sad, that this little baby can't see. How hard that must be for him and his mother and father!" And, of course, the man and his wife had to agree. This blindness was sad, sad, sad! What good could come out of this blindness? It brought sadness! Only sadness!

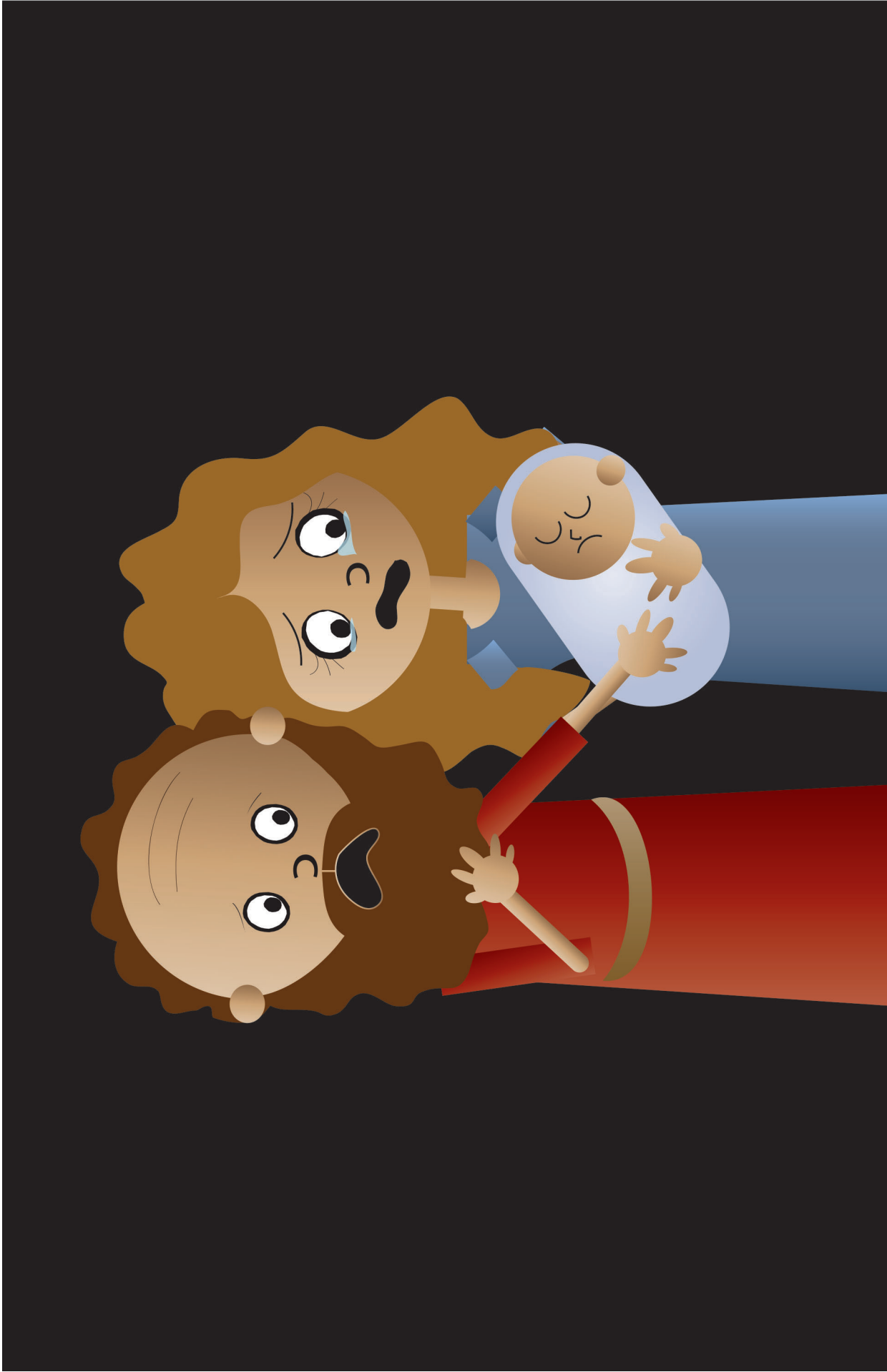
q. But much worse was what the important men who taught about God and His laws were saying: "It isn't sad, sad, sad that this little baby can't see. No! It's bad, bad, bad," they exclaimed. "This baby -- or his mother or father-- must have done something terribly bad. God is punishing them and that's why this baby was born blind," they said.

Was this true? What terrible thing had they done? Oh, how hard it was for the man and his wife to hear people say this! Oh, what badness came from this blindness! It brought sadness! Only sadness!



9. But much worse was what the important men who taught about God and His laws were saying: "It isn't sad, sad, sad that this little baby can't see. No! It's bad, bad, bad," they exclaimed. "This baby -- or his mother or father-- must have done something terribly bad. God is punishing them and that's why this baby was born blind," they said. Was this true? What terrible thing had they done? Oh, how hard it was for the man and his wife to hear people say this! Oh, what badness came from this blindness! It brought sadness! Only sadness!

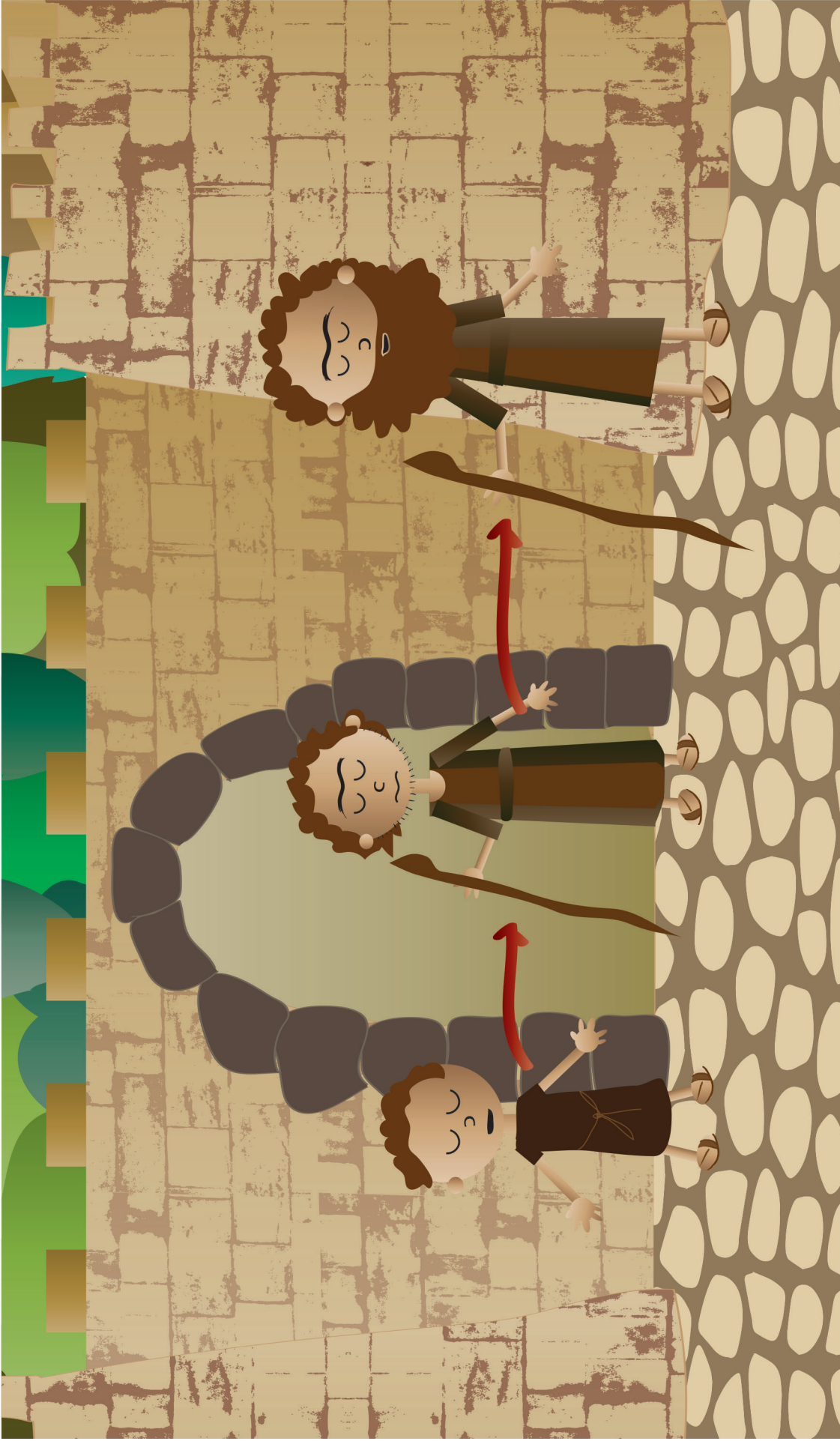
10. So, I guess you can see why the man and his wife, who had been so very happy, weren't very happy at all anymore. Their hearts were full of sadness for their son and about all the terrible, wrong things the teachers were saying about their family.



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II. Year after year went by. The little boy grew up and up until at last he was a full-grown man. He still was blind, but over the years, he had learned his way around Jerusalem.

He knew the feel of Jerusalem's big, tall walls and its huge gates. He knew the feel of the cobblestones under his feet, the touch of the stone sides of the houses on his hands, and the fresh coolness of the shade in the narrow streets.



II. Year after year went by. The little boy grew up and up until at last he was a full-grown man. He still was blind, but over the years, he had learned his way around Jerusalem. He knew the feel of Jerusalem's big, tall walls and its huge gates. He knew the feel of the cobblestones under his feet, the touch of the stone sides of the houses on his hands, and the fresh coolness of the shade in the narrow streets.

12. He could splash the water on his face and sip it in his cup. He could taste the delicious fruit and hear the animals “baa-ing.” He could smell the freshly baked bread and feel the silky fabric of the merchants.



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13. As he sat beside the road to the big, beautiful Temple, he could feel the swish of people's clothes and the slap of their sandals as they went by. He heard the clink of the coins they tossed in his begging cup, on their way to worship the LORD.

But sometimes, he heard people say those terrible, wrong words again: "There's that man who has been blind from birth. What terribly bad things his family must have done for God to punish him like this!" they would exclaim.

This blindness was so sad! What good could come out of it? It seemed to bring only sadness.



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14. But then, on one Sabbath day, everything changed.

The people who said those things were WRONG! That baby wasn't born blind because he or his parents had done something terribly bad. No! God had always had a beautiful, big plan to use their sadness for good --great good!

And this was to be the day that God's good plan would be made known to the blind man, his parents, and oh, so many other people in Jerusalem. And, God would use Jesus to do this!

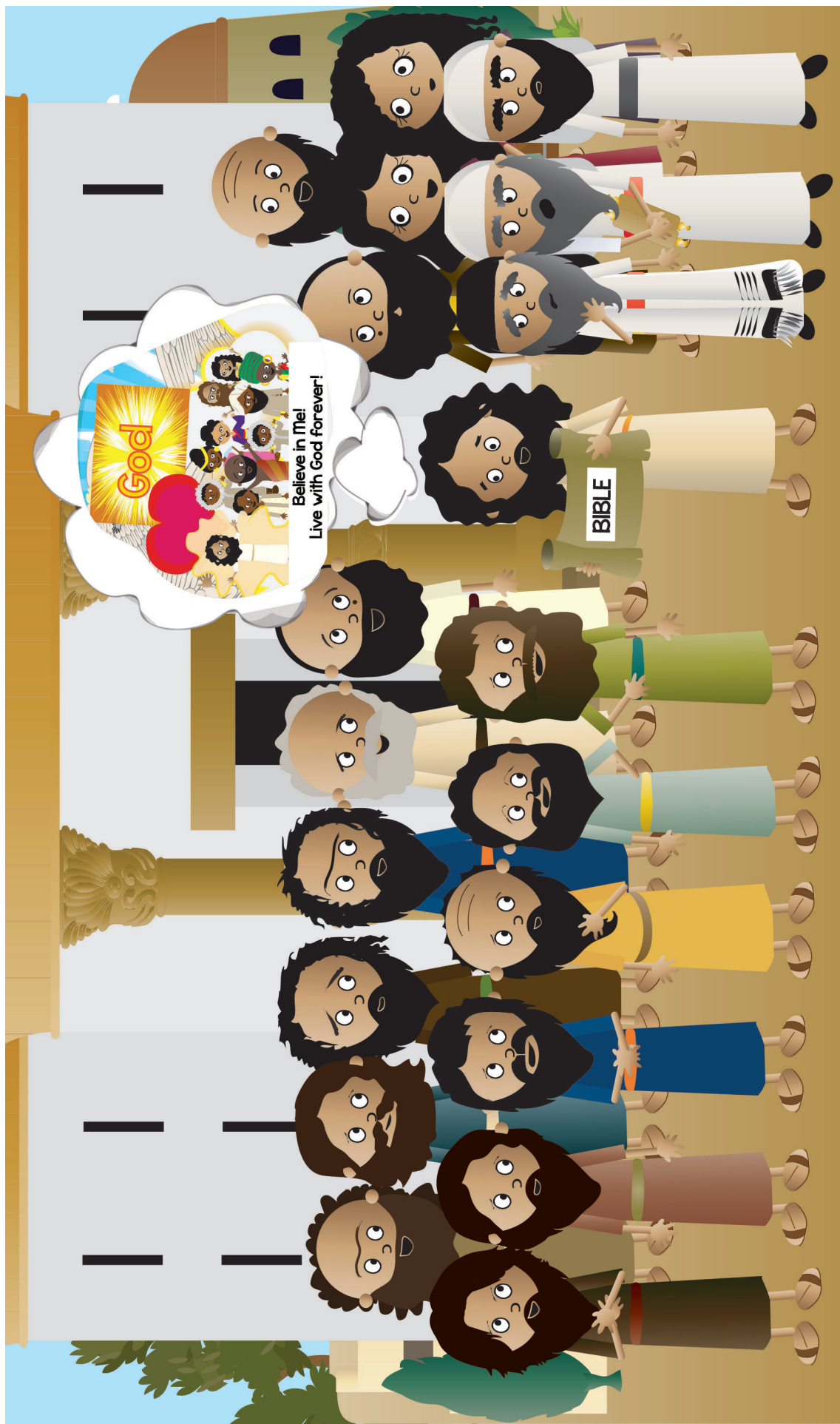


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15. Jesus and his close friends, the disciples, had come to Jerusalem. They went to the Temple where Jesus began to teach about God.

Crowds of people gathered, eager to hear everything He had to say. Even the other teachers who taught at the Temple stopped talking and went to listen to Jesus, too.

