



"Hi! Welcome to Deep Down Detectives! We're so glad you've joined us. Detective Dan is going to help us dig deep down into God's Word, the Bible. Come on. Let's go!"



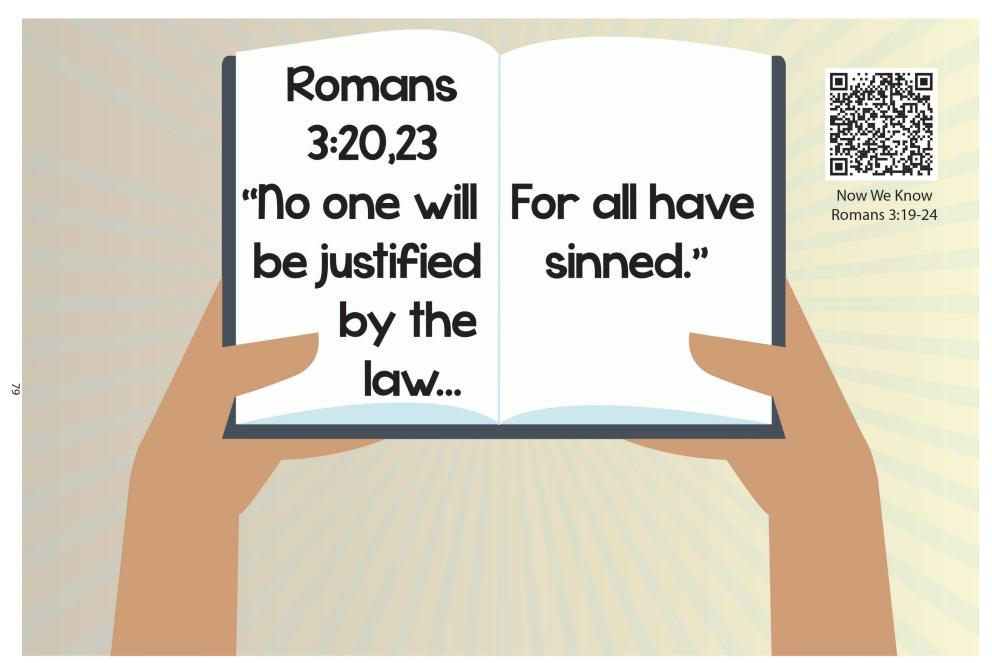
"Wow, look at this! It's Detective Dan's briefcase with a new case for us. It says, 'What Are God's Laws Like?' Come on, everybody. Let's unlock it and see what's inside."



"Deep Down Detectives! This is your second of three missions in this Big Question. Look for your clue in my wallet. See if you can find the answer in God's Word. See you soon, Detective Dan!"



The Deep Down Detectives found the clue and read: "What Are God's Laws Like? God's Laws Are Perfect... They Show Us That We Need God to ???? Us." Romans 3:20,23. Hint: What Jesus did for God's people on the cross. It starts with an "S" and rhymes with "brave."



The kids knew what to do next! They opened their Bible to Romans 3:20,23, and read: "No one will be justified by the law... For all have sinned."



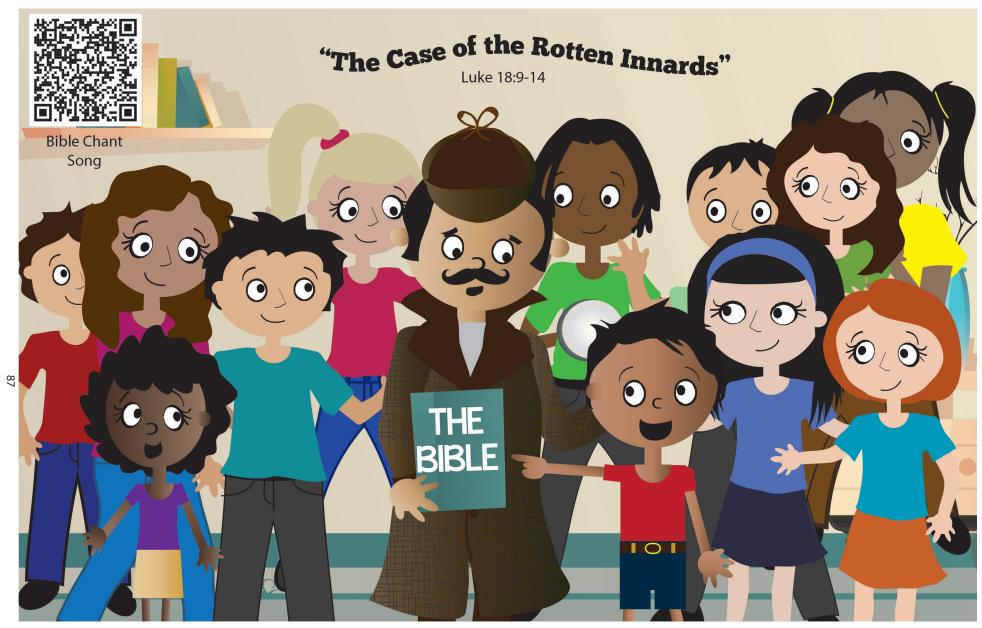
Just then, Detective Dan walked in. "Kids! Have you figured out the second way God's Laws Are Perfect?" he asked. "We think so! 'Justified means right with God. No one but Jesus has ever been right with God by obeying God's laws perfectly. That's why we all need Jesus to be our Savior."



