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 Go to Church? To Worship God and Love One Another!

Meaning

A church is God's people gathering together. Some churches meet in special buildings. Some churches meet in homes. Some meet outside. No matter where they meet, when God's people gather together, they are a church. When God's people gather together as a church, they worship God. They worship Him for being the one, true God who is not like anyone else. They worship Him for saving them through Jesus. They sing songs and pray to God. They listen to the Bible and learn how to obey it. God's people also gather together to love one another. They talk with each other, and take care of each other, and pray for each other. The Bible tells us that God's people are to meet together often. It tells us that when they gather together, Jesus will be there with them in a special way. We can be God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, we will gather together with God's people to worship God and love one another, too!

Discussion Questions

choose a few

- 1. Why do God's people go to church? To worship God and love one another.
- 2. What is the name of God's people meeting together? A church.
- 3. Where do churches meet? Sometimes in buildings, sometimes in homes, sometimes outside.
- 4. Who do God's people worship when they meet together? God.
- 5. What kinds of things do they worship about God? He is the one, true God. He is their Savior.
- 6. What kinds of things do they do when they meet together? Sing and pray; listen to the Bible and learn how to obey it; love each other.
- 7. Who promises to be with God's people in a special way when they gather together? Jesus.

BIBLE TRUTH

Meaning

To Worship God and Love One Another... By Praising God for Jesus' Win over Death!

On one sad Friday, Jesus suffered and died on the cross for God's people. He was buried in a grave, but He didn't stay there. He rose up from the grave on Day Three—Sunday! He was alive and would be forevermore!

Ever since that first and best Sunday when Jesus beat sin and death, God's people have been gathering together each week to celebrate. (The big, Bible word for God's people gathered together is "congregation.") They sing and pray and listen to God's Word. They rejoice that Jesus had beaten sin and death for them. They are happy the Holy Spirit lives in their hearts. They look forward to the day when Jesus will come back and all of God's people will at last gather together forever as one, big family. That will be the biggest and best celebration of all!

Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior receive God's forgiveness for their sins. He sends His Holy Spirit to live in their hearts and helps them love God and live for Him the rest of their lives. Forever they will be God's dearly-loved people! What an amazing gift God has given us through Jesus!

God's people love to celebrate together, but they are always hoping for more to join them. That's why they tell their neighbors nearby the good news of Jesus. (The big, Bible word for telling others about Jesus is "evangelism.") And that's why they even travel to faraway lands to tell people there about Jesus, too. (The big, Bible word for going to another land to tell people about Jesus is "missions.") They want everyone to hear the good news of Jesus, repent of their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. (The big, Bible word for the good news of Jesus is "the gospel.") They want them all to become God's people and join the Sunday celebration of what God has done through Jesus! We can be God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Sundays will be our celebration day, too!

Discussion Questions

- 1. On what day of the week did Jesus rise from the dead? Sunday.
- 2. Why do God's people meet together on Sundays? That's the day Jesus rose from the dead.
- 3. What did Jesus show when He rose from the dead? That He really had beaten death when He died on the cross.

choose a few

- 4. Thinking about what makes God's people very happy? Thinking about how Jesus took away their punishment once and for all.
- 5. To whom do God's people tell the good news of Jesus? Why? To their nearby neighbors and people who live in faraway lands. They hope they will all become God's people and gather with them, too!
- 6. How can we become God's people? By turning away 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

Why do God's people go to church? To worship God and love one another... by praising God for Jesus' win over death! What a wonderful day it was when Jesus rose from the dead! He had beaten sin and death for God's people. Oh, how we needed Him to do that! You see, all people have chosen to disobey God. We all deserve His punishment. God would have been perfectly fair to punish us all for our sins; but, He is so full of mercy that He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Jesus lived a perfect life, then offered it as the full payment for the sins of God's people when He died on the cross. On Day Three, He rose from the dead, showing He had beaten sin and death for them. Now, all who turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior are forgiven their sins, and become God's people. Ask to God to help you do this. Then, Sunday will be your special celebration day, too!

BIBLE TRUTH BIBLE VERSE

"He has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." -- 1 Peter 1:3, HCSB

Learn a Little: "He has given us a new birth through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

Meaning

When we are born as babies, we have our first birth. But did you know that all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior are given a new birth? Not a new birth as a baby again. This isn't a new birth for our bodies. God gives our heart a new birth. He forgives all our sins and gives us a new heart filled with the Holy Spirit --a heart that knows God, and wants to love Him and live for Him.

Jesus is why God's people get to have this wonderful new birth. He died on the cross for their sins. He made the way for them to be God's people. But Jesus didn't stay dead. He was resurrected. (That's a big Bible word meaning that He rose from the dead.) Yes, on that third day--that glorious Easter Sunday morning-- He rose from the dead, showing that He had really beaten sin and death for them. Jesus is alive for evermore. And He is the living hope of God's people that one day, they, too, will live face to face with God forever! We can be God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Discussion Questions *choose a few*

- 1. What kind of new birth does God offer to us, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior? A new birth in our heart (not that we are born like babies again).
- 2. What is this new birth in our heart like? God forgives all of our sins. He fills our heart with His Holy Spirit. We want to know and love God. We want to live for Him.
- 3. What did Jesus do that makes it possible for us to have this new birth in our hearts? He died on the cross for the sins of God's people. He rose from the dead (was resurrected) on the third day, proving that He really had beaten sin and death for them.
- 4. How can we become one of God's people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

BIBLE STORY

The Case of the Third Day Yay

Discussion **Questions**

1

choose a few

- 1. Where did God's people go on the Sabbath that was different from the other days of the week? They went to worship God and learn from His Word, the Bible.
- 2. What happened that changed the day that God's people gathered together to worship God? *Jesus came. He died on the cross and then rose from the dead on the third day--a Sunday.*
- 3. Why did God's people start gathering together on the Sunday instead of the Sabbath? To celebrate that Jesus rose from the dead on that first Sunday. They were celebrating Jesus' win over sin and death for God's people.
- 4. What did Jesus tell His disciples to do, so that more and more might gather together with them and celebrate how He rose from the dead and beat sin and death? To tell the good news of Jesus to their nearby neighbors and to those who lived in faraway lands, that they might all become God's people and live as His disciples.
- 5. Do people at your church gather together on a Sunday? Yes! Now you know why!!
- 6. How can we become God's people? How can Sunday become our special celebration day, too? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

70