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## Detective Dan's (Shorter/Simpler) Version of Bible Story for Big Question 15, Bible Truth 3

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### The Case of the Copycats *John 13-15, 18-20; Acts*

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

1. Jesus gathered his disciples for their last meal together. Soon, enemies would take Jesus away to die on the cross. With only a little time left, what did Jesus want His disciples to remember? How would He tell them? Jesus would use FEET and FOOD, there at the table, to teach them.
2. Jesus got up and began to wash His disciples' feet. They were horrified! Jesus was God's Son. He shouldn't use His holy, perfect life to clean their dirty, yucky feet! But Jesus just kept washing. This was a picture of what He would do on the cross to take away the sin from their hearts.
3. Then, Jesus took the Passover bread and wine and used them as two more pictures of what He was about to do on the cross. "This is My body, broken for you. This is My blood, poured out for you," He said, as He gave the bread and the wine to them.
4. "I'm going to make the way for God's people to come to God," Jesus told His disciples. "But I'm not leaving you alone. The Holy Spirit will come live in your hearts. He'll help you do what God wants you to do," He promised. And what DID God want them to do? To live and love like Jesus!
5. "Do what I've taught you. Love one another as I have loved You," Jesus told them. I have loved you so much that I'm going to die for your sins. There's no greater love than that. Now, I want you to love each other that much, too. This is how people will know you're God's people, My disciples."
6. Soon, everything happened as Jesus said it would, both the sad and the happy. Enemies came and took Jesus away. The next day, He suffered and died on the cross for the sins of God's people. Friends buried Him in a cave-grave.
7. But on happy Day Three, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He appeared to His disciples, then went to rule in heaven. Jesus was gone, but not His help. He sent the Holy Spirit to live in the hearts of His disciples. And with the Holy Spirit's help, they lived out what Jesus told them to do: LOVE!
8. "Love Me by obeying My commands. Love one another as I have loved you," Jesus had told His disciples. So, that's what they did. They loved by telling others the good news of Jesus, and thousands of people believed. The little church had grown to over 3000 people in just a few weeks!
9. And they loved by gathering together to worship God. They sang His praises and learned from His Word. They prayed together and remembered Jesus' love in the Lord's Supper. They helped each other to keep on loving God and living for Him.
10. And, they loved by caring for each other's needs. They shared everything they had with one another—food, clothes, houses, money... EVERYTHING! And if anyone needed anything, they would sell their things and buy whatever else was needed.
11. What glad and giving hearts those believers had! How they loved God and one another! And as they loved, others noticed. "What you see in us is because of Jesus," they explained. "Come gather with us. Let us tell you about Jesus, and how you can become God's people, too."
12. Many years have passed, but Jesus' command to love is still the same. And as God's people love, others still notice. "What you see in us is because of Jesus," they explain. "Come gather with us. Let us tell you about Jesus, and how you can become God's people, too!"