



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 talk about their answers, such as while the children work on their coloring pages, as part of their games, or during play time. Remember: your goal isn't to ask all these questions or to only talk to the children about these things. It is to be deliberate in having good conversations with them, as natural opportunities arise.

<p><b>BIG QUESTION</b></p> <p><b>Meaning</b></p> <p><b>Discussion Questions</b></p>	<p>Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? It is God's Sustaining Grace!</p> <p>Everyone enjoys good times and goes through bad times in their lives. Sometimes, people choose to turn away from God as they enjoy the good times or go through bad times. They love the good things too much or get mad at God for the bad things that happen.</p> <p>But that's not what happens with God's people. They have put their trust in Jesus. They want to love God most of all, even more than the good times they enjoy. They trust God and His good plans--even as they go through bad or sad times.</p> <p>What makes the difference? It's God and His sustaining grace! That is, God's gifts of strength to help God's people keep on believing in Him and living for Him. God will always give His people what they need! He wants them to depend on Him, and He loves for them to ask for His help. God will never fail them. He will help you like this, too, if you turn away from your sins and put your trust in Jesus as your Savior. He loves to do this!</p> <p><i>choose a few</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why do God's people keep on believing in Him? <i>It is God's sustaining grace.</i></li> <li>2. Who enjoys many good times in this world? <i>Everyone.</i></li> <li>3. Who goes through bad times in this world? <i>Everyone.</i></li> <li>4. Who do God's people love more than the good times they enjoy? <i>God.</i></li> <li>5. Who do they keep trusting in, even as they go through bad times? <i>God.</i></li> <li>6. Who helps God's people keep believing in God? <i>God does.</i></li> <li>7. What does God give His people to help them keep on believing in and living for Him? <i>His sustaining grace.</i></li> <li>8. What is sustaining grace? <i>Grace is a big, Bible word that means a gift we get that we don't deserve. Sustaining means to keep on going. Sustaining grace is God giving us the amazing gift of strength to keep on believing and living for Him.</i></li> <li>9. Who does God want us to depend upon? <i>Himself.</i></li> <li>10. What does God love us to ask Him for? <i>His help.</i></li> <li>11. How can we become one of God's people? <i>By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i></li> </ol>
<p><b>THE GOSPEL</b></p>	<p>Paul wanted the people of Thessalonica to hear and believe the good news of Jesus. That good news for them is good news for us, too. What is the good news of Jesus? What is the gospel?</p> <p><i>The LORD is the one, true God. We should all obey Him. But, we all say "no" to God and we deserve God's punishment! How sad! But, oh, how kind is the LORD! He sent His Son, Jesus, to save us! Jesus lived a perfect life. Then, He offered it up as the full payment for our sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Jesus didn't stay dead. On Day Three, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had beaten sin and death for God's people. We can become God's people, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. If we do, we will get to know God in our hearts, now. And one day, we will go to live with God forever. Ask God to help you trust in Jesus. He loves to answer this prayer.</i></p>

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<b>BIBLE VERSE</b>	<p>“Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved.” --Psalm 55:22, ESV</p>
<b>Meaning</b>	<p>Sometimes we have to go through very scary things. Sometimes we have to go through very sad things. But, never do we have to go through them alone, if we put our trust in Jesus as our Savior. God promises to always help the righteous--all who have had their sins forgiven through Jesus. They tell Him their troubles and He is with them, helping them through them. He promises to always sustain them--always give them everything they need to keep on believing in Him and living in Him. We, too, can be His people when we put our trust in Jesus. He will always care for us, too! How wonderful!</p>
<b>Discussion Questions</b>	<p><i>choose a few</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What does God want us to cast on Him? <i>Our burden.</i></li> <li>2. What does it mean to cast our burden on the LORD? <i>To tell Him what is troubling us and ask Him to help us through it and even to rescue us out of it. And, to do it however He knows is best.</i></li> <li>3. Who offers to help us through any scary, bad or sad things we go through? <i>God does.</i></li> <li>4. Who are the righteous people who God promises to always help? <i>All who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Righteous people is another name for God's people.</i></li> <li>5. What does God promise to do for His people--those who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior? <i>To never let them be moved. That is, to always be with them as they go through hard things and to always sustain them. To help them keep on believing in Him and living for Him.</i></li> <li>6. Who can help us to become one of God's people? <i>God, Himself! He loves to help us. Ask Him!</i></li> </ol>
<b>BIBLE STORY</b>	<p><b>The Case of the Terrible Trouble Acts 17; 1 &amp; 2 Thessalonians</b></p>
<b>Discussion Questions</b>	<p><i>choose a few</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In what city did Paul face terrible trouble? <i>Thessalonica.</i></li> <li>2. What was Paul doing that got him in such terrible trouble? <i>Telling the good news of Jesus.</i></li> <li>3. What is the good news of Jesus? <i>God loved us so much that He sent His Son Jesus to take the punishment we deserve for disobeying Him. When we turn away from our sins and ask Jesus to be our Savior, God will forgive us. What a wonderful beginning that will be! We will get to know God in our hearts now. And one day, we will go to live with Him forever.</i></li> <li>4. What happened when Paul shared the good news of Jesus? <i>Many people put their trust in Jesus. Some people became angry and made trouble for Paul.</i></li> <li>5. Who helped Paul keep on believing in God and telling the good news of Jesus, even with all that trouble and those mean enemies? <i>God did. God sustained Paul, by His grace. He gave him courage.</i></li> <li>6. What did the angry people pay some bad men to do? Did it work? <i>To tell lies about Paul and get him in trouble. Yes, it did. A big crowd of people searched for Paul to hurt him.</i></li> <li>7. Who did the crowd take when they couldn't find Paul? What happened? <i>They took Jason and some other new believers and got them in trouble. Jason and the others had to pay a lot of money to be freed.</i></li> <li>8. Who did Paul keep thinking about after he left Thessalonica? What did he pray for them? <i>The new believers, like Jason, in Thessalonica. He prayed that God would give them strength to keep on believing in Him and living for Him, even with angry people making trouble for them.</i></li> <li>9. What did Timothy find out when he went back to check up on the new believers in Thessalonica? <i>That God was sustaining them, even though the angry people were still making trouble for them.</i></li> <li>10. Will God sustain us? Will He help us keep on believing in Him and living for Him. <i>Yes, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. He loves to do this for us!</i></li> </ol>