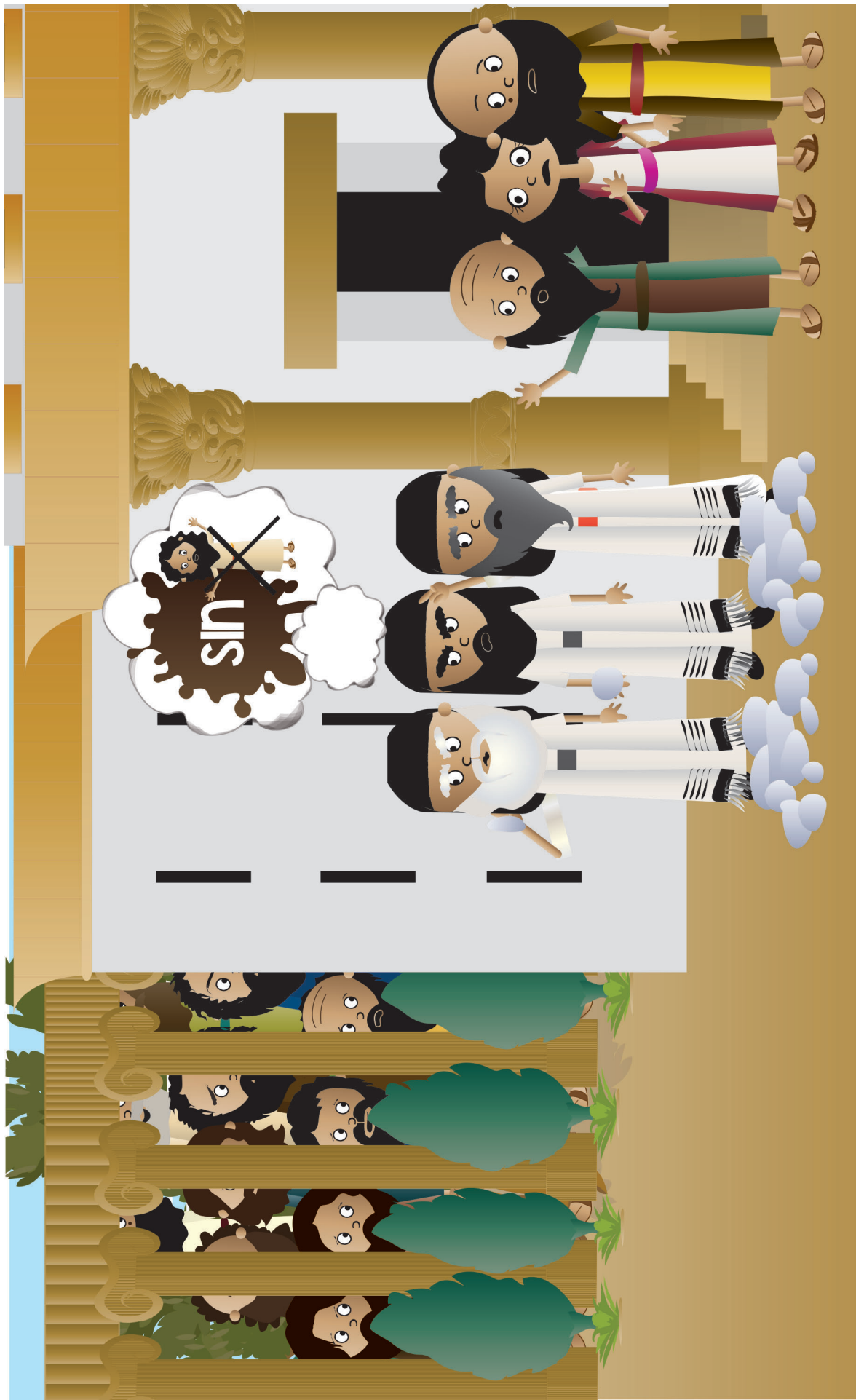
“I am God’s Son,” Jesus told them all. “Whoever believes and obeys Me will get to live forever with God,” Jesus proclaimed.



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16. The other teachers were furious! “We don’t believe you! You aren’t really God’s Son,” they said to Jesus. “You are lying. You deserve to die for saying you are God’s Son!” and they picked up stones to throw at Jesus. They were going to kill Jesus!

Jesus and His friends ran and hid. Would the teachers find Jesus and kill Him with their stones?



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Jesus and His friends ran and hid. Would the teachers find Jesus and kill Him with their stones?

17. No, they would not. God protected Jesus. When all was safe, Jesus and His friends came out of hiding. They left the Temple grounds and whom did they see? It was the man born blind.

No sooner had Jesus' friends seen the blind man, then that terrible question came out of their mouths: "Jesus, did this man or his parents do the terribly bad thing that made his eyes blind?"



17. No, they would not. God protected Jesus. When all was safe, Jesus and His friends came out of hiding. They left the Temple grounds and whom did they see? It was the man born blind.

No sooner had Jesus' friends seen the blind man, then that terrible question came out of their mouths: "Jesus, did this man or his parents do the terribly bad thing that made his eyes blind?"

18. “You have it all wrong!” Jesus told them. “This man isn’t blind because someone did something terribly bad. It was God’s plan to use his poor man’s sadness for good --great good. I’m going to heal his eyes by God’s power. God will use this to help many believe that I really am God’s Son,” Jesus said.

Then, Jesus went to the blind man and knelt down next to him. He spit on the ground and mixed the spit with the dirt, making it into mud. Jesus smeared mud on the man’s eyes, and told him, “Go wash in the Pool of Siloam.”



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19. Why did Jesus do this? Was He making fun of this poor man? Did He want to make his sad life, even sadder? The man would soon find out, and so will we!

Down the narrow, cobblestone streets, the blind man made his way to the Pool of Siloam. Even though he could not see, he knew how to get there. He had felt his way there many times before.



19. Why did Jesus do this? Was He making fun of this poor man? Did He want to make his sad life, even sadder? The man would soon find out, and so will we!

Down the narrow, cobblestone streets, the blind man made his way to the Pool of Siloam. Even though he could not see, he knew how to get there. He had felt his way there many times before.

20. At the pool, the blind man dipped his hands into the cool water. He brought them up to his face and washed off the mud. He opened his eyes and what do you think happened?

Yay! yay! yay! That man born blind could see for the first time in his whole life! Jesus had healed him!



20. At the pool, the blind man dipped his hands into the cool water. He brought them up to his face and washed off the mud. He opened his eyes and what do you think happened? Yay! yay! yay! That man born blind could see for the first time in his whole life! Jesus had healed him!

21. The happy man hurried to share the news with his father and mother.

What did he see as he went home? He SAW the pool of sparkling water! He SAW the big, tall walls and the huge gates. He SAW the narrow, cobblestone streets and all the houses. He SAW the market and the Temple. He SAW his very own, little house.



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22. And then, he SAW his very own parents for the first time!

“Jesus healed me! I can see!” the man exclaimed.

Oh, how happy they all must have been! After all these years, their son could see. They spread the good news to all who would listen. And those who heard the news rushed to the house to see for themselves! Sure, enough, it was true! The man born blind could see! They were amazed at what Jesus had done.

“No one has ever healed a man born with blind eyes before. Jesus must be whom He says He is,” they exclaimed. What good Jesus had begun to do through this man’s blind eyes! Jesus had used them to help these people believe in Him!



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23. Before long, Jesus' enemies, the Pharisees, heard what Jesus had done for the blind man. He brought to them to inspect his healing and make sense of it.

These teachers couldn't doubt the amazing thing that Jesus had done, but still, they refused to believe in Jesus. "Jesus is a bad man! He is not God's Son," they said.



23. Before long, Jesus' enemies, the Pharisees, heard what Jesus had done for the blind man. He was taken to them to inspect his healing and make sense of it. These teachers couldn't doubt the amazing thing that Jesus had done, but still, they refused to believe in Jesus. "Jesus is a bad man! He is not God's Son," they said.

24. And what about the blind man who had been healed? What did he think? He fell down before Jesus and worshipped Him. “Lord, I believe,” he exclaimed.

What a day for that blind man and his parents! Jesus had used this man’s sadnesses for good --for great good, just as God had always planned. Jesus healed his blind eyes. And best of all, He gave that man-- and many others-- faith to trust in Him as God’s Son, their Savior. Now that is good --great good!



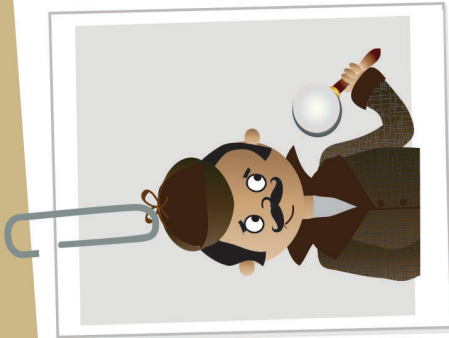
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DDD 8.3 Simple Story Scenes

"The Case of the Sad Thing that Did Good" John 8-10

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. What was the sad thing the parents found out about their baby?
He was blind.
2. What good did Jesus use this sad thing to do?
Jesus used it to display God's great power and to help many people trust in Him as God's Son, the Savior, including the blind man, himself.

For You and Me:
Isn't it wonderful to know that God uses all of His people's sadnesses for good? God still uses His people's sadnesses for good, even today. And we can know that He will use all of our sadnesses for the good, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. It is His promise to all who do.



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Romans 8:28, ESV

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose."

1. What did many people say about the baby's blind eyes? Many people thought God was punishing the baby or his parents for something bad they had done.
2. What good purpose did God have for the baby's blind eyes? To show God's great power and to help many people trust in Jesus as God's Son, the Savior, including the blind man, himself.

For You and Me:

God always planned to use that baby's blindness for good. He wasn't punishing the baby or his parents! Isn't it wonderful to know that God uses all of His people's sadnesses for good! God still uses His people's sadnesses for good, even today. And we can know that He will use all of our sadnesses for the good, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. It is His promise to all who do.

DDD 8.3 Simple Story Scenes

What Is God's Love for His People Like?
It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...
God Uses Their Sadnesses for Good!

The Gospel

No one likes sadnesses, but we all have them. How wonderful is God's promise to use every single sadness of His people for their good and to show how great He is!

God's people's greatest sadness is that they (like all people) are sinners who have chosen to disobey God. But do you know that God has turned that greatest sadness into the greatest good? You see, God sent His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and take the punishment for their sins. On the third day, He rose from the dead, proving He had done it! They are forgiven. They have become His dearly-loved people! And they will get to praise God forever for how much He has loved them through Jesus.

We, too, can know God's forgiveness and become His people, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.



DDD 8.3 Simple Story Scenes

A Prayer

A We praise You, God, for being so good and so powerful! You even use all of Your people's sadnesses for their good. You show how good and great You are!

C God, You promise to use all things for the good in the lives of Your people, but many times we don't trust that You will. We act like Your plans aren't good or that You aren't really in control. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!

T Thank You for Your amazing promises to work good even in all of our sadnesses, when we trust in You as our Savior. Thank You that You can work good things in even the biggest sadnesses and the scariest things that happen to us. Thank You for the good You will do that we do not yet see.

S God, 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 trust You. Do many good things even through our sadnesses-- good things that show others how good and great You are.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



DDD 8.3 Simple Story Scenes

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES



Simple Story Scenes

Unit 8,

Bible Truth 4

Using Simple Story Scenes as a Curriculum

Introduce the Key Concept and Bible Verse

Simple Story Scenes give you the basics for the core of your lesson. You can use the overview sheet to introduce and explain the key concept and Bible verse.

Give the Case Assignment

Give the children a Detective Dan listening assignment. Two are provided. You can add a third using the ideas on the bonus, third take-home sheet, if desired. Each listening assignment, let's you teach the story with a different learning emphasis.

Show & Tell the Story

Hold up the pictures and tell the story from the story scenes. Alternatively, you can find in the and Pieces section for this unit at praisefactory.org, these same listening assignments and story scenes, gospel and ACTS prayer modified for view on a screen. Simply download them or open them online and show through your own monitor (tablet, big screen, whatever).

Solve the Case

Repeat Detective Dan's listening assignment question and discuss the answer.

Share the Gospel

Share the gospel tie-in with the kids.

Close in ACTS Prayer

Pray the ACTS prayer with the kids. If using the curriculum with older children, give them a chance to think up their own ACTS tie-ins to the story, using the one provided as cues/ideas for you.

Review Time

Give out the take-home sheet (there are three: two that correlates to the two Detective Dan assignments in the Story Scenes, and a bonus third one.) As the children are coloring, use the take-home sheet discussion questions or your own questions to further review and apply the key concepts, Bible verse, and story truths to the children.

Looking for more?

Online, in the Bits and Pieces section for this unit, you will find review games, crafts, storyboard flannelgraph figures, and audio and sheet music for all of the songs. There are also full lesson plans that offer more of a script and take this curriculum's possibilities to much more depth. Don't forget to tell the parents about the Parents Resources section where they can read through the Story scenes and download take homes with their kids.

Unit 8: The God Who Loves

Unit Big Question (and Answer): What Is God's Love for His People Like?
It's More than They Could Ever Deserve!

Unit Bible Verse: "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"
--1 Chronicles 16:34, ESV

Bible Truth 4 Concept: God Will Never Stop Loving His People

Our love for others changes. Sometimes we love others a lot. Sometimes we don't love them very much.

But God's love for His people is not like that. God's love for His people never changes. God loved His people before they loved Him or even knew Him. He paid for their sins through Jesus' perfect life, when He suffered and died on the cross. He adopts them as His people, when they turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Nothing will ever stop God from loving His people! They are bound in love to Him through Jesus, and that is a love that will never, ever end! We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse: Hosea 2:19, ESV

"I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy."

Learn a Little: "I will betroth you to me forever... in love."

Meaning

To be betrothed to someone is to make a special promise to love them always. Men and women in Bible times used to make special betrothal promises to each other before they got married.

In the Bible, God tells us that He betroths Himself to His people. That means He promises to always love them. He will always be faithful to them. He will always love and care for them. He will always be righteous and just in how He treats them--that means He will always love His people by doing the right thing. He will never do anything evil or treat them badly. He will always show them mercy and treat them with tenderness and kindness.

The Bible also tells us that at the end of time, all of God's people will live with God forever. Jesus will be like the bridegroom who greets his bride on his wedding day with great joy and begins his life with the one he loves. There will never be anything better than this life with God!

We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 4 ACTS Prayer

- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You love them with a love that will never, ever end.
- C** God, You offer us a love that will never end, but many times, we choose to not love You. We choose to live life our own way, even if it means breaking Your good laws. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for sending Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You that all who put their trust in You can rest in Your love forever.
- S** God, 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 help us to know Your love. Make us Your people who enjoy Your love forever. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Bible Truth 4 Story**The Case of the One Who Would Not Stop**

1 & 2 Samuel, Psalms 16, 23

Songs Used in Bible Truth 4

Big Q & A 8 Song

Big Question 8 Song: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: O, Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV

Extra Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: Give Thanks 1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV

Extra Big Question 8 Bible Verse Song: The Steadfast Love of the Lord Lamentation 3:22,23, ESV

Big Question 8 Hymn: And Can It Be, v.1 refrain

Big Question 8 Praise Song: God Is So Good

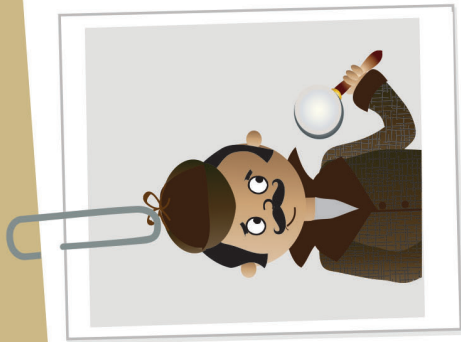
Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse Song: I Will Betroth You to Me Hosea 2:19, ESV

Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse: Even to Your Old Age Isaiah 46:4,9,11, ESV

Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse: For He Chose Us Ephesians 1:4-5, HCSB

listen to or download songs for free at <https://praisefactory.org>: Deep Down Detectives Music page

"The Case of the One Who Would Not Stop" 1 & 2 Samuel, Psalms 16, 23



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who was the One who would not stop loving David?
2. Why was it surprising that He would not stop loving him?



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Hosea 2:19, ESV

"I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy."

1. Who did the LORD love with this kind of unstoppable love in our story?
2. How did the LORD show His love and compassion to this person?

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

I. Our story today is about one of the most famous people in the whole Bible. Let me tell you some of the good things he is famous for. Maybe you can guess his name.



I. Our story today is about one of the most famous people in the whole Bible. Let me tell you some of the good things he is famous for. Maybe you can guess his name.

2. When this man was just a boy, he took care of his father's sheep. He made up many beautiful songs about God. He sang them and played them on his harp as he watched the sheep.

This boy was a very good and very brave shepherd. He fought off lions and bears with his sling, and sometimes, even with his bare hands!



2. When this man was just a boy, he took care of his father's sheep. He made up many beautiful songs about God. He sang them and played them on his harp as he watched the sheep. This boy was a very good and very brave shepherd. He fought off lions and bears with his sling, and sometimes, even with his bare hands!

3. A few years later, this young man faced a giant soldier named Goliath.

Goliath was threatening the armies of Israel and shouting out terrible things about the LORD. All the soldiers of Israel were too scared to fight Goliath, but not this young man. With his sling and one, smooth stone, the LORD helped him fight Goliath and win!

