# DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES

Curriculum Resources for Unit 11, Bible Truth 2:

How Can We Be Saved?

It Is God's Free Gift...

When We Trust in Jesus

As Our Own Savior!

#### **Session Prep (especially good for newbies!)**

#### Pray!



Pray for the Holy Spirit to be at work in your and the children's hearts.

#### **Review**



If new to the curriculum, look at the **Getting Started with Deep Down Detectives section of the Core Curriculum book.** (p.5) It will be especially helpful to read through the Deep Down Detectives section of **The Praise Factory Tour: Extended Version Book.** This is a visual way to understand what goes on in the classroom. (A pdf of the book is found in the samples section on the website.)

#### Look through and Learn the Lesson



Read over **lesson plan**. Practice any **songs or action rhymes** you are using. Choose/make up motions to go with these. Choose less with younger children and more with older preschoolers. **Practice the lesson with the visual aids** and using the Big Question Box/Briefcase.

#### **Read and Rehearse the Bible Story with Pictures**



Read the Bible story from the Bible. Read the curriculum version. Practice telling it with the storyboard pictures. (If you have not previously laminated the story pictures, do that now.)

#### **Let There Be Music**



Download the music and listen to the songs. Choose which of the songs you will use with the children. If using live musicians, make sure they have the sheet music (Appendix A, Core Curriculum book).

#### **Put the Props in Place**



- 1. Prepare your Visual Aids. Put the Big Question, Unit Bible Truths, Bible Truth, Bible Verse, and Listening Assignment signs, as well as the Bible Story script in one side of the Bible folder.
- 2. Get out your storyboard. Put all background pictures in place (they have a BG by the number). Put the rest of the storyboard pictures (these have a SB by the number) in order of use in the other side of the Bible folder.
- 3. Put the DDD Bible Folder as well as the Big Question sign in the Big Question Box/Briefcase and shut it. If your box/briefcase has locks and you want to use the unlocking the box as part of your session, lock it now....but make sure you have the key or know the code first.
- 4. Prepare the music CD or sheet music or mp3 device for use in your session.

#### **Set Out Free Play Activities**



Choose and set up free time activities you will use with the children. Choose a variety of different activities that will be enjoyed by different types of children. Rotate the activities you provide to keep them interesting and fresh to your children. (Suggestions in Appendix D, Core Curriculum books.)

#### **Prepare Any Activities**



Choose which (if any) of the Bible Truth games and crafts activities you want to use in the session. Bear in mind your time frame as well as the developmental abilities and attention span of your children as you decide which/how many to prepare. **Look over the Discussion Sheet** and choose a few questions you might use to spark discussion with the children as they do their activities (especially good for ages 3's+). Pray for God to give you opportunities to talk about these things with the children.

#### **Let Them Take It with Them**



Make copies of the craft/take home sheets, if you are not already using them as one of your activities. You may also want to make copies of the story (see take-home version of each story included in Appendix C with the other take home resources) to have for parents to use with their children at home. There's a link on each craft/take home sheet to the story, if you don't make hard copies.

#### Store It



After your session is over, collect the resources and store them for future use. This curriculum can be used over and over for years to come.

#### Unit 11: The God Who Saves

#### **UNIT OVERVIEW**

We all have disobeyed God. We have all lost the wonderful special closeness with God that He meant for us to have with Him. No matter how hard we try, we can't ever be good enough to win back special closeness with God. No, we can't save ourselves, but God can. That's why He sent Jesus: to save us as a free gift from Him. Anyone who says "sorry" to God for their sins and trusts in Jesus as their Savior, He will forgive all their sins. God will give them special closeness with Himself right now. Then one day, He will take them to live with Him forever. This is the free gift God offers to you and me. God is so kind to us!

In this unit we will learn three truths about this wonderful, free gift God offers us.

#### **UNIT BIBLE VERSE:** Romans 6:23, ESV

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

#### **BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION:** How Can We Be Saved?

**ANSWER:** It Is God's Free Gift!

#### OPTIONAL Big Question 11 INTRODUCTION LESSON (Use Hide 'n' Seek Kids Unit 11 Material)

Story: The Case of the Most Important Question Acts 16

Bible Verse: Romans 6:23

#### BIBLE TRUTH 1: When We Tell God Our Sins and Turn Away from Them (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Changed Climber Luke 19:1-9

Bible Verse: 1 John 1:8-9

#### BIBLE TRUTH 2: When We Trust in Jesus As Our Own Savior (3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Amazed, Mad Man Acts 8-9

Bible Verse: Romans 10:9-10

#### **BIBLE TRUTH 3: When the Holy Spirit Works in Our Hearts**(3 Lessons Available)

Story: The Case of the Surprising, Second Birthday John 3

Bible Verse: Titus 3:5-7

#### **Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 11 Track Numbers**

This is a listing of all songs mentioned in the unit curriculum. You may or may not choose to use all of the songs. They are listed in easy-reference order--NOT in the order used in the curriculum.

You may choose to simply burn a CD/load them onto an mp3 device in this order. Or, you may want to do what we do: choose the songs we want to use and create a play list of them in that order. Then, we burn a CD/upload the play list onto an mp3 device. A teacher only has to click forward to the next song, instead of hunting for the right track. The track number have been included as part of the title of each song, teachers will still have a reference to the track number listed in the curriculum (same as those listed below), even if you change the order on your customized play list.

#### SONGS USED EVERY UNIT OF THE CURRICULUM

- 1 The Classroom Song v.1
- 2 The Classroom Song v.2
- 3 The Classroom Song v.3
- 4 The Classroom Song v.4
- 5 Deep Down Detectives Theme Song
- 6 The Classroom Rules Song
- 7 Let's Pray Song
- 8 The Big Question Box Song
- 9 The Bible Chant Song
- 10 ACTS Prayer Song (Short Version)
- 11 ACTS Prayer Song (Full Version)

#### Why the Extra Songs?

Deep Down Detectives is a curriculum used by a wide age-span of kids. Sometimes one of the other songs is a better fit for your kids. Or, you may simply want to teach them more songs on the same Bible Truth. Use as many or as few as you want.