"Our Big Question is: What Are God's Laws Like? And the answer is: God's Laws Are Perfect... They Show Us That We Need God to Save Us!" "Great job, kids! You did it!"



God made us and calls us to obey His laws. This is how we were meant to please Him. But we all disobey God and break His good laws. We deserve His punishment, not to be His people. Now, only a Savior can make us God's people. That Savior is Jesus, who obeyed God's laws perfectly. Jesus gave His perfect life as the full payment for God's people's sins when He died on the cross. On Day Three, He rose from the dead in victory. God's people were saved!



"Tell us a Bible story, Detective Dan. We want to dig deeper into God's Word."

"Sure, kids! I know just the story. It's called 'The Case of the Rotten Innards.' Rotten Innards is a silly way to say sinful heart. Listen for who had a sinful heart but went home forgiven by God."

"The Case of the Rotten Innards" Luke 18:9-14



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #I

"Innards" is a funny word that means a person's insides. And in this case, it means a person's heart, meant to love and obey God.

- I. Who had a rotten heart and knew it? Who had a rotten heart and DIDN:T know it?
- 2. What did Jesus want them all to do?

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



Romans 3:20-22, HCSB

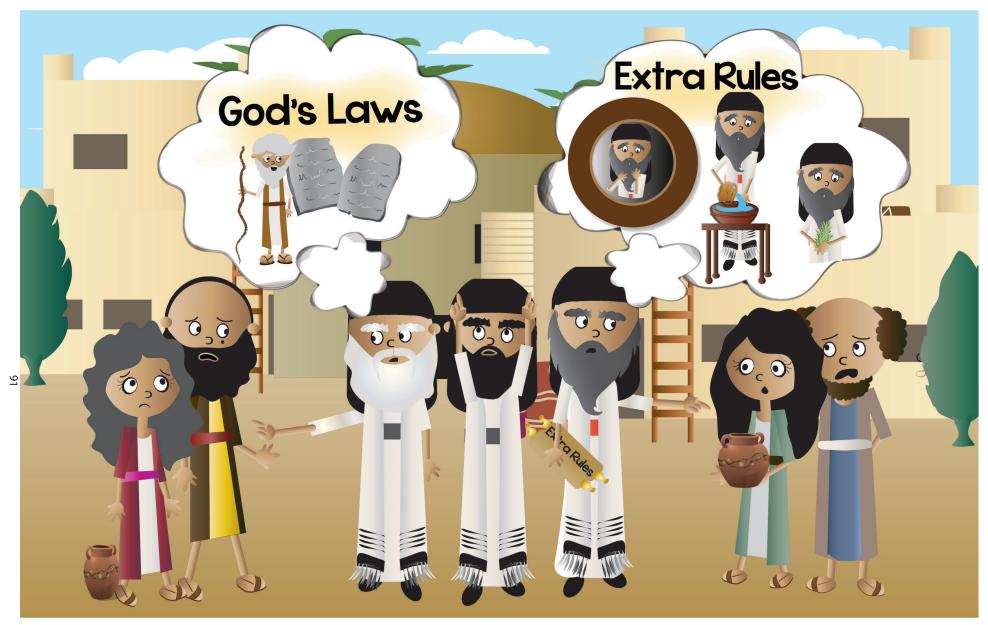
"For no one will be justified in [God's] sight by the works of the law... But now, apart from the law, God's righteousness has been revealed... God's righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ, to all who believe."