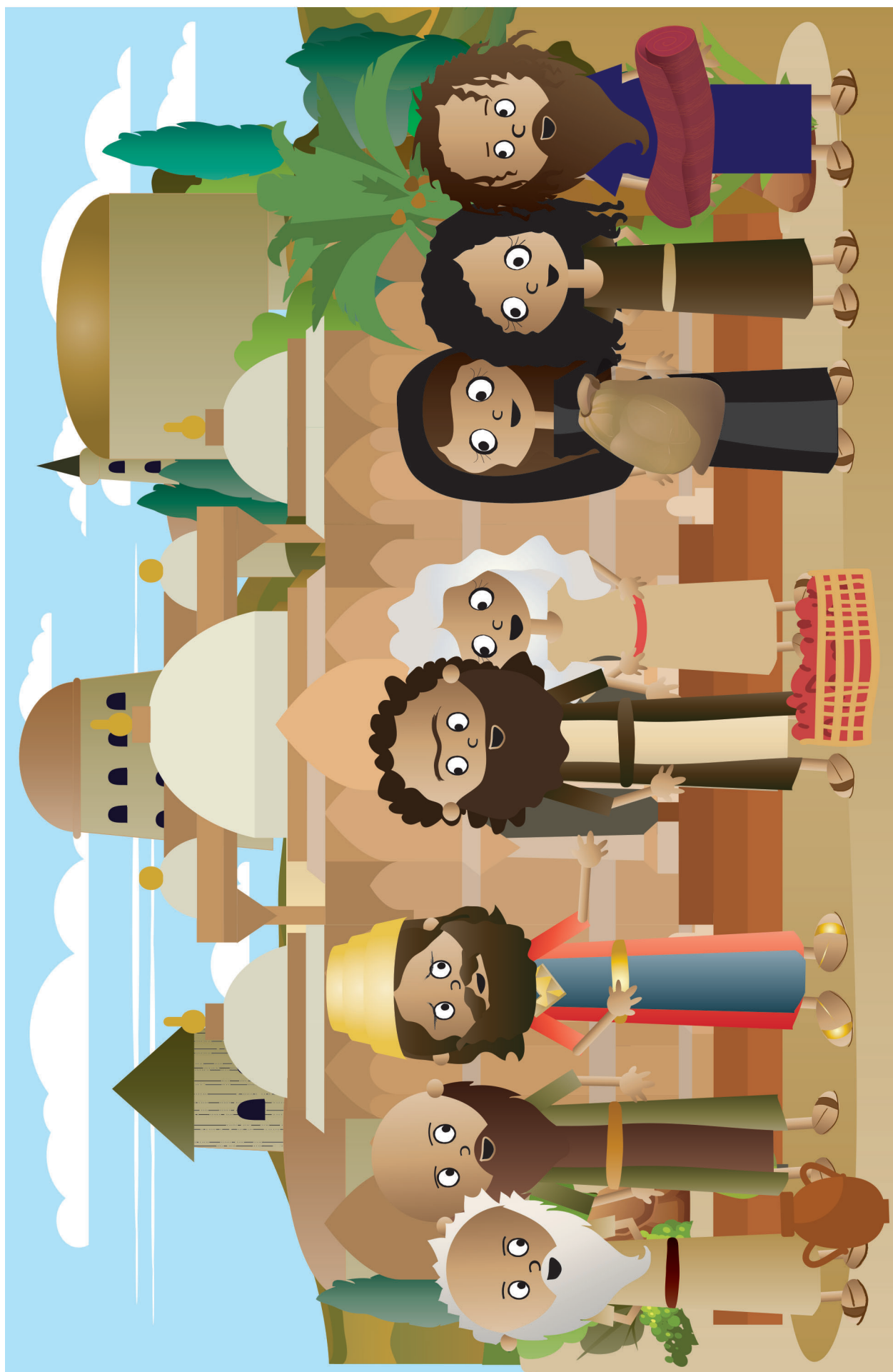
King Saul saw how brave he was and made him one of his most important soldiers.



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4. This young man grew up to be a great king, himself. He took good care of the people of Israel for many years. He captured the beautiful city of Jerusalem and built a fine palace there.

How God blessed the people of Israel through this man!



4. This young man grew up to be a great king, himself. He took good care of the people of Israel for many years. He captured the beautiful city of Jerusalem and built a fine palace there. How God blessed the people of Israel through this man!

5. But even though life was so good, this man never forgot the LORD. He kept writing songs to the LORD. He sang them and he shared them with other people to sing, too.

Sometimes thousands of people would sing his songs as they gathered together to worship the LORD. Many of his songs are written down in the Bible, God's Word, and we still enjoy reading them and singing them today. (They are called the Psalms.)



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6. Can you guess the name of this very famous Bible man? I bet you can!

His name was David! And yes, he was a man who did many good things, even great things.



6. Can you guess the name of this very famous Bible man? I bet you can! His name was David! And yes, he was a man who did many good things, even great things.

7. But did you know that David was also a man who suffered some very sad things, too?

David had many enemies who tried to kill him, including King Saul, the very king David had once served so faithfully. Saul was jealous of David and wanted him dead. He and his soldiers chased David for years, trying to kill him, even though David never did anything wrong to him.



7. But did you know that David was also a man who suffered some very sad things, too? David had many enemies who tried to kill him, including King Saul, the very king David had once served so faithfully. Saul was jealous of David and wanted him dead. He and his soldiers chased David for years, trying to kill him, even though David never did anything wrong to him.

8. And, don't think David never did anything bad, because he did. He was a sinner just like the rest of us.

When David became king, he saw a beautiful woman named Bathsheba and he took her to be his. But Bathsheba was already the wife of Uriah, one of David's bravest, most faithful soldiers.

David made a tricky plan to get rid of Uriah, so he could hide what he had done. David had Uriah killed in a fierce battle, so it would look like it was an accident. Then, David took Bathsheba to be his own wife. What terribly bad things David did!



8. And, don't think David never did anything bad, because he did. He was a sinner just like the rest of us. When David became king, he saw a beautiful woman named Bathsheba and he took her to be his. But Bathsheba was already the wife of Uriah, one of David's bravest, most faithful soldiers. David made a tricky plan to get rid of Uriah, so he could hide what he had done. David had Uriah killed in a fierce battle, so it would look like it was an accident. Then, David took Bathsheba to be his own wife. What terribly bad things David did!

9. One of David's greatest sadnesses came from his son, Absalom.

Absalom turned against David. He made a tricky plan to get rid of David, so he could be king in David's place. Absalom turned many of the people against David, too. David had to run away from his palace in Jerusalem and hide.

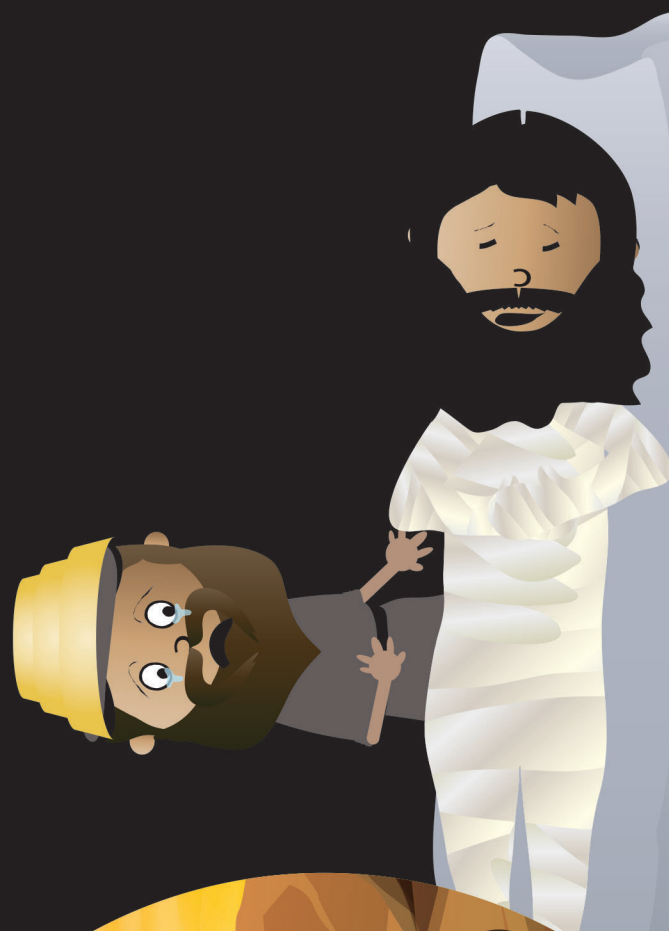
Many people wept as David left Jerusalem, but others, like Shimei called David bad names and even threw rocks at him.



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10. David and his friends camped out in the dry, lonely wilderness, so Absalom's men wouldn't find him. David did go back to be king in Jerusalem again, but only after Absalom had been killed. How sad David was! How David loved Absalom and missed him, even though he had treated David so terribly!

So, yes, David WAS a man who did many good, even great things. But David was also a man who did some very bad things, and suffered some very sad things.



ABSALOM

10. David and his friends camped out in the dry, lonely wilderness, so Absalom's men wouldn't find him. David did go back to be king in Jerusalem again, but only after Absalom had been killed. How sad David was! How David loved Absalom and missed him, even though he had treated David so terribly! So, yes, David WAS a man who did many good, even great things. But David was also a man who did some very bad things, and suffered some very sad things.

II. But there is something else you need to know about David. Something that was more important than all these other things. It was the WHY behind all those great, good things that David did. And, it was HOW David made it through all those bad and sad things.

The WHY and HOW behind them all was Someone who loved David. WHO do you think it was?



II. But there is something else you need to know about David. Something that was more important than all these other things. It was the WHY behind all those great, good things that David did. And, it was HOW David made it through all those bad and sad things. The WHY and HOW behind them all was Someone who loved David. WHO do you think it was?

12. It was the LORD! The LORD loved David so much!

THE LORD



12. It was the LORD! The LORD loved David so much!

13. It was God's great love for David that gave David the courage to fight off lions and bears. It was God's great love for David that gave him the courage to face the fierce giant, Goliath. And, it was God's great love that helped David to care for the people of Israel as their king. No wonder David wanted to sing all those beautiful songs to the LORD!

Yes, the LORD's great love for David was behind all the great and good things that David did.



13. It was God's great love for David that gave David the courage to fight off lions and bears. It was God's great love for David that gave him thea courage to face the fierce giant, Goliath. And, it was God's great love that helped David to care for the people of Israel as their king. No wonder David wanted to sing all those beautiful songs to the LORD! Yes, the LORD's great love for David was behind all the great and good things that David did.

14. But, what happened to God's great love for David when David did those bad things and went through all those sad things? Did it go away?

No, it did not. God's love for David never stopped. He kept on loving David and kept on helping him, even then. In His great love for David, the LORD sent the prophet Nathan to help David see his sins, turn away from them, and ask for forgiveness. Do you think the LORD forgave David?

Yes, He did!



14. But, what happened to God's great love for David when David did those bad things and went through all those sad things? Did it go away? No, it did not. God's love for David never stopped. He kept on loving David and kept on helping him, even then.

In His great love for David, the LORD sent the prophet Nathan to help David see his sins, turn away from them, and ask for forgiveness. Do you think the LORD forgave David? Yes, He did!

15. It was God's great love that comforted David when King Saul tried to kill him. God provided David with everything he needed, all those years when he had to hide from Saul and his soldiers.

And, it was God's love for David that later protected him from Absalom and the others who wanted to kill him.



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16. Yes, God's love for David was WHY David did ALL the great, good things he did. And, it was HOW David made it through ALL the bad and sad things.

But God's great love for David did something else, too. God's love filled David's heart with great love for.. Can you guess who? For God! No wonder David sang so many songs to the LORD!



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But God's great love for David did something else, too. God's love filled David's heart with great love for... Can you guess who? For God! No wonder David sang so many songs to the LORD!

**17. When LORD protected David from Saul and his soldiers, David sang:
“I love you, O LORD. You are my strength. You will deliver me and save
me from my enemies. I praise Your name!” (from Psalm 18:1-3)**

**And, when the LORD used Nathan to show David his sin, David sang:
“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love, take
away my sins... Deliver me, my God, my Savior, and I will sing aloud
of your perfect goodness. I will praise you!” (from Psalm 51:1-2,14)**



17. When LORD protected David from Saul and his soldiers, David sang: "I love you, O LORD. You are my strength. You will deliver me and save me from my enemies. I praise Your name!" (from Psalm 18:1-3) And, when the LORD used Nathan to show David his sin, David sang: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love, take away my sins... Deliver me, my God, my Savior, and I will sing aloud of your perfect goodness. I will praise you!" (from Psalm 51:1-2,14)

18. And even when Absalom tried to kill him, David sang to God, out in the wilderness: "O LORD, how many are my enemies! Many are saying You will not save me. But you, O LORD, are a shield about me. You hear my prayers and You will take care of me. I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around me. You will rescue me from my enemies. You will save me!" (from Psalm 3)



18. And even when Absalom tried to kill him, David sang to God, out in the wilderness: “O LORD, how many are my enemies! Many are saying You will not save me. But you, O LORD, are a shield about me. You hear my prayers and You will take care of me. I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around me. You will rescue me from my enemies. You will save me!” (from Psalm 3)

19. Yes, the LORD filled David's heart with songs of love for Him. So, every day of David's life --in the great and good times, and even the bad and sad times-- David praised the LORD for His great love for him. It was a love that never stopped.

And, David looked forward to the day when God's greatest promise to him and all of God's people will come true. David sang about it, too. Do you know what that greatest promise is?



19. Yes, the LORD filled David's heart with songs of love for Him. So, every day of David's life --in the great and good times, and even the bad and sad times-- David praised the LORD for His great love for him. It was a love that never stopped.

And, David looked forward to the day when God's greatest promise to him and all of God's people will come true. David sang about it, too. Do you know what that greatest promise is?

20. God's greatest promise is to bring His people home to live with Him forever.

Then, at last, they will enjoy God's love for them in the closest, most wonderful ways. That's why David sang: "Surely the LORD will show me goodness and mercy all the days of my life, and I will go to live with Him forever." (from Psalm 23:6)



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21. For David knew the same thing that we are learning today: God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve. It goes on and on. God will never stop loving His people. This was the most wonderful thing that David could think of. And, it's what he, along with all of God's people who have already died, is enjoying right now, and will keep on enjoying forever.

We can enjoy God's amazing, unending love, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. This is how we become God's people. Ask Him to help you!



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DDD 8.4 Simple Story Scenes

"The Case of the One Who Would Not Stop" I & 2 Samuel, Psalms 16, 23

SOLVED



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. Who was the One who would not stop loving David?
The LORD.
2. Why was it surprising that He would not stop loving him?
Because David did some very bad things that broke God's law.

For You and Me:
Like David, we, too, are sinners. We do not deserve God's love. We deserve His punishment. How sad! But the great news is that God offers to forgive our sins and make us His people, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Like David, we can know God and His great love forever!



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Hosea 2:19, ESV

"I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy."

1. Who did the LORD love with this kind of unstoppable love in our story?
David.

2. How did the LORD show His love and compassion to this person?

He helped David do the good things that David did. He helped David see that he was a sinner and turn away from his sins when he did bad things. He took care of David through all the sad times, too. He never stopped loving David throughout his whole life.

For You and Me

David knew the LORD's unstoppable love and so can we! How? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. This is how we become God's dearly-loved people forever!

DDD 8.4 Simple Story Scenes

What Is God's Love for His People Like?
It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...
God Will Never Stop Loving His People!

The Gospel

Why does God never stop loving His people, even though they are all sinners who have rebelled against Him? It is because of Jesus!

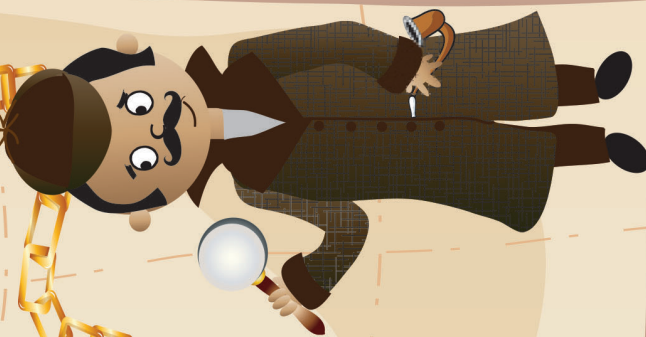
God sent His Son, Jesus, to live the perfect life that we should have lived, but never do. On the cross, Jesus gave His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people, so they could be forgiven and could know God as their Heavenly Father. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really beaten sin and death for them. And that's why God's love for His people will go on forever. Jesus paid it all!