#### **Unit 11: The God Who Saves**

- 12 Big Q & A 11 Song
- 13 Big Question 11 Song: How Can We Be Saved?
- 14 Big Question 11 Bible Verse Song: The Law of the Lord Psalm 19:7, ESV
- 15 Extra Big Question 11 Bible Verse Song: The Law of the Lord Is Perfect Psalm 19:7, ESV (full version)
- 16 Extra Big Question 11 Bible Verse Song: The Law of the Lord Psalm 19:7, ESV (short version)
- 17 Big Question 11 Hymn: Holy Bible, Book Divine
- 18 Big Question 11 Praise Song: The Best Book to Read Is the Bible

#### How Can We Be Saved? God's Laws Are Perfect...

#### Bible Truth 1: When We Tell God Our Sins and Turn Away from Them

- 19 Bible Verse: Hear, O Israel Deuteronomy 5:1,7-21, ESV (full version)
- 20 Bible Verse: Hear, O Israel Deuteronomy 5:1,7-21, ESV (short version)

#### Bible Truth 2: When We Trust in Jesus As Our Own Savior

- 21 Bible Verse: By Works of the Law Romans 3:20-23, HCSB
- 22 Extra Bible Verse: Now We Know Romans 3:19-24, ESV
- 23 Extra Bible Verse: For Christ Suffered Once for Sins 1 Peter 3:18, ESV
- 24 Extra Bible Verse: The Lord Looks Down Psalm 14:2-3, HCSB
- 25 Extra Bible Verse: All We Like Sheep Isaiah 53:6, ESV
- 26 Extra Bible Verse: Seek the Lord Isaiah 55:6-7, ESV

#### Bible Truth 3: When the Holy Spirit Works in Our Hearts

27 Bible Verse: Love the Lord Matthew 22:37-40, ESV

## Big Question 11, Bible Truth 2 Overview: Key Concepts

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#### **Unit 11: The God Who Saves**

Unit Big Question (and Answer): How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift!

**Unit Bible Verse:** "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
--- Romans 6:23, ESV

#### Bible Truth 2 Concept: It Is God's Free Gift... When We Trust in Jesus As Our Own Savior!

God created us to love and obey Him, but we have all have chosen to disobey Him. That's why we all deserve His punishment, instead of His friendship. Our sins separate us from Him. God would be fair to punishment us for our sins, but He has chosen to be so kind to us! He offers to forgive our sins and make us His people through Jesus, His Son.

Jesus came to earth and lived a perfect life. He never, ever disobeyed God. Then on the cross, Jesus chose to offer up His perfect life as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He took the punishment for sins we deserved to save us from our sins.

Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a grave, but He didn't stay there. He had beaten sin and death for God's people. He rose up from the dead in victory, never to die again! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, are forgiven their sins. They are God's dearly-loved people who have special closeness with Him all the days of their lives. And when they die, they will go to live perfectly happy with Him forever. This wonderful, free gift can be ours, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Isn't that wonderful news!

#### Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse: Romans 10:9-10

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

Learn a Little: "If you confess Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

#### Meaning

To believe something in your heart is to think that something is true. To confess something is to others is to tell them what you think is true. Christians are those who believe in their hearts that Jesus is the Son of God, who died on the cross to save God's people from their sins. They believe that He rose from the dead on the third day, showing that He had beaten sin and death for them. They love telling this good news to others that they might believe and be saved, too. We must believe in our own hearts that He is our Savior and be willing to confess to others that He is our Lord, if we are to be saved, too!

#### **Bible Truth 2 ACTS Prayer**

- A God, we praise You for being the Savior of sinners who trust in Jesus. We honor You as the wise and good Lord we all should obey.
- **C** God, we confess that we are all sinners who need a Savior. We can never be acceptable to You on our own. We need Jesus to save us!
- **T** Thank You, God for working in the hearts of sinners that they would trust in Jesus as their Savior and be saved.
- **S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to confess our sins to You and repent of them. Help us to trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to no longer live however we want. Help us now to live to please You. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

#### Big Question 11, Bible Truth 2 Overview: Key Concepts

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#### **Bible Truth 2 Story**

The Case of the Amazed, Mad Man Acts 8-9

#### Songs Used in Bible Truth 2 Songs Used in Bible Truth 2

Big Q & A 11 Song

Big Question 11 Song: How Can I Be Saved?

Big Question 11 Bible Verse Song: The Free Gift of God Is Eternal Life Romans 6:23, ESV

Big Question 11 Hymn: Grace Greater than All Our Sin, refrain

Big Question 11 Praise Song: Blessed Be the Name

Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse Song: If You Confess with Your Mouth Romans 10:9-10, ESV

