
Detective Dan's (Shorter/Simpler) Version of Bible Story for Big Question 10, Bible Truth 3

The Case of the Secret Weapon Within Mark 13:9-13; 15-16; Acts 1-4

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

1. Jesus taught His followers happy things about God and His plans. Best of all, were the promises about life with God forever. "I will save God's people, then go prepare a home for them," Jesus told them. "We'll live there together in perfect happiness forever," He promised.
2. But other things Jesus taught weren't so happy to hear. "I'm going to die on the cross," Jesus told His followers. "You will be My witnesses after I rise from the dead," He said, "but the enemies who hated Me will hate and hurt you, too. They won't want you to tell the world about Me."
3. This sounded so hard! How would Jesus' disciples have the right words to say, if Jesus was leaving them? Jesus told them how: "I will ask My Father to send the Holy Spirit to come and live in of you. He'll give you wisdom," Jesus told them. "He'll help you speak God's Word."
4. Soon, everything happened just as Jesus said it would. His enemies put Him on the cross to die. But there, Jesus gave His perfect life to pay for the sins of God's people. On Day Three, He rose from the dead in victory. Jesus had saved God's people!
5. Jesus stayed with His disciples for forty days, teaching them many things; then, He went up to heaven to rule. Jesus was gone. His followers missed Him. Would the Holy Spirit really come, as Jesus promised? Yes, He would!
6. Ten days later, the Holy Spirit came to live in Jesus' followers as their special Helper. He worked powerfully in their hearts, giving them peace, joy, power, and wisdom --the wisdom to understand God's Word and tell others the good news of Jesus.
7. And even when they were arrested and dragged before Jesus' enemies, the Holy Spirit was with them. He helped them and gave them the right words to say.
8. These enemies were shocked! "Jesus' followers haven't been to school like us. They are just plain fishermen. How can they speak such wise words from God's Word?" they wondered. They didn't know the answer, but we do, don't we? It was the Holy Spirit, helping them in their hearts.
9. The Holy Spirit wasn't ONLY at work in those first believers when they spoke to Jesus' enemies. He was also at work whenever they shared God's Word with anyone who would listen. He helped many people turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.
10. And when they did, the Holy Spirit came to live in their hearts to stay. Now, they were God's people, too. Now, He would be their Helper, giving them wisdom and helping them live for God, too.
11. And that's what the Holy Spirit is still doing even today in people all around the world. He works in their hearts as they hear the good news of Jesus and helps them believe. Then, He comes to live in their hearts to stay, giving them wisdom to know God and how to live for Him.
12. The Holy Spirit is God's good gift to help His people their whole lives. He helps them know and love God. He gives them wisdom to live for God and tell others about Jesus. The Holy Spirit can live in our hearts as our helper, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.