

DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES

**Curriculum Resources
for Unit 12, Bible Truth 1:**



How Should God's People Live?

They Should Live Like Jesus...

By Asking God for His Help!

Session Prep (especially good for newbies!)

Pray!



Pray for the Holy Spirit to be at work in your and the children's hearts.

Review



If new to the curriculum, look at the **Getting Started with Deep Down Detectives section of the Core Curriculum book.** (p.5) It will be especially helpful to read through the Deep Down Detectives section of **The Praise Factory Tour: Extended Version Book.** This is a visual way to understand what goes on in the classroom. (A pdf of the book is found in the samples section on the website.)

Look through and Learn the Lesson



Read over **lesson plan.** Practice any **songs or action rhymes** you are using. Choose/make up motions to go with these. Choose less with younger children and more with older preschoolers. **Practice the lesson with the visual aids** and using the Big Question Box/Briefcase.

Read and Rehearse the Bible Story with Pictures



Read the Bible story from the Bible. Read the curriculum version. Practice telling it with the storyboard pictures. (If you have not previously laminated the story pictures, do that now.) Or, rehearse it from the Simple Story Scenes, if you are using those.

Let There Be Music



Download the music and listen to the songs. Choose which of the songs you will use with the children. If using live musicians, make sure they have the sheet music (Appendix A, Core Curriculum book).

Put the Props in Place



1. Prepare your Visual Aids. Put the Big Question, Unit Bible Truths, Bible Truth, Bible Verse, and Listening Assignment signs, as well as the Bible Story script in one side of the Bible folder.
2. Get out your storyboard. If using Simple Story Scenes, put these in your Bible Folder. Or, if using the individual storyboard figures, put all background pictures in place (they have a BG by the number). Put the rest of the storyboard pictures (these have a SB by the number) in order of use in the other side of the Bible folder.
3. Put the DDD Bible Folder as well as the Big Question sign in the Big Question Box/Briefcase and shut it. If your box/briefcase has locks and you want to use the unlocking the box as part of your session, lock it now....but make sure you have the key or know the code first.
4. Prepare the music CD or sheet music or mp3 device for use in your session.

Set Out Free Play Activities



Choose and set up free time activities you will use with the children. Choose a variety of different activities that will be enjoyed by different types of children. Rotate the activities you provide to keep them interesting and fresh to your children. (Suggestions in Appendix D, Core Curriculum books.)

Prepare Any Activities



Choose which (if any) of the Bible Truth games and crafts activities you want to use in the session. Bear in mind your time frame as well as the developmental abilities and attention span of your children as you decide which/how many to prepare. **Look over the Discussion Sheet** and choose a few questions you might use to spark discussion with the children as they do their activities (especially good for ages 3's+). Pray for God to give you opportunities to talk about these things with the children.

Let Them Take It with Them



Make copies of the craft/take home sheets, if you are not already using them as one of your activities. You may also want to make copies of the story (see take-home version of each story included in Appendix C with the other take home resources) to have for parents to use with their children at home. There's a link on each craft/take home sheet to the story, if you don't make hard copies.

Store It



After your session is over, collect the resources and store them for future use. This curriculum can be used over and over for years to come.

Unit 12: God's People Live for Him

UNIT OVERVIEW

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

In this unit we will learn eight ways that God's people live for Him.

UNIT BIBLE VERSE: Ephesians 5:1-2

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

BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION: How Should God's People Live?

ANSWER: They Should Live Like Jesus!

OPTIONAL Big Question 12 INTRODUCTION LESSON (Use Hide 'n' Seek Kids Unit 12 Material)

Story: The Case of the Runaway Who Came Back *Philemon*

Bible Verse: Ephesians 5:1-2

➔ BIBLE TRUTH 1: By Asking God for His Help (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Hardest Thing *Matthew 26-28; Mark 14-16; Luke 22-24; John 18-21*

Bible Verse: Hebrews 4:16

BIBLE TRUTH 2: By Loving God Most of All (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Man Who Left His Money *Matthew 9; Mark 2; Luke 5*

Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 6:4-5

BIBLE TRUTH 3: By Loving Other People as God Has Loved Them

(3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Man Who Kept on Loving *Acts 6-7*

Luke 3:15-18, 21-23; John 1:19-34

Bible Verse: 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

BIBLE TRUTH 4: By Trusting God and Being Happy with What He Wants (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Faith that Faced Fire *Daniel 1-3*

Bible Verse: Proverbs 3:5-6

BIBLE TRUTH 5: By Learning God's Word and Obeying It (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Lost Treasure *2 Kings 22; 23:1-20; 24; 2 Chronicles 34:8-33*

Bible Verse: Psalm 119:11,15-16

BIBLE TRUTH 6: By Saying "No" to Disobeying God (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Escape that Waited *1 Samuel 17:19,23-24,27,31; 2 Samuel 5-6*

Bible Verse: 1 Corinthians 10:13

BIBLE TRUTH 7: By Telling the Good News of Jesus (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Beautiful, Busy Feet *Acts*

Bible Verse: Romans 10:13-15

BIBLE TRUTH 8: By Making Much of God (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Boastful Man

Acts 7-9,22; Romans; 1 & 2 Corinthians; Ephesians; Philippians

Bible Verse: Psalm 66:1-3,5,16

Deep Down Detectives NIV Songs 12 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, 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.

UNIT 12: GOD'S PEOPLE LIVE FOR HIM

- 12 Big Q & A 12 Song
- 13 Big Question 12 Song: How Should God's People Live Each Day?
- 14 Big Question 12 Bible Verse Song: Live a Life of Love Ephesians 5:2, NIV 1984
- 15 Big Question 12 Hymn: Trust and Obey, v.1
- 16 Big Question 12 Praise Song: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

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

How Should God's People Live? They Should Live Like Jesus...

Bible Truth 1: By Asking God for His Help

- 17 Bible Verse: Let Us Then Approach Hebrews 4:16, NIV 1984
- 18 Bible Verse: Help Us, O God Our Savior Psalm 79:9, NIV 1984
- 19 Extra Bible Verse: We Who Reflect the Lord's Glory 2 Corinthians 3:18, NIV 1984

Bible Truth 2: By Loving Him Most of All

- 20 Bible Verse: Hear, O Hear Deuteronomy 6:4-5, NIV 1984
- 21 Extra Bible Verse: Your Love Is Better than Life Psalm 63:3-4, NIV 1984

Bible Truth 3: By Loving Other People as God Has Loved Them

- 22 Bible Verse: Love Is Patient 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, NIV1984

Bible Truth 4: By Trusting God and Being Happy With What He Wants

- 23 Bible Verse: Trust in the LORD Proverbs 3:5-6, NIV 1984
- 24 Extra Bible Verse: May the God of Hope Romans 15:13, NIV 1984
- 25 Extra Bible Verse: Let the Morning Bring Me Psalm 143:5,8, NIV 1984
- 26 Extra Bible Verse: For a Little While 1 Peter 1:6-7, NIV 1984
- 27 Extra Bible Verse: Who Shall Separate Us? Romans 8:31,32,35,38-39, NIV 1984
- 28 Extra Bible Verse: Many Live as Enemies Philippians 3:18,19,20, NIV 1984
- 29 Extra Bible Verse: You Were Publicly Exposed Hebrews 10:32-36, NIV 1984

