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## Detective Dan's (Shorter/Simpler) Version of Bible Story for Big Question 8, Bible Truth 3

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### The Case of the Sad Thing that Did Good John 8-10

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

1. Jerusalem was the biggest and best city in Israel. Inside its walls were houses where people lived, and fountains, where they got water and washed. There was a marketplace to buy the things. But most importantly, there was the Temple, where people went to worship the LORD.

2. Not far from the Temple lived a man and his wife. How happy this man and his wife were! They just had a baby boy. "Praise God for this boy! We will love and care for him. He will grow up strong and work with his father, as sons always do," they thought.

3. But soon, their happiness changed to sadness. Their boy had been born blind! He would never see anything or be able to help his family. He would be a beggar, asking people for money, his whole life. Yes, this boy's blindness was very sad, indeed.

4. But it was the terrible things the teachers of God's law said that made the man and his wife saddest of all. "This baby -- or his mother or father-- must have done something very bad," they said. "That's why this baby was born blind." Was this true? (No, it was NOT, as we'll soon see.)

5. The years went by. The baby grew up to be a man. He couldn't help with his father's work, so he begged. Every day, he sat near the Temple with his cup, asking for money from people going to worship at the Temple. What a sad life! Could any good ever come out of all this sadness?

6. Yes, it could! One Sabbath day, everything changed. God had planned to use this blind man's sadness for good. And THIS was the day when the blind man and many others would see God's plans unfold. God would use Jesus, who was nearby in the Temple, to do this.

7. Jesus was teaching. "I am God's Son. Whoever believes in Me will live forever with God," He said. "You're wrong," the teachers of God's law replied. "Anyone who says they're God's Son must die." They threw stones at Jesus, but He and His disciples escaped, coming right near the blind man.

8. Jesus' friends looked at the blind man, and asked Jesus: "Who did the bad thing that made his eyes blind?" "You have it wrong!" Jesus told them. "God planned this man's sadness for good. Many will see God's power and believe that I am God's Son through him," Jesus said.

9. Then, Jesus mixed His spit with some dirt and put it on the blind man's eyes. "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam," Jesus told him. The man obeyed. At the pool, he washed off the mud, and what do you think happened? The blind man could see! Jesus had healed him! The man went home rejoicing.

10. The exciting news quickly spread through Jerusalem. "Is this REALLY the blind man? No one has ever healed a man born blind. Who is Jesus that He can heal like this? God must be working powerfully through Him," many thought. But what would the teachers of God's law think?

11. The teachers of God's laws still refused to believe in Jesus. They could see the amazing thing Jesus had done, but still said, "Jesus is a bad man! He is not God's Son." Oh, how very sad!

12. But the blind man fell down and worshipped Jesus. "Lord, I believe," he said. God had truly used this man's sadnesses for the good. Not only had God healed his eyes, but He gave him and others faith to trust in Jesus as their Savior. He can even use this man's story to help YOU trust in Jesus!