We can become God's people, forever loved by Him, too! How?

When we turn away from our sins and trust in

Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to

help you! He loves
to do this!



DDD 8.4 Simple Story Scenes

A Prayer

A We praise you, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You love them with a love that will never end.

C God, You offer us a love that will never end, but many times, we choose to not love You. We choose to live life our own way, even if it means breaking Your good laws. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!

T Thank You, God, for sending Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You that all who put their trust in You can rest in Your love forever.

S God, 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 to know Your love. Make us Your people who enjoy Your love forever.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



DDD 8.4 Simple Story Scenes

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES



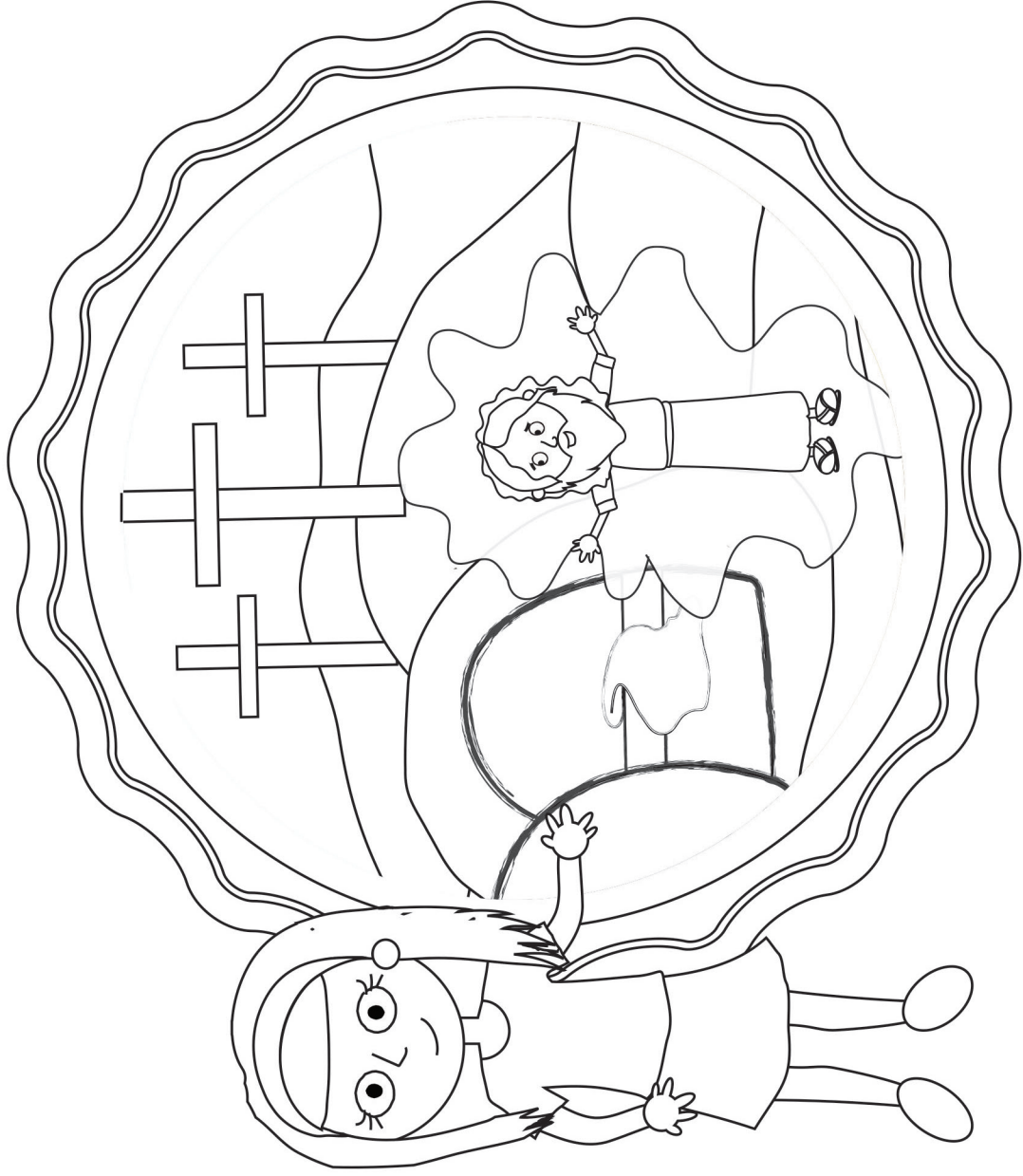
Take Home Sheets

CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH!:
What Is God's Love for
His People Like?
It's More than They Could
Ever Deserve...

God gave His Son,

-----, -----,
to save them!

HINT: "What's the name of
God's Son? It starts with
the letter "J."



Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 1, Lesson 1



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them!

Bible Truth 1 Meaning

All people have rebelled against God and have broken His laws. All have chosen to do things their own way, instead of God's way. Their hearts should be full of love for God, but instead, their hearts are dead and empty of love for God and His good ways. That's why all people deserve God's punishment for their sins. They deserve to be separated from Him forever. How sad! But God is so kind and merciful! He chose to save sinners, like you and me, even though we did not deserve it. Yes, God chose to love sinners, even though their hearts were so dead and empty of love for Him. And He didn't just love them a little bit. He loved them a lot! He loved them so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to live and perfect life and give it up as the full payment for their sins when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really done it! He had redeemed sinners, so that they could become God's special people—His, dearly-loved, adopted children forever! We can be God's special people, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Hasn't God loved us so much through Jesus!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."
--- 1 John 4:10, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Who has rebelled against God and broken His good laws? *All people have.*
2. Are the hearts of all people full of love for God or dead and empty of love for Him? *They are dead and empty of love for Him.*
3. Who deserves God's punishment for their sins? *All people.*
4. Did God love His special people even while their hearts were so dead and empty of love for Him? *Yes, He did.*
5. Who did God send to save His people? *Jesus!*
6. What must we do, if we are to be God's special people? *Turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You were filled with love for them before they loved You or knew You!
- C** God, we should be filled with love for You and Your good ways, but so many times we are not. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for loving sinners, even before they loved You. Thank You for making the way for them to be saved through Jesus.
- S** God, God, work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Give us new hearts full of love for You. Help us to become Your people. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Let's Sing about What We're Learning!

Big Q & A 8 Song from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 12

(sung to the tune 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!

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives* Parent Resources for Unit 8 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

Big Question 8 Action Rhyme Song from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 13

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?
It's more than they could ever deserve.

Verse 1

God loves His people from all places,
from all times, with ev'ry kind of faces.
God loves His people from ev'ry nation,
And He loves them all through Jesus Christ.

Refrain

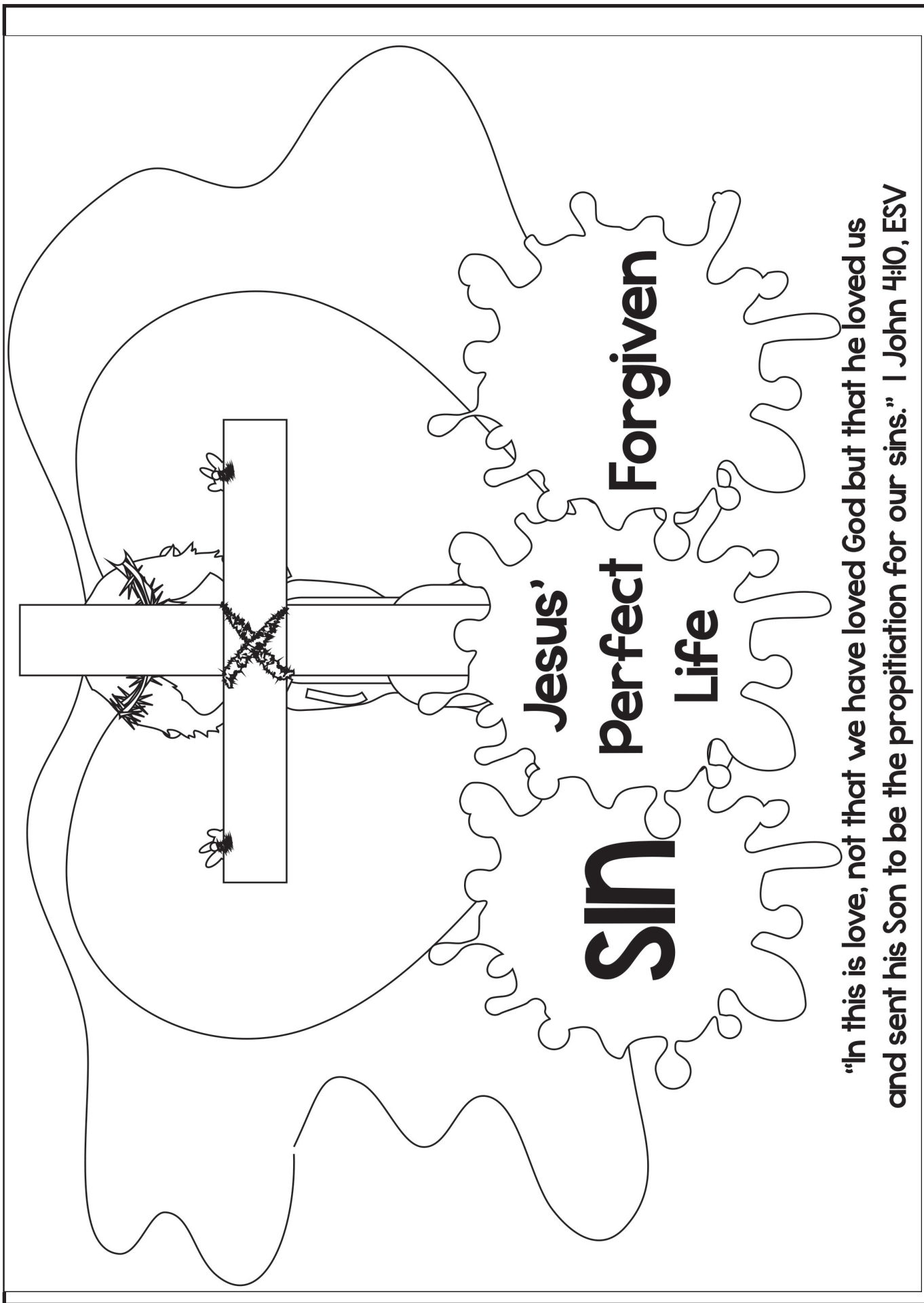
God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.
God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.

Verse 2

God loved His people before the beginning,
Even before they were repenting and believing,
God loved His people from ev'ry nation,
And He loved them all through Jesus Christ.

Verse 3

God loved His people, He sent Jesus,
To save them, so forever they would be His,
God loves His people from ev'ry nation,
And He always will through Jesus Christ.



Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 1, Lesson 2



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."
--- 1 John 4:10, ESV

Learn a Little: "[God] sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Meaning

We are all sinners who have rebelled against God, yet God chose to love us, and to love us in the deepest way possible! He sent Jesus to save us. Yes, God sent His dearly-loved Son to earth to be the propitiation for our sins. He was the atoning sacrifice that would pay for our sins and satisfy God's judgment against us. Jesus would live a perfect life, then offer it up as the full payment that would bring the forgiveness we needed. And He chose to do this while we still were rebelling against Him! How wonderful is this free gift of God! How deep is His love! This atoning sacrifice is for us, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Some Questions for You

1. Who shows us what real love is? *God and the way He has loved us through Jesus.*
2. Why do none of us deserve God's love? *Because we are all sinners who have chosen to disobey Him.*
3. Who did God send to save us? *Jesus.*
4. What did Jesus do to save us? *He lived a perfect life and gave it up as the full payment for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior.*
5. What does it mean that Jesus was the propitiation for our sins? *God is holy and He hates sin. He hates OUR sin and we deserve His punishment for sin. Jesus took all of God's hate for the sins of God's people when He suffered and died on the cross. That is how they can be God's dearly-loved people.*
6. How can Jesus' sacrifice cover our sins and we become God's people? *When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

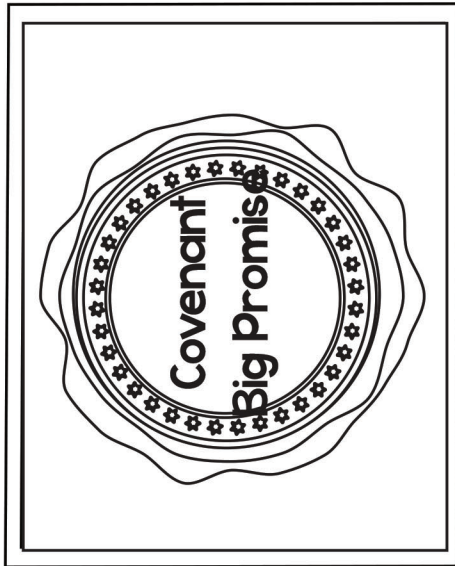
- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You were filled with love for them before they loved You or knew You!
- C** God, we should be filled with love for You and Your good ways, but so many times we are not. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for loving sinners, even before they loved You. Thank You for making the way for them to be saved through Jesus.
- S** God, God, work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Give us new hearts full of love for You. Help us to become Your people. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

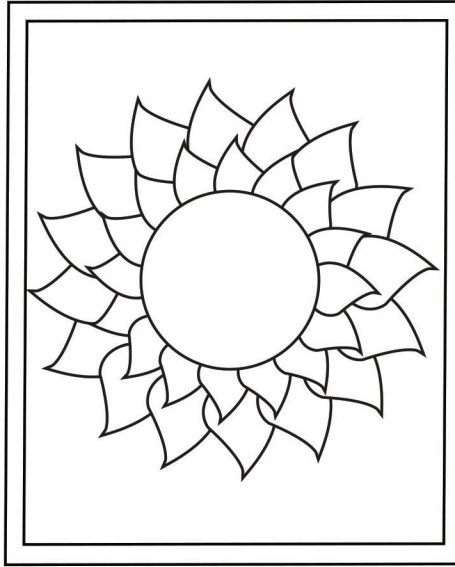
This Is Love: 1 John 4:10 from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 20

This is love,
Not that we loved God,
But that He, that he loved us,
He sent his Son,
And He sent His Son,
The propitiation for our sins.
He sent his Son,
And He sent His Son,
The propitiation for our sins.
First John Four, ten.

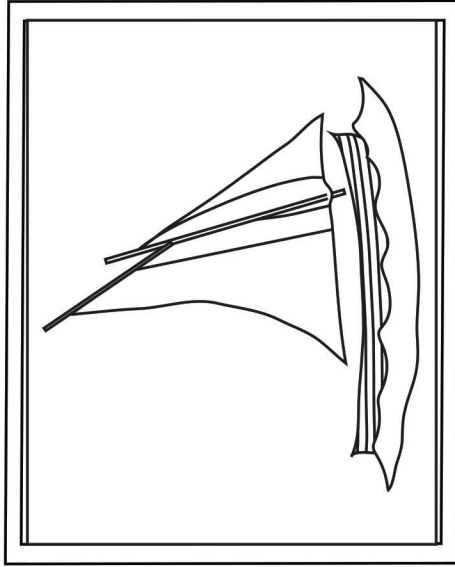
Which four of these clues belong in our story? Which two do not? Put an X in the boxes of the four that belong.