- I. Who thought they were justified (good) in God's sight? Why weren't they?
- 2. What did Jesus want these people to do?

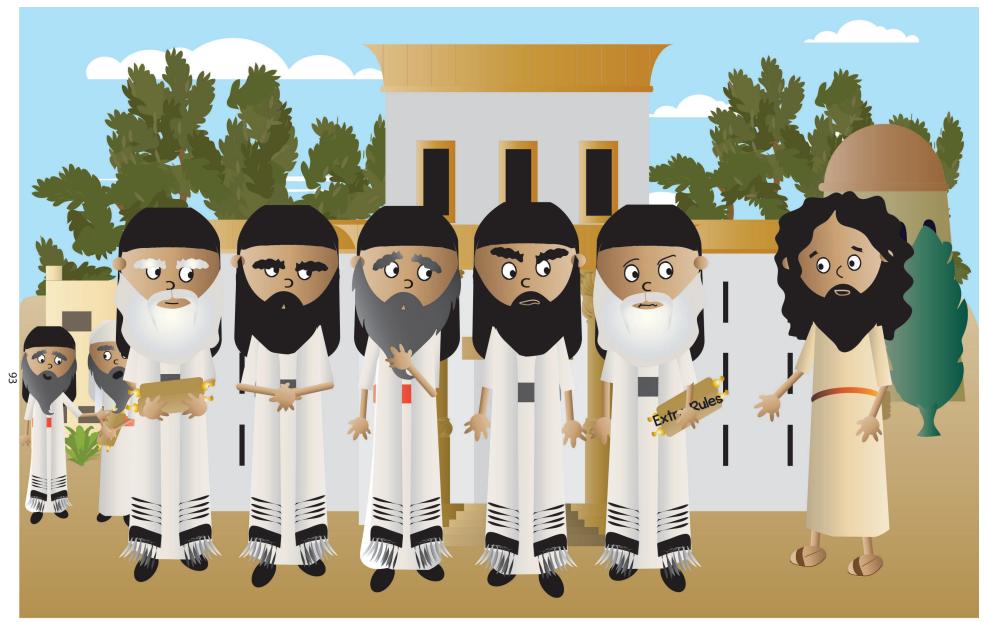
(more listening and discussion questions are included in the curriculum at praisefactory.org)



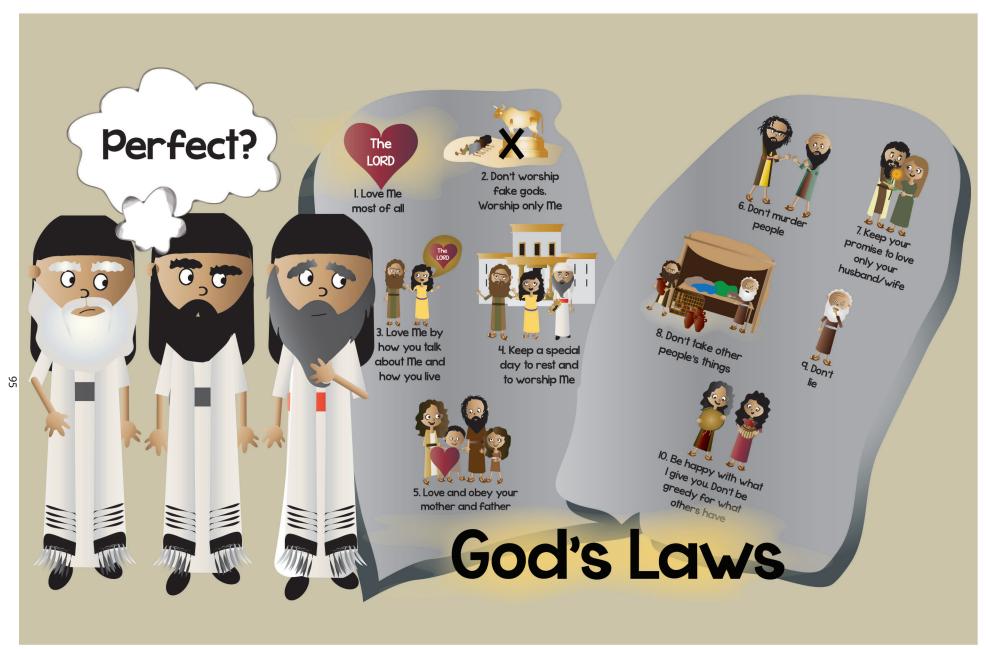
I. Sick people, sinful people, people eager to learn about God, all went to Jesus, and He satisfied them. "How wonderful, how amazing, Jesus is," they exclaimed. Many put their trust in Him. Here was the Savior they needed.