Extra Bible Truth 2 Verse Song: In My Father's House John 14:2-6, ESV

Lesson Plan: Big	Question 11, Bible Truth 2 use with all THREE lessons	p.1
1. GETTING STAR	TED = follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan	
Intake Activity Ideas	Choose one of these open-ended activities to include childre	en as they join the class:
Free Play Time		
suggestions in Appendix D	Offer your own or some of the easy-to-make, free play activities suggested in Appendix D	
OR Sing-along Music Time	Music from Deep Down Detectives (DDD) ESV Songs 11: Big Q & A 11 Song Big Question 11 Song Big Question 11 (Unit) Bible Verse Song:	DDD ESV Songs 11, track 12 DDD ESV Songs 11, track 13
Appendix A	The Free Gift of God Is Eternal Life Romans 6:23, ESV Big Question 11 Hymn:	DDD ESV Songs 11, track 14
	Grace Greater than All Our Sin, refrain Big Question 11 Praise Song:	DDD ESV Songs 11, track 15
	Blessed Be the Name Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse Song:	DDD ESV Songs 11, track 16
	If You Confess with Your Mouth Romans 10:9-10, ESV Extra Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse Song:	DDD ESV Songs 11, track 19
	In My Father's House John 14:2-6, ESV	DDD ESV Songs 11, track 20
OR Bible Verse Memory Game instructions found in Appendix B	Lesson 1 Game: Loud and Soft, Big and Little Lesson 2 Game: Freeze 'n' Say Lesson 3 Game: Detective Mission Madness Practice These activities are also included on p.10 of this lesson plan with the Response	Activities.
2. OPENING CIRCI	 LE TIME (introduce the Bible Truth and tell the related Bible story)	
Gathering the	Sing verse 1 of The Classroom Song to gather the children for Circle Time.	
<b>Children</b> Iyrics and sheet music, Appendix A	The Classroom Song, verse 1 Let's gather together to worship God, Let's gather together to worship God, Let's gather together to worship God, Come gather here with me!  "	DDD ESV Songs 11, track 1
Welcome to Deep Down Detectives	Welcome to Deep Down Detectives. We're so glad you've jo who look for answers to questions. In Deep Down Detectiv questions about God. We dig deep down in the truths of God	ves, we look for answers to big

use with all THREE lessons

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#### 2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

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= follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

# Deep Down Detectives Theme Song

"Let's sing our Deep Down Detectives Theme Song."

#### Deep Down Detectives Theme Song

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 5

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A We're Deep Down Detectives, diggin' deep in God's Word,

For truths about God and His plans for this world, We're seeking to love Him, with all of our heart, We're Deep Down Detectives!

Come on! Let's start!

#### Classroom Rules Song

There are two very important things that Deep Down Detectives do together: we worship God and we love one another. Our Classroom Rules Song reminds us how we should act. Let's sing it."

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

#### **Classroom Rules Song**

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 6

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 7

Shh, be quiet while someone is talking, Raise your hand, if you have something to say, Don't touch your friend, sitting beside you, Obey your teachers, Be kind as you play.

These are our classroom rules, These are our classroom rules,

They help us worship God and love one another,

These are our classroom rules.

#### Opening Prayer Time

"Children, we need God's help to keep these rules. Let's ask Him to help us right now. Let's get ready and pray."

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

Let's Pray

1-2-3!

Fold your hands, Bow your head, Close your eyes. Let's pray! *(repeat)* 

"Let's pray:"



#### **Opening Prayer**

Dear Lord,

We're so glad to get to gather together to worship You!

Please help us keep the classroom rules.

Please help us to love You and learn about You today.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

use with all THREE lessons

#### 2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



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DDD ESV Songs 11, track 8

**Reveal the Big Question** 

Introduce the **Big Question Box/Briefcase** 

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

"Detectives INVESTIGATE things. That means they ask questions and look for answers. Deep Down Detectives investigate big questions about God. The Big Question we are investigating today is right inside our Big Question Box/Briefcase.

#### The Big Question Box Song

We've got a big box, All closed up and locked,

Filled with the truths of God's Word.

We've got a brief case, There's no time to waste, Come on, kids, let's open it up!

#### **The Big Question** under Investigation

take out VISUAL





of BQB

Big Question & Answer Sign, front side \*found in the DDD Unit 11 Visual Aids, ESV Book

Ok, who would like to open for me and pull out the Big Question?"

Choose a child to open the box/briefcase, take out the Big Question and hand it to you, then 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 11:

**How Can We Be Saved?** and the Answer is:

It Is God's Free Gift!

#### **Big Question** Meaning

'We all have disobeyed God. We have all lost the wonderful special closeness with God that He meant for us to have with Him. No matter how hard we try, we can't ever be good enough to win back special closeness with God.

No, we can't save ourselves, but God can. That's why He sent Jesus: to save us as a free gift from Him. Anyone who says "sorry" to God for their sins and trusts in Jesus as their Savior, He will forgive all their sins. God will give them special closeness with Himself right now. Then one day, He will take them to live with Him forever. This is the free gift God offers to you and me. God is so kind to us!

**Big Question Songs** "Let's sing our Big Question Song:

#### Big Q & A 11 Song

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

#### Big Q & A 11 Song

(adapted version of "Here We Go Looby-Loo")

How can we be saved? How can we be saved? How can we be saved? It is God's free gift!

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 12

use with all THREE lessons

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#### 2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



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#### **Learning about** the Big Question (use one or both)

Repeat the Big Question and Answer again:

#### "How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift!"



Say: "Hmmmm, I wonder what that means... Let's do our action rhyme/sing our song that explains it."

Then do the action rhyme or sing the song using any of the optional motions suggested, if desired.

#### **Big Question Action Rhyme**

#### **Big Question 11 Action Rhyme**

## (POSSIBLE ACTIONS)

I disobey God, I need a Savior! You disobey God, You need a Savior! We all disobey God, We all need a Savior!

Point to self Point out to others

Oh, what a sad, sad day!

extend arms out wide to each side make a sad face

But...

God has a wonderful, free gift for me! A wonderful, free gift for you! God has a wonderful, free gift for us all. God will forgive our sins through Jesus! Oh, what a happy, happy day!

Point to self Point out to others

extend arms out wide to each side cheer and jump up and down for this best of news

#### **Big Question** (Action Rhyme) Song

lyrics and sheet music,

Appendix A

#### **Big Question 11 Action Rhyme/Song**

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 13

#### Refrain

How can we be saved? How can we be saved? How can we be saved? It's God' free gift. How can we be saved? How can we be saved?

How can we be saved?

It's God's free gift through Christ.