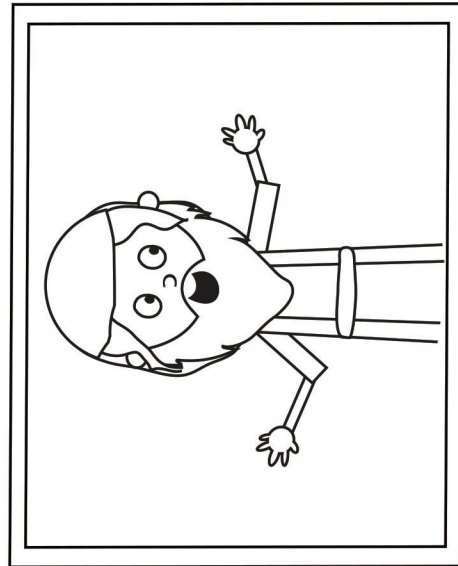
☐ A Big Promise (Covenant)



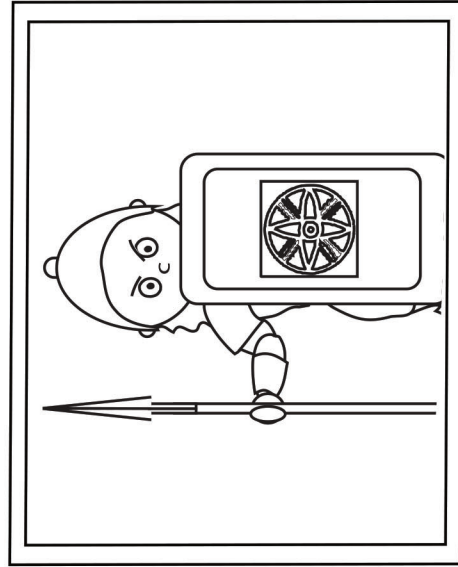
☐ The Sun



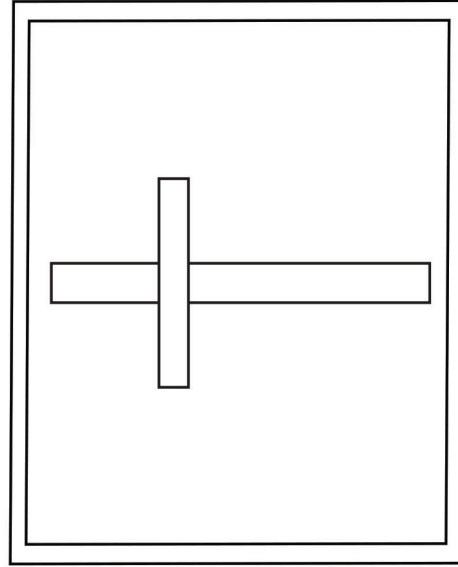
☐ A Boat



☐ A Man Named Jeremiah



☐ Soldiers



☐ A Cross

Answer: The big promise, the man named Jeremiah, the soldiers and the cross belong. The sun and the boat do not.

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 1, Lesson 3



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them!

Bible Truth 1 Meaning

All people have rebelled against God and have broken His laws. All have chosen to do things their own way, instead of God's way. Their hearts should be full of love for God, but instead, their hearts are dead and empty of love for God and His good ways. That's why all people deserve God's punishment for their sins. They deserve to be separated from Him forever. How sad! But God is so kind and merciful! He chose to save sinners, like you and me, even though we did not deserve it. Yes, God chose to love sinners, even though their hearts were so dead and empty of love for Him. And He didn't just love them a little bit. He loved them a lot! He loved them so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to live and perfect life and give it up as the full payment for their sins when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really done it! He had redeemed sinners, so that they could become God's special people—His, dearly-loved, adopted children forever! We can be God's special people, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Hasn't God loved us so much through Jesus!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."
--- 1 John 4:10, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Why did God's people need God to save them? *Because they were sinners who kept on disobeying Him and His good laws.*
2. What did the people of Israel promise God that they would do? *They would love God and obey His good laws.*
3. What did God promise to do for the people of Israel, if they loved Him and obeyed His good laws? *They would be His dearly-loved people. He would take care of them and give them good things. He would give them homes in a special place where they could worship Him and He would protect them from their enemies.*
4. Did the people of Israel love God and keep His good laws? *No. They did not.*
5. What did God do before He let the enemies come in and destroy their special place and make them work for them? *He warned them many times through people like Jeremiah.*
6. What were the people of Israel saddest about when they were taken away by their enemies? *That they had broken their big promise to God and that they didn't deserve to be His people anymore.*
7. What good news did Daniel, Ezekiel and Zechariah give the people of Israel? *That God still loved them. He punished them so they would turn back to love and obey Him. He would take them back to their special place to live. He would send Jesus to beat their biggest enemy--sin and death.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You were filled with love for them before they loved You or knew You!
- C** God, we should be filled with love for You and Your good ways, but so many times we are not. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for loving sinners, even before they loved You. Thank You for making the way for them to be saved through Jesus.
- S** God, God, work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Give us new hearts full of love for You. Help us to become Your people. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Let's Praise God Right Now!

Big Q & A 8 Hymn: And Can It Be from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 18

Refrain

Amazing love, how can it be?
That thou, my God, should die for me?
Amazing love, how can it be?
That thou, my God, should die for me?

Words: Charles Wesley Music: Thomas Campbell

Big Question 8 Praise Song: God Is So Good from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 19

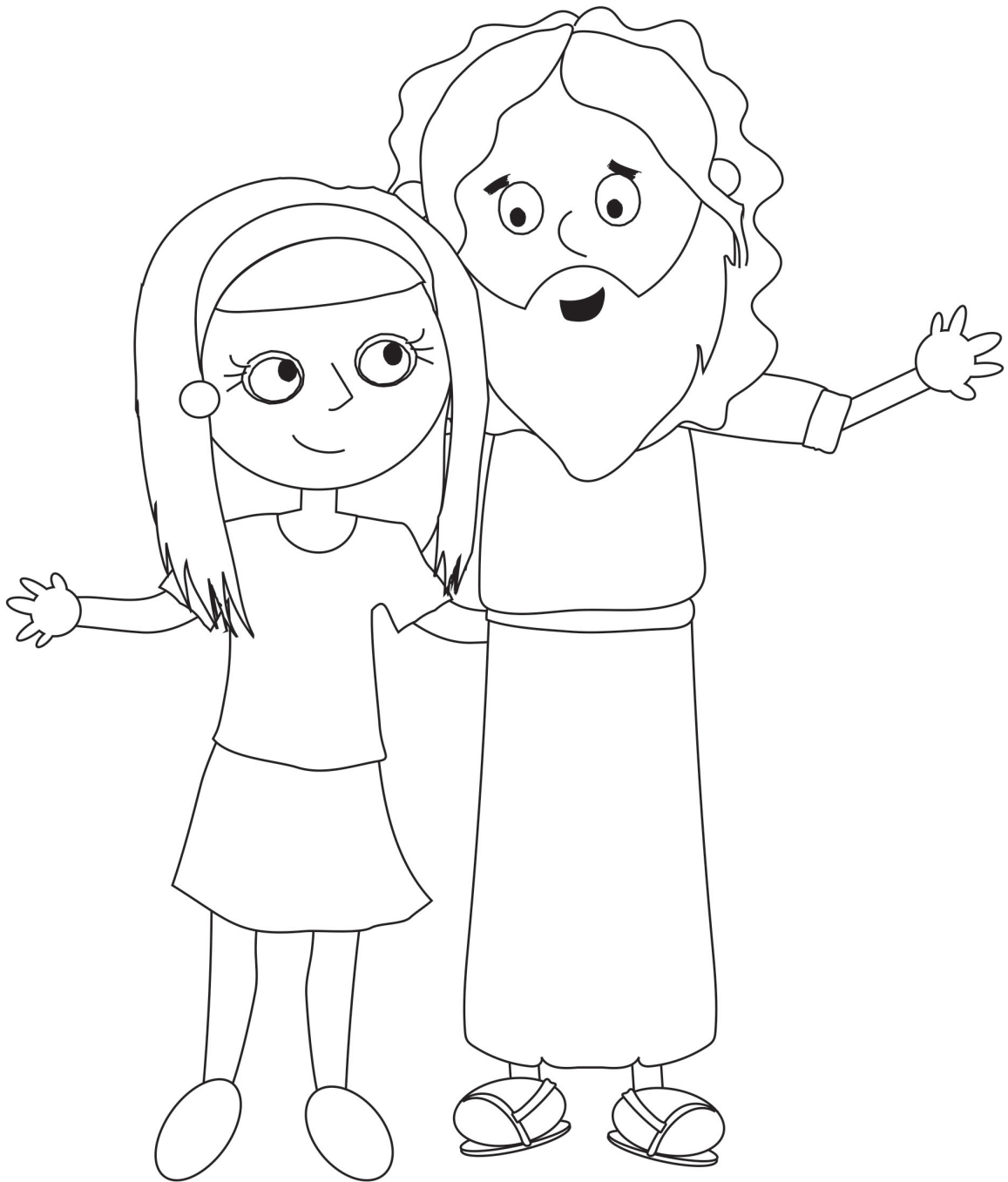
God is so good (powerful, holy),
God is so good (powerful, holy),
God is so good (powerful, holy),
He's so good (powerful, holy) to me.

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives* Parent Resources for Unit 8 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org
DDD BQ 8 BT 1 L3 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg2

CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 2:

What Is God's Love for His People Like?

It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...



God ---- ---- ---- ---- ---- ---- Takes Care of Them!

**HINT: "This word means doing something over and over and never stopping.
It starts with the letter "A" and it rhymes with "Sundays."**

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 2, Lesson 1



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve... God Always Takes Care of Them!

Bible Truth 2 Meaning

Everyone who turns away from their sins and trusts in Jesus as their Savior becomes one of God's people. And they don't just become one of His people! He makes them His adopted children! God becomes their Father in heaven. They are part of His family forever! God is kind to give us a mother and father, and even sisters and brothers, in the families we are a part of, here on earth. What good gifts they are! They love us and care for us, the best they can. God helps them love us. But no matter how good and loving our parents might be here on earth, they will never love us or take care of us as well as God can. God is the best Father we can ever imagine. He is perfect! He is all-wise: He always knows what is best for His children. He is always faithful: He always gives them what He promises them. He's all-powerful: He can always give His children everything they need and so much more. He is all-loving: He only does what is good for them. God's adopted children never need to worry. They know that God, their Father in heaven, is always with them, always taking care of them. We can become one of God's children, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God loves to help us become His children!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever." --- Psalm 23:1-3,6 ESV

Some Questions for You

1. What does everyone who trusts in Jesus as their Savior become? *One of God's people.*
2. God's people are also called whose children? *God's. When they turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, He makes them part of His heavenly family forever.*
3. What kind of Heavenly Father is God? *The best kind!*
4. What is God like to His adopted children? *He always knows what is best for them. He always gives them what He promises them. He can always give them everything they need.*
5. Why do God's children never need to worry? *God, their Father in heaven, is always with them; always taking care of them.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You are their heavenly Father. You care for all of their needs in the way that You know is best.
- C** God, You promise to take care of those who put their trust in Jesus, but many times we doubt Your promises. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for being so faithful and good to those who trust in You. Thank You for taking care of all their needs in the way You know is best for them. What a wonderful thing it is to get to be Your adopted child!
- S** God, work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Fill our hearts with love for You. Take care of us and help us to trust in You. Be our heavenly Father. Make us Your adopted children. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing about What We're Learning!

DDD BQ 8 BT 2 L1 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg2

Big Q & A 8 Song from *Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 12*
(sung to the tune 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!

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives Parent Resources for Unit 8* to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

Big Question 8 Action Rhyme Song from *Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 13*

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?
It's more than they could ever deserve.

Verse 1

God loves His people from all places,
from all times, with ev'ry kind of faces.
God loves His people from ev'ry nation,
And He loves them all through Jesus Christ.

Refrain

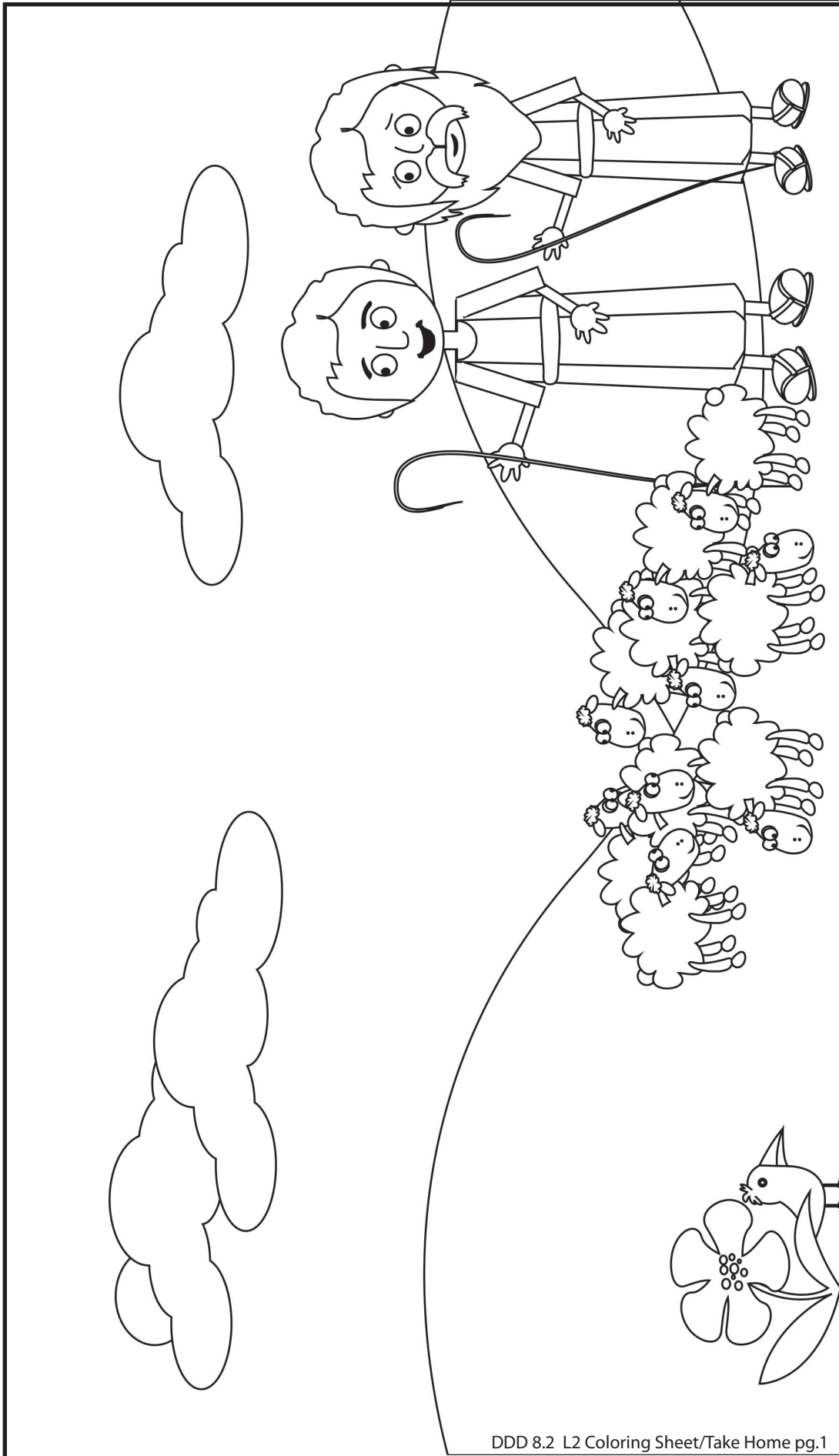
God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.
God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.

Verse 2

God loved His people before the beginning,
Even before they were repenting and believing,
God loved His people from ev'ry nation,
And He loved them all through Jesus Christ.

Verse 3

God loved His people,
He sent Jesus,
To save them,
so forever they would be His,
God loves His people
from ev'ry nation,
And He always will
through Jesus Christ.



DDD 8.2 L2 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg.1

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake...Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever." Psalm 23:1-3,6, ESV

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 2, Lesson 2

Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve... God Always Takes Care of Them!



How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so:

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever." --- Psalm 23:1-3,6 ESV

Learn a Little: "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want."

