

BIG QUESTION 12



# How should God's people live?



ANSWER:

## They should live like Jesus!

VISUAL  
AID  
**#1**  
take out  
Big  
Question  
Briefcase  
of BQB

## The Big Question

*Hold up the Big Question sign for all the children to see, and say:*

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

**How Should God's People Live?**  
and the Answer is:  
**They Should Live Like Jesus!**

### Meaning:

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

Let's sing our Big Question Song:"

## Big Q & A 12 Song

*DDD NIV Songs 12, track 12*

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

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

# BIG QUESTION 12: Eight truths about how God's people live

Please God,  
HELP!

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



Visual Aid #2 take out Big Question Briefcase of BQB

## This Unit's Bible Truths

"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...*

"Ok, we've learned four truths about how to live for God. They are: "By Asking God for His Help," "By Loving God Most of All," "By Loving Other People as God Has Loved Them, and, "By Trusting God and Being Happy with What He Wants." (point to pictures as you identify each Bible Truth). 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.*

CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 5?

How Should God's People Live?

They Should Live  
Like Jesus...

By Learning God's Word  
and ???? It!

HINT: This word means doing  
what someone tells you to do.  
It starts with an "O" and  
it rhymes with "okaying."



ANSWER:

By Learning God's Word  
and OBEYING It!



# Revealing the Bible Truth We Are Learning

*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 Learning God’s Word and ???? It!”**

We’re missing one word. Here’s the hint to what the missing word is. It says: “This word means doing what someone tells you to do. It starts with an “O” and it rhymes with “okaying.”

Can you guess? It’s “OBEYING.”

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 Learning God’s Word and OBEYING It!”**

And here is what this Bible Truth means:

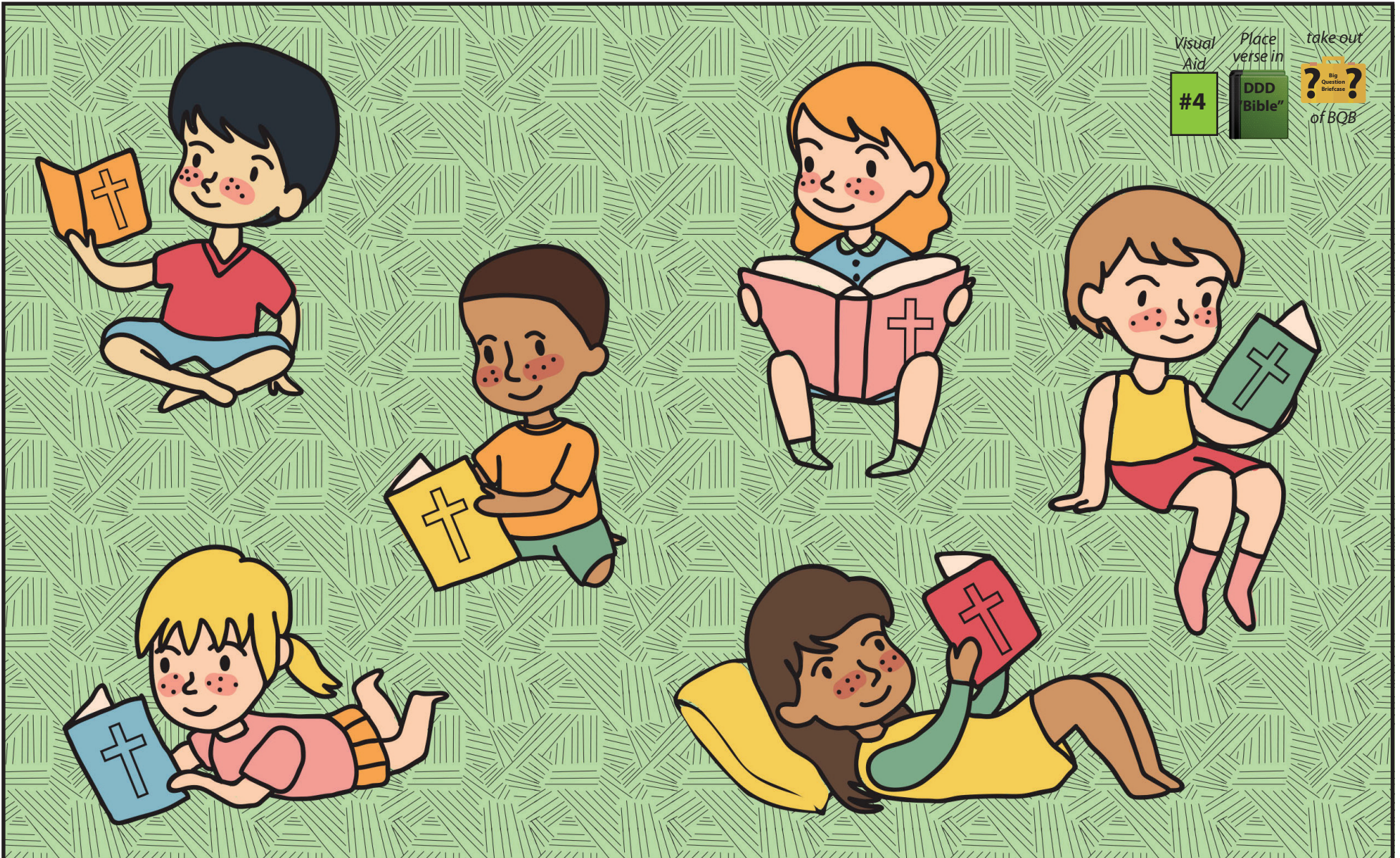
*(read the meaning off of the back of the sign, say:)*