Bible Truth 5: By Learning God's Word and Obeying It

- 30 Bible Verse: I Have Hidden Your Word Psalm 119:11,15-16, NIV 1984
- 31 Extra Bible Verse: Jesus Replied John 14:23-24, NIV 1984
- 32 Extra Bible Verse: For We Are God's Workmanship Ephesians 2:10; 6:7-8, NIV 1984

Bible Truth 6: By Saying "No" to Disobeying God

- 33 Bible Verse: No Temptation Has Seized You 1 Corinthians 10:13, NIV 1984

Bible Truth 7: By Telling the Good News of Jesus

- 34 Bible Verse: How Beautiful Romans 10:13-15, NIV 1984

Bible Truth 8: By Making Much of God

- 35 Bible Verse: Shout with Joy to God Psalm 66:1-3,5,9,16, NIV 1984
- 36 Extra Bible Verse: Each of Us Should Use 1 Peter 4:10-11, NIV 1984

Big Question 12, Bible Truth 1 Overview: Key Concepts

p.1

Unit 12: God's People Live for Him

Unit Big Question (and Answer): How Should God's People Live? They Should Live Like Jesus!

Unit Bible Verse: "Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us." --Ephesians 5:1-2

Bible Truth 1 Concept: They Should Live Like Jesus...By Asking God for His Help

When Jesus lived on earth, He asked God, His Father, for help to do everything He wanted Him to do. God wants His people to ask Him to help them, too.

The Bible is filled with God's promises to help His people. God's people can pray these promises for themselves. They can pray them for others, too. One of God's best promises is to send the Holy Spirit to keep working in His people's hearts. The Holy Spirit helps them to know what God wants them to do. He makes them strong and brave to do it. God is faithful. He will always help His people to live like Jesus, every single day.

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

Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse: Hebrews 4:16

"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Learn a Little: "Let us approach so that we may find help in our time of need."

Meaning

Jesus reigns in heaven as the High King over all creation. How He loves God's people! He listens to their prayers and even prays for them, Himself! He promises to give them everything they need to live for God and to do all He wants them to do.

God's people know they can always pray and ask God to help them. They know His answer is always "yes" when they ask Him to help them. He will give them the strength they need to do all He wants them to do. That's why they go boldly and confidently to God with their prayers. He will help them. He will always help them! We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 1 ACTS Prayer

- A** God, we praise You for giving us Jesus, so we can know how You want us to live.
- C** God, we need Your help to live for You, but many times we don't ask for it. We love to do things by ourselves, in our own way. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for promising to help Your people live like Jesus. They could never do this without Your help.
- S** God, please work in our hearts. Help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us Your people. Help us to love You. Help us to live like You want us to. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Bible Truth 1 Story**The Case of the Hardest Thing**

Matthew 26-28; Mark 14-16; Luke 22-24; John 18-21

Songs Used in Bible Truth 1

Big Q & A 12 Song

Big Question 12 Song: How Should God's People Live?

Big Question 12 Bible Verse Song: Live a Life of Love Ephesians 5:2, NIV 1984

Big Question 12 Hymn: Trust and Obey, v.1

Big Question 12 Praise Song: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus


Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse Song: Let Us Then Approach Hebrews 4:16, NIV 1984


Bible Truth 1 Extra Bible Verse: Help Us, O God Our Savior Psalm 79:9, NIV 1984

Bible Truth 1 Extra Bible Verse: We Who Reflect the Lord's Glory 2 Corinthians 3:18, NIV 1984


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

1. GETTING STARTED

 = follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

<p>Intake Activity Ideas</p>	<p>Choose one of these open-ended activities to include children as they join the class:</p>																
<p>Free Play Time <i>suggestions in Appendix D</i></p>	<p> Offer your own or some of the easy-to-make, free play activities suggested in Appendix D.</p>																
<p>OR Sing-along Music Time <i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i> <i>listen to or download songs for free at https://praisefactory.org/Deep Down Detectives Music page</i></p>	<p>Music from Deep Down Detectives (DDD) NIV Songs 12:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Big Q & A 12 Song</td> <td><i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 12</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Big Question 12 Song</td> <td><i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 13</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Big Question 12 (Unit) Bible Verse Song: Live a Life of Love Ephesians 5:2, NIV 1984</td> <td><i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 14</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Big Question 12 Hymn: Trust and Obey, v.1</td> <td><i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 15</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Big Question 12 Praise Song: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus</td> <td><i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 16</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse Song: Let Us Then Approach Hebrews 4:16, NIV 1984</td> <td><i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 17</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Bible Truth 1 Extra Bible Verse Song:</i> <i>Help Us, O God Our Savior Psalm 79:9, NIV 1984</i></td> <td><i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 18</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Bible Truth 1 Extra Bible Verse Song:</i> <i>We Who Reflect the Lord's Glory 2 Corinthians 3:18, NIV</i></td> <td><i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 19</i></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Add more fun to Sing-along Music Time by adding a Music, Movement & Memory Activity. These activities are listed on p.10 of this lesson plan with the Response Activities. Instructions found in Appendix B.</i></p>	Big Q & A 12 Song	<i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 12</i>	Big Question 12 Song	<i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 13</i>	Big Question 12 (Unit) Bible Verse Song: Live a Life of Love Ephesians 5:2, NIV 1984	<i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 14</i>	Big Question 12 Hymn: Trust and Obey, v.1	<i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 15</i>	Big Question 12 Praise Song: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus	<i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 16</i>	Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse Song: Let Us Then Approach Hebrews 4:16, NIV 1984	<i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 17</i>	<i>Bible Truth 1 Extra Bible Verse Song:</i> <i>Help Us, O God Our Savior Psalm 79:9, NIV 1984</i>	<i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 18</i>	<i>Bible Truth 1 Extra Bible Verse Song:</i> <i>We Who Reflect the Lord's Glory 2 Corinthians 3:18, NIV</i>	<i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 19</i>
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<p>OR Bible Verse Memory Game <i>instructions found in Appendix B</i></p>	<p>Lesson 1 Game: Roll 'n' Toss Lesson 2 Game: Block Clapping Lesson 3 Game: Meet, Greet and Keep It Up</p> <p><i>These activities are also included on p.10 of this lesson plan with the Response Activities.</i></p>																

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME (introduce the Bible Truth and tell the related Bible story)

<p>Gathering the Children <i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p><i>Sing verse 1 of The Classroom Song to gather the children for Circle Time.</i></p> <p>The Classroom Song, verse 1 <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 1</i> Let's gather together to worship God, Let's gather together to worship God, Let's gather together to worship God, Come gather here with me!</p>
<p>Welcome to Deep Down Detectives</p>	<p> "Welcome to Deep Down Detectives. We're so glad you've joined us! Detectives are people who look for answers to questions. In Deep Down Detectives, we look for answers to big questions about God. We dig deep down in the truths of God's Word to find them."</p>

