



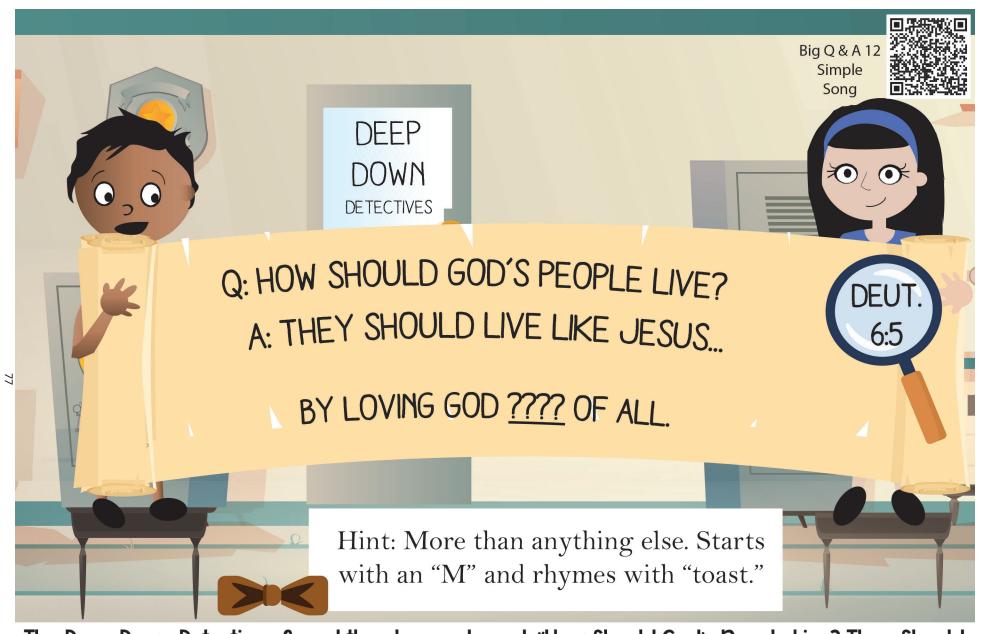
"Hi! Welcome to Deep Down Detectives! We're so glad you've joined us. Detective Dan is going to help us dig deep down into God's Word, the Bible. Come on. Let's go!"



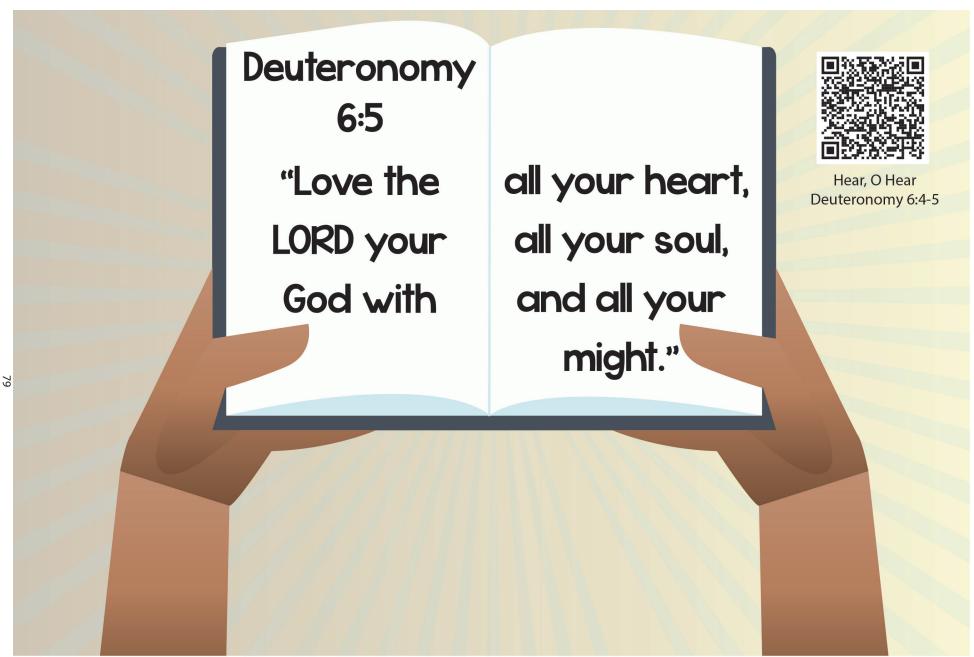
"Wow, look at this! It's Detective Dan's briefcase with a new case for us. The Big Question is 'How Should God's People Live?' Come on! Let's unlock it and see what clue he gives us."