Meaning:

These verses remind us that God loves His people and cares for their needs completely, just like a good shepherd loves and takes care of his sheep. That's what it means to not be in want. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Some Questions for You

1. What does a shepherd do? *He looks after his sheep, day and night, taking care of their needs.*
2. Who looks after God's people, day and night, taking care of their needs? *The LORD does.*
3. Why does the shepherd lead His sheep beside quiet waters and makes them lie down in green pastures? *He is leading them to the food and water they need to live.*
4. How does the LORD help our hearts (souls) get what we need to live? *He gives them His Word, the Bible. He strengthens them by His Holy Spirit living in their hearts.*
5. What does the LORD promise to give His people every day of their lives? *His goodness and love.*
6. Where does the LORD promise to take His people one day? *To live with Him forever.*
7. How can we become one of God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You are their heavenly Father. You care for all of their needs in the way that You know is best.
- C** God, You promise to take care of those who put their trust in Jesus, but many times we doubt Your promises. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for being so faithful and good to those who trust in You. Thank You for taking care of all their needs in the way You know is best for them. What a wonderful thing it is to get to be Your adopted child!
- S** God, work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Fill our hearts with love for You. Take care of us and help us to trust in You. Be our heavenly Father. Make us Your adopted children. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

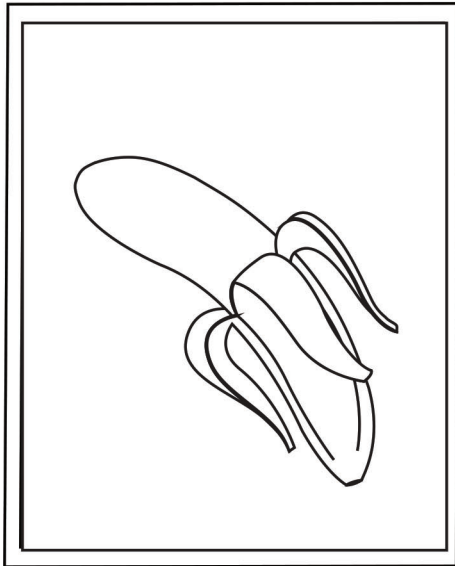
The LORD Is My Shepherd: Psalm 23: 1-6 from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 24

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul,
He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of death,
I will fear no evil,

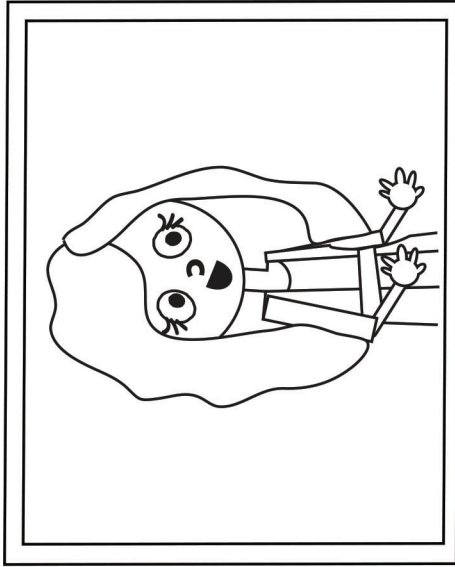
*Why? For You are with me.
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*

You prepare a table before me,
in the presence of my enemies,
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy will follow me,
All of the days of my life,
And I will dwell in the house of the LORD,
forever and ever and ever.
Psalm Twenty-three.

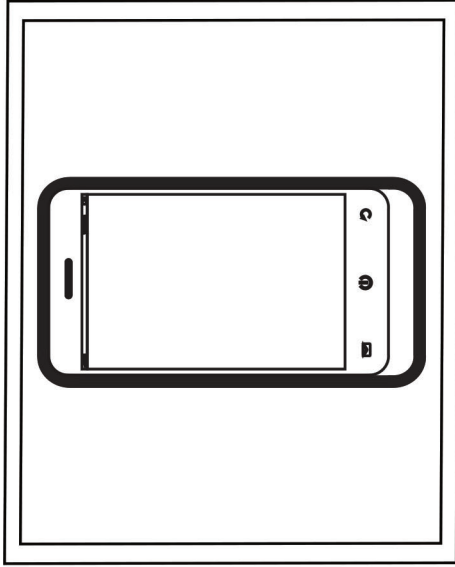
Which four of these clues belong in our story? Which two do not? Put an X in the boxes of the four that belong.


☐

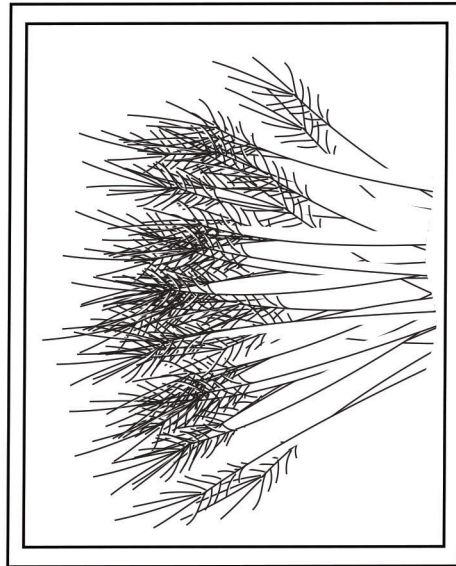
A Banana


☐

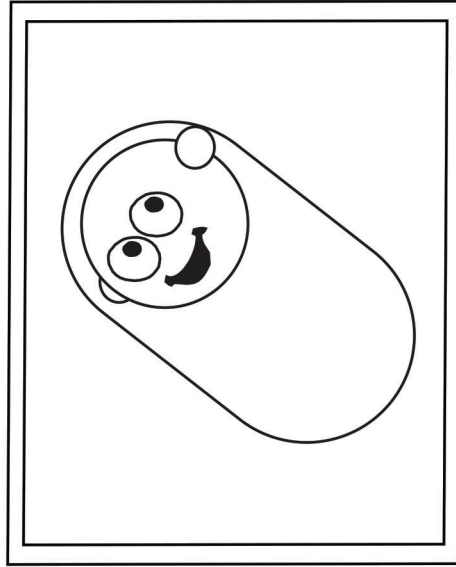
A Woman Named Ruth


☐

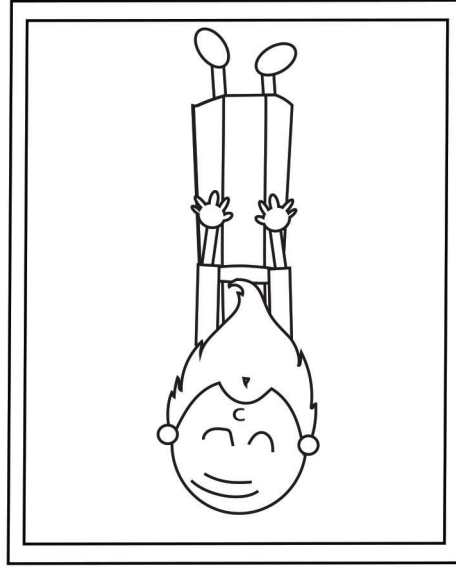
A Phone


☐

Barley


☐

A Baby


☐

A Dead Man

Answer: Ruth, the barley, the baby and the dead man belong. The banana and the phone do not.

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 2, Lesson 3



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve... God Always Takes Care of Them!

Bible Truth 2 Meaning

Everyone who turns away from their sins and trusts in Jesus as their Savior becomes one of God's people. And they don't just become one of His people! He makes them His adopted children! God becomes their Father in heaven. They are part of His family forever! God is kind to give us a mother and father, and even sisters and brothers, in the families we are a part of, here on earth. What good gifts they are! They love us and care for us, the best they can. God helps them love us. But no matter how good and loving our parents might be here on earth, they will never love us or take care of us as well as God can. God is the best Father we can ever imagine. He is perfect! He is all-wise: He always knows what is best for His children. He is always faithful: He always gives them what He promises them. He's all-powerful: He can always give His children everything they need and so much more. He is all-loving: He only does what is good for them. God's adopted children never need to worry. They know that God, their Father in heaven, is always with them, always taking care of them. We can become one of God's children, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God loves to help us become His children!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever." --- Psalm 23:1-3,6 ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Why did Naomi have such a hard time believing that God would take care of her? *Naomi had lost her husband and sons who God had used to take care of her. She could not see how God would take care of her without them. And, so many sad things had happened to her, she was afraid that God didn't want to take care of her.*
2. Did God stop taking care of Naomi? *No! He took care of her in wonderful ways, through Ruth and Boaz.*
3. What are some of the ways that God took care of her through Ruth and Boaz? *Ruth helped her to make the long walk home to Bethlehem. She went out to the fields to get food for them. Boaz married Ruth and took Ruth and Naomi into his house to take care of them. God even gave her a grandson through them!*
4. Why did Naomi want her name changed to Marah? *Marah means sad things. Naomi means happy things. Naomi didn't think that happy things was a good name for someone who had so many sad things happen to them. She couldn't see how God was providing for her.*
5. Even during the saddest times, did God take care of Naomi? *Yes, He did! He always took care of her.*
6. What should God's people remember even when many sad things happen to them? *That God will always take care of them, even if they can't see how!*
7. How can we become one of God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You are their heavenly Father. You care for all of their needs in the way that You know is best.
- C** God, You promise to take care of those who put their trust in Jesus, but many times we doubt Your promises. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for being so faithful and good to those who trust in You. Thank You for taking care of all their needs in the way You know is best for them. What a wonderful thing it is to get to be Your adopted child!
- S** God, work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Fill our hearts with love for You. Take care of us and help us to trust in You. Be our heavenly Father. Make us Your adopted children. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Let's Praise God Right Now!

DDD BQ 8 BT 2 L3 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg2

Big Q & A 8 Hymn: And Can It Be

from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 18

Refrain

Amazing love, how can it be?
That thou, my God, should die for me?
Amazing love, how can it be?
That thou, my God, should die for me?

Words: Charles Wesley Music: Thomas Campbell

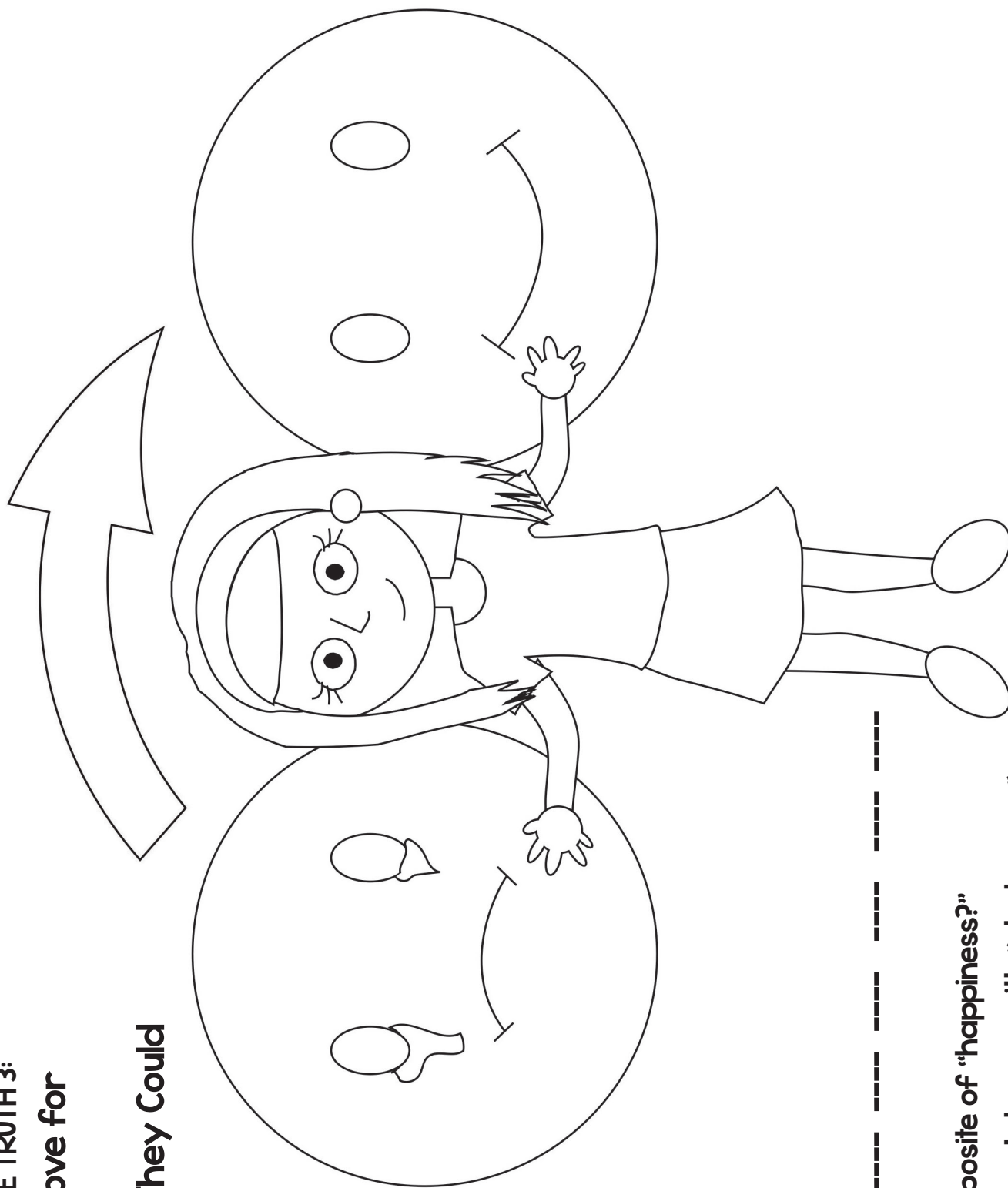
Big Question 8 Praise Song: God Is So Good

from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 19

God is so good (powerful, holy),
God is so good (powerful, holy),
God is so good (powerful, holy),
He's so good (powerful, holy) to me.

Go to the Deep Down Detectives Parent Resources for Unit 8 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 3:
What Is God's Love for
His People Like?
It's More than They Could
Ever Deserve...



God Uses Their

for good!

HINT: What is the opposite of "happiness?"
It starts with an "S" and rhymes with "gladnesses."

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 3, Lesson 1



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve... God Uses Their Sadnesses for Good!

Bible Truth 3 Meaning

Everyone has troubles. We all have times when we are sad or scared. Sometimes people are mean to us. Sometimes bad things happen to us or to the people we love. When bad things happen to God's people, they keep on trusting in Him. They know God loves them and that He is in control. They know that He promises to use every trouble they have for their good and to show how good and powerful He is. And, while sometimes it may be hard to see what good God could possibly bring through their troubles, God's people know that one day they will understand His good plans. And on that day, they will have nothing but praise for God, when they see how He truly did work all things for good in their lives. And that's why God's people can praise and thank God now for those good things, even before they know what they are, and even while they are still in the middle of their sadnesses. God is that good! They can trust Him that much, even with what they don't yet understand. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."---Romans 8:28, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Who has troubles and times when they are sad or scared? *Everyone.*
2. Do God's people have bad things happen to them? *Yes, they do.*
3. Who do God's people keep trusting in when bad things happen to them? *In God.*
4. What do they remember about God? *That He loves them and He is in control.*
5. What does God promise to do with every one of the troubles God's people go through? *To use them for their good and use them to show how wonderful God is.*
6. What will God's people praise Him about those troubles they had? *They will praise Him for the good things He did through them.*
7. How can we become God's people? *When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God, for being so good and so powerful! You even use all of Your people's sadnesses for their good. You show how good and great You are!
- C** God, You promise to use all things for the good in the lives of Your people, but many times we don't trust that You will. We act like Your plans aren't good or that You aren't really in control. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for Your amazing promises to work good even in all of our sadnesses, when we trust in You as our Savior. Thank You that You can work good things in even the biggest sadnesses and the scariest things that happen to us. Thank You for the good You will do that we do not yet see.
- S** God, 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 trust You. Do many good things even through our sadnesses --good things that show others how good and great You are. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing about What We're Learning!

Big Q & A 8 Song from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 12
(sung to the tune 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!

Big Question 8 Action Rhyme Song from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 13

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?
It's more than they could ever deserve.

Verse 1

God loves His people from all places,
from all times, with ev'ry kind of faces.
God loves His people from ev'ry nation,
And He loves them all through Jesus Christ.

Refrain

God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.
God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.

