## Bible Story for Big Question 7, Bible Truth 3 use with all THREE lessons

The Case of the Do's and Don'ts

Matthew 5,6,22

## Story-telling Tips

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!

- 2. Choose story action cues and/or prepare storyboard figures, if using. (Included in Visual Aids book)
- 3. Practice telling story with the storyboard pictures, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary.

During your presentation:

- 1. Maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story.
- 2. Put up storyboard figures/add story action cues as you tell the story. Allow the children to help you put them on the board, if desired.

Place

story in

take out

of BQB

P.1

- 3. Include the children in your story with a few questions about what they think will happen or words/concepts that might be new to them.
- 4. Watch the kids for signs that their attention span has been reached. Shorten, if necessary.

## INTRODUCTION/ LISTENING ASSIGNMENTS

"Our story is called: The Case of the Do's and Don'ts. Here is your listening assignment." Read from Detective Dan's Listening Assignment signs, but questions are summarized below:

## **Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:**

I need to know:

- 1. Who made up extra little rules of do's and don'ts?
- 2. What did Jesus think of those extra do's and don'ts? What did Jesus say God's real laws help people do?

## **Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:**

Our Bible Verse is Matthew 22:37-40:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

I need to know:

- 1. Which laws did Jesus tell people to keep?
- 2. Who was the only person to keep God's laws perfectly? How did He share His perfect life with us?

## **Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:**

I found six clues, but two of them are **NOT** in the story.

They are: a pillow, a cup, two fish, a painter, a heart, and God's Ten, Big Laws.

Hold each of them up for the children to see as you identify them.

I need to know:

- 1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't?
- 2. Who can help us keep God's laws and love others?

## Read the assignment questions, THEN SAY,

"Ok, Deep Down Detectives! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can hear the answers to Detective Dan's questions. When I finish telling the story, we will see if we can answer all the questions."

Read the Bible Truth story, answer questions, present the gospel and lead in prayer.

Answers to questions; the gospel; and, ACTS prayer are included with the story text.

## Bible Story for Big Question 7, Bible Truth 3

## The Case of the Do's and Don'ts

Matthew 5.6.22

**Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold,** optional interaction cues in italics) Numbers correspond to storyboard pictures and placement upon the storyboard. Alway feel free to use less pictures, if it's best for your kids. Simply black out the numbers next to pictures you do not plan to use. All pictures are found in the Visual Aids book. Put BG (background) pictures on storyboard ahead of time. SB pictures (listed below in story text) are added to board as you tell the story. These numbers are also found on the back of each picture.

Tip: Stack pictures in numerical before telling story for easy use. Use sticky-back velcro to attach pictures to storyboard felt. Use sticky-tac putty to stick a picture on top of another picture.

(SB1) Rules! Rules! Rules! So many rules for God's people to keep! "Do this! Don't do that!" the teachers in Jesus' day taught the people. (SB2) There were of course the Ten, Big Laws—the Ten Commandments—that God had given them through Moses. But there were so many more rules than that. Can you guess how many laws those Pharisees counted up in God's Word for God's people to keep? Twenty? Fifty? Surely not a hundred!

What do you think?

It was more than any of those guesses! It was 613! There were 248 DO laws and 365 DON'T laws.

But soon those 613 laws turned into many, many more as the teachers came up with (SB3) extra ways they wanted God's people to live them out. They came up with "DO's" like: "Do say a special prayer as you wash your hands when you wake up in the morning... or you won't please God." And DON'T's" like: "Don't use the same spoon to stir milk and cook meat or you won't please God." What a lot of rules! (SB4) Oh, how they weighed down on the people! Who could keep all these rules!

But then (SB5) Jesus came. He wasn't like any other teacher the people had ever known. (SB6) He healed sick people without using any medicine! He healed them with just God's power! (SB7) He even brought dead people back to life again!