2. But there was another kind of people who went to Jesus: the Pharisees. They were the Bible teachers. They learned God's Ten Commandments and the hundreds of God's other laws, too. They added their own, little rules to God's laws, and told everyone to obey them, too.



3. These teachers didn't think they needed a Savior. "We're so good. We don't need God's forgiveness," they boasted. "We please God by obeying His laws and our little rules." They went to Jesus to see if He kept God's laws and their little rules, too... and get Him in trouble, if He didn't!



4. How wrong these Pharisees were to think they didn't need God's forgiveness! They could never please God by obeying God's laws, because they could never obey them perfectly.



5. Jesus knew the truth about these Pharisees. They had "rotten innards" --sinful hearts-- like everyone else. They broke God's laws, like everyone else. And instead of becoming good by trying hard to keep God's laws and all those little rules, they became proud of themselves.



6. So, Jesus told them a story that they might see their sin and seek after Him, the Savior. "One day, a Pharisee and a tax collector went to the Worship Place (Temple) to pray," Jesus told them.



7. "The Pharisee looked up to heaven and proudly prayed, 'God, thank You that I'm different from people like that tax collector over there. I don't do bad things. I am good, good, good. I keep all your laws and all the extra rules, too,' he boasted to God."



8. "Then, the tax collector prayed. He knew he had 'rotten innards' --a sinful heart-- and was sad about his sin. He looked down at his feet, beat his chest, and cried out to God, "Have mercy on me! I have disobeyed You and Your good laws. Please, forgive my sins!"



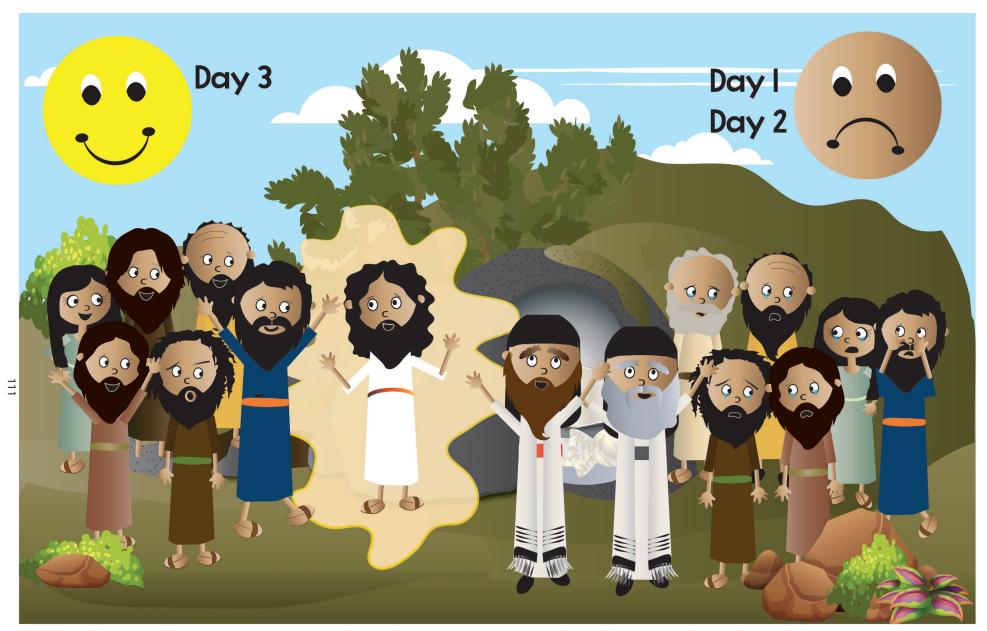
9. "The Pharisee left thinking God was pleased with him. But he was wrong. Only the tax collector went home right with God. God loves to forgive sinners --even very bad sinners-- who confess their sins to Him and humbly ask for His forgiveness," Jesus told the crowd.



