Detective Dan's (Shorter/Simpler) Version of Bible Story for Big Question 6, Bible Truth 2

The Case of the Sadness that Didn't Stop *Genesis* 4,6-9

(Numbers correspond to Bible story picture pages in Detective Dan's Big Question Box)

1. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, EVERYTHING God created was broken by sin. Not only was it broken, but sin grew worse and worse. Especially in people. The whole world became a place filled with people disobeying God and hurting one another. It was terrible!

2. The LORD hated the sin in His good world, but He is so patient. He waited years and years for people to turn back to Him. But at last it was time: He would send a flood to do away with all who still refused to obey Him. And with them, the creatures would be swept away, too.

3. This sounded like the end of God's world, but it wasn't. God isn't ONLY fair and good. He is merciful, too. God would save one man who fought his sin and sought to love and obey Him --Noah. And with Noah, God would save Noah's family and some of every kind of creature.

4. "I'm sending a huge flood because of the sin in the world," God told Noah. "Build a big, wooden boat. Fill it with food. I'll keep your family and some of every creature safe in it," God promised. A huge flood? A big boat filled with creatures? Could it really be? Would Noah believe and obey?

5. Yes, he would! Noah didn't have to understand God's plans for them to be true. God was pleased with Noah's faith and accepted him.

6. Chop, chop! Saw, saw! Hammer, hammer! Noah and his sons worked on the huge ark. People came to see what Noah doing. Noah warned them about the flood God was sending. "Turn back to God and be saved!" he told them. But no one did. Not even one! How sad!

7. At last, the boat was finished and the food all loaded. Then the LORD, in His wonderful, mysterious way, led some of every creature to join Noah and his family in the ark. When everyone was safe inside, the LORD, Himself, shut them in. Then, the rain began.

8. Forty days and nights it rained. The water rose higher and higher until the land was completely covered up. Inside the ark, all were safe; but outside, everyone was swept away.

9. At last, God's judgment was finished. He sent a big wind to dry up the waters. "It's time to begin again. Fill the earth, like Adam and Eve and the creatures did, long ago," God told Noah. Noah happily obeyed. It was good to get off that ark and stand on dry ground again!

10. And what did Noah do first when he got off that ark? He gave God a worship gift of thanks for saving them. God was pleased, and said: "Never again will I destroy the whole earth with a flood. When it rains, look for a rainbow in the sky as a reminder of My promise."

11. A new beginning for the world! How wonderful! But sadly, the flood didn't wash sin from people's hearts. They still all disobeyed God. But there were always some, like Noah, who fought their sin and turned to God. They looked forward in faith to the day the Savior would come.

12. The Savior did come --Jesus, God's Son. Jesus lived a perfect life, then died on the cross, giving His life as full payment for the sins of God's people. On Day Three, Jesus rose from the dead, beating sin and death for God's people. We can become God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.