Jesus knew God’s Word and obeyed it His whole life. There was nothing about God’s Word that Jesus did not know or obey. It was very important that Jesus knew God’s Word so well and that He always obeyed it. This was the only way He could be the perfect Savior who could pay for the sins of God’s people.

God’s Word helped Jesus know how He should live. It gave Him strength to fight temptation and to keep on obeying God, His Father, no matter what. And, when life was hard or sad, it comforted Him with God’s good plans and promises.

God’s people need to know God’s Word well, too. It tells them about God and His good plans. It tells them how He wants them to live. It gives them strength to fight temptation and keep on obeying God, no matter what. And, when life was hard or sad, it comforts them with God’s good plans and promises.

How do God’s people learn God’s Word? By reading it, memorizing it, singing it, and by others teaching it to them. God promises that His Holy Spirit will work in the hearts of His people as they hear His Word. He will help them understand it and obey it. We can become God’s people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. He will help us to know and obey His Word, too.



**"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you...  
I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees;  
I will not neglect your word." -- Psalm 119:11,15,16**

## Bible Truth 5 Bible Verse

Remove the Bible Verse Picture from the "Bible" folder and hold it up for all the children to see, then say:

Psalm 119:11,15,16 tells us:

### **Psalm 119:11,15,16:**

"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you... I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word."

### **Learn a Little:**

"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you."

### **What does that mean?**

God's people delight in God's Word, the Bible. It is full of God's precepts and decrees (His good laws). It tells of His ways (what God is like). They meditate on God's Word (think about what it means); and, even hide it in their hearts (memorize it) so that they might not sin against God. They know that God's Word is not just true. It is also powerful to change them to be more like Jesus. They don't want to neglect it, because they want to know God and please Him more than anything else in life. God can help us delight in His Word, too.

"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?"

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

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

## I Have Hidden Your Word:

### Psalm 119:11,15,16

*DDD NIV Songs 12, track 30*

I have hidden your word in my heart,  
That I might not sin against you,  
I have hidden your word in my heart,  
That I might not sin against you.

I meditate on your precepts,  
And consider your ways.  
I delight in your decrees,  
I will not neglect your word,

I have hidden your word in my heart,  
That I might not sin against you,  
I have hidden your word in my heart,  
That I might not sin against you.  
Psalm One-nineteen, eleven through sixteen.

"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



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



## Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. What was the treasure? And why was it hidden?
2. Who found it and what did they do with it?

## Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



### Psalm 119:11,15,16, NIV

"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you... I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word."

