
Detective Dan's (Shorter/Simpler) Version of Bible Story for Big Question 9, Bible Truth 2

The Case of the Man Who Never Said "No" *The Gospels; Hebrews 4*

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

1. Long ago in Bethlehem, baby Jesus was born. Every baby is special, but there was something that made Jesus the most special baby of all. The angels sang the good news: This was God's Son, come to save God's people from their sins, just as God promised He would.
2. Jesus would have to do something that no one had ever done, if He were to save God's people: He would have to never disobey God. He would have to always keep all of God's laws. Only if Jesus was perfectly good could His life save them. Nothing less than perfect would do.
3. God's great enemy, Satan, wanted Jesus to fail. He didn't want God's people to be saved. He wanted to spoil God's good plans. He came to Jesus, out in the wilderness, to tempt Him to disobey God.
4. "Worship me instead of God, and I'll give you the world," Satan promised. "Everyone will worship You if you bow down to me." But Jesus said, "Go away, Satan! I'm only going to worship God, My Father." Jesus would be the perfect Savior. He would keep to God's good plan.
5. Satan wasn't the only one who tempted Jesus to disobey God. Sometimes, people said hateful lies to Jesus. "You aren't God's Son! You are just like Satan, God's enemy! You do bad things, and You should die," they told Him.
6. It would be easy to sin and hate them back, but Jesus did not. He kept loving them. He taught them truths from God's Word, so they might turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. Jesus wanted to please God and be the perfect Savior for God's people.
7. Crowds of people came to Jesus. "Heal us, teach us, Jesus!" they pleaded. Sometimes, Jesus would get so tired from caring for them. But He never got grumpy and sent them away. He kept on loving them. Jesus wanted to please God and be the perfect Savior for God's people.
8. Sometimes, people wanted to make Jesus their king. Jesus could have a big palace and lots of people to serve Him. That would be much easier than suffering and dying on the cross, as God planned. But Jesus said, "No." He kept to God's plan. This was the only way to save God's people.
9. Even on the cross, Jesus' enemies tempted Jesus to disobey God. "You say you're God's Son. Prove it! Let HIM save you! Come down from the cross, if that's who you really are!" they shouted at Him. But Jesus stayed on the cross. Only there, could He save God's people.
10. "It is finished," Jesus said, as died on the cross. And so, it was. Jesus had done it! He had never disobeyed God, from the day He was born to the day He died. And there on that cross, He had given His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people. He had saved them.
11. Jesus died that day, but on Day Three, He rose from the dead, proving He had really 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. Ask Him to help you.