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



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<p>Deep Down Detectives Theme Song</p> <p><i>Lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>"Let's sing our Deep Down Detectives Theme Song."</p> <p>Deep Down Detectives Theme Song Deep Down Detectives Theme Song <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 5</i></p> <p>We're Deep Down Detectives, diggin' deep in God's Word, For truths about God and His plans for this world, We're seeking to love Him, with all of our heart, We're Deep Down Detectives! Come on! Let's start!</p>
<p>Classroom Rules Song</p> <p><i>Lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>There are two very important things that Deep Down Detectives do together: we worship God and we love one another. Our Classroom Rules Song reminds us how we should act. Let's sing it."</p> <p>Classroom Rules Song <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 6</i></p> <p>Shh, be quiet while someone is talking, Raise your hand, if you have something to say, Don't touch your friend, sitting beside you, Obey your teachers, Be kind as you play. These are our classroom rules, These are our classroom rules, They help us worship God and love one another, These are our classroom rules.</p>
<p>Opening Prayer Time</p> <p><i>Lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>"Children, we need God's help to keep these rules. Let's ask Him to help us right now. Let's get ready and pray."</p> <p>Let's Pray <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 7</i></p> <p>1-2-3! Fold your hands, Bow your head, Close your eyes. Let's pray! (<i>repeat</i>)</p> <p>"Let's pray:"</p> <p>Opening Prayer </p> <p>Dear Lord, We're so glad to get to gather together to worship You! Please help us keep the classroom rules. Please help us to love You and learn about You today. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.</p>

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

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Reveal the Big Question
Introduce the Big Question Box/Briefcase

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

“Detectives INVESTIGATE things. That means they ask questions and look for answers. Deep Down Detectives investigate big questions about God. The Big Question we are investigating today is right inside our Big Question Box/Briefcase.

The Big Question Box Song

DDD NIV Songs 12, track 8

We’ve got a big box,
All closed up and locked,
Filled with the truths of God’s Word.

We’ve got a brief case,
There’s no time to waste,
Come on, kids, let’s open it up!

The Big Question under Investigation

VISUAL AID take out



of BQB

Big Question & Answer Sign, front side

**found in the DDD Unit 12 Visual Aids, NIV Book*

Ok, who would like to open for me and pull out the Big Question?”

Choose a child to open the box/briefcase, take out the Big Question and hand it to you, then hold up the Big Question sign for all the children to see, and say:

★ The Big Question we are investigating today is Big Question Number 12:

How Should God’s People Live?

and the Answer is:

They Should Live Like Jesus!

Big Question Meaning

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

Big Question Songs ★ “Let’s sing our Big Question Song:

Big Q & A 12 Song

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

Big Q & A 12 Song

DDD NIV Songs 12, track 12

(adapted version of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star”)

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

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



= follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

Learning about the Big Question (use one or both)



Repeat the Big Question and Answer again:

"How Should God's People Live? They Should Live Like Jesus!"

Say: "Hmmm, I wonder what that means... Let's do our action rhyme/sing our song that explains it."

Then do the action rhyme or sing the song using any of the optional motions suggested, if desired.

Big Question Action Rhyme

Big Question 12 Action Rhyme

Jesus loved God,
I should, too!
Jesus loved others,
I should, too!
Jesus prayed to God,
I should, too!
Jesus obeyed God,
I should, too!

God wants me to live like Jesus,
In everything
I think and say and do!

(POSSIBLE ACTIONS)

Point up to God in heaven

Point to self

Point out to others

Point to self

Make prayer hands

Point to self

Point up to God in heaven

Point to self

Point up to God in heaven

Touch head, mouth and walk in place

Big Question (Action Rhyme) Song



Lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

Big Question 12 (Action Rhyme) Song

DDD NIV Songs 12, track 13

Refrain:

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

(POSSIBLE ACTIONS)

Point up to God in heaven

Verse 1

Jesus loved God most of all,
He loved all people, too,
In all that He did and said and thought,
He loved them thru and thru. (Refrain)

Touch heart, then point up to God in heaven

Point out to others

Touch heart

Verse 2

God's people should love God most of all,
They should love others, too,
And God the Holy Spirit,
Will help them in all they do. (Refrain)

Point up to God in heaven

Point out to others

Touch heart

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

★ = follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

Learning the Bible Truth

VISUAL take out AID



of BQB

VISUAL AID
All the Bible Truths Sign

★ "They Should Live Like Jesus" is a good beginning, but there's so more to learn. So it's time for us to dig down even deeper for more answers to our Big Question about God. We're going to be learning **EIGHT** Bible truths that all tell us more about how God wants His people to live.

Who would like to hand me the picture with our eight Bible truths on it? It's in the Big Question Box/Briefcase." *Choose a child to get it and hand it to you, then hold it up and show them the pictures of the eight truths they will be learning.*

After everyone has had a good look, say...

Bible Truth Clue

VISUAL take out AID



of BQB

Bible Truth Clue Sign,
front side
VISUAL AID

"Ok, now let's look at our Bible Truth Clue sign and see if we can figure out which of these eight truths we will be learning about today. Who would like to get it out of the Big Question Briefcase for me?"

Choose a child to open the briefcase, take out the Bible Truth Clue sign and hand it to you. Hold up the front side for the children to see. Cover up the answer, written along the bottom, and say:

**"How Should God's People Live?
They Should Live Like Jesus!
By Asking God for His ___!"**

We're missing one word. Here's the hint to what the missing word is. It says: "What do we need when we can't do something by ourselves? It starts with an "h" and it rhymes with "yelp."

Hint

Can you guess? It's "HELP!"

So, the Bible Truth we are learning today is:

(uncover answer from bottom of sign, show it to them and say:)

★ **"How Should God's People Live?
They Should Live Like Jesus!
By Asking God for His HELP!"**

And here is what this Bible Truth means: *(read the meaning off of the back of the sign, say:)*

Bible Truth Meaning

★ When Jesus lived on earth, He asked God, His Father, for help to do everything He wanted Him to do. God wants His people to ask Him to help them, too.

The Bible is filled with God's promises to help His people. God's people can pray these promises for themselves. They can pray them for others, too. One of God's best promises is to send the Holy Spirit to keep working in His people's hearts. The Holy Spirit helps them to know what God wants them to do. He makes them strong and brave to do it. God is faithful. He will always help His people to live like Jesus, every single day.