1. Who was supposed to hide God's Word in their hearts by writing down their very own copy of it? Why?
2. What happened when they did this? What happened when they didn't do this?

(more listening and discussion questions are included in the curriculum at [praisefactory.org](http://praisefactory.org))



I. Moses was a very old man. For many years, the LORD had used him to lead the people of Israel. Moses led them out of slavery in Egypt, then up to great Mt. Sinai to meet with the LORD.

# THE LORD

# 10 Big Rules

my

Your  
God

People



2. There, they made big, covenant promises. The LORD promised to always be their God, who would care for them. And the people promised to always be His people, who would love Him and keep His good laws.



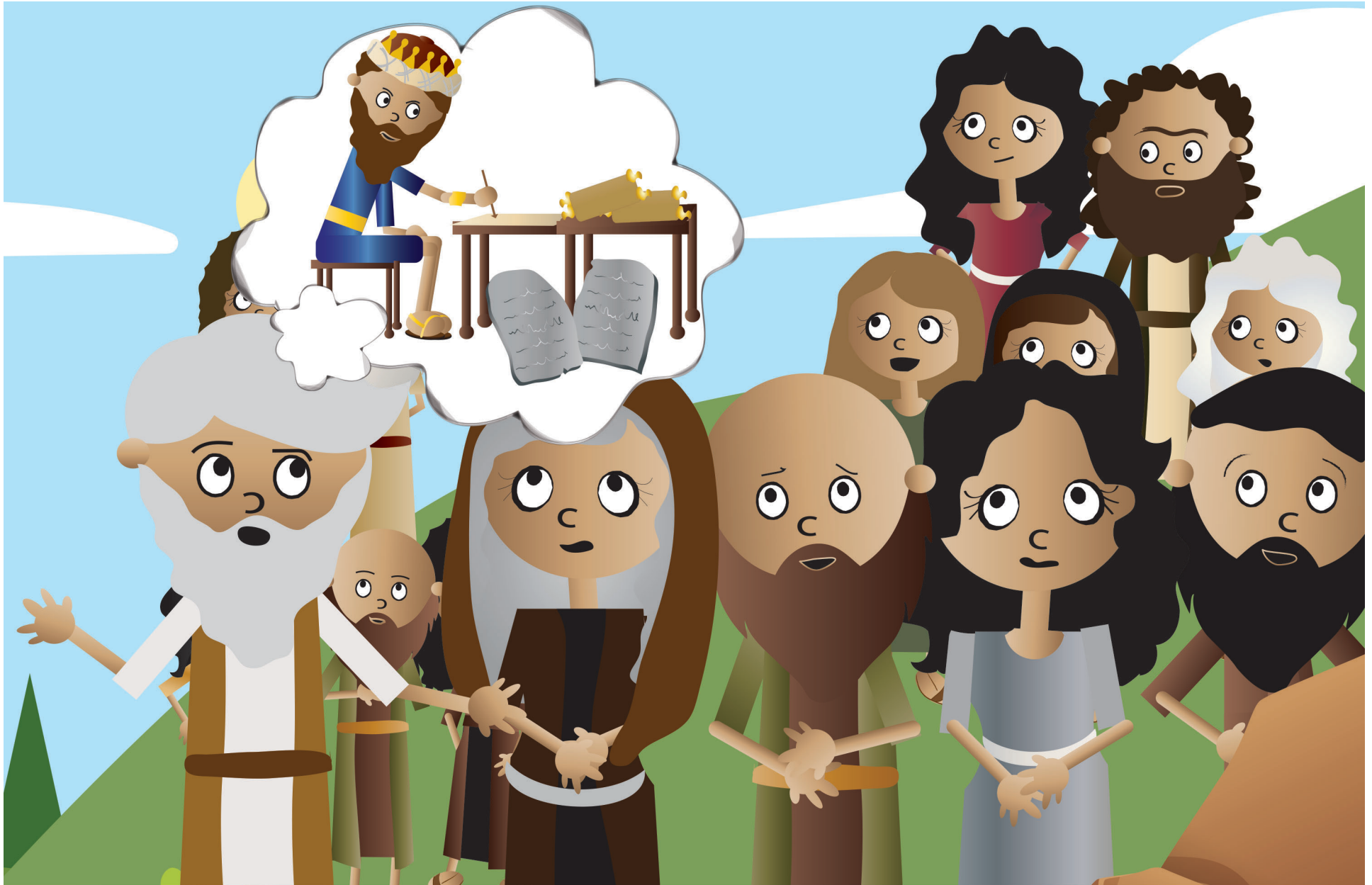
3. For forty, long years, Moses led the people through the dry, desert-y wilderness. Finally, came the wonderful day they were waiting for: the day when Moses brought them to the edge of the Promised Land. It was time to enter the good land the LORD promised to give them as their home.