(POSSIBLE ACTIONS)

Verse 1

I disobey God, I need a Savior, You disobey God, You need a Savior, We all disobey God, We need a Savior. point up to God in heaven

Point to self Point out to others

To save us from our sins. Refrain extend arms out wide to each side

#### Verse 2

Jesus, He paid the price, the perfect sacrifice,

On the cross, gave His life,

Bought us eternal life, Takes away all our sin,

Makes our hearts clean within,

When we repent and believe in Him. Refrain make a cross with your index fingers

Touch heart

Make prayer hands and bow head

use with all THREE lessons

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#### 2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

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# Learning the Bible Truth

VISUAL take out





of BQB

VISUAL AID
All the Bible Truths Sign

"It is God's free gift" 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 this wonderful, free gift God offers us.

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.

#### **Bible Truth Clue**

VISUAL take out





of BQB

Bible Truth Clue Sign, front side VISUAL AID After everyone has had a good look, say...

"Ok, we've learned one truth about God's free gift of salvation. It's this one: "When We Tell God Our Sins and Turn Away from Them." (point to picture as you identify the 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. Hold up the front side for the children to see. Cover up the answer, written along the bottom, and say:

#### Hint

"How Can We Be Saved?
It Is God's Free Gift!
When We Trust in ???? As Our Own Savior!"

We're missing one word. Here's the hint to what the missing word is. It says: "What's the name of God's Son? His name starts with a "J" and it sounds like "sneezes."

Can you guess? It's "JESUS."

So the Bible Truth we are learning today is: (uncover answer from bottom of sign, show it to them and say:)



"How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift!

When We Trust in JESUS As Our Own Savior!"

#### Bible Truth Meaning

And here is what this Bible Truth means: (read the meaning off of the back of the sign, say:)

God created us to love and obey Him, but we have all have chosen to disobey Him. That's why we all deserve His punishment, instead of His friendship. Our sins separate us from Him. God would be fair to punishment us for our sins, but He has chosen to be so kind to us! He offers to forgive our sins and make us His people through Jesus, His Son.

Jesus came to earth and lived a perfect life. He never, ever disobeyed God. Then on the cross, Jesus chose to offer up His perfect life as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He took the punishment for sins we deserved to save us from our sins.

Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a grave, but He didn't stay there. He had beaten sin and death for God's people. He rose up from the dead in victory, never to die again! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, are forgiven their sins. They are God's dearly-loved people who have special closeness with Him all the days of their lives. And when they die, they will go to live perfectly happy with Him forever. This wonderful, free gift can be ours, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Isn't that wonderful news!

#### 2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



= follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

#### **Learning the Bible Verse**

"And how do I know this is true? God tells me so in His special book, the Bible."

#### The Bible Chant Song

Say or sing the Bible Chant Song.

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

#### **The Bible Chant Song**

DDD NIV Songs 11, track 9

The Bible, the Bible, Let's get out the Bible. Let's hear what God has to say. The Bible, the Bible, God's given us the Bible. It's His Word for us to learn and obey! Yay!

#### Bible Verse

DDD 11.2 Bible Verse-front side (in the DDD Bible folder)

VISUAL AID

Place verse in take out







DDD Bible Folder

\*found in the DDD Unit 11 Visual Aids, ESV Book

"Who would like to get our Bible folder out of the Big Question Briefcase for me?"

Choose a child to open the briefcase, take out the "Bible" folder and hand it to you. Remove the Bible Verse Picture from the "Bible" folder and hold it up for all the children to see, then say:

"Who would like to get our Bible folder out of the Big Question Briefcase for me?"

Choose a child to open the briefcase, take out the "Bible" folder and hand it to you. Remove the Bible Verse Picture from the "Bible" folder and hold it up for all the children to see, then say:

Romans 10:9-10 tells us:



#### Romans 10:9-10, ESV

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

Learn a Little: "If you confess Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

#### **Bible Verse** Meaning



#### What does that mean?

To believe something in your heart is to think that something is true. To confess something is to others is to tell them what you think is true. Christians are those who believe in their hearts that Jesus is the Son of God, who died on the cross to save God's people from their sins. They believe that He rose from the dead on the third day, showing that He had beaten sin and death for them. They love telling this good news to others that they might believe and be saved, too.

We must believe in our own hearts that He is our Savior and be willing to confess to others that He is our Lord, if we are to be saved, too!

use with all THREE lessons

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#### 2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued

A

= follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

#### Bible Verse Song

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

You might also enjoy:

In My Father's House John 14:2-6, NIV 1984 DDD ESV Songs 11, track 20 We've said our Bible verse, now let's sing it!

If You Confess with Your Mouth: Romans 10:9-10

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 19

If you confess, with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," And believe in your heart,
That God raised Him from the dead,
You will be saved, you will be saved.
For with the heart, one believes and is justified.

If you confess, with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," And believe in your heart, That God raised Him from the dead, You will be saved, you will be saved. For with the mouth, one confesses and is saved. Romans Ten: nine through ten.

	use with all THREE lessons  uestion 11, Bible Truth 2 use with all THREE lessons p.8		
2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued = follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan			
Getting into the Case	"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 Assignments	NOTE: Listening assignments are most suitable for ages 3+. Skip straight to the Bible story (see bottom of this page), if working with 2 year olds.		
Place in take out  Place in take out  Constitution  Place in take out  Of BQB	"Let's open up our listening assignment and see what we are supposed to figure out today.  Choose a child to take out the Listening Assignment (from the DDD Bible Folder) and hand it to you. Read Detective Dan's letter to the children that includes the listening assignment.  The listening assignments are summarized below:		
#5  DDD Unit 11 Visual Aids, ESV	Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment: I need to know: 1. Who was the man who was so mad? What was he mad about? 2. What amazing thing happened to him? How did he change when it happened?		
VISUAL AID	Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:		
# <b>6</b> DDD Unit 11	Our Bible Verse is Romans 10:9-10, ESV  "If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."		
Visual Aids, ESV	I need to know:  1. Who told people to stop saying confessing that Jesus is the Savior?  2. Why did he change his mind?		
#7A,B,C	Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment: I found six clues, but two of them are NOT in the story. They are: a barrel, a soldier, a jail, an apple, a high priest, and a bright light. Hold each of them up for the children to see as you identify them.		
*Listening Assignment #3 includes the Assignment Sheet, plus 6 clue pictures* DDD Unit 11 Visual Aids, ESV	I need to know:  1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't?  2. What surprising person praised Jesus for being God's Son, the Savior?did the bad, bad, bad man pray that pleased God? What did God do for this man?		
Place story & pics in take out	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."  Bible Story: The Case of the Amazed, Mad Man		
of BQB  DDD Unit 11  Visual Aids, ESV	Acts 8-9  Read the Bible Truth story, putting up the storyboard pictures as you tell it. Then, have the children answer the listening assignment. Present the gospel and lead in prayer.		
Story text included in this book right after this lesson plan and in Visual Aids book	*Answers to questions; the gospel; and, ACTS prayer are included with the story text.*		

use with all THREE lessons

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#### 2. OPENING CIRCLE TIME, continued



= follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

#### Story Response Song(s)

As attention span and time allow, you might want to end with one of the following songs which also tie in with the unit. If desired, use the Music and Movement activity ideas while singing, listed with the Response Activities.

#### Hymn

#### Grace that Is Greater than All Our Sin

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 15

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

#### Verse 1

Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within; Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that is greater than all our sin.

**Tie-in:** "Children do you know what the word "grace" means? It means a free gift that we don't deserve! And what grace--what free gift-- does God offer us through Jesus? To forgive us and save us from the punishment we deserve for disobeying God! Let's sing of God's marvelous grace!"

#### **Praise Song**

#### Praise Song: Blessed Be the Name

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 16

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

All praise to Him who reigns above, In majesty supreme. Who gave His Son for man to die,

That He might man redeem!

**Tie-in:** "How can we be saved? It is God's free gift through the Lord Jesus! There would be no hope for us, if God did not send Jesus to be our Savior. That's why God's people love to bless His name. They are so grateful that He paid for their sins so that they can know God and live with Him forever!"

#### **3. TAKING ACTION: Response Activities** (choose from among these activities)



Well, Deep Down Detectives, you've done a great job diggin' deep down for answers in the truths of God's Word. Now it's time to enjoy some activities."

#### **Transition to Activities**

Tell children what activity/s you are providing for them: eTher free play or some of the response activities listed below. When you are ready to dismiss them, use this song to help the children transition in an orderly fashion to their next activity.

"Children, let's sing our Time to Play Song. When we are finished you may get up and walk over to our next activity."

#### Classroom Song, verse 2

#### Classroom Song, verse 2

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 2

We've gathered together to worship God, We've gathered together to worship God,

And now it's time to play.

lyrics and sheet music. Appendix A

Dismiss the children to whatever activities you have prepared for them to do.

#### Lesson Plan: Big Question 11, Bible Truth 2 use with all THREE lessons p.10 **3. TAKING ACTION: Response Activities** (choose from among these activities) = short & simple lesson plan Response Choose one or more activities appropriate for your children, based on classroom time and **Activities** developmental needs. Add the Discussion Sheet to any activity for deeper learning. Bible Verse Though listed with the opening activities, you may choose to use this Bible verse game here **Memory Game** instead (or as a repeat). Use the Discussion Lesson 1 Game: Loud and Soft, Big and Little aame directions. Sheet with this Lesson 2 Game: Freeze 'n' Say Appendix B activity for even Lesson 3 Game: Detective Mission Madness Practice deeper learning Discussion Questions Music, Movement A music activity that uses the songs from the Bible Truth and Big Question unit. & Memory DDD Songs for this Bible Truth, plus: Use the Discussion Activity Lesson 1 Activity: Sing, Dance and Fall Down Sheet with this activity for even 📈 Lesson 2 Activity: Bottle Shakers game directions, deeper learning Discussion Lesson 3 Activity: March 'n' Say Appendix B Questions **Bible Story** A game that uses the storyboard pictures from the story to review the story. **Review Game** Lesson 1 Game: Going Fishing Lesson 2 Game: Pony Express Sheet with this . game directions, Lesson 3 Game: Who's Inside? activity for even 🗸 Appendix B deeper learning Discussion **Ouestions Coloring Pages/** A coloring page related to the lesson assignment question is provided for each lesson. On **Take Home Sheets** the back of each are the key concepts, a few questions and a song for parents to use with their children. in Appendix C NOTE: Upgrade your coloring sheet to a more interesting craft by offering simple embellishments, such as jiggly eyes, craft sand, glitter, glitter glue, colored paper dots (made with a hole punch), fabric scraps, etc. Make cut-to-size glued-on clothes, hair, etc for characters by using a copy of the coloring sheet, cutting out the selected portions and making them the patterns for whatever you want to cut out of fabric, paper, foil, etc. Lesson 1 Coloring Sheet Emphasis: Bible Truth Jse the Discussio Sheet with this Lesson 2 Coloring Sheet Emphasis: Bible Verse activity for even Lesson 3 Coloring Sheet Emphasis: ACTS Prayer deeper learning Discussion **Ouestions Extra Crafts:** These crafts are slightly more complex than the coloring/take home sheets: **Big Question** The Bible Concept Go-and-Tell Craft is a craft that summarizes Use the Discussion Craft Sheet with these the Bible concept and includes the Bible verse is included for activities for even in Appendix C those desiring more than a coloring sheet. This more complex deeper learning Discussion **Bible Verse Craft** craft will involve gluing, sticking, etc. Can be used at any time. **Ouestions** in Appendix C The **Bible Story Coloring Sheet** provides a tie in between the Bible story and the Bible truth they are learning. **Bible Story Puzzle** in Appendix C The **Storyboard Picture Placement Page** has been made into a puzzle that can be cut out and re-assembled by the children. This provides a nice summary of the story.

**Activities** *ideas in Appendix D* 

Free Play

Offer your own or some of the easy-to-make, free play activities suggested in Appendix D.

use with all THREE lessons

= short & simple lesson plan

**p.11** 

#### **Transition to Closing Circle**

Use this song to help the children transition in an orderly fashion. Start singing this song and ask the children to gather with you for Closing Circle Time.