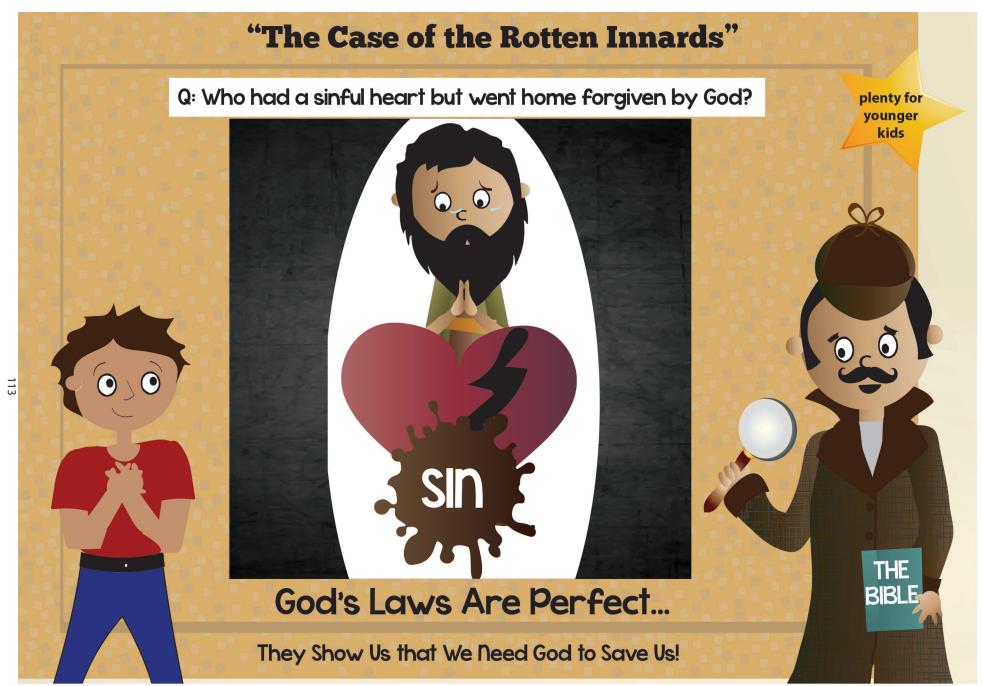
10. What did the Pharisees think when they heard Jesus' story? Did they see that no one can ever do enough good things to be proud before God? Did they see their own sin and ask God to forgive them? I hope so! The Bible doesn't tell us.



II. But we DO know that later, two Pharisees --Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus-- DID turn away from their sins and ask God to forgive them. They put their trust in Jesus as their Savior. They were the very men who buried Jesus' body, after He died on the cross.



12. How happy those men were when Jesus rose from the dead on Day Three! Jesus really was the Savior, sent to forgive God's people's sin. Jesus kept God's laws perfectly and paid for their sins completely. Jesus can be our Savior, too, when we turn from our sins and put our trust in Him.



A: The tax collector who knew he needed God to forgive him and save him."

"The Case of the Rotten Innards" Luke 18:9-14



SOLVED

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

"Innards" is a funny word that means a person's insides. And in this case, it means a person's heart, meant to love and obey God.

- I. Who had a rotten heart and knew it? Who had a rotten heart and DIDN'T know it? Many of the people who came to see Jesus knew they had disobeyed God's laws and were sinners. They knew they needed God's forgiveness. The Pharisees were also sinners with "rotten hearts," but they didn't know it. They thought they pleased God with all the laws they kept and all the good things they thought they did.
- 2. What did Jesus want them all to do? Jesus wanted everyone to turn away from their sins, ask God for forgiveness, and trust in Him as their Savior.

For You and Me:

Just like everyone in Jesus' day, we, too, have sinful "rotten" hearts. We all break God's laws, and we need His forgiveness. We can have His forgiveness when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior God will forgive our sins and make us His people. Ask God to help you! He loves to answer this prayer!