4. Moses had been a good leader. He had written down God's Word. He had taught the people to obey the LORD and His good laws. But now, Moses' work was done. It was time for him to die and to go heaven to live with the LORD forever. So there, just outside the Promised Land, Moses gathered all the people together to teach them one last time.



5. "Love the LORD with all your heart, all your mind, and all your strength. Keep on learning God's laws. Know them and obey them!" Moses urged the people of Israel. "If you do, God will keep you as His special people. He will protect you. He will use everything you go through to do good in your lives and to show everyone how great He is," Moses promised them.



6. "And make sure your kings know God's laws, too," Moses warned them. "Each king should write down their own copy of God's Word. Every, single word! This will help them know and obey God. This will help them be good kings for you," Moses told the people.



**BIBLE**

7. Moses knew there was nothing like God's Word. It is powerful and good. It is always true. It tells us how to live. It helps us know and love God. And God promises to bless those who obey it. God's Word is a treasure. A precious treasure! Moses wanted to make sure the people understood this.





8. The people of Israel listened to Moses and said, “We will do everything you say. We will learn God’s laws and obey them. We will tell our kings to write them down and obey them, too,” they promised.



9. But **DID** the people of Israel keep their promise? **DID** they learn God's Word and obey it? **DID** they have their kings write it down and obey it, too? Well, sometimes they did; but many times, they didn't. They acted as if it didn't matter if they or their kings learned and obeyed God's Word.



