

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 Meaning Discussion Questions	How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift! 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! <i>choose a few</i> 1. How can we be saved? <i>It is God's free gift.</i> 2. Who has disobeyed God? <i>We all have.</i> 3. What happened to the special closeness with God that God created us to have? <i>We lost it because we are sinners.</i> 4. Can we ever be good enough to win back special closeness with God? <i>No, we cannot.</i> 5. Who did God send as a free gift to save us? <i>Jesus.</i> 6. What must we do to receive God's free gift of salvation? <i>Turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.</i> 7. What does God promise to all who do this? <i>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!</i>
BIBLE TRUTH Meaning Discussion Questions <i>choose a few</i>	It Is God's Free Gift... When the Holy Spirit Works in Our Hearts! All of us are sinners. We would rather do things our own way rather than obey God. We have hearts that are dead and empty of love for Him and His good ways. We would never choose to love God on our own. But guess what God does for His people? He treats them so much better than they deserve! He sends His Holy Spirit to work in their hearts. When they hear God's Word, He helps them know they are sinners. He helps them want to stop disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He makes their hearts alive to God. Now, they know God and want to obey and love Him. We can be God's people, too! We can ask God to send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. He can help us to ask God to forgive our sins, trust Jesus as our Savior, and live for Him. Then we can know God in our hearts, now; and when we die, we will go to live perfectly happily with Him forever. 1. Who are sinners? <i>All of us.</i> 2. Would we rather do things our way or God's way? <i>Our way!</i> 3. What are sinners' hearts empty of? <i>Love for God and His good ways.</i> 4. Do sinners choose God on their own? <i>No, they don't.</i> 5. Who does God send to work in hearts of His people? <i>The Holy Spirit.</i> 6. What does the Holy Spirit do in the hearts of God's people? <i>Helps them to know they are sinners; helps them want to stop disobeying God; helps them trust Jesus as their Savior.</i> 7. What book does God use? <i>His Word, the Bible.</i> 8. Can we ask the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts? <i>Yes, we can. He can help us say no to disobeying God and trust in Jesus as our Savior.</i>

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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? <i>The gospel! How can we be saved? It is God's free gift... when the Holy Spirit works in our hearts. All of us are sinners. We would rather do things our own ways rather than obey God. We have hearts that are dead and empty of love for Him and His good ways! We would never choose to love God on our own. We deserve God's punishment, but He is full of mercy! He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Jesus lived a perfect life. Then on the cross, He suffered and died, giving His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead. He had really beaten sin and death for them! We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God's Holy Spirit can work in our hearts, helping us to do this. And if we do, the Holy Spirit will go on working in our hearts the rest of our lives, helping us know God, love Him, and live for Him. Then one day, we will go to live with God forever. Ask Him to help you! He loves to do this!</i>
BIBLE TRUTH BIBLE VERSE	"...He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit." --Titus 3:5-7, ESV Learn a Little: "He saved us by the Holy Spirit."
Meaning	We can never please God with our own, good works. Only through Jesus' perfect life offered up in the place of sinners can we be saved. And what a salvation it is! God, Himself, sends His Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of His people. He gives them the gift of faith. He helps them turn away from their sins. He makes them clean of their sins and all new on the inside. This is how we, too, can become God's people--His heirs; that is, His children who will receive eternal life and live with Him forever.
Discussion Questions	<i>choose a few</i> 1. Can we ever please God with our own, good works? <i>No.</i> 2. Whose perfect life can pay for our sins and save us? <i>Jesus'!</i> 3. Who does God send to work in our hearts? <i>The Holy Spirit.</i> 4. What does the Holy Spirit do inside of the hearts of people? <i>He helps them turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He makes their hearts clean, as if they had never sinned. He lives inside of them and makes them God's people forever.</i> 5. Can we ask the Holy Spirit to work in our heart? <i>Yes, we can! God loves to answer this prayer!</i>
BIBLE STORY Discussion Questions	The Case of the Surprising, Second Birthday <i>choose a few</i> 1. What were the country people and the city people think about Jesus? <i>They were amazed at the things He told them about God and the great things He did by God's power.</i> 2. Who was working in the hearts of people as Jesus taught them about God? <i>The Holy Spirit.</i> 3. What was the Holy Spirit doing in people's hearts? <i>He was giving them faith to believe in Jesus and to want to turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior.</i> 4. Who was Nicodemus? <i>He was an important teacher of God's Word who lived in the big city of Jerusalem.</i> 5. What was something new that Jesus taught Nicodemus? <i>That no one can do enough good things to please God. We are all sinners. We all need God's Holy Spirit to come into our hearts and clean them of sin and give us faith to believe in Jesus.</i> 6. What is something we can ask God the Holy Spirit to do in our hearts today? <i>To work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, our hearts will be clean of sin and we will be born again as God's dearly-loved people. Ask Him to help you. He loves to answer this prayer!</i>