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



Romans 3:20-22, HCSB

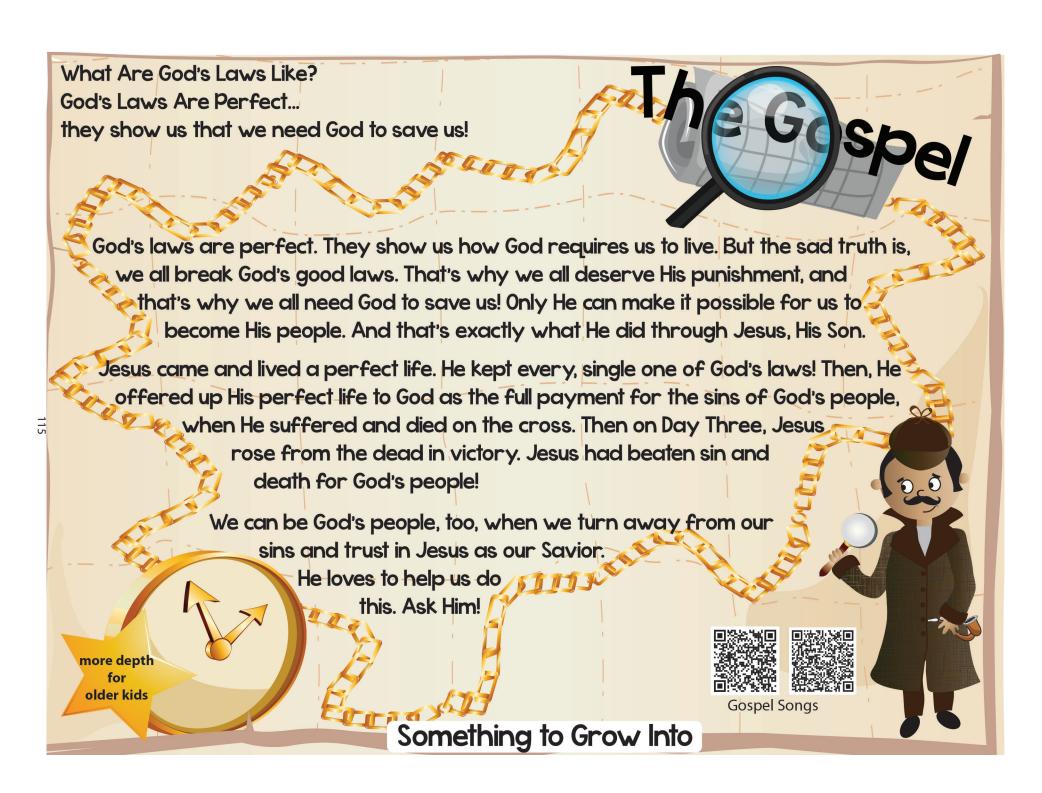
"For no one will be justified in [God's] sight by the works of the law...But now, apart from the law, God's righteousness has been revealed... God's righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ, to all who believe."

- I. Who thought they were justified (good) in God's sight? Why weren't they? The Pharisees thought they were justified in God's sight because they obeyed God's laws and the extra rules. They weren't justified because no one (except Jesus) obeys God's laws perfectly --- and that's the only way to be justified by obeying God's law.
- 2. What did Jesus want these people to do? He wanted them to understand that they were sinners who needed to turn to God and ask for His forgiveness. He wanted them to trust in Him as their Savior, so they might be saved from their sins.

For You and Me:

Just like the Pharisees, we also cannot be justified (made right with God) by doing good things and trying to obey God's laws. We will never obey them perfectly. We all break God's laws and we need His forgiveness. We can have His forgiveness when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God will forgive our sins and make us His people. Ask God to help you! He loves to answer this prayer!

Something to Grow Into



"The LORD gave us His laws to live by. Let's ask Him to help us now. Let's pray."

A Prayer

We praise You, LORD. You give us Your good laws to live by.

We know Your good laws, but we disobey them. Thank You for sending Jesus to be the Savior we need.

Work in our hearts. Help us to obey Your good laws. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



ACTS Prayer Song





more depth for older kids

A We praise You, God, for being the Giver of Your perfectly good laws.

C God, instead of obeying Your good laws, we have all chosen to break them. Sometimes, we don't obey our parents. Sometimes, we lie. Sometimes, we want things that belong to others. We do not always love you most of all. These are only some of the ways we break Your good laws. Oh, how we need a Savior!

T Thank You, God, for giving us Your good laws, so we know how to love and obey You. And thank You for sending Jesus to perfectly live out Your laws and to give His life as the perfect payment for the sins of Your people. Thank You that He can be our Savior, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Him.

S God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away from disobeying You and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Help us to know You, love You, and live for You. Help us to learn Your good laws and obey them.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



ACTS Prayer Song



"Deep Down Detectives, it's almost time for me to go. But first, let's celebrate what we've learned with a little Wiggle and Worship Time. Stand up and let's get bouncy!"

Big Q & A #7 Simple Song

What are God's laws like? What are God's laws like? What are God's laws like? God's laws are perfect!





Kids! Let's sing the Big Question and Answer Detective Dan taught us today.