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

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

★ = follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

<p>Learning the Bible Verse</p> <p>The Bible Chant Song</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>"And how do I know this is true? God tells me so in His special book, the Bible."</p> <p><i>Say or sing the Bible Chant Song.</i></p> <p>The Bible Chant Song <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 9</i></p> <p>The Bible, the Bible, Let's get out the Bible. Let's hear what God has to say. The Bible, the Bible, God's given us the Bible. It's His Word for us to learn and obey! Yay!</p>
<p>Bible Verse</p> <p><i>DDD 12.1 Bible Verse-front side (in the DDD Bible folder)</i></p> <p>VISUAL AID <i>Place verse in take out</i></p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-right: 5px;">#4</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-right: 5px;">DDD Bible Folder</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; margin-right: 5px;">? Big Question Briefcase ?</div> </div> <p><i>of BQB</i></p> <p><i>DDD Bible Folder</i></p> <p><i>*found in the DDD Unit 12 Visual Aids, NIV Book</i></p>	<p>"Who would like to get our Bible folder out of the Big Question Briefcase for me?"</p> <p><i>Choose a child to open the briefcase, take out the "Bible" folder and hand it to you. Remove the Bible Verse Picture from the "Bible" folder and hold it up for all the children to see, then say:</i></p> <p>Hebrews 4:16 tells us:</p> <p>★ Hebrews 4:16</p> <p>"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."</p> <p>Learn a Little: "Let us approach so that we may find help in our time of need."</p>
<p>Bible Verse Meaning</p>	<p>★ What does that mean?</p> <p>Jesus reigns in heaven as the High King over all creation. How He loves God's people! He listens to their prayers and even prays for them, Himself! He promises to give them everything they need to live for God and to do all He wants them to do.</p> <p>God's people know they can always pray and ask God to help them. They know His answer is always "yes" when they ask Him to help them. He will give them the strength they need to do all He wants them to do. That's why they go boldly and confidently to God with their prayers. He will help them. He will always help them! We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.</p>

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

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**Bible Verse
Song**

*lyrics and sheet music,
Appendix A*

You might also enjoy:

*Help Us, O God Our Savior
Psalm 79:9
DDD NIV Songs 12, track 18*

*We Who Reflect the Lord's
Glory 2 Corinthians 3:18
DDD NIV Songs 12, track 19*

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

Let Us Then Approach: Hebrews 4:16








DDD NIV Songs 12, track 17

Then us then approach,
Approach the throne of grace,
With confidence, with confidence,
So we may receive mercy and find grace,
To help us in our time of need.
Then us then approach,
Then us then approach,
Then us then approach,
The throne of grace,
Hebrews Chapter Four, sixteen.

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



= follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

<p>Getting into the Case</p>	<p>"Now it's time to do a bit more deep down investigating. Let's see what Detective Dan wants us to help him figure out. Would someone like to get it out for me?"</p>
<p>Listening Assignments</p> <p>Place in  take out  of BQB</p>	<p>NOTE: Listening assignments are most suitable for ages 3+. Skip straight to the Bible story (see bottom of this page), if working with 2 year olds.</p> <p>"Let's open up our listening assignment and see what we are supposed to figure out today.</p> <p>Choose a child to take out the Listening Assignment (from the DDD Bible Folder) and hand it to you. Read Detective Dan's letter to the children that includes the listening assignment. The listening assignments are summarized below:</p>
<p>VISUAL AID</p> <p></p> <p>DDD Unit 12 Visual Aids, NIV</p>	<p>Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:</p> <p>I need to find out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who did the hardest thing? What was it? 2. Who helped Him do it?
<p>VISUAL AID</p> <p></p> <p>DDD Unit 12 Visual Aids, NIV</p>	<p>Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:</p> <p>Our Bible Verse is Hebrews 4:16</p> <p>"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."</p> <p>I need to find out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was the very hard thing Jesus was called to do? Who did Jesus cry out to for help? 2. Did Jesus get the help He needed?
<p>VISUAL AID</p> <p></p> <p>*Listening Assignment #3 includes the Assignment Sheet, plus 6 clue pictures*</p> <p>DDD Unit 12 Visual Aids, NIV</p>	<p>Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:</p> <p>I found six clues, but only 4 of them are in the story. Our six clues were: a dress, an angel, the cross, Jesus, an enemy, and a spider. Hold each of them up for the children to see as you identify them.</p> <p>I need to figure out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't? 2. What did Jesus ask God to do for him? How did God answer His prayer?
<p>Tell the Bible Story</p> <p>Place story & pics in  take out  of BQB</p> <p>DDD Unit 12 Visual Aids, NIV</p> <p>Story text included in this book right after this lesson plan and in Visual Aids book</p>	<p>Then say, "Ok, Deep Down Detectives! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can hear the answers to Detective Dan's questions. When I finish telling the story, we will see if we can answer all the questions."</p> <p>Bible Story: The Case of the Hardest Thing <i>Matthew 26-28; Mark 14-16; Luke 22-24; John 18-21</i></p> <p>Read the Bible Truth story, putting up the storyboard pictures as you tell it. Then, have the children answer the listening assignment. Present the gospel and lead in prayer.</p> <p>*Answers to questions; the gospel; and, ACTS prayer are included with the story text.*</p>

2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

★ = follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

<p>Story Response Song(s)</p> <p>Hymn</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p><i>As attention span and time allow, you might want to end with one of the following songs which also tie in with the unit. If desired, use the Music and Movement activity ideas while singing (listed with the Response Activities).</i></p> <p>Trust and Obey <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 15</i></p> <p>Verse 1 When we walk with the Lord, In the light of His Word, What a glory He sheds on our way! While we do His good will; He abides with us still, And with all who will trust and obey.</p> <p>Refrain Trust and obey, For there's no other way, To be happy in Jesus, But to trust and obey.</p> <p>Tie-in: "How should God's people live each day? They should live like Jesus! God's people live like Jesus when they trust and obey God. Jesus always trusted and obeyed His Father in heaven, even when it was very, very hard. God's people go through hard things, too. They might want to be afraid or sad. They might want to be unhappy, but they don't need to be. They can trust God and keep on obeying Him. God will never stop caring for them! God has promised to care for His people every day of their lives. We can become God's people when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior."</p>
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<p>Praise Song</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>Praise Song: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 16</i></p> <p>I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, No turning back, no turning back..</p> <p>Tie-in: "How should God's people live each day? They should live like Jesus! The Lord wants us to decide--that is, to say "Yes, I will!"-- to live like Jesus each day. He wants us to love and obey Him. That's what it means to follow Jesus. Let's sing a song about following Jesus."</p>
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3. TAKING ACTION: Response Activities *(choose from among these activities)*

<p>Transition to Activities</p>	<p>★ Well, Deep Down Detectives, you've done a great job diggin' deep down for answers in the truths of God's Word. Now it's time to enjoy some activities."</p> <p><i>Tell children what activity/s you are providing for them: either free play or some of the response activities listed below. When you are ready to dismiss them, use this song to help the children transition in an orderly fashion to their next activity.</i></p>
<p>Classroom Song, verse 2</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>"Children, let's sing our Time to Play Song. When we are finished you may get up and walk over to our next activity."</p> <p>Classroom Song, verse 2 <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 2</i></p> <p>We've gathered together to worship God, We've gathered together to worship God, And now it's time to play.</p> <p><i>Dismiss the children to whatever activities you have prepared for them to do.</i></p>