Jesus did other amazing things, too, like when (SB8) He made the strong winds and the big waves of a huge storm at sea suddenly STOP and be calm at His command. And, when (SB9) He fed a huge, hungry crowd of people with just two fishes and five loaves of bread. Jesus even forgave people's sins. Wow!

The news about Jesus spread quickly. Soon, (SB10) many people were coming to Jesus. They came to have Him heal their sick family and friends. They came to see Him do amazing things. And they came to hear what He had to say about God and His laws. (SB11) Would Jesus be just like all the other teachers? Would He tell them to keep all those Do's and Don'ts? Would He give them lots of extra rules like the Pharisees did?

What do you think?

One day they found out the answer to that question.

On that day, (SB12, SB13) Jesus and a huge crowd of people climbed up, up, up a grassy mountain above the Sea of Galilee. When they reached the top, Jesus sat down and began to teach them about God's laws.

"(SB14) God's laws are very important. They will last until the end of time. I have not come to get rid of even one of God's good laws," Jesus told the people. "Your teachers, the Pharisees, try to please God by adding lots of extra little rules to God's good laws. (SB15) They think all this rule-keeping will make them right with God...but it's not enough. You need something more than all their extra, little rules to please God. You will need a better righteousness than theirs if you want to be God's people," Jesus told them.

Oh, no! This didn't sound good at all! The Pharisees worked so hard to keep all 613 laws in the Bible! And they made up all those hundreds of extra, little rules, trying to please God. How could ANYONE be better than the Pharisees? Was Jesus going to give them even MORE rules to live by? It sure sounded that way.

**Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional** interaction cues in italics)

No, Jesus was not. "(SB16) Your teachers are wrong about their extra, little rules. They just weigh people down. They don't help anyone live as God wants them to live," Jesus said. "I have come to fulfill God's law. I will teach you how to really live out God's laws to please Him," He told the crowds.

"The Do's and Don'ts in God's Word are about how we show love to God and others. These laws start in the heart with love and they tell us out to live out this love with your whole life, as God wants you to," Jesus explained.

(SB17) "Some people LOOK like they obey God's laws. but really they are still breaking them," Jesus told the people. "They do the right thing on the outside, but in their hearts they are angry or jealous or hateful. God doesn't just look on the inside. He sees inside every heart. He knows the sin that is hiding there. He knows when you are angry or jealous or hateful. What goes on inside your heart breaks God's laws, too," Jesus explained.

The people listened to Jesus and were amazed! Jesus wasn't at all like the other teachers they had heard before. He didn't just give them lots of extra, little rules. He helped them see that God's laws show them how to truly love God and others. (SB18) As Jesus later said: "Love the LORD with all your heart, your mind and your strength. Love others—even your enemies—as much as you love yourself. Do to them only what you want them to do to you. If you do love the LORD and love others like this, you will be obeying all of God's laws, because that's what God's laws are really all about."

How about that! All of those 10 Commandments.... and even all of those 613 laws added up to really only two: love the LORD and love others. Amazing!

(SB19) As the crowds of people climbed back down the mountainside at the end of the day, I wonder what they were thinking? Jesus had given them less rules to follow, but they were much harder than all those 613 Do's and Don'ts in God's Word, and all those extra, little rules of the Pharisees. Anyone could remember to wash their hands when they woke up in the morning or use a different spoon when they stirred the milk and cooked the meat. (SB20) But loving God and others from the heart... that was so hard! How could they ever keep their hearts from being angry or jealous or hateful towards others? How could they really love God most of all? Could they ever really keep God's laws? Could they ever please God and really God's people if this was how they must live? There seemed to be no hope.

What do you think?

Well, there WAS no hope, if they had to keep God's good laws of love on their own. But praise God, they did NOT! That's why God send Jesus! Not just to TELL the people what it really means to live out God's laws. But to do it, Himself. (SB21) Yes, Jesus lived out God's laws perfectly every day He lived here on earth. He always loved God most of all. He always loved people. In everything He thought and said and did. He fulfilled God's law completely. He pleased God with His whole life. And Jesus did this because He truly loved God, His Father. And, He did this because He had come to be our Savior. (SB22)

And what did the Pharisees think about what Jesus taguht? They did NOT like it!

