### **Deep Down Discussion Sheet**

use with all THREE lessons

Use with all response activities for deeper learning

P.1

Questions to aid discussion of the key concepts and for use in games

Be familiar with these questions and answers. Look for opportunities to ask questions and discuss their answers, such as while the children work on their coloring pages, as part of their response games, or during play time. Remember: your goal isn't to ask all these questions or only talk to the children about these things. It is to be deliberate in having good conversations with them, however much or little you have.

### **BIG QUESTION**

#### How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift!

### Meaning

We all have disobeyed God. We have all lost the wonderful special closeness with God that He meant for us to have with Him. No matter how hard we try, we can't ever be good enough to win back special closeness with God. No, we can't save ourselves, but God can. That's why He sent Jesus: to save us as a free gift from Him. Anyone who turns away from their sins and trusts in Jesus as their Savior, will receive His forgiveness. They will become His people, who know Him in their hearts by His Holy Spirit. And one day, God will take them to live with Him forever. This is the free gift God offers to you and me. God is so kind to us!

### choose a few

## Discussion **Questions**

- 1. How can we be saved? It is God's free gift.
- 2. Who has disobeyed God? We all have.
- 3. What happened to the special closeness with God that God created us to have? We lost it because we are sinners.
- 4. Can we ever be good enough to win back special closeness with God? *No, we cannot*.
- 5. Who did God send as a free gift to save us? Jesus.
- 6. What must we do to receive God's free gift of salvation? *Turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*
- 7. What does God promise to all who do this? Forgive their sins, and make Him their people. They will know them in their hearts now, by His Holy Spirit. Then, after their bodies die, He will bring them to live with Him, happy forever!

# BIBLE TRUTH Meaning

It Is God's Free Gift... When We Trust in Jesus as Our Own Savior!

# God created us to love and obey Him, but we have all chosen to disobey Him. That's why we all deserve His punishment, instead of His friendship. Our sins separate us from Him. God would be fair to punish us for our sins, but He has chosen to be so kind to us. He offers to forgive our sins and make us His people through Jesus, His Son.

Jesus came to earth and lived a perfect life. He never, ever disobeyed God. Then on the cross, Jesus chose to offer up His perfect life as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He took the punishment for sins we deserved to save us from our sins. Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a grave, but He didn't stay there. He had beaten sin and death for God's people. He rose from the dead in victory, never to die again! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, are forgiven their sins. They are God's dearly-loved people who have special closeness with Him all the days of their lives. And when they die, they will go to live perfectly happy with Him forever. This wonderful, free gift can be ours, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Isn't that wonderful news!

### Discussion Questions

#### choose a few

- 1. God created us to do what? To love and obey Him perfectly.
- 2. Do we love and obey God perfectly? No, we do not. We have all chosen to disobey Him.
- 3. Do we deserve special closeness with God? No.
- 4. What do we deserve from God? His punishment for our sins.
- 5. What does God give His people that is better than they deserve? He sent Jesus to take the punishment for their sins so that they could be saved.
- 6. How can we become God's people and receive the free gift of salvation? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. God loves to answer this prayer!

use with all THREE lessons

P.2

Questions to aid discussion of the key concepts and for use in games

### **THE GOSPEL**

What is God's good news for you and me? The gospel! How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift... When We Trust in Jesus as Our Own Savior. We all have broken God's good laws. We all deserve His punishment for our sins, and we know that we can never deserve His forgiveness. How sad! God would have been perfectly fair to give us all the punishment we deserve for breaking His laws. He is holy and good. But God is so rich in mercy. He chose to give us something better than we deserve. He sent His Son Jesus to live a perfect life. Yes! Jesus kept every, single one of God's laws! And on the cross, He suffered and died, giving His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of all who turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory, never to die again! Now, all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, are forgiven their sins. They are God's people who know Him in their hearts by His Holy Spirit. And when they die, they will go to live perfectly happy with Him forever. This wonderful, free gift can be ours, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Isn't that wonderful news!

### BIBLE TRUTH BIBLE VERSE

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved." --Romans 10:9-10, ESV

**Learn a Little:** "If you confess Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

#### Meaning

To believe something in your heart is to think that something is true. To confess something is to tell others what you think is true. Christians are those who believe in their hearts that Jesus is the Son of God, who died on the cross to save God's people from their sins. They believe that He rose from the dead on the third day, showing that He had beaten sin and death for them. They love telling this good news to others that they might believe and be saved, too. We must believe in our own hearts that He is our Savior and be willing to confess to others that He is our Lord, if we are to be saved, too!

### Discussion **Questions**

- 1. What does it mean to believe something in your heart? To think that it is true.
- 2. What does it mean to confess something? To tell others what you think is true.
- 3. Who do Christians believe in their heart is Lord? What does that mean? They believe Jesus is Lord. They believe He is the Son of God who we should all obey.
- 4. What amazing thing do they believe Jesus did? He died on the cross for the sins of God's people and on the third day, God raised Him from the dead. He beat sin and death for God's people!
- 5. How can Jesus become our Savior? When we turn from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior.

### BIBLE STORY Discussion Questions

#### The Case of the Amazed, Mad Man choose a few

- 1. What did Jesus' followers do that made Saul so mad? They told everyone that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead to save God's people. They told everyone to turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.
- 2. What did Saul tell Jesus' followers to do? To stop telling people about Jesus.
- 3. Why didn't Jesus' followers stop telling others about Jesus? *Because they wanted others to be forgiven their sins and know God.*
- 4. What did Saul do to Jesus' followers? He found them, hurt them and had them put in jail.
- 5. Why did Jesus' followers move to other cities? So that Saul couldn't hurt them and so they could tell more people about Jesus.
- 6. What happened to Saul when he went to Damascus to get rid of Jesus' followers who had moved there? Jesus appeared to him on the road. He became blind and was taken to Damascus. He prayed, turned away from his sins and trusted in Jesus as his Savior.
- 7. What did Saul start doing after he became a follower of Jesus? He went around and told everyone the good news of Jesus, too.
- 8. How can we be saved from our sins, like Saul was? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.