

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's to be deliberate in having good conversations with them, however much or little you have.

**BIG
QUESTION****Meaning****Discussion
Questions***choose a
few*

Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? It Is God's Sustaining Grace!

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.

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 to help them keep on believing in 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 one of God's people? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

**BIBLE
TRUTH****Meaning**

It Is God's Sustaining Grace... The Holy Spirit Works Inside of God's People!

God created all people with a special heart, deep inside of them. It's different from the heart in your body that pumps blood and you feel beating. This special heart is invisible, but it's the part of you that lives forever and can know God. In the Bible, this special heart is also called our spirit.

The sad news is that the beautiful, special heart that God gave us is broken with sin. Yes, we have all chosen to turn away from God and disobey Him. We deserve His punishment, not His friendship. But there's good news, too! God's Holy Spirit can work in our heart and change it. He does this when we listen to God's Word and when we pray. He can help us see our sins, turn away from them, and trust in Jesus as our Savior. This is how we become God's people. And when we do, He makes our heart clean and new, able to know God and want to love and serve Him.

And that's just the beginning of what the Holy Spirit does inside us when we become God's people. He goes on working in our hearts, making the most amazing changes. He helps us know God and want to live for Him more and more. He gives us wisdom to understand God's Word and boldness to tell others about Him. He helps us turn away from anger, jealousy, hatred, and pride. He grows love, peace, patience, kindness, joy, goodness, and self-control in their place. What a wonderful gift the Holy Spirit is! God's people would never be able to keep on loving God and living for Him, if the Holy Spirit didn't live inside them. The Holy Spirit can come and live in our hearts, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

**Discussion
Questions***choose
a few*

1. What is the name of the special heart that God created all people with? *A spirit.*

2. What does this special heart do? *This special heart is the part of us that lives forever and can know God.*

3. What is in the special heart God gave us that caused it to be broken? *Sin.*

4. Who can work in our broken heart and change it? *God's Holy Spirit.*

5. How does the Holy Spirit working in our hearts and change it? *He works in our hearts when we listen to God's word and when we pray. He can help us see our sins, turn away from them, and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

6. What kind of changes does the Holy Spirit make in our heart when we trust in Jesus as our Savior? *He makes our hearts clean and new, able to know God and wanting to know and serve Him.*

7. How else does the Holy Spirit go on working in the hearts of God's people? *He gives us wisdom to know God's word and boldness to tell others about them. He helps them to turn away from sin and fills them with love, peace, patience, and many other good things.*

8. How can we become God's people who have the Holy Spirit live inside of us? *When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

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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? Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? <i>It Is God's Sustaining Grace... The Holy Spirit Works Inside of God's People. Both Jews and Gentiles needed Jesus to be their Savior. They were all sinners who deserved God's punishment we can never please Him by their own goodness. Both Jews and Gentiles needed the Holy Spirit to live in their hearts. They needed Jesus to die on the cross for their sins. They needed Him to rise from the dead on the third day in victory over sin and death for them. And, they both needed Jesus to send the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts and help them love God and live for Him. This was the only way that they could be God's people and live as God's people. And, it's the only way we can be God's people too: by turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. Ask God to help you do this. He loves to answer this prayer!</i>
BIBLE TRUTH BIBLE VERSE	"And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee." --2 Corinthians 1:21-22, ESV
Meaning	Learn a Little: "God establishes us in Christ, and has given us his Spirit in our hearts." God's people keep on believing in God because God, Himself, establishes them. That means He makes sure they keep on standing firm in their trust in Him. Jesus is the Christ. He's the special one sent by God to save sinners and make them God's people forever. It's because of Jesus that God's people stand firm in their faith. Jesus bought them with His blood. He paid for them and owns them. They will always stand firm in the faith because no one can ever take them away from Him. They will be God's dearly-loved people forever. And as His people, forgiven through Jesus, God gives them another, most wonderful gift: He puts His Holy Spirit in their hearts. The Holy Spirit reminds them that they are God's dearly loved people. He helps them remember the truths of God's Word and believe them. He helps them be strong and brave in Jesus. He reminds them that they belong to God and one day will go to live with Him forever. God's people never have to go through anything alone. God's Holy Spirit is always with them, living inside of them. And He will go on living inside them their whole lives. 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. What does Christ mean? Who is He? <i>Christ means special sent one from God. Jesus is the Christ, God's special Sent One who would be the Savior of God's people.</i> 2. What does establish mean? <i>To establish something means to make something happen so that it stays that way.</i> 3. Who did God send to make people like you and me His dearly-loved people and keep us this way forever? <i>Jesus, the Christ, the special Savior God sent to save us from our sins.</i> 4. Who do God's people belong to? Who owns them? <i>God does! How wonderful!</i> 5. Who does God send to live in the hearts of His people, helping them to keep on believing in Him, loving Him, and living for Him forever? <i>His Holy Spirit.</i> 6. How can we become God's people? How can we be His forever and enjoy His Holy Spirit living in our hearts? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i>
BIBLE STORY	The Case of the Foolish Forgetters
Discussion Questions <i>choose a few</i>	1. Who traveled throughout the country land of Galatea, telling everyone the good news of Jesus? <i>Paul.</i> 2. Who were Jews and what did they grow up doing? <i>People who grew up hearing and obeying God's Word.</i> 3. What did the Jews tried to do to please God? <i>They tried to please Him by keeping all of His good laws.</i> 4. Could the Jews really please God by keeping all of his good laws? <i>No, they could not! None of them could keep God's laws perfectly, which is the only way we can please God by keeping His laws.</i> 5. Who kept all of God's good laws perfectly? Who did the Jews need to put their trust in? <i>Jesus kept God's laws perfectly. The Jews needed to put their trust in Him as their Savior.</i> 6. What did the Jews think when they heard the good news of Jesus? <i>Many trusted in Jesus as their Savior.</i> 7. Who came to live inside these Jews to help them love God and live for Him? <i>God's Holy Spirit.</i> 8. What is a Gentile? What did they grow up doing? <i>Gentiles were people who didn't grow up knowing God's Word or obeying his laws. They worshipped fake gods and did what pleased them.</i> 9. What did Paul urge the Gentiles to do? <i>To turn away from their fake gods and trust in Jesus as their Savior.</i> 10. What did the Holy Spirit do in the hearts of the Gentiles who trusted and Jesus? <i>He filled their hearts and gave them power to live a new life for God.</i> 11. What happened when the new believers who had been Gentiles and Jews started gathering together as a church? <i>They started to go back to their old ways of living. The Gentiles started doing some of the bad things they used to do when they worshipped fake gods. The Jews started to think everyone needed to live like a Jew. Everyone was forgetting the good news of Jesus that saved them.</i> 12. What did Paul remind the Galatians to do? What did Paul remind the Galatians when he wrote them? <i>Only by believing in Jesus could they be saved. Only by the Holy Spirit in their hearts could they know and live for God.</i> 13. How can we know God and live for Him? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i>