"Deep Down Detectives! This is your second of eight missions in this Big Question. Look for your clue in my bowtie. 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: "How Should God's People Live? They Should Live Like Jesus... By Loving God ???? Of All. Deuteronomy 6:5." Hint: "More than anything else. Starts with an "M" and rhymes with "toast."



The kids knew what to do next. They opened their Bible to Deuteronomy 6:5, and read: "Love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your might."

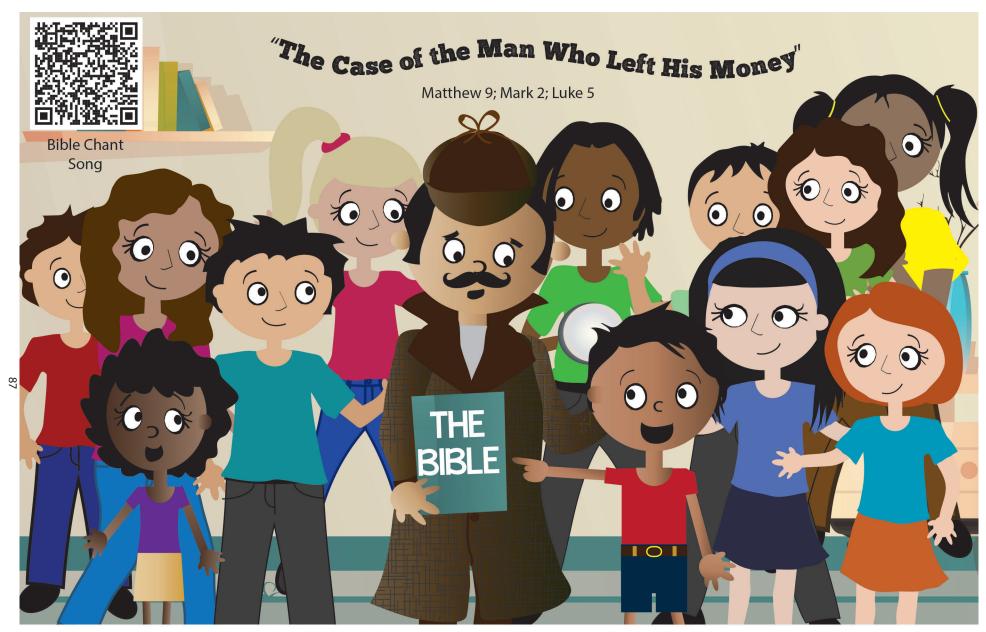


Just then, Detective Dan walked in. "Kids! Have you figured out this second truth about how God's people should live?" he asked. "We think so! To love the LORD with ALL our heart, soul, and mind is to love Him most of all."



"Our Big Question is: How Should God's People Live? And the answer is: They Should Live Like Jesus... By Loving God MOST of All." "Great job, kids! You did it!"

"Jesus loved God most of all. God wants His people to love Him most of all, too. God's people know their love for God, here on earth, won't be perfect like Jesus' was. But they know God promises to help them love Him by His Holy Spirit living in their hearts. And one day, in heaven, God will make their love perfect. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, God will help us love Him most of all, too."



"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 Man Who Left His Money.' Listen for who Matthew chose to love even more than all his money."