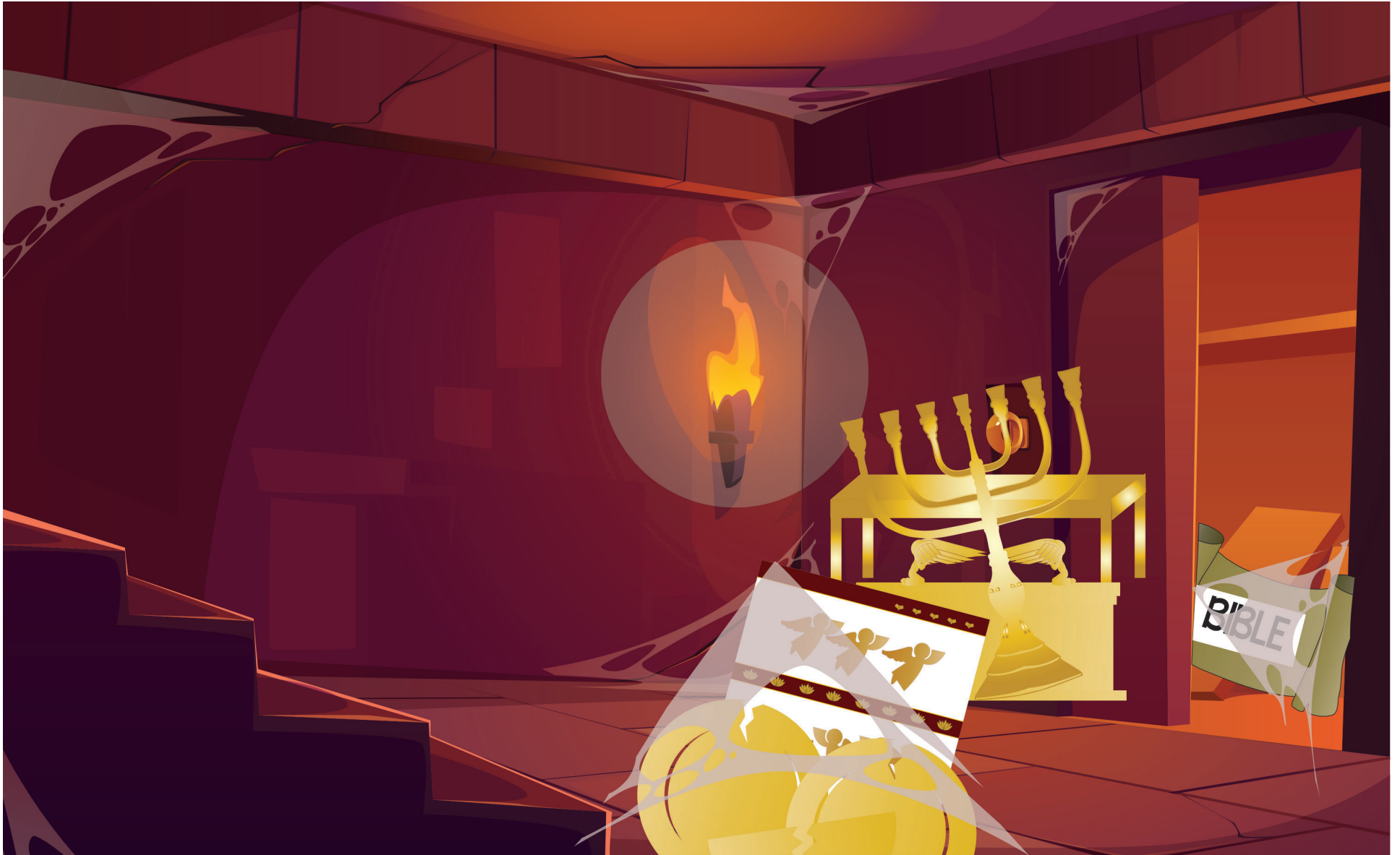
10. But it DID matter, as the people of Israel found out over and over! For whenever they learned and obeyed God's Word, they grew closer to the LORD. They worshipped Him and lived for Him. And the LORD blessed them with good things, their whole lives. The LORD also used His Word to make their kings good kings. When they copied it down as the LORD told them to, He taught them His good ways and helped them live them out. They took good care of the people, and the LORD protected their land from all their enemies. Life was so good when the people and their kings learned and obeyed God's Word! The LORD blessed them in so many ways!



II. But how very different life was when the people and their kings STOPPED learning God's Word and obeying it. The people stopped worshipping the LORD and growing closer to Him. They stopped obeying God's good laws, too. They hurt each other and broke their promises to the LORD. The kings stopped copying down God's Word and reading it. Without the LORD and His Word, they stopped being good kings. No longer did they take good care of the people. No longer did their enemies stay away. What sad times came upon them, just as the LORD said would happen!



12. Some of these kings even brought in the fake gods of their enemies and worshipped them instead. They ordered the people to worship these fake gods and give their worship gifts to them. They let the Temple, the LORD's special worship place, fall apart. They didn't care about the LORD.



13. And what happened to God's Word when the kings and the people turned away from the LORD? They got rid of it! They threw it away like useless trash, instead of treating it like the treasure it was. Oh, what terrible things the people and their kings had done! And oh, what terrible punishment they deserved for breaking their promises to God!



14. This is how things were when Josiah became king. Josiah's father, Amon, had been one of the bad kings. He worshipped fake gods, and gave his worship gifts to them, instead of the LORD. He ordered the people to worship these fake gods, too. He forgot about God's Word and let it be lost. What a terrible king he was!

# THE LORD



15. But Josiah was very different from his father. While he was still just a little boy, he began to seek after the LORD. He turned away from those fake gods and turned to the LORD.





16. And when Josiah became king, he led the people in turning to the LORD, too. "Get rid of these fake gods," Josiah commanded his workers. "Worship the LORD," Josiah told the people. "Give your worship gifts to Him, the one true God," Josiah said.