3. TAKING ACTION: Response Activities (choose from among these activities) ★ = short & simple lesson plan

<p>Response Activities</p>	<p>Choose one or more activities appropriate for your children, based on classroom time and developmental needs. Add the Discussion Sheet to any activity for deeper learning. ★</p>
<p>Bible Verse Memory Game</p> <p><i>game directions, Appendix B</i></p>	<p>Though listed with the opening activities, you may choose to use this Bible verse game here instead (or as a repeat).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson 1 Game: Roll 'n' Toss Lesson 2 Game: Block Clapping Lesson 3 Game: Meet, Greet and Keep It Up <p>Use the Discussion Sheet with this activity for even deeper learning ★</p> <p>Discussion Questions</p>
<p>Music, Movement & Memory Activity</p> <p><i>game directions, Appendix B</i></p>	<p>A music activity that uses the songs from the Bible Truth and Big Question unit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DDD Songs for this Bible Truth, plus: Lesson 1 Activity: Musical Squares Lesson 2 Activity: Thumping Drums Lesson 3 Activity: Say, Spring Up and Shout <p>Use the Discussion Sheet with this activity for even deeper learning ★</p> <p>Discussion Questions</p>
<p>Bible Story Review Game</p> <p><i>game directions, Appendix B</i></p>	<p>A game that uses the storyboard pictures from the story to review the story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson 1 Game: Treasure Hunt Lesson 2 Game: Look Who's Coming Down the Tracks Lesson 3 Game: Can You Remember? <p>Use the Discussion Sheet with this activity for even deeper learning ★</p> <p>Discussion Questions</p>
<p>Coloring Pages/ Take Home Sheets</p> <p><i>in Appendix C</i></p> <p>★</p>	<p>A coloring page related to the lesson assignment question is provided for each lesson. On the back of each are the key concepts, a few questions and a song for parents to use with their children.</p> <p>NOTE: Upgrade your coloring sheet to a more interesting craft by offering simple embellishments, such as jiggly eyes, craft sand, glitter, glitter glue, colored paper dots (made with a hole punch), fabric scraps, etc. Make cut-to-size glued-on clothes, hair, etc for characters by using a copy of the coloring sheet, cutting out the selected portions and making them the patterns for whatever you want to cut out of fabric, paper, foil, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson 1 Coloring Sheet Emphasis: Bible Truth Lesson 2 Coloring Sheet Emphasis: Bible Verse Lesson 3 Coloring Sheet Emphasis: ACTS Prayer <p>Use the Discussion Sheet with this activity for even deeper learning ★</p> <p>Discussion Questions</p>
<p>Extra Crafts: Big Question Craft</p> <p><i>in Appendix C</i></p> <p>Bible Verse Craft</p> <p><i>in Appendix C</i></p> <p>Bible Story Puzzle</p> <p><i>in Appendix C</i></p>	<p>These crafts are slightly more complex than the coloring/take home sheets:</p> <p>The Bible Concept Go-and-Tell Craft is a craft that summarizes the Bible concept and includes the Bible verse is included for those desiring more than a coloring sheet. This more complex craft will involve gluing, sticking, etc. Can be used at any time.</p> <p>The Bible Story Coloring Sheet provides a tie in between the Bible story and the Bible truth they are learning.</p> <p>The Storyboard Picture Placement Page has been made into a puzzle that can be cut out and re-assembled by the children. This provides a nice summary of the story.</p> <p>Use the Discussion Sheet with these activities for even deeper learning ★</p> <p>Discussion Questions</p>
<p>Free Play Activities</p> <p><i>ideas in Appendix D</i></p> <p>★</p>	<p>Offer your own or some of the easy-to-make, free play activities suggested in Appendix D.</p>

4. CLOSING CIRCLE TIME *(End-of-session activities for the last 5-10 minutes of class time)*

★ = short & simple lesson plan

<p>Transition to Closing Circle</p> <p>Classroom Song, verse 3</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p><i>Use this song to help the children transition in an orderly fashion. Start singing this song and ask the children to gather with you for Closing Circle Time.</i></p> <p>Classroom Song, verse 3 <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 3</i></p> <p>It's time to get ready to go and tell, It's time to get ready to go and tell, Come gather here with me.</p>
<p>Closing Circle Time</p> <p>Classroom Song, verse 4</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p><i>When children are settled in the circle, say:</i></p> <p>"It's almost time for your parents to come pick you up. And do you know what that means? It means.... (draw this out to build anticipation and excitement)...that it's almost time to go home and....it's almost time to...Go and Tell! We have learned some big news about God today. God wants us to take and tell it to the whole world!"</p> <p>Classroom Song, verse 4 <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 4</i></p> <p>So what's our big news to go and tell, So what's our big news to go and tell, Can you tell me now?</p>
<p>Big News to Tell</p> <p>Big Question 12</p> <p><small>VISUAL AID</small></p> <p>#1</p> <p><i>*found in DDD Unit 12 Visual Aids, NIV Book lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p> <p>Big Question 12, Bible Truth 1</p> <p><small>VISUAL AID</small></p> <p>#3</p>	<p>"Let's see....there's so much big news to tell! There's so much we've learned!</p> <p>First of all, can you tell me the answer to our Big Question: "How Should God's People Live?" <i>Hold up the Bible Truth Clue Picture.</i></p> <p>Say the answer with me: "They Should Live Like Jesus!"</p> <p><i>(If desired, you can sing one/both of the Big Question songs.)</i> <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, tracks 12,13</i></p> <p>And what's one way He does this? What did we learn? <i>Point to the picture.</i></p> <p>By Asking God for His Help!</p> <p>"And how do I know this is true? Can you tell me?"</p> <p>Say it with me: "The Bible tells me so!" That's right!</p>
<p>Big Question 12 Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse</p> <p><small>VISUAL AID</small></p> <p>#4</p> <p><i>*found in the DDD Unit 12 Visual Aids, NIV Book lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p>We learned: Hebrews 4:16:</p> <p>"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."</p> <p>Learn a Little: "Let us approach so that we may find help in our time of need."</p> <p>Jesus reigns in heaven as the High King over all creation. How He loves God's people! He listens to their prayers and even prays for them, Himself! He promises to give them everything they need to live for God and to do all He wants them to do. God's people know they can always pray and ask God to help them. They know His answer is always "yes" when they ask Him to help them. He will give them the strength they need to do all He wants them to do. That's why they go boldly and confidently to God with their prayers. He will help them. He will always help them! We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.</p> <p><i>(If desired, you can sing the Bible verse song.)</i> <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, track 17</i></p>