They did not like that He said He was God's Son. They did not like what He had to say about them and all their extra, little rules. And so, the Pharisees and other enemies worked together to get rid of Jesus. (SB23) They nailed Him to a cross to suffer and die...and get rid of Him, once and for all.

But God was up to good, even in the bad plans of Jesus' enemies. For on that cross, Jesus offered up His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of all who would ever turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. He took their punishment and gave them His perfect life. Now they could please God! Now with their own life, but with His!

## Bible Story for Big Question 7, Bible Truth 3

use with all THREE lessons

P.4

**Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional** interaction cues in italics)

(SB24) Jesus died and was buried in a cave-grave that sad day, but did He stay there?

What do you think?

(SB25) No, He did not! On the third day, He rose from the dead. Jesus had really beaten sin and death for God's people!

(SB26) After Jesus rose from the dead, He appeared to His followers and taught them more about God's good plans. Best of all, He told them about God's special gift to help them live out God's law from their hearts. Do you know what that special gift was?

Can you guess?

## It was the Holy Spirit!

(SB27) "I am going back home to heaven, but I will send you the Holy Spirit to live in your hearts," Jesus told His followers. "He will fill your hearts with love. He will help you love God most of all. He will help you love others, too. And He will stay with you your whole lives until the day you come home to live with Me forever," Jesus promised them.

And sure enough, not long after (SB28) Jesus went up to heaven, (SB29) He did send the Holy Spirit to live in the hearts of God's people! How they praised God! How happy they were!

God had been so good to them through Jesus! Jesus had lived a perfect life of love and given it to them so they could be God's people. He had sent the Holy Spirit to help them love better the rest of their lives.

(SB30) And how they looked forward to the day when they would go to live with Him forever! Then God would make all things new--even their hearts. (SB31) Then, they would love God and each other perfectly. And at last, God's laws would be perfectly fulfilled, even in them!

## **Cracking the Case:** (story wrap-up for Listening Assignments)

It's time to see how we did with our Listening Assignment.

## **Detective Dan's Lesson 1 Listening Assignment:**

- 1. Who made up extra little rules of do's and don'ts? The Pharisees.
- 2. What did Jesus think of those extra do's and don'ts? What did Jesus say God's real laws help people do? Jesus did not think those do's and don'ts pleased God. Jesus said God's real laws help people love God most of all and love others.

## For You and Me:

None of us can ever keep enough laws--or even little rules--to please God. Only perfectly keeping God's laws can do that...and we are all law-breakers! Our only hope is by turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. He is the only way we can please God. Ask Him to help you! He loves to answer this prayer!

## Detective Dan's Lesson 2 Listening Assignment: Our Bible Verse is Matthew 22:37-40:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

## I need to find out:

- **1. Which laws did Jesus tell people to keep?** God's laws.
- 2. Who was the only person to keep God's laws perfectly? How did He share His perfect life with us? Jesus. He gave it up on the cross as the full payment for the sins of God's people when He suffered and died on the cross.

## For You and Me

How amazing that Jesus kept God's laws perfectly! How even more amazing that He offers to share His perfect life with that we might be saved! This is His promise to all who turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. Ask Him to help you do this! He loves to answer this prayer!

## **Detective Dan's Lesson 3 Listening Assignment:**

Our six clues were: a pillow, a cup, two fish, a painter, a heart, and God's Ten, Big Laws.

## 1. Which four belong in our story?

The cup, the fish, the heart and God's Ten, Big Laws.

**2. Who can help us keep God's laws and love others?** God's Holy Spirit, living in our hearts.

## For You and Me:

Can God help us keep His laws and love others, too? Yes, He can! He will send His Holy Spirit to live inside all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. What a wonderful helper He is to have! He can come to live inside you and help you, too!

**The Gospel** (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)

Our Bible Truth is:
What Are God's Laws Like?
God's Laws Are Perfect...
They Tell Us How to Love God and Others!