17. To the Temple, went the king's workers. Out went all the fake gods. "Smash, crash, crumble," the workers broke them into pieces and ground them into powder. No one would worship them again! Then, "Bang, whack, thump," up went new wood and new stone as they fixed up the broken places in the Temple.



18. The beautiful, golden things used to worship the LORD were brought out again. They were cleaned up and made ready. The tables, the plates, the candlesticks, the altar, the wash basin... everything! The workers worked and worked. What a lot there was to clean up and fix! And as they worked, they found a book, forgotten and hidden away. It was God's Word, the Bible!

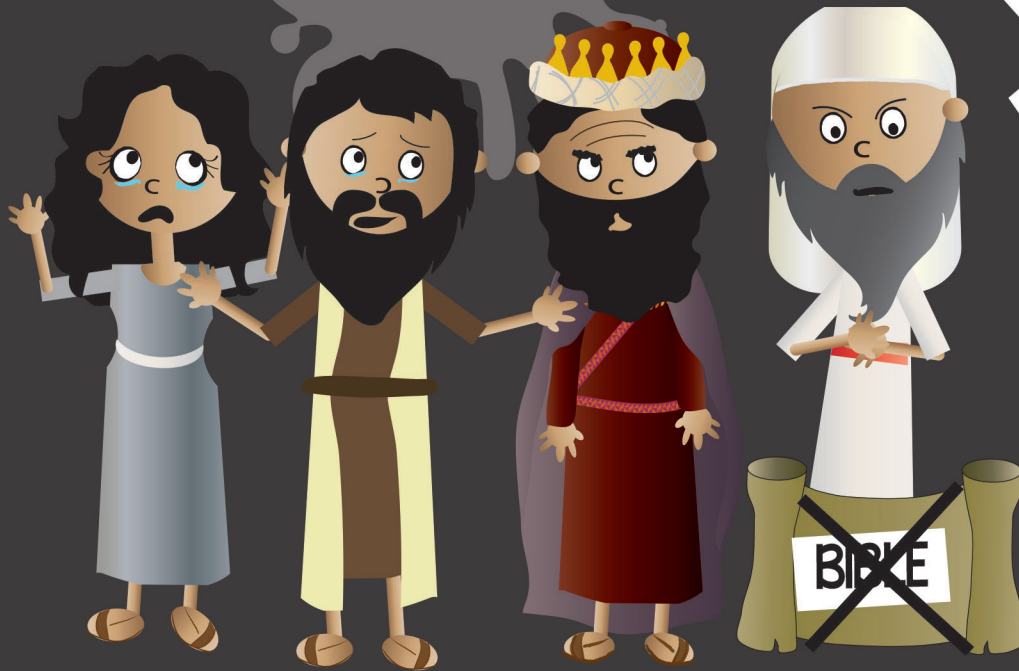


19. Hilkiah, the Temple leader, brought God's Word to Shaphan, King Josiah's helper. "I have found God's Word in the Temple. Take it." Shaphan took it and read it. Then, HE took it to King Josiah and read it to HIM.



20. King Josiah listened to every word. For the first time, Josiah heard how LORD created the world. He heard how the LORD had rescued the people from Pharaoh in Egypt and given them His good laws at Mt. Sinai. He heard about the big, covenant promises He made with the people of Israel to always be their God. What wonderful stories these were! This book had been hidden away and forgotten. It had been treated like trash. But Josiah could see that this book was a treasure, more precious than gold. How happy he was to hear God's Word!

SIN



THE  
LORD

21. As King Josiah kept listening, his happiness turned to worry. Yes, the LORD had made big, covenant promises with the people of Israel to be their God; but, THEY had made promises with the LORD, too. They had promised to worship Him and obey His good laws, but they had NOT done that. Nor had they learned God's Word or obeyed it as they had promised. The kings had NOT written God's Word and learned it either. No! They had all forgotten the LORD and broken His good laws. Now, they all deserved the LORD's punishment. Uh, oh!