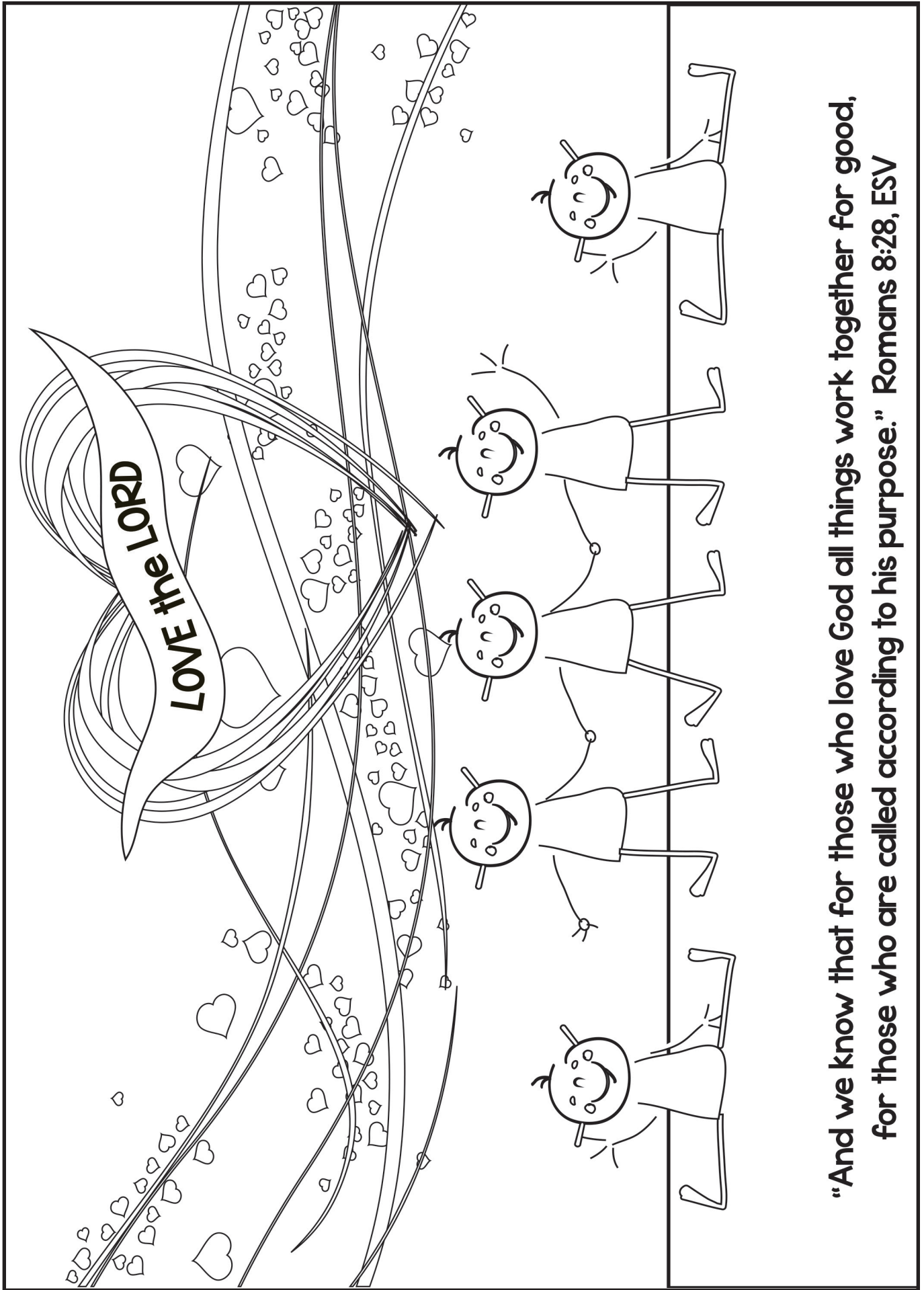
Verse 2

God loved His people before the beginning,
Even before they were repenting and believing,
God loved His people from ev'ry nation,
And He loved them all through Jesus Christ.

Verse 3

God loved His people,
He sent Jesus,
To save them,
so forever they would
be His,
God loves His people
from ev'ry nation,
And He always will
through Jesus Christ.

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives* Parent Resources for Unit 8 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org



**“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good,
for those who are called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28, ESV**

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 3, Lesson 2



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve... God Uses Their Sadnesses for Good!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."---Romans 8:28, ESV

Learn a Little: "For those who love God, all things work together for good."

Meaning

These verses remind us that God's people are those who love Him. In His great love, He has called them to turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of their sins. This is what it means to be justified. But being justified is just the beginning of God's good plans for His people. He also planned for all things in their lives—both enjoyable things and hard things—to be for the good purpose of making them more like Jesus. Yes, God planned to use all of these things to prepare His people for life with Him in heaven. What will life in heaven be like for them? There, they will be glorified! They will be freed from sin forever! God will make them a pure reflection of His glory. This is God's wonderful plan for making everything in His people's lives for their good and His glory. We can become God's people by turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

Some Questions for You

1. What does God use for the good in His people's lives? *All things...even sad, bad and hard things!*
2. Who do God's people love? *God.*
3. Who has a purpose for God's people? *God does.*
4. Who does God plan to make His people like? *Like Jesus.*
5. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God, for being so good and so powerful! You even use all of Your people's sadnesses for their good. You show how good and great You are!
- C** God, You promise to use all things for the good in the lives of Your people, but many times we don't trust that You will. We act like Your plans aren't good or that You aren't really in control. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for Your amazing promises to work good even in all of our sadnesses, when we trust in You as our Savior. Thank You that You can work good things in even the biggest sadnesses and the scariest things that happen to us. Thank You for the good You will do that we do not yet see.
- S** God, 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 trust You. Do many good things even through our sadnesses --good things that show others how good and great You are. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

And We Know: Romans 8:28-29, ESV _from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 27

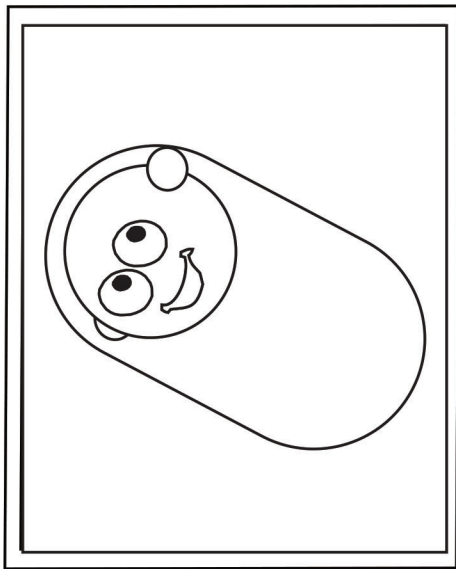
And we know that for those who love God
All things work together for good,
And we know that for those who love God
All things work together for good,
For those who are called, according to his purpose,
For those who are called, according to his purpose.

Refrain:

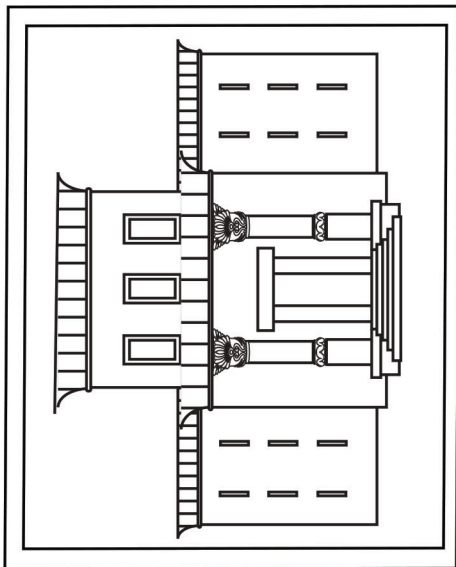
All things work together for good,
All things work together for good,
All things, all things, all things, Work together for good.

For those he foreknew, he also predestined,
For those he foreknew, he also predestined,
To be conformed to the image of his Son,
That he might be the firstborn among many.
To be conformed to the image of his Son,
That he might be the firstborn among many. Refrain
Romans Eight, twenty-eight and nine.

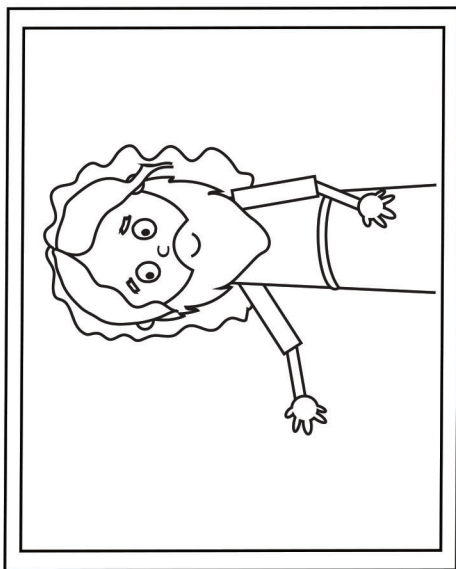
Which four of these clues belong in our story? Which two do not? Put an X in the boxes of the four that belong.



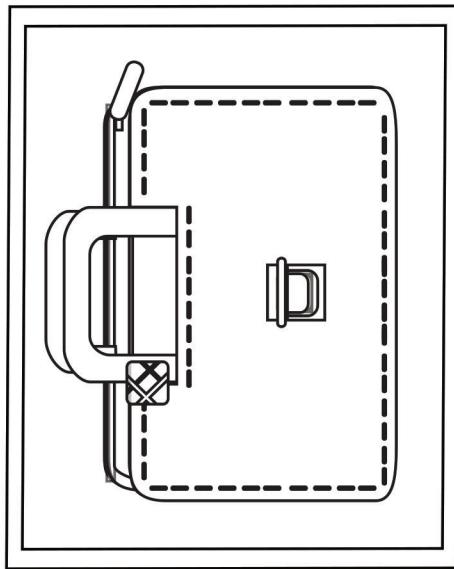
☐ A Baby



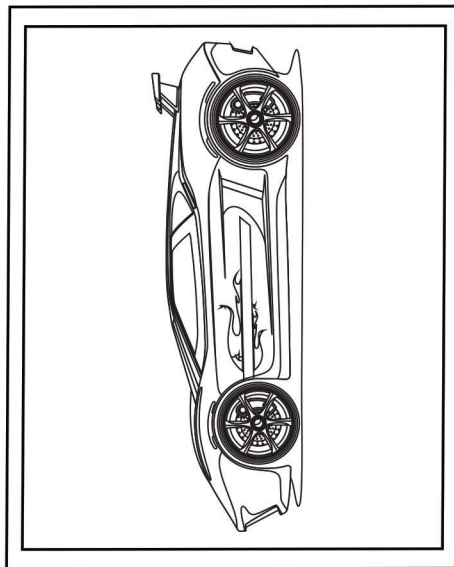
☐ The Temple



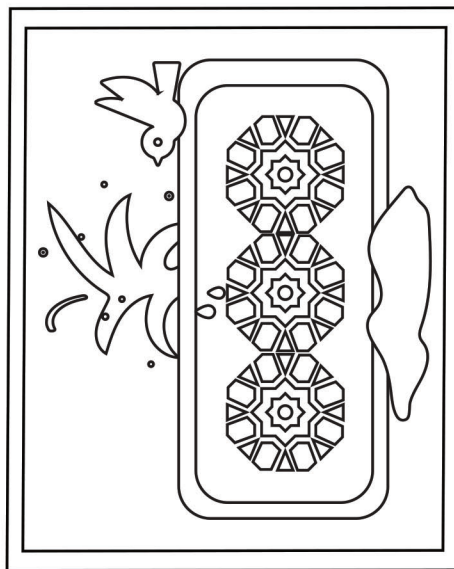
☐ Jesus



☐ A Suitcase



☐ A Car



☐ A Pool of Water

Answer: The baby, the Temple, Jesus and the pool of water belong. The suitcase and the car do not.

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 3, Lesson 3



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve... God Uses Their Sadnesses for Good!

Bible Truth 3 Meaning

Everyone has troubles. We all have times when we are sad or scared. Sometimes people are mean to us. Sometimes bad things happen to us or to the people we love. When bad things happen to God's people, they keep on trusting in Him. They know God loves them and that He is in control. They know that He promises to use every trouble they have for their good and to show how good and powerful He is. And, while sometimes it may be hard to see what good God could possibly bring through their troubles, God's people know that one day they will understand His good plans. And on that day, they will have nothing but praise for God, when they see how He truly did work all things for good in their lives. And that's why God's people can praise and thank God now for those good things, even before they know what they are, and even while they are still in the middle of their sadnesses. God is that good! They can trust Him that much, even with what they don't yet understand. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."---Romans 8:28, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Whose sadness did Jesus use for the good in this story? *The blind man's sadness.*
2. What were the blind man's sadnesses? *He could not see, even from birth. He could not help his father take care of the family by making money. Many people said that he (or his parents) must have done something terribly wrong for him to be born blind.*
3. How did Jesus use the blind man's sadnesses for good? *Jesus healed the blind man eyes so he could see. Many people--including the blind man--believed in Jesus when they saw the amazing way that Jesus healed him. God even uses the story of the blind man to help us to believe in Jesus!*
4. Jesus healed the blind man's eyes so they could see; and, He gave him faith to believe in Him. Who in the story had eyes that worked, but could not "see" (believe) that Jesus really was God's Son sent to save His people? *The teachers at the Temple, the special meeting place of God.*
5. What good thing might God use the blind man's story to do in us? *To help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God, for being so good and so powerful! You even use all of Your people's sadnesses for their good. You show how good and great You are!
- C** God, You promise to use all things for the good in the lives of Your people, but many times we don't trust that You will. We act like Your plans aren't good or that You aren't really in control. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for Your amazing promises to work good even in all of our sadnesses, when we trust in You as our Savior. Thank You that You can work good things in even the biggest sadnesses and the scariest things that happen to us. Thank You for the good You will do that we do not yet see.
- S** God, 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 trust You. Do many good things even through our sadnesses --good things that show others how good and great You are. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Let's Praise God Right Now!

Big Q & A 8 Hymn: And Can It Be

from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 18

Refrain

Amazing love, how can it be?
That thou, my God, should die for me?
Amazing love, how can it be?
That thou, my God, should die for me?

Words: Charles Wesley Music: Thomas Campbell

Big Question 8 Praise Song: God Is So Good

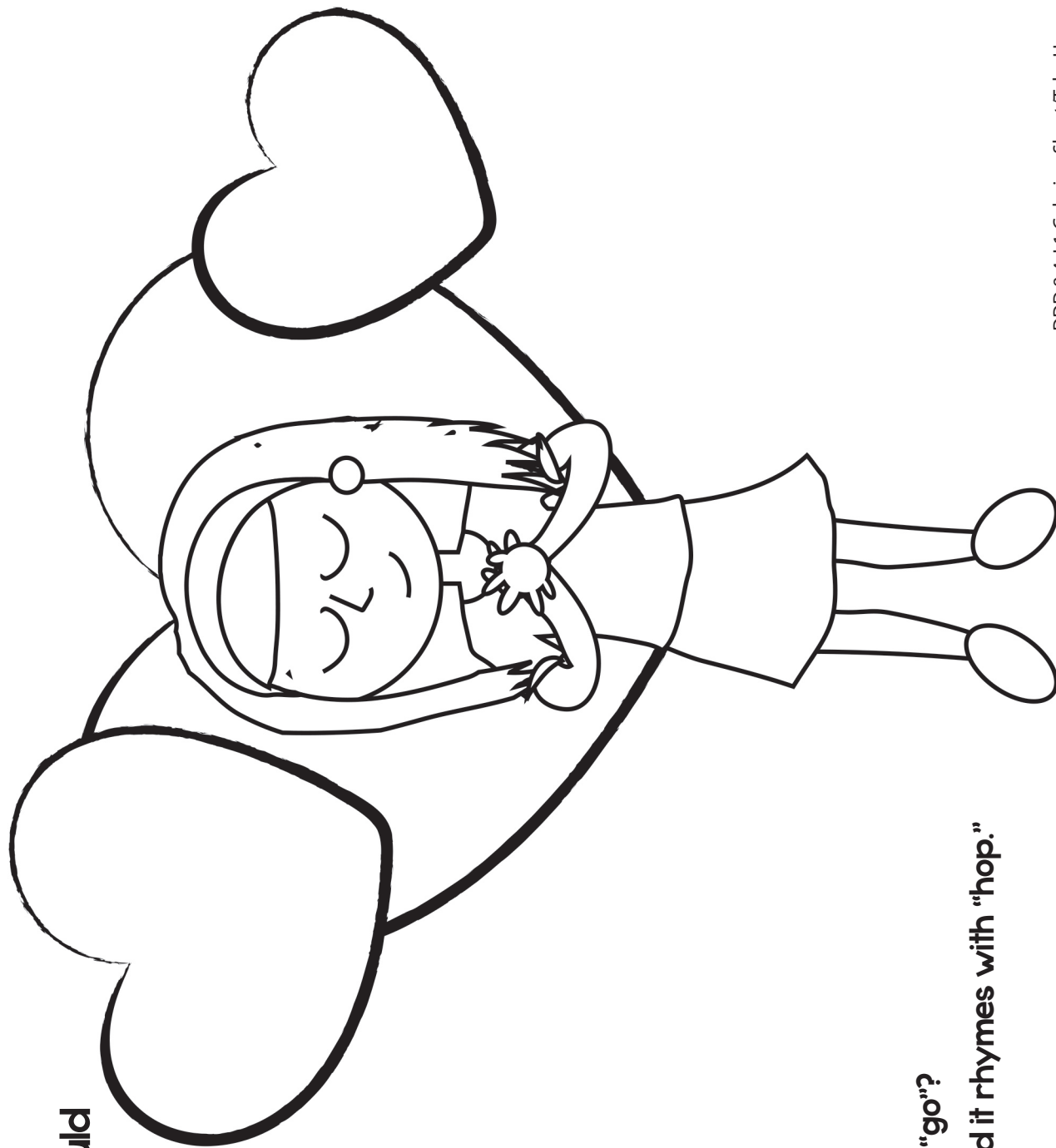
from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 19

God is so good (powerful, holy),
God is so good (powerful, holy),
God is so good (powerful, holy),
He's so good (powerful, holy) to me.