Big Question #7 Tell Me More Song What Are God's Laws Like?

Refrain

What are God's laws like?

What are they like?

God's laws are perfect!

God's laws are perfect!

What are God's laws like?

What are they like?

God's laws are like Him.

They are good and just.

Verse 2

God's laws are the best way,

For us all to live,

God calls us to obey them,

To reflect His righteousness. Refrain



Verse I
God is our creator,
He's in charge of the whole world.
He gave us laws to live by,
They are written in His Word. Refrain



Big Question #7, Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse Song:

Romans 3:19-24

Now we know that whatever the law says, It speaks to those under the law, That every mouth be stopped, The whole world held accountable to God, to God.

For by works of the law no human being, Will be justified in His sight.

For all have sinned,

Fall short of the glory of God, of God.

But now the righteousness of God,

Has been manifested apart from the law,

The righteousness of God, by His grace,

as a gift,

Through faith in Jesus Christ, for all who believe.

Romans Three, nineteen through twenty-four.



Big Question #7, Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse Song: By Works of the Law

Romans 3:20-23

By works of the law,
By works of the law,
No one will be justified,
By works of the law. Why?

For all have sinned,
Fall short of the glory of God. Oh, no!
But listen to what God has done:
Apart from the law,
Apart from the law,
Now God's righteousness has been revealed,
Apart from the law. How?
Through faith in Jesus Christ,
To all who believe. Thank you, God!
Romans Three, twenty through twenty-three.



Big Question #7 Hymn Holy Bible, Book Divine

Verse I
Holy Bible, book divine,
Precious treasure, you are mine,
You're the only Book divine,
Precious treasure, you are mine.

Verse 2
Mine, to learn God's holy ways,
How He'd have us live each day;
Mine, to learn of Jesus Christ,
Who died to give eternal life.

Big Question 7 Praise Song
The Best Book to Read Is the Bible

Verse I

The best book to read is the Bible,
The best book to read is the Bible,
It alone is God's true Word,
With the best news ever heard!
Yes! The best book to read is the Bible.

Verse 2
The best book to read is the Bible,
The best book to read is the Bible,
If you read it ev'ry day,
God will teach you His ways.

Yes! The best book to read is the Bible.







The Gospel Song (Short)

We've all disobeyed God's good ways, But God sent His Son to save, All who turn back to Him, and pray: "Jesus, be my Savior, Take all my sins away."

This is the gospel,
This is God's good news:
Jesus died on the cross,
Then on the 3rd day...
He rose from the dead.
Ask Him to be your Savior, too.
Ask Him to be your Savior, too!



The Gospel Song (Full)

Refrain:

What is the gospel? G-O-S-P-E-L?
What is the gospel? Can anybody tell me?
What is the gospel? Yes, I know what it is!
Salvation through faith in Christ,
That's what the gospel is.

"G" is for God, our good King and Creator,
"O", we should obey Him,
but instead we're disobeyers,
So "S", we need a Savior to save us from our sins,
That Savior is Jesus, who "P" took the punishment.
Yes, Jesus died upon the cross, the perfect sacrifice,
Then on Day Three, He rose again
To prove He'd won the fight,
And now "E" everyone who repents & believes in Him,
He gives "E-L" eternal life: forever life with Him.

"Let's sing about the gospel: God's best good news that we can become His people through Jesus.

Deep Down Detectives Theme Song

We're Deep Down Detectives, diggin' deep in God's Word, For truths about God and His plans for this world, We're seeking to love Him, with all of our heart, We're Deep Down Detectives!

Come on! Let's start!



Bible Chant Song

The Bible, the Bible.

Let's get out the Bible.

Let's hear what God has to say.

The Bible, the Bible,

God's given us the Bible.

It's His Word for us to learn and obey! Yay!



Classroom Rules Song

Shh, be quiet while someone is talking, Raise your hand, if you have something to say, Don't touch your friend, sitting beside you, Obey your teachers, Be kind as you play.

These are our classroom rules,

Be kind as you play.
These are our classroom rules,
These are our classroom rules,
They help us worship God
and love one another,
These are our classroom rules.

ACTS Prayer Song

A, Adoration: God, we praise You!

C, Confession: Forgive us our sins.

T, Thanksgiving,: Thank You for Jesus,

S, Supplication: Help us to live like Him. (repeat)

That's the ACTS prayer, my friend, Bow head, Close your eyes, Shhh, Let's begin.