22. King Josiah was so upset that he stood up and tore his clothes. (That's what they used to do long ago when they were very, very upset—but we shouldn't do it!) "Oh, no! What should we do?" said King Josiah. "We deserve God's terrible punishment for breaking our promises to Him!" he exclaimed.



MERCY

23. The LORD gave Josiah His answer through the prophetess Huldah. “Yes, you deserve My punishment for breaking your promise to keep My laws, but I am a God of mercy,” the LORD said. “Since you want to learn my Word and obey it, I will not punish the people as they deserve. And when I do finally punish them, I will use that punishment to bring them back to love and obey Me,” He promised. King Josiah was so happy! He would learn God’s Word and obey it. He would teach the people of Israel to obey it, too. He was so glad that the LORD would keep them as His people!



“LORD, we worship You. We will obey You.”



24. So, at last, when the Temple was repaired, King Josiah gathered all the people together in front of it. Then he, himself, read out loud to them. Can you guess what he read? He read God's Word to them. Every single word of it! As the people heard God's Word, God worked in their hearts. He helped them be sorry for their sins. He helped them turn back to Him and His good laws. Then all together, King Josiah and the people prayed to the LORD, "We promise to worship You. We promise to learn Your Word and obey it." And so they did, all the days that Josiah was their king.

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

## SOLVED



### Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

1. What was the treasure? And why was it hidden? It was a book: the Bible, God's Word. It was hidden because King Amon and the people didn't care about it. They put it in a room and forgot about it until it was lost.

2. Who found it and what did they do with it? King Josiah's workers found it. They gave it to the king to read. He asked God for forgiveness and helped the people obey it again.

For You and Me:

God's Word is filled with good things for God's people, who lived long ago. But it is filled with good things for us, too. God's Word can teach us. From it, we can learn about God and how He wants us to live. He can use it to help us turn away from our sins and put our trust in Jesus as our Savior. It can be a great treasure that God uses to bless us every day of our lives.



### Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Psalm 119:11,15,16, NIV

"I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you... I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word."

1. Who was supposed to hide God's Word in their hearts by writing down their very own copy of it? Why? The kings so they would know God's Word and lead the people in loving and obeying God.

2. What happened when they did this? What happened when they didn't? God helped them to love Him. He helped them obey it. He blessed the people. But, when they didn't, they turned away from loving God and obeying His Word. The people suffered.

For You and Me:

God didn't just want people long ago to know His Word and obey it from their hearts. He wants us to, also. God loves to work in our hearts as we learn His Word. He loves to use it to help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. He loves to use it to help us know Him and to live for Him. Ask Him to use His Word to work in your heart! He loves to answer this prayer.

How Should God's People Live?  
They Should Live Like Jesus...  
By Learning God's Word and Obeying It!

# The Gospel



There is so much to love about the Bible, God's Word! Through it, we can learn the truth about God and about ourselves. We learn that we have all chosen to disobey God and deserve His punishment.

But God's Word also tells us about God's mercy in sending Jesus, His Son, to be the Savior we need. It tells us that Jesus lived a perfect life, then on the cross, He gave it up to pay for the sins of God's people. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead. He had really beaten sin and death for them!

Best of all, the Bible tells us that now, whoever turns away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior can become God's people. Their sins are forgiven. They get to know God in their hearts, now. And one day, they will go live with Him forever.

God can help you become one of His people, too. Ask Him! He loves to help us!



# A Prayer

**A** God, we praise You for being the Giver of Your Word, the Bible. Through it, we can see how amazing You are!

**C** God, please forgive us for not loving Your Word as we should. Too many times we choose to not read Your Word but do other things instead. Too many times, even when we do read Your Word, we forget it and do not obey it. We need a Savior!

**T** Thank You, God, for telling us so much about Yourself and Your great plans through the Bible. Thank You for telling us about Jesus and how we can be saved. Thank You for showing us how to live and promising to help us through Your powerful Word.

**S** God, please work in our hearts. Help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to love Your Word, the Bible. Send Your Holy Spirit to help us understand it and obey it. Help us to live like You want us to live. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