4. CLOSING CIRCLE TIME, continued



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<p>Closing ACTS Prayer Time</p> <p>ACTS Prayer Chant</p> <p><i>lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A</i></p>	<p><i>Let's ask God to help us to remember this and even tell others this good news. Let's get ready and pray our ACTS prayer.</i></p> <p><i>And what does ACTS mean? Let's sing/say our ACTS Prayer Chant!</i></p> <p>ACTS Prayer Chant Song <i>DDD NIV Songs 12, tracks 10,11</i></p> <p>A, Adoration, God, we praise You! C, Confession, Forgive us our sins. T, Thanksgiving, Thank You for Jesus, S, Supplication, Help us to live like Him.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">That's the ACTS prayer, my friend, Bow your head, Close your eyes, Shhh, Let's begin.</p>
<p>Closing ACTS Prayer</p>	<p>"Let's pray!"</p> <p><i>Lead the children in the ACTS prayer for this Bible Truth.</i></p> <p>A God, we praise You for giving us Jesus, so we can know how You want us to live.</p> <p>C God, we need Your help to live for You, but many times we don't ask for it. We love to do things by ourselves, in our own way. We need a Savior!</p> <p>T Thank You, God, for promising to help Your people live like Jesus. They could never do this without Your help.</p> <p>S God, please work in our hearts. Help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us Your people. Help us to love You. Help us to live like You want us to.</p> <p>In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.</p>
<p>5. TAKING IT HOME <i>(Take Home Sheet)</i></p>	
<p>Clean up and Dismissal </p>	<p>"Now it's time to work together and clean up." <i>Have the children join you in cleaning up the room.</i></p>
<p>Coloring Pages/ Take Home Sheets </p> <p><i>in Appendix C</i></p>	<p><i>Give out the craft/take home sheet and any other papers from the session, as you dismiss children from class.</i></p> <p><i>(Reminder: The back side of the coloring page is the take home sheet for each lesson.)</i></p>
<p>Bible Story to Take-Home</p> <p><i>in Appendix C</i></p>	<p>You may also want to include a copy of the story along with the take home sheet. (However, each coloring sheet/take home sheet includes a note to parents telling where they can download the story from the Parent Resources section on the website.)</p>

Bible Story for Big Question 12, Bible Truth 1

use with all THREE lessons

Place
story in

take out

P.1

The Case of the Day of Hardest Thing*Matthew 26-28; Mark 14-16; Luke 22-24; John 18-21***Story-telling Tips**

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Choose story action cues and prepare storyboard figures/story scenes, if using. (In Visual Aids book)
3. Practice telling story with the storyboard pictures, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary.

During your presentation:

1. Maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story.
2. Put up storyboard figures/add story action cues/hold up storybook scenes as you tell the story. Allow the children to help you put them on the board, if desired.
3. Include the children in your story with a few questions about what they think will happen or words/concepts that might be new to them.
4. Watch the kids for signs that their attention span has been reached. Shorten, if necessary.

INTRODUCTION/ LISTENING ASSIGNMENTS

"Our story is called: The Case of the Hardest Thing. Here is your listening assignment." Read from Detective Dan's Listening Assignment signs, but questions are summarized below:

Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

I need to find out:

1. **Who did the hardest thing? What was it?**
2. **Who helped Him do it?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is Hebrews 4:16**

"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

I need to find out:

1. **What was the very hard thing Jesus was called to do? Who did Jesus cry out to for help?**
2. **Did Jesus get the help He needed?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found six clues, but only 4 of them are in the story.

Our six clues were: a dress, an angel, the cross, Jesus, an enemy, and a spider.

Hold each of them up for the children to see as you identify them.

I need to figure out:

1. **Which four belong in the story and which two don't?**
2. **What did Jesus ask God to do for him? How did God answer His prayer?**

Read the assignment questions, THEN SAY,

"Ok, Deep Down Detectives! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can hear the answers to Detective Dan's questions. When I finish telling the story, we will see if we can answer all the questions."

Read the Bible Truth story, answer questions, present the gospel and lead in prayer.

Answers to questions; the gospel; and, ACTS prayer are included with the story text.

The Case of the Hardest Thing *Matthew 26-28; Mark 14-16; Luke 22-24; John 18-21*

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)

It was late at night and Jesus knew He needed help. And not just help from anyone. No! There was only ONE who could help Him. Do you know who it was?

Who do you think it was?

It was God, His Father.

Very soon, Judas Iscariot, one of Jesus' disciples and closest friends, would bring enemies to arrest Him. These enemies would hurt Jesus. They would say mean things to Him. And then, they would nail Him to a cross to die.

Dying on a cross was a very painful way to die. But Jesus would do something as He died on the cross that would make it the most painful thing ANYONE has ever done. Jesus would take all the punishment God's people deserved from God for their sins. He would pay for their sins, so they wouldn't have to. Oh, how, very, very, VERY terrible all that punishment would be!

In some ways, Jesus wasn't that different from us. He thought about all the pain He would bear on the cross, and He didn't want it. Yet, how Jesus loved God, His Father! He always wanted to obey Him. And, how Jesus loved God's people! He wanted to save them. Dying on the cross was the only way to obey His Father and save God's people. And that's why Jesus knew He needed help —God, His Father's help— to do this very hardest thing.

And that's why, Jesus knew He needed help —God, His Father's help— to do all He was about to do.

Jesus walked with His disciples down the streets of Jerusalem, out through the city wall, and up the hill to the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus knew He needed help from His Father, and it was there that He was going to ask for it. Do you know how?

What do you think Jesus did?

Jesus would pray! "Sit here, while I go over there and pray," He told His disciples.

Taking Peter, James, and John with Him, Jesus walked further into the dark garden. As Jesus walked, He became very sad and upset. "The sadness in My heart is so great that it's almost killing me!" Jesus told His friends. "Stay here with Me and keep watch," He asked them.

Going a little farther, Jesus fell face down on the ground and prayed. "My Father, if it's possible, take this away so I don't have to suffer like this," Jesus pleaded. "This is going to be so hard! This is going to hurt so much! But most of all, I want Your will, not Mine, Father," Jesus exclaimed.

After praying, Jesus went to check up on Peter, James, and John. He was NOT happy with what He found them doing. While HE had been face down on the ground, praying, THEY had been face down on the ground doing something else. Can you guess what it was?

They were sound asleep!

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)

“Peter, wake up! Couldn’t you watch with Me this one hour?” Jesus exclaimed. “Watch and pray that you might say ‘no’ to temptation. You WANT to stay faithful to Me. You WANT to do God’s will, but you are very weak. You will need God’s help to do these things,” Jesus warned them.

Jesus knew that He wasn’t the only one who would need God’s help to do God’s will. His disciples would need God’s help, too. When the enemies came for Jesus, they would be tempted to be afraid and leave Jesus. But God could give them the strength they needed if they would ask.

Jesus went and prayed again. **“My Father, if suffering and dying on the cross is the only way to save Your people, then I want to do it. I want to obey You and do Your will more than anything else,”** Jesus exclaimed.

What a prayer! What a very, very hard thing Jesus would have to do to save God’s people! It was the hardest thing anyone would EVER have to do. COULD God, His Father, answer this prayer? WOULD God, His Father, answer this prayer?

What do you think?

