

**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.

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| <b>BIG QUESTION</b>                                    | Why Do God's People Go to Church? To Worship God and Love One Another!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Meaning</b>                                         | 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!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Discussion Questions</b>                            | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why do God's people go to church? <i>To worship God and love one another.</i></li> <li>2. What is the name of God's people meeting together? <i>A church.</i></li> <li>3. Where do churches meet? <i>Sometimes in buildings, sometimes in homes, sometimes outside.</i></li> <li>4. Who do God's people worship when they meet together? <i>God.</i></li> <li>5. What kinds of things do they worship about God? <i>He is the one, true God. He is their Savior.</i></li> <li>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></li> <li>7. Who promises to be with God's people in a special way when they gather together? <i>Jesus.</i></li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>BIBLE TRUTH</b>                                     | To Worship God and Love One Another... By Baptizing People Who Trust in and Live for Jesus!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Meaning</b>                                         | <p>Jesus told His disciples to baptize everyone who turns away from their sins and trusts in Him as their Savior. Baptism is a picture of the new life that begins when someone becomes a Christian. God has forgiven their sins and made them His people. God has filled their hearts with His Holy Spirit and made it new. They are leaving their old life behind and beginning a new life of living for Jesus.</p> <p>Not just anyone gets baptized. Baptism is a big deal. The godly leaders at church want to make sure that the person being baptized really understands the good news of Jesus and what it means to live as one of God's people. Sometimes a person is ready to be baptized very soon. But sometimes, the leaders think it's best if the person has more time to make sure that they really understand the good news of Jesus and are ready to live it out. It may not feel good to be told to wait, but the leaders want to do what's best for this person and what's best for the church.</p> <p>On baptism day, God's people gather together to watch, pray and celebrate. The person being baptized stands up and shares the story of how he came to trust in Jesus as his Savior. He tells of his desire to live God's way and to gather together with God's people. Then at last, it's baptism time! The new believer wades into the water with one of the pastors. The pastor holds onto the person as they lean back into the water for a few seconds. This is to remember that Jesus died and was buried for their sins. It's a picture that their old life of disobeying God is over. That life died with Jesus. Then, the pastor helps him/her come up out of the water. This reminds them that Jesus rose from the dead for them. He completely paid God's punishment for the sins. He has forgiven them once and for all. With God's help, they are beginning a new life of knowing, loving and obeying God. Often, everyone claps and cheers as the new believer comes up out of the water. They are so happy that someone else is telling the world that they are one of God's people and want to live for Him forever.</p> |
| <b>Discussion Questions</b><br><br><i>choose a few</i> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Who did Jesus tell His disciples to baptize? <i>All who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.</i></li> <li>2. What is baptism a picture of? <i>The new life that begins when someone becomes a Christian.</i></li> <li>3. What is going down in the water a picture of? <i>Remembering that Jesus died and was buried for their sins; and, that their old life of disobeying God is over.</i></li> <li>4. What is coming up out of the water a picture of? <i>Remembering that Jesus rose from the dead and beat death for them; and, that their new life as one of God's people has begun.</i></li> <li>5. Why do God's people like baptisms? <i>They get to hear the story how someone began a Christian; and, because they are happy that someone else has become one of God's people.</i></li> <li>6. What story do God's people tell before they are baptized? <i>They tell the story of how they heard the good news of Jesus and were saved.</i></li> <li>7. Why are some people asked to wait before they are baptized? <i>To give them more time to understand what it means to be a Christian and to make sure they are really ready to live for God. It is a very big deal to be baptized.</i></li> <li>8. How can we become God's people? <i>By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.</i></li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

**Deep Down Discussion Sheet**

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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 baptizing people who trust and live for Jesus! Baptism is a sign Jesus gave us to show that we have turned away from our sins and trusted in Him as our Savior. It's a sign that we now live our whole life to love God and live for Him. Why do we need a sign like that? Because all of us have chosen to disobey God and His good laws. We all deserve His punishment, not to be His people. We need Him to forgive us and change us, if we are ever to be His people and live for Him. What did God do so we can be forgiven and change? He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. 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. If you turn away from your sins and trust in Jesus as your Savior, God will make you one of His dearly-loved people! He will fill you with His Holy Spirit and you will know Him in your heart. There will come a special day when you get to be baptized and share with the church the story of how God worked in your life and saved you! But even better than that day, will be the day when you leave this life behind and go to live with God forever! That will be best of all! God can help you do this, too! Ask Him to help you! He loves to answer this prayer.*

**BIBLE TRUTH  
BIBLE VERSE**

"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins."  
-- Acts 2:38, ESV

**Meaning**

**Learn a Little:** "Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ."

What a wonderful gift God has given us in Jesus! Through Him, we can be forgiven our sins and can become God's people forever. What do we have to do to receive this gift? Repent of our sins (that is, turning away from wanting to disobey God and live for Him instead) and trust in Jesus as our Savior. God promises to save all who come to Him like this! And what happens when someone does this? God hears his prayers and forgives him. God puts His Holy Spirit in their heart and they begin a whole new life with God. God wants all who repent and believe in Jesus to be baptized as a special sign to everyone of what has happened inside their heart. Their old way of living is gone. They are forgiven! They are saved! And now they belong to God and live for Him! Have you ever been to a baptism? We can become one of God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

**Discussion  
Questions***choose a few*

1. What does "repent" mean? *It means to turn away from your sins.*
2. Who do God's people trust in as their Savior? *Jesus.*
3. What does God do when repent of our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior? *He forgives our sins and makes us His people.*
4. What did Jesus want God's people to do to show everyone that they were beginning to live a new life for God? *To be baptized.*
5. What happens when someone is baptized? *They stand up before the church and tell how they turned from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior. They promise to live a new life for God. They go down in the water with the pastor. He gently puts them in the water, then brings them back up. It is a sign that their old life is gone. Now they are living a new life for God.*
6. 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 Up and Down Sign****Discussion  
Questions***choose a few*

1. What did Jesus tell his disciples to do before He went up to heaven? *To wait, then go.*
2. What were they supposed to wait for? *For the Holy Spirit to come and live inside their hearts. He would give them the power and wisdom and courage to do everything Jesus told them to do.*
3. Where were they supposed to go? *To all parts of the world, telling people the good news of Jesus and teaching them how to live as God's people. They were to baptize the people who did this, showing that they had turned away from their old life and had begun a new life as God's dearly loved people.*
4. Who did they baptize? *Those who had turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior.*
5. What new life did the believers promise to live with the help of God's Holy Spirit? *A life lived out for God.*
6. Where did the disciples go? *They started in their own city, Jerusalem; then, they went to the land of their enemies who lived next to them; then, they went to other faraway places. Everywhere they went, they told the good news of Jesus, taught people how to live as God's people and baptized all who turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior.*
7. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. And if we do, there will come a special day when we are baptized, too!*