God's laws tell us how to love God and others. But the sad news is that we all choose to not love God and others. We choose to disobey God and to not love Him or others We all deserve His punishment for our sins! God would have been perfectly fair to give us all the punishment we deserve for breaking His laws. He is holy and good. But God is so rich in mercy. He chose to give us something better than we deserve. He sent His Son Jesus to live a perfect life. Yes! Jesus kept every, single one of God's laws! And on the cross, He suffered and died, giving His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of all who turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead. He had really beaten sin and death! Because of Jesus, all who trust in Him as their Savior get to enjoy wonderful, special closeness with God as His special people, even now. And one day, they will go to live with Him forever. We can be God's people when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus. Ask Him to help you! He loves to do this!

Close in prayer.

## **Closing ACTS Prayer**

- We praise You, God, for being the Giver of Your perfectly good laws.
- God, many times we do not obey Your good laws.

  Many times we do not love You or others as Your laws tell us to. We need a Savior!
- Thank You, God, for giving us Your good laws that show us we how to love You and others. Thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to live in our hearts when we trust in Jesus as our Savior. He helps us to obey Your good and loving laws.
- God, work in our hearts. Help us to turn away frou our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit to live inside our hearts and help us to love You and others as You want us to.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Go to Lesson Plan, p.9 for the script to the rest of the lesson.



## The Big Question

Hold up the Big Question sign for all the children to see, and say:

The Big Question we are investigating today is Big Question Number 7:

What Are God's Laws Like? and the Answer is:
God's Laws Are Perfect!

## Meaning:

A law is a big rule made by someone in charge. God is our Maker. He is in charge of everyone in the whole world. He has given us His laws to live by.

God is good and loving, wise and fair. He is perfect! God's laws are just like Him. They are good and loving, wise and fair, too. They are perfect!

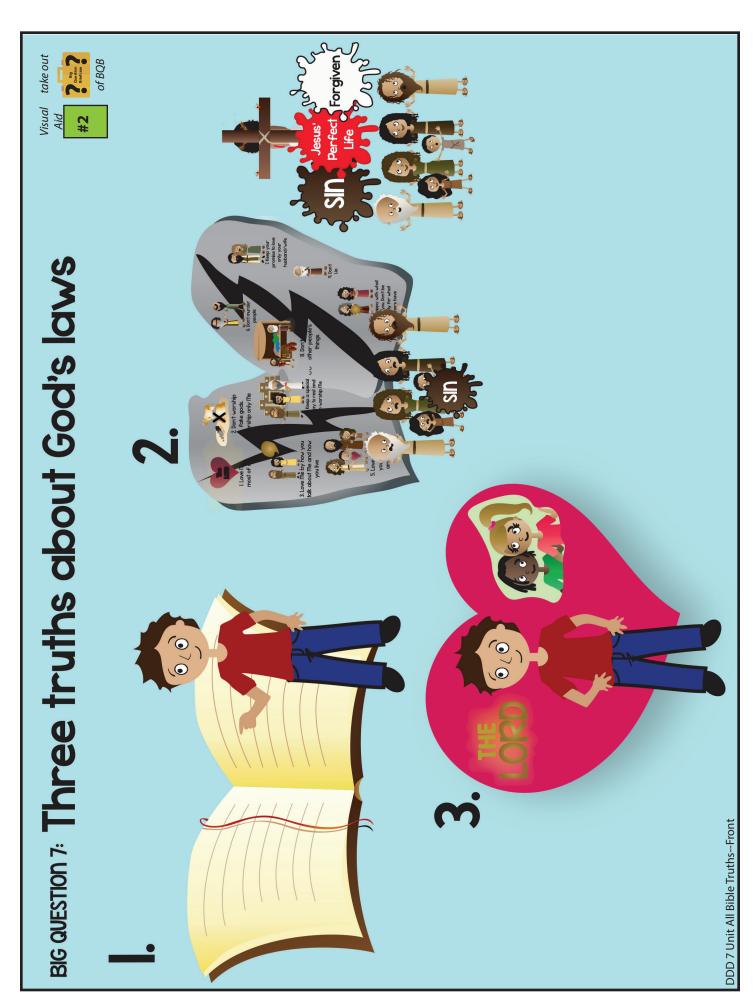
God's laws show us the very best way to live. They show us how to love God and love others. They are exactly what we need.

