

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	Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? It Is God's Sustaining Grace!
Meaning	All people enjoy many good things and suffer many bad or sad things in this world. Enjoying good things or going through bad things make some people turn away from God. They love the good things too much or get mad at God for the bad things that happen. But that's not what happens with God's people. They have put their trust in Jesus. They want to love God most of all, even more than the good things they enjoy. They trust God and His good plans, even as they go through bad or sad things. What makes the difference? It's God and His sustaining grace! That is, His gifts of strength to help us keep on believing in Him and living for Him. God will always give His people what they need! He wants them to depend on Him and He loves for them to ask for His help. He will never fail them. God will help you like this, too, if you turn away from your sins and put your trust in Jesus.
Discussion Questions	1. Why do God's people keep on believing in Him? <i>It is God's sustaining grace.</i>
	2. Who enjoys many good things in this world? <i>Everyone.</i>
	3. Who suffers through bad or sad things in this world? <i>Everyone.</i>
<i>choose a few</i>	4. Who do God's people love more than the good things they enjoy? <i>God.</i>
	5. Who do they keep trusting in, even as they go through bad or sad things? <i>God.</i>
	6. Who helps God's people keep believing in God? <i>God does.</i>
	7. What does God give His people to help them keep on believing in and living for Him? <i>His sustaining grace.</i>
	8. What is sustaining grace? <i>Grace is a big, Bible word that means a gift we get that we don't deserve. Sustaining means to keep on going. Sustaining grace is God giving us the amazing gift of strength to keep on believing and living for Him.</i>
	9. Who does God want us to depend upon? <i>Himself.</i>
	10. What does God love us to ask Him for? <i>His help.</i>
	11. How can we become one of God's people? <i>By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i>
BIBLE TRUTH	It Is God's Sustaining Grace... God, the Father, Promises to Help His People!
Meaning	God is a good Father to His people --to all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He knows that they can't love Him or live for Him by themselves. He knows they need His help, and He promises to give it to them. He promises to take care of all their needs. He promises to comfort them when they are scared. He promises to help them fight against sin in their lives and rescue them in times of trouble. He promises to make everything in their lives work for their good and His glory. He sent Jesus to take the punishment for their sins on the cross to break the strong hold that sin and death had on them. He promises to send the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts. There is nothing that God's people need that their Heavenly Father will not provide. He will help them do everything He wants them to do, every day of their lives. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.
Discussion Questions	1. What kind of father is God to His people? <i>God is the best kind of father to His people. He always loves them and does what is best for them. He always cares for them.</i>
	2. Who needs God's help to live for Him? <i>We all do!</i>
<i>choose a few</i>	3. Who does God promise to help love Him and live for Him? <i>All who ask, but especially His people—all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.</i>
	4. What kinds of things does God promise to do for His people? <i>Provide them with that they need; comfort them; help them fight against sin.</i>
	5. How does God help His people? <i>He strengthens them by His Word; He saves them through Jesus; and, He lives inside of them by His Holy Spirit.</i>
	6. What will God help His people do? <i>Everything He wants them to do.</i>
	7. How can we become God's people? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting 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! Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? It Is God's Sustaining Grace... God, the Father, Promises to Help His People. The Bible is full of God's promises to help His people. But the greatest way that God has helped His people is sending His Son, Jesus, to save them from their sins. How God the Father loved His Son, yet He send Him to suffer and die on the cross for their sins. This was the only way to save them. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead. He had really beaten sin and death for God's people! We can become 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!</i>
BIBLE TRUTH BIBLE VERSE	Behold, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life...I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good. For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies." -- Psalm 54:4,6-7, ESV Learn a Little: "The Lord is the upholder of my life."
Meaning	God promises to help His people. He promises to uphold their life, so that they keep on loving Him and living for Him. God has a good plan for each one of His people. He may call them to do some things that are very hard, but He will deliver them out of all their troubles. He promises to give them the strength they need to go through them. He promises to use every trouble for their good. And at just the right time, He will bring their troubles to an end. God's people know they can depend on Him to help them whenever they need help, and to go on helping them for the rest of their lives. He is their sustainer! We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.
Discussion Questions <i>choose a few</i>	1. How does God sustain His people? <i>He helps them to keep on loving Him and living for Him. He provides for their needs.</i> 2. What is God's name? <i>The LORD.</i> 3. What is the LORD like? <i>He is good.</i> 4. What does God promise to deliver His people from? <i>Their troubles.</i> 5. How does God deliver His people from their troubles? <i>He gives them the strength they need to keep going through times of trouble; He uses them for their good; and, He takes away the troubles at just the right time. Best of all, one day they will go to live with Him and never have any troubles again!</i> 6. What kinds of enemies does God help His people triumph (win) over? <i>Anything that keeps them from loving Him and living for Him. Anything enemy that harms them and is against God's good plans for them, especially sin and death.</i> 7. How does God help His people triumph over these enemies? <i>He gives them the strength they need to stand against these enemies; He uses even these enemies for good in their lives; and, He takes away the enemies at just the right time. Best of all, one day they will go to live with Him and never have any enemies again!</i> 8. How can we become God's people and enjoy His promise to save us from our sins and help us keep on loving Him and living Him our whole lives? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i>
BIBLE STORY	The Case of the Really Bad Remember-ers
Discussion Questions <i>choose a few</i>	1. How did the LORD rescue the people of Israel from Pharaoh, the king of Egypt? <i>He sent frogs, gnats and many other sadnesses upon him and his people until he freed them at last.</i> 2. How did the LORD rescue the people of Israel when they were trapped by the Red Sea and Pharaoh's soldiers were after them? <i>He parted the Red Sea and let them cross to the other side on dry land.</i> 3. What good and scary things did the twelve spies find when they went to look over the land of Canaan? <i>Good: beautiful, big fruit; good land for farming. Scary: fierce, giant enemies who lived in big cities with strong, tall walls and worshipped bad, fake gods.</i> 4. What did the people think when they heard the ten spies tell about the enemies in the land? <i>They chose to forget the LORD. They did not trust He could help them beat their enemies. They cried, then they got very angry at the LORD, Moses and Aaron. They wanted to go back to Egypt.</i> 5. What two spies urged the people to trust in the LORD and take the land He promised them? <i>Caleb and Joshua.</i> 6. What punishment did the LORD give the people for not trusting in Him? <i>Forty years of walking in the desert. The parents would never get to go into the Promised Land, only their children would.</i> 7. What did the people choose to do when the LORD told them to cross the Jordan River and take the land? <i>They chose to remember and trust this time.</i> 8. Did the LORD keep His promise to help His people take the land? <i>Yes, He did! He was with them and helped them defeat their enemies until the land was all theirs.</i> 9. What has the LORD done to help us defeat our biggest enemy--sin and death? <i>He sent Jesus to die on the cross and pay for the sins of all who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. We can ask God to help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. He loves to answer this prayer!</i>