

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	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	1. Why do God's people go to church? <i>To worship God and love one another.</i> 2. What is the name of God's people meeting together? <i>A church.</i> 3. Where do churches meet? <i>Sometimes in buildings, sometimes in homes, sometimes outside.</i> 4. Who do God's people worship when they meet together? <i>God.</i> 5. What kinds of things do they worship about God? <i>He is the one, true God. He is their Savior.</i> 6. What kinds of things do they do when they meet together? <i>Sing and pray; listen to the Bible and learn how to obey it; love each other.</i> 7. Who promises to be with God's people in a special way when they gather together? <i>Jesus.</i>
<i>choose a few</i>	
BIBLE TRUTH	To Worship God and Love One Another... By Caring for Each Other's Needs! When God's people gather together, they make special promises to believe God's Word and to care for each other. They promise to help each other keep on loving God and living for Him.
Meaning	How do God's people help each other keep these promises? They help each other love God and live for Him. They tell each other about their lives—the many happy things, the sad things, even their sins and their struggles. They pray for each other and remind each other of the truths in God's Word. They want to help everyone to keep growing in their life with God.
	But they also care for each other's needs. They share their money and their things when someone is hungry or has lost their job. They visit each other when they are sick. They cheer each other up when they are sad or lonely. They want to help everyone to be well-cared for. God gives each little church special leaders that help them care for each other, too. He gives them pastors/elders to teach them God's Word and help them live it out. They comfort those who are scared and weak. They strengthen those who are struggling with sin. They pray for all. God gives each little church special leaders called deacons, too. Deacons help everyone to better care for each other's needs. They spend extra time finding out what people need and helping them get it.
	Jesus told God's people to love each other and take care of each other just as He has loved and taken care of them. If they do this, Jesus promised that others will see their love and know that they are God's people. They will praise God for how wonderful He is and want to become His people, too. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.
Discussion Questions	1. What do God's people promise to do for each other? <i>They promise to care for each other's needs.</i> 2. How do pastors/elders care for the needs of God's people? <i>They teach them God's Word. They comfort them when they are sad; they warn them when they are forgetting how to live as God's people. They give them guidance and pray for them. They help them love God and live for Him.</i> 3. What kinds of things do God's people share with each other when they gather together? <i>Happy things as well as sadnesses and troubles.</i> 4. Why do God's people share with each other? <i>To help each other and to pray for each other.</i> 5. What kinds of loving things do God's people do for each other? <i>They pray for each other; they share their money; they visit them when they are sick; they cheer them up when they are sad or lonely.</i> 6. What does God call deacons to do for God's people? <i>They help God's people to better care for each other's needs. They spend extra time finding out what people need and helping them get it.</i> 7. Who will see how wonderful God is when God's people care for each other well? <i>Everyone, even those who don't trust Jesus as their Savior yet.</i> 8. How can we become God's people? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i>
<i>choose a few</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? *The gospel. Why do God's people go to church? To worship God and love one another... by taking care of each other's needs. God's people love to tell others the good news of Jesus. Why? Because the greatest need that all people have is for God to forgive their sins! You see, we all have chosen to turn away from God and disobey His good laws. We don't deserve His love or to be His people. We deserve His punishment instead. How sad! But God, in His great mercy, has provided us a way to be forgiven our sins and to become His people. How? Through His Son, Jesus. Jesus came to earth and lived a perfect life. On the cross, He chose to suffer and die, giving up His life as the full payment for sins. On the third day, Jesus rose up from the grave. He had done it! He had beaten sin and death for God's people! Now, all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior receive God's forgiveness. This is how they become God's people forever. God can help you do this, too! Ask Him to help you! He loves to answer this prayer.*

**BIBLE TRUTH
BIBLE VERSE**

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."
--John 13:34-35, ESV

Learn a Little: "Love one another: just as I have loved you."

Meaning

A commandment is a big rule God tells us to obey! What does Jesus command His people to do? To love one another like He has loved them! Wow! That's a lot of love! Only with God's help can God's people do that! But when they do, others will know that they really are God's people! We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

**Discussion
Questions***choose a few*

1. What is a commandment? *It is a big rule God tells us to obey.*
2. What did Jesus command His people to do? *To love one another as He had loved them.*
3. How is Jesus' love for God's people different from how they should love each other? *He was the one and only, perfect, Son of God, sent to suffer and die for their sins. He was their Savior. He doesn't mean that God's people can (or should) do this for each other.*
4. How is Jesus love for God's people the same as how they should love each other? *Jesus always loved others the way God's laws says to love. He always thought about what would be the best way to serve others. He was willing to put the needs of others first. God's people can also love others in these ways.*
5. What did Jesus say others would know, if God's people loved each other the way Jesus loved them? *Everyone would know that they were His disciples (His followers/God's people).*
6. Who must help God's people if they are to love each other as Jesus has loved them? *God must.... and He does, by His Holy Spirit living in their hearts.*
7. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

BIBLE STORY**Discussion
Questions***choose a few***The Case of the Copycats**

1. What did Jesus tell His disciples He was going to do on the cross? *He would die to pay for the sins of God's people. Then, on the third day, He would rise from the dead.*
2. Who did Jesus say He would send them to help them? *The Holy Spirit, to live inside their hearts. He would give them the courage and wisdom and power to do everything God wanted them to do.*
3. How did Jesus tell His followers that they should love each other? *They should love each other and care for each other, just as He had loved and cared for them.*
4. What did these believers do after Jesus rose from the dead? *They fellowshiped together, sharing stories about the amazing things God was doing. They ate the Lord's Supper together to remember His death. They prayed to God.*
5. What did the believers do after Jesus rose from the dead to love each other as Jesus loved them? *They helped each other love God and live for Him, by learning the Bible. They shared everything they had to care for each other's needs. They even sold their own things to get money to buy things for other Christians who need something.*
6. Who cared for the believers by preaching God's Word and helping them live it out? *Peter and the other disciples who had been with Jesus. They were the pastors/elders of this little church.*
7. Who cared for the believers by helping them make sure everyone's needs were taken care of? *Deacons, like Stephen and Philip.*
8. What did others think when they saw how the Christians loved each other? *They knew that these people must be followers of Jesus. They wanted to hear the good news of Jesus.*
9. What is the good news of Jesus? *That Jesus died for the sins of all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. This is how we can become God's people!*