## Classroom Song,

#### Classroom Song, verse 3 verse 3

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 3

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

It's time to get ready to go and tell, It's time to get ready to go and tell, Come gather here with me.

**4. CLOSING CIRCLE TIME** (End-of-session activities for the last 5-10 minutes of class time)

#### **Closing Circle Time**

When children are settled in the circle, say:

#### Classroom Song, verse 4

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

"It's almost time for your parents to come pick you up. And do you know what that means? It means.... (draw this out to build anticipation and excitement)...that it's almost time to go home and....it's almost time to...Go and Tell! We have learned some big news about God today. God wants us to take and tell it to the whole world!"

#### Classroom Song, verse 4

So what's our big news to go and tell, So what's our big news to go and tell,

Can you tell me now?

#### DDD ESV Songs 11, track 4

#### **Big News to Tell**

#### **Big Question 11**

VISUAL AID



\*found in DDD Unit 11 Visual Aids, ESV Book lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

"Let's see....there's so much big news to tell! There's so much we've learned!

First of all, can you tell me the answer to our Big Question: "How Can We Be Saved?" Hold up the Bible Truth Clue Picture.

Say the answer with me: "It Is God's Free Gift!"

(If desired, you can sing one/both of the Big Question songs.) DDD ESV Songs 11, tracks 12,13

And what's one way He does this? What did we learn? *Point to the picture.* 

#### Big Question 11, **Bible Truth 2**

VISUAL AID



#### When We Trust in Jesus As Our Own Savior!

"And how do I know this is true? Can you tell me? Say it with me: "The Bible tells me so!" That's right!

#### Big Question 11, **Bible Truth 2 Bible Verse** VISUAL

AID



\*found in the DDD Unit 11 Visual Aids, ESV Book

lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

#### We learned: Romans 10:9-10, ESV:

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

**Learn a Little:** "If you confess Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

#### What does that mean?

To believe something in your heart is to think that something is true. To confess something is to others is to tell them what you think is true. Christians are those who believe in their hearts that Jesus is the Son of God, who died on the cross to save God's people from their sins. They believe that He rose from the dead on the third day, showing that He had beaten sin and death for them. They love telling this good news to others that they might believe and be saved, too. We must believe in our own hearts that He is our Savior and be willing to confess to others that He is our Lord, if we are to be saved!

(If desired, you can sing the Bible verse song.)

DDD ESV Songs 11, track 19

use with all THREE lessons

p.12

#### 4. CLOSING CIRCLE TIME, continued



= follow the stars for a short & simple lesson plan

#### **Closing ACTS Prayer Time**

Let's ask God to help us to remember this and even tell others this good news. Let's get ready and pray our ACTS prayer.

#### **ACTS Prayer Chant**

And what does ACTS mean? Let's sing/say our ACTS Prayer Chant!

#### lyrics and sheet music, Appendix A

#### **ACTS Prayer Chant Song**

DDD ESV Songs 11, tracks 10,11

A, Adoration, God, we praise You! C, Confession, Forgive us our sins. T, Thanksgiving, Thank You for Jesus,

S, Supplication, Help us to live like Him.

That's the ACTS prayer, my friend, Bow your head, Close your eyes, Shhh, Let's begin.

#### **Closing ACTS Prayer**

"Let's pray!"

Lead the children in the ACTS prayer for this Bible Truth.

- A God, we praise You for being the Savior of sinners who trust in Jesus. We honor You as the wise and good Lord we all should obey.
- **C** God, we confess that we are all sinners who need a Savior. We can never be acceptable to You on our own. We need Jesus to save us!
- T Thank You, God for working in the hearts of sinners that they would trust in Jesus as their Savior and be saved.
- **S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to confess our sins to You and repent of them. Help us to trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to no longer live however we want. Help us now to live to please You.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

#### **5. TAKING IT HOME** (Take Home Sheet)

#### Clean up and Dismissal 1

"Now it's time to work together and clean up."

Have the children join you in cleaning up the room.

#### **Coloring Pages/ Take Home Sheets**

Give out the craft/take home sheet and any other papers from the session, as you dismiss children from class.

in Appendix C

(Reminder: The back side of the coloring page is the take home sheet for each lesson.)

#### **Bible Story to** Take-Home

in Appendix C

You may also want to include a copy of the story along with the take home sheet. (However, each coloring sheet/take home sheet includes a note to parents telling where they can download the story from the Parent Resources section on the website.

#### Bible Story for Big Question 11, Bible Truth 2

use with all THREE lessons

Place story in DDD

older



of BQB

#### The Case of the Amazed, Mad Man

Acts 8-9

#### **Story-telling Tips**

Ahead of time:

- 1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
- 2. Choose story action cues and prepare storyboard figures/Story Scenes, if using. (In Visual Aids book)
- 3. Practice telling story with the storyboard figures/Story Scenes, 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/hold up Story Scenes as you tell the story. Allow the children to help you put them on the board, if desired.
- 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 Amazed, Mad Man. 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 was the man who was so mad? What was he mad about?
- 2. What amazing thing happened to him? How did he change when it happened?

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

#### Our Bible Verse is Romans 10:9-10, ESV

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

I need to know:

- 1. Who told people to stop saying confessing that Jesus is the Savior?
- 2. Why did he change his mind?

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

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

They are: a barrel, a soldier, a jail, an apple, a high priest, and a bright light.

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. What surprising person praised Jesus for being God's Son, the Savior?

#### 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.

#### P.2

use with all THREE lessons

#### Bible Story for Big Question 11, Bible Truth 2

#### The Case of the Amazed, Mad Man Acts 8-9

**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. OR, if using the Story Scenes to tell the story, disregard the storyboard picture references listed below.