Yes, He could; and, yes, He WOULD! God answered Jesus’ prayer. An angel came to strengthen Jesus.

Jesus was strengthened in His heart, too. Yes, He would have to suffer and die for God’s people. But, then, what joy He would have! On Day Three, He would rise from the dead in victory over sin and death. Then, He would return home to heaven. There, He would once more enjoy the Perfect Wonderfulness of the fullest, closest fellowship with God, the Father, and God, the Holy Spirit, like He had before He came to earth.

Jesus would be the great King who always loved and obeyed God, His Father. How great would be the praise for God! How good to never suffer again! And, how wonderful to know that the sins of God’s people would be forgiven for all time.

Strengthened and comforted, Jesus went back to His friends two more times. Were they praying? Were they asking God for His help?

What do you think?

No! Each time, He found them sleeping. Oh, if only they understood just how much they were about to need God’s help! “Are you still sleeping? But look, the time has come. Get up! Here come My enemies,” Jesus told them.

Just then, there came a whole crowd of enemies carrying lanterns, fiery torches, and sharp swords. And who was leading them?

Can you guess who?

Why Judas Iscariot, Jesus’ other disciple, that’s who! He had been paid by Jesus’ enemies to take them to Jesus to arrest Him.

The time had come for Jesus to suffer and die. What would He do? Run away and hide?

What do you think He will do?

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)

No, He would not. Jesus was ready. He had asked His Father for help; and, His Father had answered Him. He gave Jesus the strength to keep on doing His will. Jesus would face His enemies and fulfill God's plan.

In the darkness, it was hard to tell which man was Jesus. But Judas led Jesus' enemies right to Him. "Hello, Teacher," Judas said, kissing Jesus on the cheek. "Friend, do what you came to do," Jesus replied. Then, the men came up and grabbed Jesus.

"Oh, no you don't!" thought Peter. He would fight off Jesus' enemies. He took his sword and cut off Malchus' ear --one of the men in the crowd.

But this wasn't the help Jesus wanted or needed. Jesus stretched out His hand and healed Malchus' ear. "Put away your sword," Jesus told Peter. "I could ask My Father to send thousands of angels to rescue Me, if I wanted. But how would His will be done if I did that? And how would God's promises in His Word come true? No. it must happen this way," Jesus replied. Oh, how God was helping His Son, Jesus, do this hardest thing!

But what about Jesus' disciples? What did they do? They had slept, instead of asking God for help. Did they stand with Jesus or run away?

What do you think they did?

It was just as Jesus warned. His disciples didn't have the strength to stay faithful. They gave in to their fears. They ran for their lives, leaving Jesus alone with His enemies.

After that, everything happened as Jesus knew it would. The crowd took Jesus away. They said mean things to Him and they hurt Him. They nailed Him to the cross; and there, Jesus suffered and died for the sins of God's people.

Oh, how terrible it was to suffer and die for God's people, but Jesus did it anyway! He had asked God, His Father, for help; and God, His Father, gave it to Him. He helped Jesus take all the punishment for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to. He helped Jesus do the hardest thing!

And how do we know Jesus paid for all those sins when He suffered and died on the cross? Because of what Jesus did on the third day. Do you know what He did?

Can you tell me?

Jesus rose up from the grave to live forevermore! Jesus had really beaten sin and death for God's people. Their sins were all forgiven. They would get to live with God, knowing, loving, and enjoying Him forever.

But what about Jesus' disciples? What happened to them after they ran away and left Jesus? Would God forgive them now? COULD God forgive them now?

What do you think? Could God really forgive these men for leaving Jesus' all alone like this?

Yes, He could; and yes, He WOULD! Jesus paid for ALL their sins when He died on the cross.

Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)

And, though the disciples hadn't asked God for help, the night Jesus was arrested, Jesus had prayed for them.

That night, Jesus had prayed for them and all of God's people. Jesus had asked His Father to protect them from Satan and his evil plans. He had asked Him to help them to grow in love for God and for one another so the world might know He really is God's Son, the Savior.

Wow! What big prayers Jesus prayed for His disciples and all of God's people that night! Would God answer them? COULD God answer them?

What do you think?

Yes, He could; and, yes, He WOULD! Jesus appeared to His disciples on that third day after He died on the cross. "I'm alive and I've beaten sin and death for you and all of God's people!" He told them. 22. Over the next 40 days, Jesus taught His disciples from the Bible. He told them about God's great plan to use them to tell the whole world the gospel--the good news of salvation. And, He promised them God's great gift, the Holy Spirit, who would come live inside them and help them. At the end of those 40 days, Jesus went to heaven. He was home, once more, at last, enjoying all the Perfect Wonderfulness He had always known with God, the Father, and God, the Holy Spirit, from before the beginning of time.

Jesus had left earth for His home in heaven, but He never forgot His people. Jesus is always praying for them, helping them fulfill all of God's good plans. He asked the Father to send the Holy Spirit to live in their hearts, and so He did. He would help them love God, live for Him, and tell the world the good news of Jesus their whole lives.

And, oh, how those first believers had learned their lesson to ask God for His help! There were many more times when they were tempted to not be faithful to Jesus. And many more times when they would want to run away because their enemies wanted to hurt them. But now, they knew what to do. They prayed to God and asked for His help! And did He give it to them?

What do you think?

Yes, He did! Those first believers had learned their lesson to ask God for His help!

And that's why God STILL wants His people to ask Him for help to live for Him. He knows that His people today need just as much help as they did long ago. We can become God's people, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, God will help us live for Him, too! Ask Him to help you. He loves to answer this prayer.

Cracking the Case: (story wrap-up for Listening Assignments)

It's time to see how we did with our Listening Assignment.

Detective Dan's Lesson 1 Listening Assignment:

1. Who did the hardest thing? What was it? Jesus did. Jesus lived a perfect life and offered it up on the cross as the full payment for the sins of God's people. He suffered and died for them. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory.

2. Who helped Him do it? God, His Father, helped Jesus do it.

For You and Me:

Did you know that God calls all His people to do hard things they can never do on their own? And who will help them do these hard things? The very same One who helped Jesus--God! God will always help His people do whatever He calls them to do. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. If we do, we can know God will help us to do whatever He calls us to do, too.

Detective Dan's Lesson 2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is Hebrews 4:16:**

"Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

1. What was the very hard thing Jesus was called to do? Who did Jesus cry out to for help?

To live a perfect life and offer it up on the cross as the full payment for the sins of God's people. To suffer and die for them. He asked God, His Father, to help Him do it all.

2. Did Jesus get the help He needed? Yes, He did! God helped Him do it all... perfectly!

For You and Me:

Did you know that God calls all His people to do hard things they can never do on their own? And who will help them do these hard things? The very same One who helped Jesus--God! God will always help His people do whatever He calls them to do. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. If we do, we can know God will help us to do whatever He calls us to do, too.

Detective Dan's Lesson 3 Listening Assignment:

Our six clues were: a dress, an angel, the cross, Jesus, an enemy, and a spider.