Let's sing our Big Question Song: "

## Big Q & A 7 Song

DDD ESV Songs 7, track 12 (adapted version of "The Farmer in the Dell")

What are God's laws like? What are God's laws like? What are God's laws like? God's laws are perfect!



## This Unit's Bible Truths

"God's laws are perfect is a good beginning, but there's so more to learn. So it's time for us to dig down even deeper for more answers to our Big Question about God. We're going to be learning THREE Bible truths that all tell us more about God's perfect laws.

Who would like to hand me the picture with our three Bible truths on it? It's in the Big Question Box/Briefcase."

Choose a child to get it and hand it to you, then hold it up and show them the pictures of the three truths they will be learning.

After everyone has had a good look, say...

"Ok, we've learned two truths about God's laws. They are: "They Were Written in the Bible, God's Word" and, "They Show Us that We Need God to Save Us" (point to pictures as you identify each Bible Truth). Now let's look at our Bible Truth Clue sign and see if we can figure out which of these three truths we will be learning about today. Who would like to get it out of the Big Question Briefcase for me?"

Choose a child to open the briefcase, take out the Bible Truth Clue sign and hand it to you.



# Revealing the Bible Truth We Are Learning

Hold up the front side for the children to see. Cover up the answer, written along the bottom, and say:

"What Are God's Laws Like?
God's Laws Are Perfect!
They Tell Us How to ???? God and Others!"

We're missing one word. Here's the hint to what the missing word is. It says: "How does God want us to feel and act towards Him and others? It starts with a "I" and it rhymes with "dove."

Can you guess? It's "love."

So the Bible Truth we are learning today is:

(uncover answer from bottom of sign, show it to them and say:)

"What Are God's Laws Like?
God's Laws Are Perfect!
They Tell Us How to <u>LOVE</u> God and Others!"

And here is what this Bible Truth means:

(read the meaning off of the back of the sign, say:)

The LORD is the one, true God. He deserves our love. He made us to love Him more than anything else. Loving God is the most delightful thing we can do. God gave us His laws so we can know how to love Him. When we obey His laws, we are living out our love for Him.

God made us not just to love Him, but also to love each other. He gave His laws so we can know how to love each other. He tells us to treat others in the same loving way we want others to treat us. When we obey God's laws we are living out God's love for others. And, we are showing them a little bit of what He is like, that they might seek to know and love Him, too.

Obeying God's laws is not just the right way to live. It is also the happiest way to live with God and with other people. God can help us obey His laws and live in love when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. He gives us a new heart filled with His Holy Spirit and helps us to live in love as He wants us to.



# Bible Truth 3 Bible Verse

Remove the Bible Verse Picture from the "Bible" folder and hold it up for all the children to see, then say:

Matthew 22:37-40 tells us:

## Matthew 22:37-40, ESV

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

**Learn a Little:** "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind... Love your neighbor as yourself."

## What does that mean?

God has given us many laws in the Bible. It's good to know them all. But Jesus tells us in these verses that the purpose behind all of God's laws is to love God most of all, and to love others as we love ourselves. When we live out all His good laws, we are loving God and love others as He wants us to.

"We've said our Bible verse, now let's sing it!"

## Love the Lord: Matthew 22:37-40

DDD ESV Songs 7, track 27

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, Love the Lord your God with all your soul, Love the Lord your God with all your mind, This is the first and greatest commandment.

And the second is like it...

Love your neighbor as yourself,
Love your neighbor as yourself,
Love your neighbor as yourself,
On these two commandments depend,
All the Law and Prophets.
Matthew Twenty-two,
Thirty-seven through forty.