(SB1) Jesus' followers had good news to tell: "Jesus is God's Son. He died on the cross to pay for the sins of God's people. Then Jesus rose from the dead. He beat sin and death!" they said. "So, turn away from disobeying God! Trust in Jesus as your Savior... and God will forgive your sins. You will be saved!" they exclaimed. "Yes! You will be one of God's dearly loved people, too!" they told everyone in the big city of Jerusalem.

(SB2) Many people in Jerusalem listened to Jesus' friends and they believed. They turned away from their sins. They trusted in Jesus as their own Savior. God forgave their sins and saved them. How happy they were to become God's dearly loved people, too!

But some people listened to Jesus' friends and they were NOT happy. They were mad. (SB3) Saul was one of those mad people. He HATED people who believed in Jesus.

"(SB4) Be quiet! Stop saying that Jesus is God's Son! Stop staying that Jesus died on the cross for God's people's sin and rose from the dead! Stop saying that Jesus is the Savior," Saul told Jesus' followers. "Jesus is just a fake!" he exclaimed. "You are all wrong. And if you don't stop telling people about Jesus, then I'm going to have you hurt and put in jail!" he warned them. Oh, no! What would Jesus' followers do?

What do you think they did? Did they stop telling others about Jesus?

But no matter how much Saul warned them, they would not stop! Jesus' followers kept on telling others that Jesus was the Savior. And, they kept on telling other people to turn away from disobeying God and to trust in Jesus as their Savior, too. Uh, oh! What would Saul do now?

What do you think he did?

So, Saul did exactly what he warned Jesus' followers he would do: (SB5) he went from house to house with soldiers to arrest them. "Bang, bang, bang!" they knocked on the door. "Open up!" They dragged Jesus' followers out of their houses. (SB6) They hurt them and put them in jail.

Saul made it very hard for Jesus' followers to keep on telling others about Jesus in Jerusalem, so they made a new plan: "Jesus told us to tell the whole world about Him. Now it's time to go. A few of us will stay here in Jerusalem, but everyone else should go away to live in other cities where Saul cannot bother you," Jesus' followers decided. "People in those cities need to hear about Jesus, too."

So that's what they did. (SB7) They packed up their things and moved away to other cities. (SB8) Some went to nearby new cities; and, some went to (SB9) faraway new cities. But wherever they went, they told everyone the same, good news about Jesus. Do you know what it was?

Can you tell me the good news about Jesus?

"Jesus is God's Son. He died on the cross to pay for the sins of God's people," they told everyone. "Then on the third day, He rose from the dead. He beat sin and death for God's people!" they explained. "So, turn away from disobeying God! Trust in Jesus as your Savior... and God will forgive your sins. You will be saved! You will be one of God's dearly loved people, too!" they exclaimed.

## Bible Story for Big Question 11, Bible Truth 2

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

What good news this was, indeed! (SB10, SB11) Many people in these cities listened and received it with joy! They turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior. How happy Jesus' followers were to see the people in all of these new cities believing in Jesus, too!

But there was still someone who was very angry about all of this! Can you guess who it was?

Can you guess?

It was Saul! He heard what was going on in these other cities and he planned to stop it! (SB12) He went to the high priest, the leader of Jesus' enemies and said, "Give me soldiers to go with me and arrest these people, starting with the city of Damascus. I will make them be quiet! Let me bring them back to Jerusalem and put them in jail," Saul pleaded.

The high priest agreed. He gave Saul soldiers to help him arrest the believers in Jesus. Saul was pleased.

March, march, march! (SB13) Saul and the soldiers headed straight for Damascus. Saul could not wait to get to those people who believed in Jesus and put them in jail! He would stop them from talking about Jesus, yet! Or would he?

What do you think happened to Saul next?

Well, as it turned out, God Himself had very, very different plans for Saul. Saul was the one who was about to be stopped. God was about to turn him around and change him. God was planning to use Saul, himself, to tell many, many others to turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Aren't God's plans amazing?

Saul believed Jesus was a fake; but of course, Jesus was not. He was the REAL Son of God. He really had died on the cross to pay for God's people's sins. He really had risen from the dead. He really had beaten sin and death! And God was planning for Saul to become one of His people and tell others this good news, too!

But how would Saul, a man who HATED the believers in Jesus, change into someone who trusted Jesus as his own Savior? God chose to change Saul in a most amazing way.

Just as Saul and the soldiers were almost to the big city of Damascus, (SB14, SB15) a light from heaven suddenly flashed around him. It was Jesus! (SB16) Saul fell to the ground then he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you hurting me?"

Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are hurting," Jesus told Saul. "But get up now and go into the big city of Damascus and you will be told what you are to do."

Saul got up to go; but as he got up, he realized that he could not see! God had put something like scales over Saul's eyes, so he couldn't see—not to punish him, but to give him a special time to think about what Jesus had said to him.

## Bible Story for Big Question 11, Bible Truth 2

use with all THREE lessons

P.4

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

(SB17) The soldiers led Saul to a house in Damascus. Saul sat in the house, in the dark, and thought about all that Jesus had said to him. (SB18) Now Saul knew the truth! He had thought Jesus' believers were wrong. Now he knew that it was HE who was wrong! He knew he had hurt God's people when he put them in jail! He knew he deserved God's punishment, but he asked God forgiveness through Jesus. What do you think God did?

Do you think God forgave Saul?

And sure enough, God gave Saul just what he prayed for. (SB19) God helped Saul to turn away from disobeying God and to trust in Jesus as his own Savior. How kind God is to sinners like Saul...and like us!

After three days, (SB20) God sent a man named Ananias to Saul to talk to him and help him. Ananias laid his hands on Saul and by God's power, Saul's eyes were healed. And even better than that, the Holy Spirit came to live inside Saul's heart.

Saul was so happy! He was forgiven by God for his sins! He was saved through Jesus! He was so excited! (SB21) He got up and was baptized as a sign that he was beginning a new life living for God, with Jesus as his Savior. Then Saul went out and did something. Something he never, ever dreamed he would do. Can you guess what he did?