1. Which four belong in our story?

The angel, the cross, Jesus and the enemy.

2. What did Jesus ask God to do for him? How did God answer His prayer?

Jesus asked God, His Father, to help Him carry out the plan to save God's people. God, His Father, answered Him with a "yes"! He helped Him bear the pain of the cross. He helped Him do everything that was needed to save God's people.

For You and Me:

Did you know that God calls all His people to do hard things they can never do on their own? And who will help them do these hard things? The very same One who helped Jesus--God! God will always help His people do whatever He calls them to do. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. If we do, we can know God will help us to do whatever He calls us to do, too.

The Gospel (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)**Our Bible Truth is:****How Should God's People Live?****They Should Live Like Jesus...****By Asking God for His Help!**

How should God's people live each day? They should live like Jesus... by asking God for His help! God's people ask God for His help, knowing that He will help them. After all, He has already helped them in the biggest way: by sending Jesus to save them! Even while they still were choosing to disobey Him, God chose to help them by sending Jesus to save them. How much more, now that they turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior, will God help them to live for Him! God delights to help you and me, too. If we turn away from disobeying Him and trust Jesus as our Savior, He will gladly save us! And as His people, He will gladly keep helping us to live for Him!

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

- A** God, we praise You for giving us Jesus, so we can know how You want us to live.
- C** God, we need Your help to live for You, but many times we don't ask for it. We love to do things by ourselves, in our own way. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God, for promising to help Your people live like Jesus. They could never do this without Your help.
- S** God, please work in our hearts. Help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us Your people. Help us to love You. Help us to live like You want us to.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Go to Lesson Plan, p.9 for the script to the rest of the lesson.

Deep Down Discussion Sheet

use with all THREE lessons

Use with all response activities for deeper learning



P.1

Questions to aid discussion of the key concepts and for use in games

Be familiar with these questions and answers. Look for opportunities to ask questions and discuss their answers, such as while the children work on their coloring pages, as part of their response games, or during play time. Remember: your goal isn't to ask all these questions or only talk to the children about these things. It is to be deliberate in having good conversations with them, however much or little you have.

<p>BIG QUESTION</p> <p>Meaning</p> <p>Discussion Questions</p>	<p>How Should God's People Live? They Should Live Like Jesus!</p> <p>We become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God forgives our sins, and we begin a whole new way of life. God's people no longer live life just to please themselves. They want to honor God with their whole lives, like Jesus did. They seek to love God most of all and love all people, too.</p> <p><i>choose a few</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How should God's people live each day? <i>They should live like Jesus!</i> 2. Who did Jesus always love? <i>God.</i> 3. Who did Jesus always please in everything He felt, thought, said, and did? <i>God.</i> 4. Are God's people perfect like Jesus? <i>No, they are not.</i> 5. Who do God's people try to live like? <i>Jesus.</i> 6. How do God's people try to live like Jesus? <i>They try to love God and please Him in everything they feel, think, say, and do.</i> 7. How can we become God's people? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i>
<p>BIBLE TRUTH</p> <p>Meaning</p> <p>Discussion Questions</p>	<p>They Should Live Like Jesus...By Asking God for His Help!</p> <p>When Jesus lived on earth, He asked God, His Father, for help to do everything He wanted Him to do. God wants His people to ask Him to help them, too.</p> <p>The Bible is filled with God's promises to help His people. God's people can pray these promises for themselves. They can pray them for others, too. One of God's best promises is to send the Holy Spirit to keep working in His people's hearts. The Holy Spirit helps them to know what God wants them to do. He makes them strong and brave to do it. God is faithful. He will always help His people to live like Jesus, every single day.</p> <p>We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask God to help you. He loves to answer this prayer!</p> <p><i>choose a few</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who did Jesus ask for help when He lived on earth? <i>God, His Father.</i> 2. What kinds of things did Jesus ask His Father's help in? <i>Everything He wanted Him to do.</i> 3. Who should God's people ask to help them? <i>God.</i> 4. The Bible is filled with promises of what? <i>God's promise to help them.</i> 5. Who can God's people pray these promises for? <i>Themselves and others.</i> 6. Who can God's people ask for God to send to help them? <i>The Holy Spirit.</i> 7. What does the Holy Spirit do? <i>He helps God's people know what God wants them to do. He makes them strong and brave to do it.</i> 8. How can we become God's people? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i>

Deep Down Discussion Sheet

use with all THREE lessons

P.2

Questions to aid discussion of the key concepts and for use in games

<p>THE GOSPEL</p>	<p>What is God’s good news for you and me? <i>The gospel! God created us and we should obey Him, but we have all chosen to do things our own way. We deserve God’s punishment. But in His mercy, God chose to help us. He sent Jesus to be our Savior. Jesus lived a perfect life and He offered it up as He died on the cross as the full payment for the sins of God’s people. On the third day, He rose from the dead. He had beaten sin and death for God’s people! Now, all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior are forgiven and become God’s people. We can become 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!</i></p>
<p>BIBLE TRUTH BIBLE VERSE</p> <p>Meaning</p> <p>Discussion Questions</p>	<p>“Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” -- Hebrews 4:16</p> <p>Learn a Little: “Let us approach so that we may find help in our time of need.”</p> <p>Jesus reigns in heaven as the High King over all creation. How He loves God’s people! He listens to their prayers and even prays for them, Himself! He promises to give them everything they need to live for God and to do all He wants them to do.</p> <p>God’s people know they can always pray and ask God to help them. They know His answer is always “yes” when they ask Him to help them. He will give them the strength they need to do all He wants them to do. That’s why they go boldly and confidently to God with their prayers. He will help them. He will always help them! We can become God’s people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.</p> <p><i>choose a few</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who reigns in heaven as the High King over all creation? <i>Jesus does.</i> 2. What does Jesus promise to do for God’s people, even as He is in heaven reigning? <i>To give them everything they need to live for God. To pray for them.</i> 3. Who do God’s people know they can always pray to and ask for help? <i>Jesus!</i> 4. What do God’s people know Jesus will always give them the strength to do? <i>To keep on living for God.</i> 5. How can we become God’s people? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i>
<p>BIBLE STORY</p> <p>Discussion Questions</p>	<p>The Case of the Hardest Thing</p> <p><i>choose a few</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What did Jesus ask God His Father to help Him to do? <i>To suffer and die on the cross.</i> 2. Who else did Jesus tell to ask God for help? <i>His followers, God’s people.</i> 3. Did His followers ask for help? <i>No, they slept!</i> 4. How do we know that God answered Jesus’ prayers? <i>Because Jesus did not run away but let Himself be arrested and suffer and die on the cross.</i> 5. How do we know that Jesus paid for all the sins of God’s people? <i>Because God raised Him from the dead on Day Three.</i> 6. What did Jesus’ followers learn to do? <i>To ask God for help with everything they went through.</i> 7. What can we ask God to help us to do? <i>To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. To help us to know and love Him more and more. This is how we become God’s people.</i>