"Now it's time to do a bit more deep down investigating. Let's see what Detective Dan wants us to help him figure out. Would someone like to get it out for me?"



## Listening Assignment #I Detective Dan's



Hi, Deep Down Detectives!

I'm working on a brand-new case called:

"The Case of the Do's and Don'ts."



I. Who made up extra little rules of do's and don'ts?

What did Jesus say God's real laws help people do? 2. What did Jesus think of those extra do's and don'ts?

you might just hear the answers! Can you help me? Listen carefully to the story and

Thanks!

Detective Dan

telling the story, we will see if we can answer all of his questions." see if you can hear the answers to Detective Dan's questions. When I finish Then say, "Ok, Deep Down Detectives! Put on your best listening ears and

them. Present the gospel and close in prayer At the end of the story, repeat the questions and lead the children in answering Read the Bible Truth story, putting up the storyboard pictures as you tell it.

included at the end of the story text.\* \*Answers to assignment questions, the gospel and ACTS prayer are also

1. Who made up extra little rules of do's and dont's? The Pharisees

all and love others. don'ts pleased God. Jesus said God's real laws help people love God most of say God's real laws help people do? Jesus did not think those do's and 2. What did Jesus think of those extra do's and don'ts? What did Jesus

## For You and Me

Only perfectly keeping God's laws can do that...and we are all law-breakers! None of us can ever keep enough laws--or even little rules--to please God. to answer this prayer! Savior. He is the only way we can please God. Ask Him to help you! He loves Our only hope is by turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our



# Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Hi, Deep Down Detectives!
I'm still working on the case called:
"The Case of the Do's and Don'ts."



Our Bible Verse is Matthew 22:37-40:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

I need to find out:

I. Which laws did Jesus tell people to keep?

2. Who was the only person to keep God's laws perfectly? How did He share His perfect life with us?

Can you help me? Listen carefully to the story and you might just hear the answers!

Thanks for your help!

Thanks for your help!
Detective Dan

**Then say.** "Ok, Deep Down Detectives! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can hear the answers to Detective Dan's questions. When I finish telling the story, we will see if we can answer all of his questions."

Read the Bible Truth story, putting up the storyboard pictures as you tell it. At the end of the story, repeat the questions and lead the children in answering them. Present the gospel and close in prayer.

\*Answers to assignment questions, the gospel and ACTS prayer are also included at the end of the story text.\*

## Inswers:

## Our Bible Verse is Matthew 22:37-40, ESV

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

## I need to find out:

- 1. Which laws did Jesus tell people to keep? God's laws.
- 2. Who was the only person to keep God's laws perfectly? How did He share His perfect life with us?

Jesus. He gave it up on the cross as the full payment for the sins of God's people when He suffered and died on the cross.

## For You and Me:

How amazing that Jesus kept God's laws perfectly! How even more amazing that He offers to share His perfect life with that we might be saved! This is His promise to all who turn away from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior. Ask Him to help you do this! He loves to answer this prayer!



# Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #3

Hi, Deep Down Detectives!
I'm still working on the case called:
"The Case of the Do's and Don'ts."



I found SIX clues, but TWO of them are NOT in the story. They are: a pillow, a cup, two fish, a painter, a heart, and God's Ten, Big Laws.

Hold up each of the six pictures for the children to see as you identify them. Better yet, put them up on your flannelgraph board, off to one side.

## I need to know:

- I. Which FOUR pictures belong in the story and which TWO do NOT?
- 2. Who can help us keep God's laws and love others?

Can you help me? Listen carefully to the story and you might just hear the answers!

Thanks!
Detective Dan

**Then say.** "Ok, Deep Down Detectives! Put on your best listening ears and see if you can hear the answers to Detective Dan's questions. When I finish telling the story, we will see if we can answer all of his questions."

Read the Bible Truth story, putting up the storyboard pictures as you tell it. At the end of the story, repeat the questions and lead the children in answering them. Present the gospel and close in prayer.

\*Answers to assignment questions, the gospel and ACTS prayer are also included at the end of the story text.\*

## Answers:

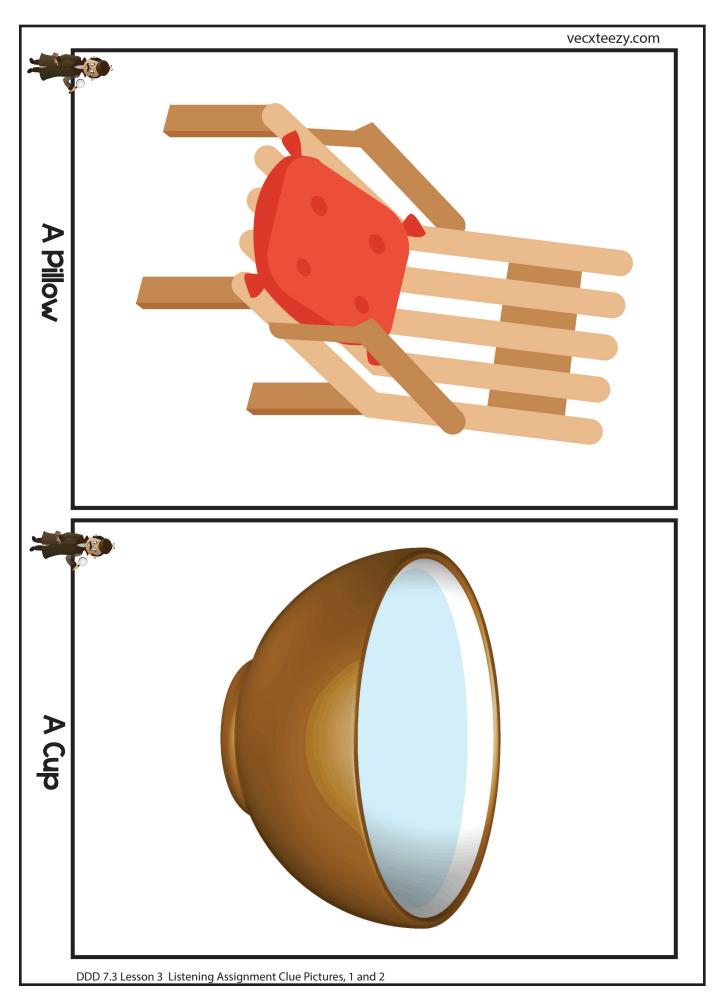
## 1. Which four belong in our story?

The cup, the fish, the heart and God's Ten, Big Laws. The painter and the pillow do not.

2. Who can help us keep God's laws and love others? God's Holy Spirit, living in our hearts.

## For You and Me:

Can God help us keep His laws and love others, too? Yes, He can! He will send His Holy Spirit to live inside all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. What a wonderful helper He is to have! He can come to live inside you and help you, too!