"The Case of the Man Who Left His Money" Matthew 9; Mark 2; Luke 5



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #l

I. Who was the man who left his money? Why did he leave it behind?

2. Who did he decide to love even more than his money?

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



Deuteronomy 6:4-5, ESV

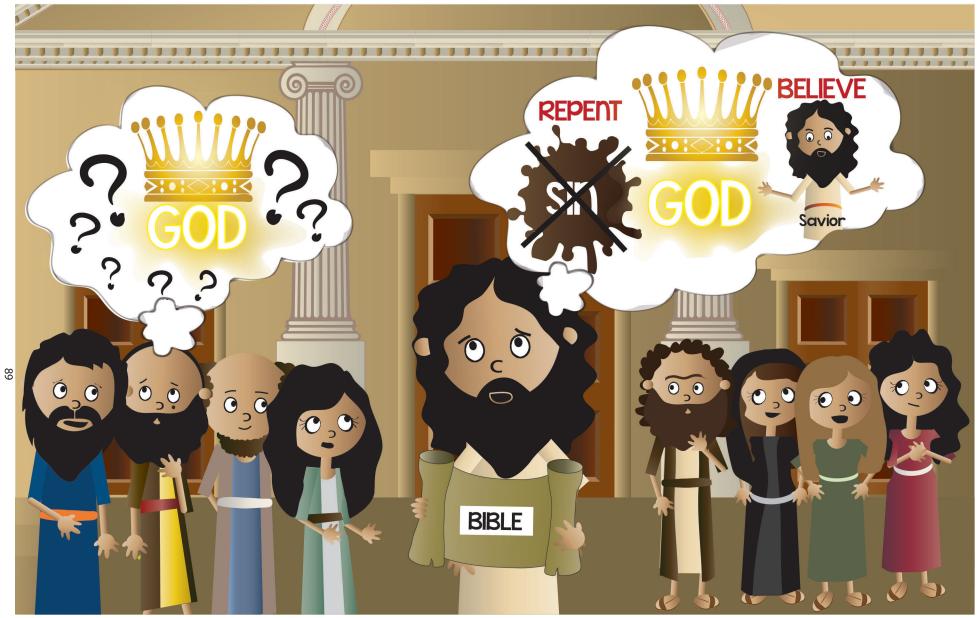
"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

I. Who loved money and the nice things in this world more than God?

2. Why did he leave his money and nice things behind? Who did he find was even better to love?

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

Something to Grow Into



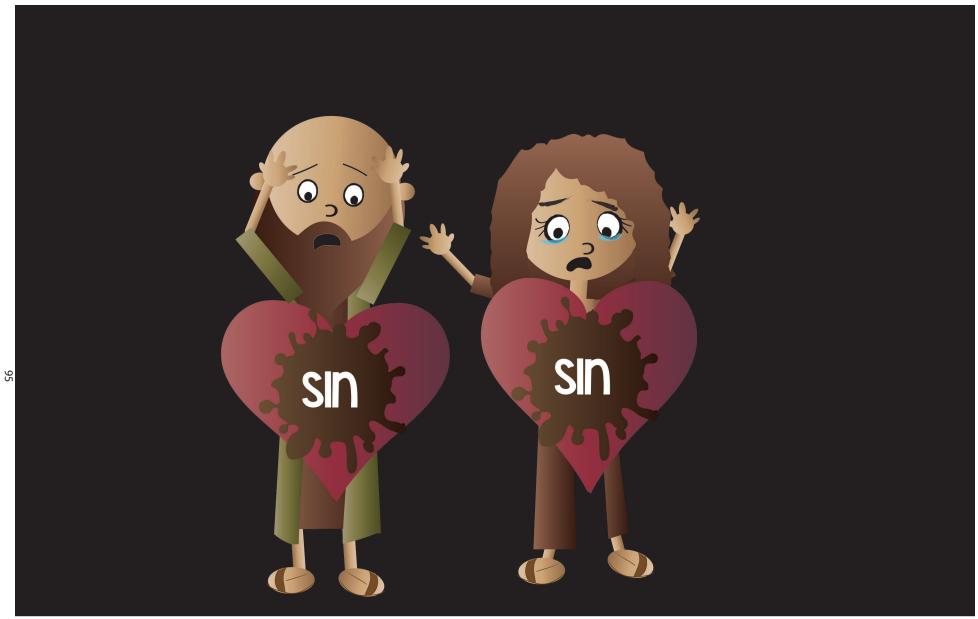
I. Jesus had good news to tell everyone. "The time has come. The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" He exclaimed. The kingdom of God is NEAR? What did THAT mean? What IS this kingdom of God? How can we be part of it?" many wondered.