Go to the Deep Down Detectives Parent Resources for Unit 8 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

DDD BQ 8 BT 3 L3 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg2

CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 4:
What Is God's Love for
His People Like?
It's More than They Could
Ever Deserve...



God Will Never

Loving His People!

HINT: What is the opposite of "go"?
It starts with the letter "S" and it rhymes with "hop."

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 4, Lesson 1



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve... God Will Never Stop Loving His People!

Bible Truth 4 Meaning

Our love for others changes. Sometimes we love others a lot. Sometimes we don't love them very much. But God's love for His people is not like that. God's love for His people never changes. God loved His people before they loved Him or even knew Him. He paid for their sins through Jesus' perfect life, when He suffered and died on the cross. He adopts them as His people, when they turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Nothing will ever stop God from loving His people! They are bound in love to Him through Jesus, and that is a love that will never, ever end! We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy."
--Hosea 2:19, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Does our love for others stay the same or change? *It changes.*
2. Does God's love for His people change? *It never changes.*
3. Did God love His people before they loved Him? *Yes, He did.*
4. Did God love His people when they first trusted Him? *Yes, He did.*
5. How long will God keep on loving His people? *Forever!*
6. What can stop God from loving His people? *Nothing!*
7. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You love them with a love that will never, ever end.
- C** God, You offer us a love that will never end, but many times, we choose to not love You. We choose to live life our own way, even if it means breaking Your good laws. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for sending Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You that all who put their trust in You can rest in Your love forever.
- S** God, 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 help us to know Your love. Make us Your people who enjoy Your love forever. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing about What We're Learning!

Big Q & A 8 Song from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 12
(sung to the tune 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!

Big Question 8 Action Rhyme Song

 from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 13

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?
It's more than they could ever deserve.

Verse 1

God loves His people from all places,
from all times, with ev'ry kind of faces.
God loves His people from ev'ry nation,
And He loves them all through Jesus Christ.

Refrain

God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.
God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives* Parent Resources for Unit 8 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

DDD BQ 8 BT4 L1 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg2

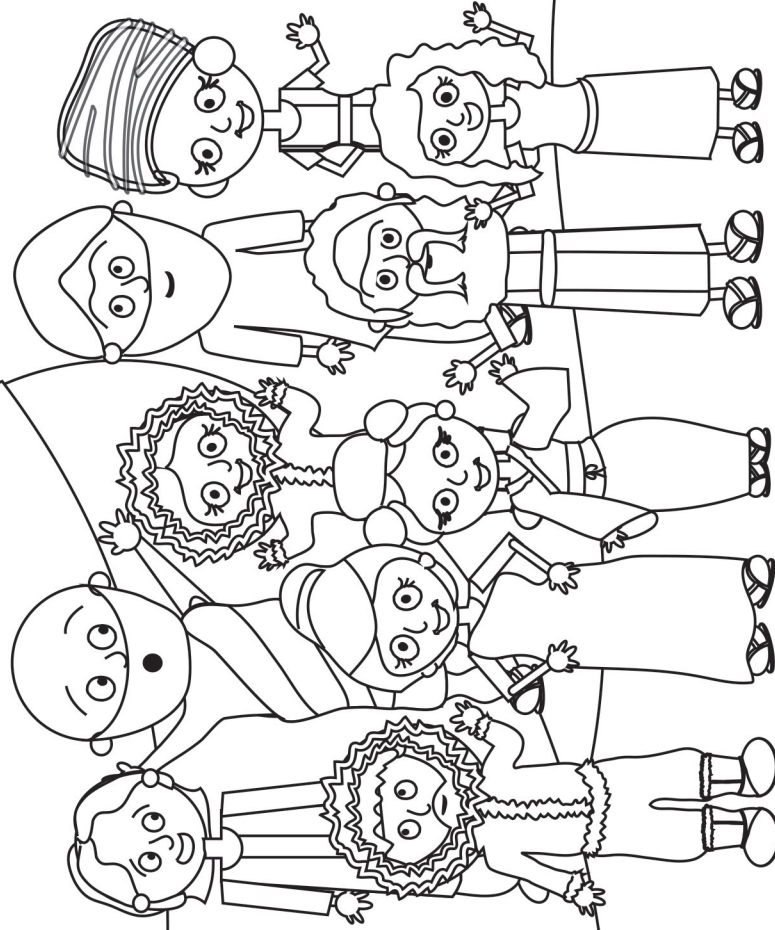
Verse 2

God loved His people before the beginning,
Even before they were repenting and believing,
God loved His people from ev'ry nation,
And He loved them all through Jesus Christ.

Verse 3

God loved His people, He sent Jesus,
To save them, so forever they would be His,
God loves His people from ev'ry nation,
And He always will through Jesus Christ.

THE LORD



**“I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me
in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy.” Hosea 2:19, ESV**

DDD 8.4 L2 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg.1

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 4, Lesson 2



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve... God Will Never Stop Loving His People!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy."
--Hosea 2:19, ESV

Learn a Little: "I will betroth you to me forever... in love."

Meaning

To be betrothed to someone is to make a special promise to love them always. Men and women in Bible times used to make special betrothal promises to each other before they got married. In the Bible, God tells us that He betroths Himself to His people. That means He promises to always love them. He will always be faithful to them. He will always love and care for them. He will always be righteous and just in how He treats them--that means He will always love His people by doing the right thing. He will never do anything evil or treat them badly. He will always show them mercy and treat them with tenderness and kindness. The Bible also tells us that at the end of time, all of God's people will live with God forever. Jesus will be like the bridegroom who greets his bride on his wedding day with great joy and begins his life with the one he loves. There will never be anything better than this life with God! We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Some Questions for You

1. What does betroth mean? *Making a special promise to love someone always.*
2. What does it mean that God betrothes Himself to His people? *He will always love them.*
3. What is God's love like? *It is perfect. It is tender and kind. He only does good to His people. It's always just what they need.*
4. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. He loves to answer these prayers! Ask Him to help you!*

Let's Pray!

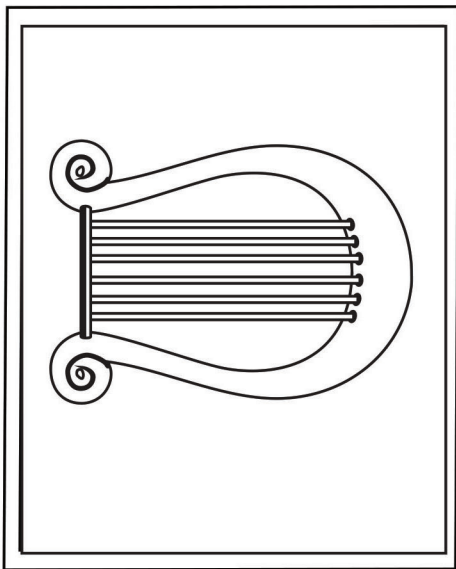
- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You love them with a love that will never, ever end.
- C** God, You offer us a love that will never end, but many times, we choose to not love You. We choose to live life our own way, even if it means breaking Your good laws. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for sending Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You that all who put their trust in You can rest in Your love forever.
- S** God, 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 help us to know Your love. Make us Your people who enjoy Your love forever. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

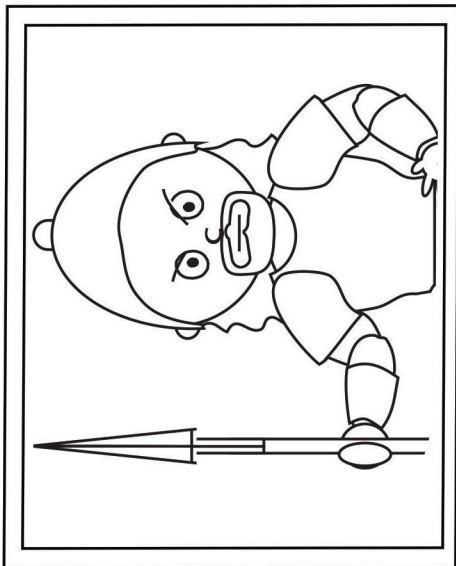
I Will Betroth You to Me, Hosea 2:19, ESV from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 29

I will betroth you to me forever,
I will betroth you to me forever,
In righteousness and justice,
In love and in mercy.
I will betroth you to me forever,
I will betroth you to me forever,
Hosea Two, nineteen.

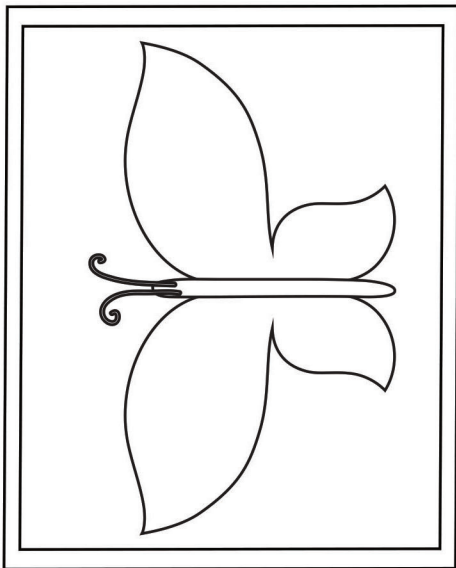
Which four of these clues belong in our story? Which two do not? Put an X in the boxes of the four that belong.


☐

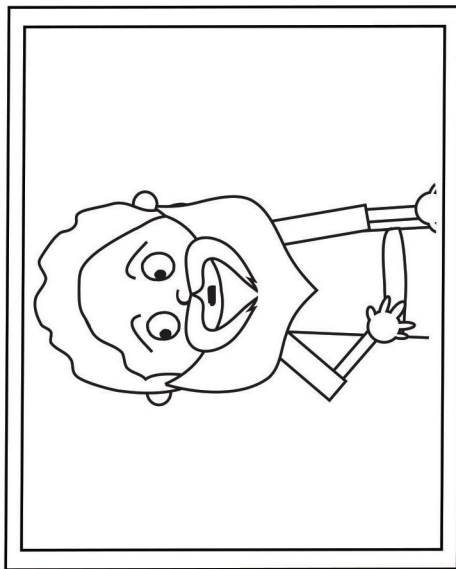
A Harp


☐

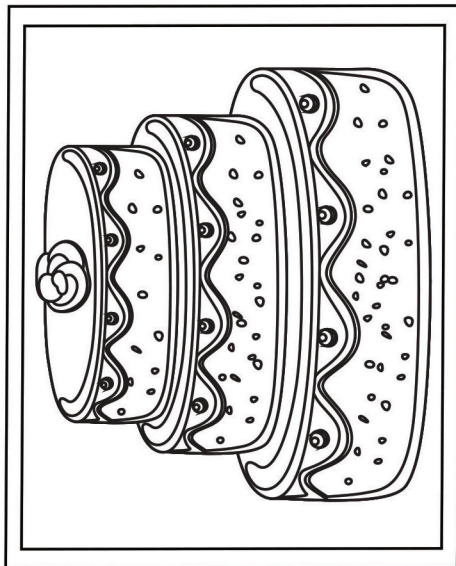
A Very Tall Man


☐

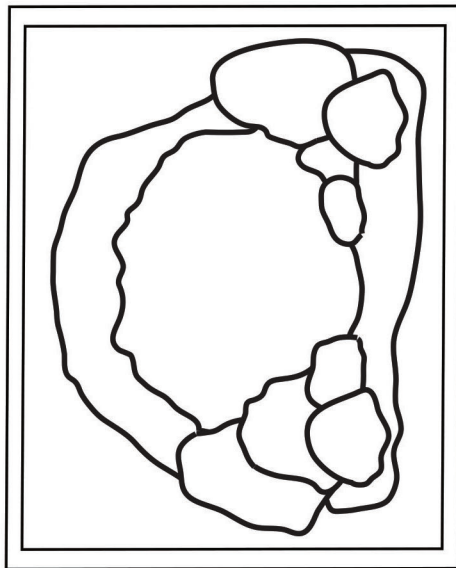
A Butterfly


☐

A Son Named Absalom


☐

A Cake


☐

A Cave

Answer: The harp, the very tall man, Absalom and the cave belong in the story. The butterfly and the cake do not. DDD 8.4 L3 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg.1

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 4, Lesson 3



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve... God Will Never Stop Loving His People!

Bible Truth 4 Meaning

Our love for others changes. Sometimes we love others a lot. Sometimes we don't love them very much. But God's love for His people is not like that. God's love for His people never changes. God loved His people before they loved Him or even knew Him. He paid for their sins through Jesus' perfect life, when He suffered and died on the cross. He adopts them as His people, when they turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Nothing will ever stop God from loving His people! They are bound in love to Him through Jesus, and that is a love that will never, ever end! We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy."
--Hosea 2:19, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Today we learned something about God's love for His people. We learned that God Will Never Stop Loving His People. Who knew this is our story today? *David.*
2. How did thinking about God's love help David do great, good things? *He knew that God would take care of him. He thought about how great God's love was for him, as one of His people, and he delighted to do great, good things to show others how great God is.*
3. How did thinking about God's love help David in bad times? *God helped David see his sins, turn away from their and ask for His forgiveness...and God, in His great love, did!*
4. How did thinking about God's love help David in sad times? *God's love comforted him when there was no one else to comfort him.*
5. What did David look forward to most of all? *To the day when he would live with God forever in heaven. How close he would live to God, enjoying all of His love for him, as one of God's people! This would be best of all!*
6. How can we become God's dearly-loved people, like David was? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise You, God, for being so full of love for Your people. You love them with a love that will never, ever end.
- C** God, You offer us a love that will never end, but many times, we choose to not love You. We choose to live life our own way, even if it means breaking Your good laws. Please forgive us! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for sending Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You that all who put their trust in You can rest in Your love forever.
- S** God, 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 help us to know Your love. Make us Your people who enjoy Your love forever. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Let's Praise God Right Now!

Big Q & A 8 Hymn: And Can It Be from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 18

Refrain

Amazing love, how can it be?
That thou, my God, should die for me?
Amazing love, how can it be?
That thou, my God, should die for me?

Words: Charles Wesley Music: Thomas Campbell

Big Question 8 Praise Song: God Is So Good from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 19

God is so good (powerful, holy),
God is so good (powerful, holy),
God is so good (powerful, holy),
He's so good (powerful, holy) to me.

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives* Parent Resources for Unit 8 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

DDD BQ 8 BT4 L3 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg2