Deep Down Discussion Sheet

use with all THREE lessons

Use with all response activities for deeper learning

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's 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 *choose a few*

- 1. Why do God's people keep on believing in Him? It is God's sustaining grace.
- 2. Who enjoys many good things in this world? Everyone.
- 3. Who suffers through bad or sad things in this world? *Everyone*.
- 4. Who do God's people love more than the good things they enjoy? God.
- 5. Who do they keep trusting in, even as they go through bad or sad things? God.
- 6. Who helps God's people keep believing in God? God does.
- 7. What does God give His people so they keep on believing and living for Him? His sustaining grace.
- 8. What is sustaining grace? 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.
- 9. Who does God want us to depend upon? Himself.
- 10. What does God love us to ask Him for? His help.
- 11. How can we become God's people? By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

BIBLE TRUTH Meaning

It Is God's Sustaining Grace... Jesus Provides God's People with Everything They Need to Live for God!

God wants His people to love Him and live for Him. He wants them to love Him with all their heart, mind, and strength. He wants them to love others as themselves. He wants them to be holy, like He is holy. God's people want to love God and live for Him. They know that they bring glory to God when they do, and they want to bring Him glory that more than anything else. But God's people are sinners with sinful hearts. They are often afraid, weak, and tempted to disobey God. How can they ever live the lives God wants them to live? Jesus is how! God not only saved His people through Jesus, but He also promises to give them everything they need to live the lives He wants them to live through Jesus. The Bible tells us that right now in heaven, Jesus is always praying for God's people that they would glorify God and fulfill God's plans for their lives. Jesus' prayers for God's people are always answered with a yes! Jesus will always give them everything they need for life and godliness. It is His promise. What a wonderful Savior Jesus is! We can become God's people and receive all that we need to love and serve God, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Discussion **Questions**

- 1. Who does God want His people to love with all their heart, mind, and strength? Himself!
- 2. Who does God want His people to love as much as they love themselves? Other people.
- 3. Who does God want to be holy, like He is holy? His people.
- 4. Do God's people want to love Him and others, the way God wants them to do? Yes, they do.

choose a few

- 5. What do God's people have in their hearts that keeps them from loving God and living the way He wants them to live? *Sin*.
- 6. Who helps God's people live the way God wants them to live? God does.
- 7. Who is praying for God's people in heaven, asking if they would glorify God and fulfill His plans for their lives? *Jesus is*.
- 8. Who will give God's people everything they need for life and godliness? Jesus does.
- 9. How can we become God's people and receive all that we need to love and live for God? By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

Deep Down Discussion Sheet

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! We need Jesus to provide us for everything we need to live for God. Why? Because we have all chosen to turn away from God. We can never please God or love Him or live for Him by ourselves. Oh, how we need a Savior! And that's why God, in His great mercy, sent Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life, then He gave His life to be the full payment for the sins of God's people when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on Day Three, He rose from the dead in victory. Even now, He is ever listening to their prayers and praying for them from heaven. Jesus is making sure God's people have everything they need to love God and live for Him. These can be God's gifts to us, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. This is how we become God's people. How good God has been to us by sending Jesus!

BIBLE TRUTH BIBLE VERSE

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." -- Hebrews 4:15-16, ESV

Learn a Little: "Let us with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may find help in time of need."

Meaning

Jesus reigns in heaven as the king over all creation and as the high priest for God's people. What does Jesus do for God's people as their high priest? He listens to their prayers and understands how hard it can be to say "no" to disobeying God. He prays for them, and He promises to give them everything they need to live for God and do all He wants them to do. God's people know they can always pray and ask Jesus to help them. They know He loves to help them in their weakness. He loves to give them the strength they need to love God and live for Him. That's why they go boldly and confidently to Jesus with their prayers. He will always help them! We can be God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Who rules in heaven as the high king over all of God's creation? Jesus does.
- 2. Who listens to the prayers of God's people and understands their weakness? Jesus does.
- 3. Who prays for God's people, Himself, as their great high priest? Jesus does.

choose a few

- 4. Who do God's people know they can always ask for help if their time of need? Jesus.
- 5. What kind of help does Jesus promised to give God's people? He will give them all of the strength they need to keep on loving God and living for Him. He will take care of their needs.
- 6. How can we become God's people? By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

BIBLE STORY

The Case of the Man in the Middle

Discussion Questions

- 1. What was the most important holiday that God's people celebrated long ago? The Day of Atonement.
- 2. What does the big, Bible word "atonement mean? Paying for sins so we can be God's people.
- 3. Who could be God's people without atonement—without their sins being paid for? Why? No one. None of us. Because we are all sinners. We all deserve God's punishment, not to be His people.

choose a few

- 4. What special worship gift did the high priest take to the LORD on the Day of Atonement? A special worship gift for the sins of God's people. This gift made it possible for the people to stay close to God for another year.
- 5. What was wrong with the high priests and all the special worship gifts they gave to God? The high priests were sinners, themselves. And the special worship gifts were not the right kind to take away the sins of God's people. They could only keep the people close to God for another year.
- 6. Who was the only high priest who was perfect? Jesus was.
- 7. What special worship gift did Jesus give to God that was enough to pay for the sins of God's people? He took his own, perfect life to pay for their sins.
- 8. How did Jesus give to God the special worship gift of his own life? He died on the cross for the sins of God's people.
- 9. How do we know that God accepted Jesus' worship gift? How do we know he really paid for the sins of God's people? Because Jesus rose from the dead on the third day. This showed that He had been beaten sin and death for God's people.
- 10. What did God have torn into on the day that Jesus gave his life as the final, perfect warship gift for the sins of God's people? The curtain in the Most Holy Place that stood for God being separated from his people because of their sins. Jesus had made the way for God's people to be close to Him forever. No curtain was ever needed again!
- 11. Where is Jesus now? What is He doing? Jesus went up to heaven to rule. He is there now, still ruling, and still listening to God's people pray, and praying for them, Himself. He is still making sure they have everything they need to love God and live for Him.
- 12. How can we become God's people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus is our Savior.