2. "The kingdom of God is knowing and enjoying God as His people. It's loving God most of all and living for Him," Jesus explained. "God's kingdom is in heaven already. And one day, I'll come back and bring it to the new heaven and earth. But right now, it can be in your heart," He said.



3. Wow! Jesus' good news was the BEST news the people had ever heard! They didn't have to wait for heaven or even until Jesus came back. They could be part of God's kingdom that very day.



4. But as big and good as this news was, it wasn't easy to live out. Why? Because we have sinful hearts. We find things to love more than God. We choose ways to live instead of God's good way. There's so much we must stop loving and doing if we are to love God most of all.



5. A man named Matthew knew this. Matthew did NOT love God most of all. He loved money and the nice things he could buy, instead. And, while Matthew had grown up learning about God, he had chosen to break God's good laws to get more money and nice things for himself.



6. Matthew was a tax collector. He gathered money from his people for Caesar, the enemy Roman king. It was a bad job that most people wouldn't do.



7. Every day, Matthew sat in his tax house near the Sea of Galilee, stopping people with things to sell. "Pay your taxes. Here's what you owe Caesar," he demanded. But Matthew was unfair. He made everyone pay a lot more than they owed and kept the extra to make himself rich.



8. Matthew also squeezed lots of money from the people in his town, Capernaum, and they hated him. Perhaps Matthew had a big house, lots of nice things, and loads of money, but he lost many friends. He had broken his friendship with them by the mean, greedy things he did.



9. Even worse, Matthew had chosen to break God's good laws, and he refused to repent. Wherever God's kingdom was, whenever it could come, Matthew certainly would not be a part of it. There seemed to be no hope for Matthew to be right with God again.



10. But there WAS hope for Matthew. Jesus came to Capernaum to teach. As Matthew listened to Jesus, the Holy Spirit worked in his heart and changed it. Now, Matthew wanted to love God most of all. He wanted to be one of God's people and have the kingdom of God in his heart.



II. Jesus knew what was happening in Matthew's heart. "Matthew, follow Me! Be my disciple, my close friend who lives with Me and learns from Me each day," Jesus said to him. "Yes, Jesus, I will," Matthew told Jesus, and right then, he left his tax house and all his money to follow Jesus.



12. The rest of his life, Matthew followed Jesus and sought to love God most of all. God even used him to write a Bible book about Jesus: the Gospel of Matthew. "Gospel" means "good news," and that's what Jesus was to Matthew -- the Savior who made him one of God's people.

A: "Matthew chose to love God even more than all his money. He wanted to love Him most of all."

"The Case of the Man Who Left His Money" Matthew 9; Mark 2; Luke 5



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #1

I. Who was the man who left his money? Why did he

Matthew did. The Holy Spirit worked in his heart as he listened to Jesus teach. He helped Matthew turn away from his old life of loving money and nice things, and love God and live for Him, instead.

2. Who did he decide to love even more than his money? God!

For You and Me:

Matthew had a lot of money and he loved nice things, but he learned that God was better than even the world's best things. There are many nice things we may enjoy in this world, too. But we will never find anything that is better than loving God and being one of God's people. We can become one of God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask God to help you. He loves to answer this prayer.

Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2



Deuteronomy 6:4-5, ESV

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

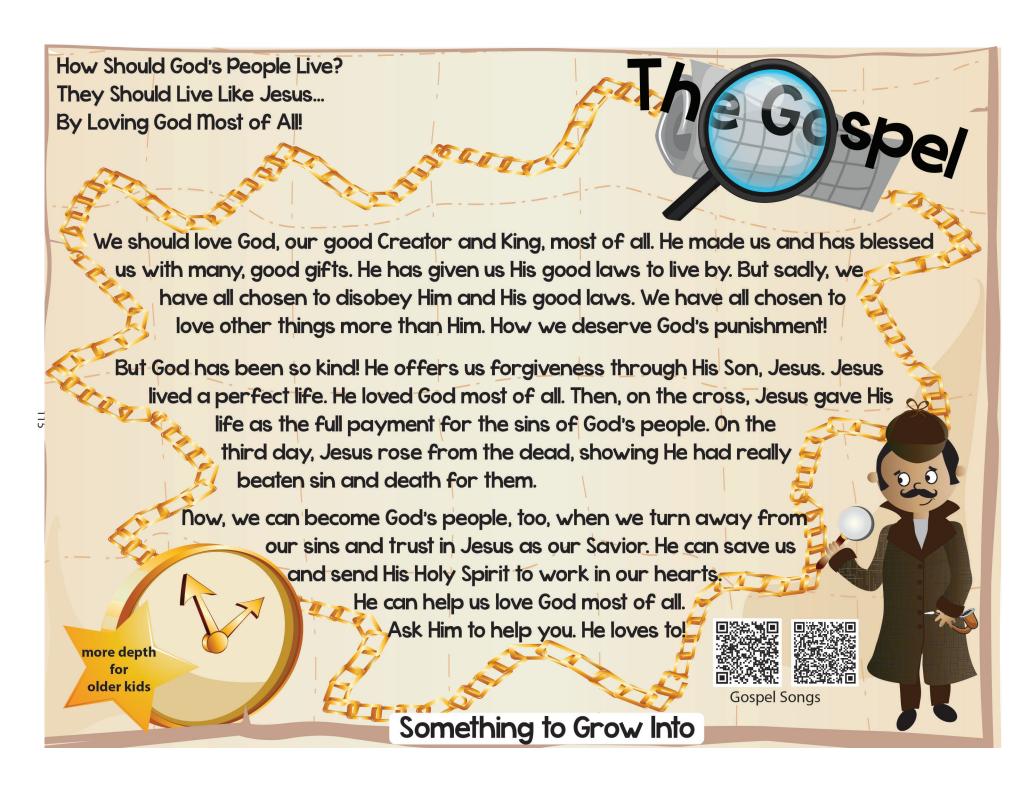
I. Who loved money and the nice things in this world more than God? Matthew did.

2. Why did he leave his money and nice things behind? Who did he find was even better to love? The Holy Spirit worked in his heart as he listened to Jesus teach. He helped Matthew turn away from his old life of loving money and nice things, and love God and live for Him. instead.

For You and Me:

Matthew had a lot of money and he loved nice things, but he learned that God was better than even the world's best things. There are many nice things we may enjoy in this world, too. But we will never find anything that is better than loving God and being one of God's people. We can become one of God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask God to help you. He loves to answer this prayer.

Something to Grow Into



"The LORD made us to know Him and live for Him. Let's pray to Him now."

A Prayer

We praise You, LORD. You deserve for us to love You most of all.

Thank You for promising to help Your people love You.

Work in our hearts. Help us to love and obey You. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior that we might be Your people.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



ACTS Prayer Song



A= Adoration (God, we praise You!) C=Confession (God, forgive us!) T= Thanksgiving (Thank You, God!) S=Supplication (Make us like Jesus!)



"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 #12 Simple Song

How should God's people live each day? They should live like Jesus!

How should God's people live each day? How should God's people live each day? How should God's people live each day? They should live like Jesus!





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

Big Question #12 Tell Me More Song How Should God's People Live?

Refrain: How should God's people live? How should God's people live? How should God's people live? They should live like Jesus!

Verse I
Jesus loved God most of all,
He loved all people, too,
In all that He did and said and thought,
He loved them thru and thru.
Refrain

Verse 2
God's people should love God most of all,
They should love others, too,
And God the Holy Spirit,
Will help them in all they do.
Refrain



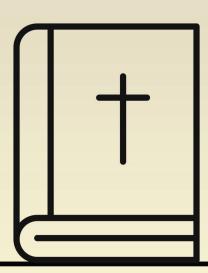


Big Question #12, Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse Song:

Hear, O Hear: Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Hear, 0 hear, 0 Israel,
Hear, 0 hear, 0 Israel,
The LORD your God, the LORD is one.
You shall love the LORD your God
with all your heart,
You shall love the LORD your God
with all your soul,
You shall love the LORD your God
with all your might.
Deuteronomy Six, four through five.





Big Question #12 Hymn
Trust and Obey, Refrain

Trust and obey,
For there's no other way,
To be happy in Jesus,
But to trust and obey.

Big Question #12 Praise Song I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, No turning back, no turning back,



"Let's praise the Lord for being so good! Let's tell Him we want to live for Him!"

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.