DDD 7.3 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Picture 2 for kids

DDD 7.3 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Picture1 for kids

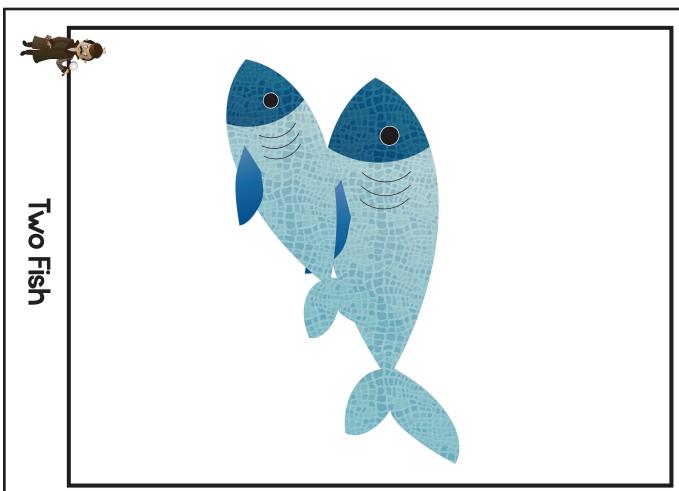
Question 2

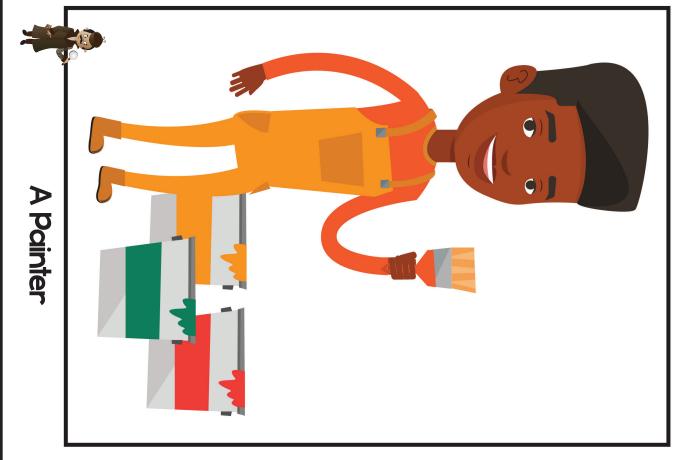
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DDD 7.3 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Pictures, 3 and 4



DDD 7.3 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Picture 4 for kids

DDD 7.3 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Picture3 for kids

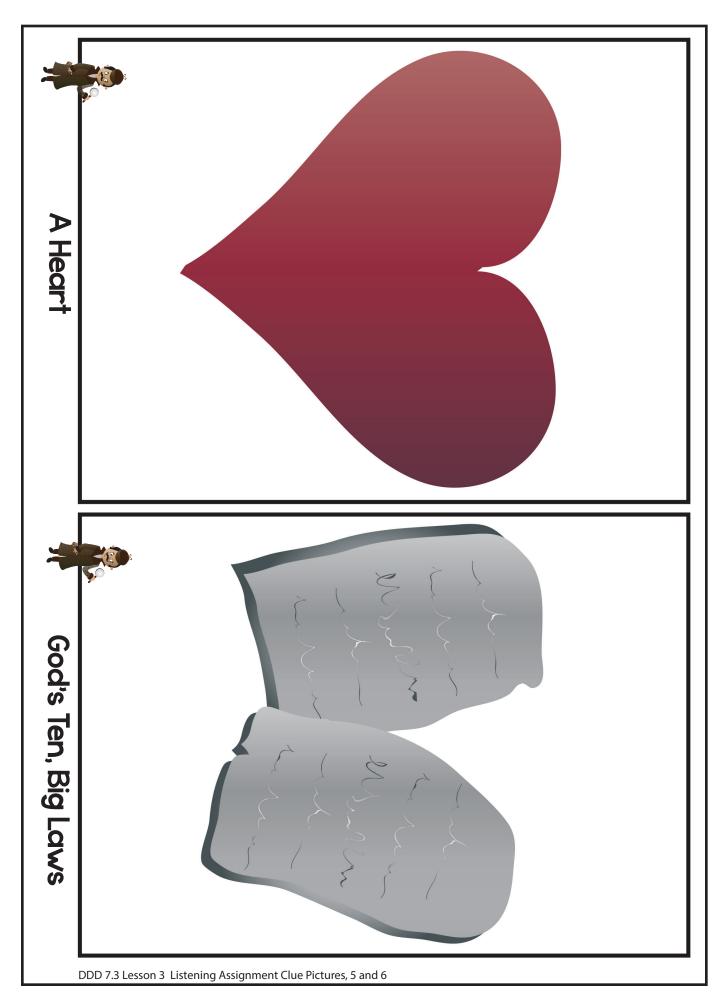
Question 2

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DDD 7.3 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Picture 6 for kids

DDD 7.13 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Picture 5 for

take out

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Question 2
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