Can you guess?

(SB22) Saul went out to tell the people of Damascus the good news of Jesus--the very one he used to hate. "Jesus is God's Son. He died on the cross to pay for the sins of God's people," Saul told them. "On the third day, He rose from the dead. He beat sin and death!" he exclaimed. "Turn away from disobeying God! Trust in Jesus as your Savior, and God will forgive your sins. You will be saved! You will be one of God's dearly loved people, too!"

How surprised people were! "Wasn't this the man who hated Jesus and His followers? Wasn't this the man who hurt them and put them in jail? And now HE is one of THEM!" they exclaimed. And as Saul preached about Jesus, the Holy Spirit worked in the hearts of many. (SB23)They turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior.

Yes, all of God's plans were coming true. Good plans for Saul and good plans for the many others who would trust in Jesus as their Savior through Saul's message. How amazing God is!

#### P.5

## Bible Story for Big Question 11, Bible Truth 2

#### **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 was the man who was so mad? What was he mad about?** Saul. He was mad that Jesus' followers were telling people to trust in Jesus as their Savior.
- 2. What amazing thing happened to him? How did he change when it happened? Jesus appeared to Saul and Saul knew that He really was the Savior. Saul turned away from his sins and trusted in Jesus as his Savior. He started telling everyone the good news of Jesus, too.

#### For You and Me:

God turned Saul from a man who hated Jesus and wanted to hurt God's people, to someone who loved Jesus and served him his whole life. God can work powerfully in our life too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

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

#### Our Bible Verse is Romans 10:9-10, ESV

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved."

#### I need to know:

- 1. Who told people to stop saying confessing that Jesus is the Savior? Saul did.
- **2. Why did he change his mind?** Jesus appeared to Saul and Saul knew that He really was the Savior. Saul turned away from his sins and trusted in Jesus as his Savior.

#### For You and Me:

How amazing it is that God could change someone like Saul from a man who hated God Jesus, to a man who loved him and trusted in him as his Savior. God can change as to when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

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

I found six clues, but two of them are **NOT** in the story. They are: a drum, a Pharisee, a golden box, a sick man, the Temple, and a bag of money.

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? The soldier, the jail, the high priest and the bright light belong. The barrel and the apple do not.
- 2. What surprising person praised Jesus for being God's Son, the Savior? What did God do for this man? Saul did. God showed him that Jesus really was the Son of God. He helped him to turn away from his sins and trust in Jesus as his Savior. God forgave his sins!

#### For You and Me:

Everyone was so surprised to see Saul change from a man who hated Jesus, to a man who loved him and trusted in him as his Savior! God is able to change the heart of anyone! He's able to change our hearts to, ask him to change your heart! Ask him to help you turn away from your sins and trust in Jesus as your Savior. He loves to answer this prayer!

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

Our Bible Truth is: How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift.. When We Trust in Jesus As Our Own Savior!

How kind God was to save Saul! Saul had hated God's people and he had hated the good news of Jesus. He had done terribly mean things. But, oh, how God had loved Saul anyway! He came to Saul in a special way. He worked in Saul's heart, helping him to turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as His own Savior. God chose to have Jesus appear to Saul to help Saul believe in Him. He changed Saul's life and made him one of His people!

But God doesn't need to do such amazing things to change our hearts. If we ask Him, He will send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. He can help us to turn away from disobeying God and help us to trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then we will be God's dearly-loved people, too.

Close in prayer.

## Bible Story for Big Question 11, Bible Truth 2

#### **Closing ACTS Prayer**

- **A** God, we praise You for being the Savior of sinners who trust in Jesus. We honor You as the wise and good Lord we all should obey.
- **C** God, we confess that we are all sinners who need a Savior. We can never be acceptable to You on our own. We need Jesus to save us!
- **T** Thank You, God for working in the hearts of sinners that they would trust in Jesus as their Savior and be saved.
- **S** God, work in our hearts. Help us to confess our sins to You and repent of them. Help us to trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to no longer live however we want. Help us now to live to please You.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

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

#### **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**

How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift!

#### Meaning

We all have disobeyed God. We have all lost the wonderful special closeness with God that He meant for us to have with Him. No matter how hard we try, we can't ever be good enough to win back special closeness with God. No, we can't save ourselves, but God can. That's why He sent Jesus: to save us as a free gift from Him. Anyone who says "sorry" to God for their sins and trusts in Jesus as their Savior, He will forgive all their sins. God will give them special closeness with Himself right now. Then one day, He will take them to live with Him forever. This is the free gift God offers to you and me. God is so kind to us!

## Discussion Questions

choose a few

- 1. How can we be saved? It is God's free gift.
- 2. Who has disobeyed God? We all have.
- 3. What happened to the special closeness with God that God created us to have? We lost it because we are sinners.
- 4. Can we ever be good enough to win back special closeness with God? No, we cannot.
- 5. Who did God send as a free gift to save us? Jesus.
- 6. What must we do to receive God's free gift of salvation? Say "no" to disobeying God, and trust in Jesus as our Savior.
- 7. What does God promise to all who do this? Forgive them for disobeying Him and give them special closeness with Him even now. Then, after their bodies die, He will bring them to live with Him, happy forever!

#### **BIBLE TRUTH**

It Is God's Free Gift... When We Trust in Jesus As Our Own Savior!

#### Meaning

God created us to love and obey Him, but we have all have chosen to disobey Him. That's why we all deserve His punishment, instead of His friendship. Our sins separate us from Him. God would be fair to punishment us for our sins, but He has chosen to be so kind to us! He offers to forgive our sins and make us His people through Jesus, His Son.

Jesus came to earth and lived a perfect life. He never, ever disobeyed God. Then on the cross, Jesus chose to offer up His perfect life as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He took the punishment for sins we deserved to save us from our sins. Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a grave, but He didn't stay there. He had beaten sin and death for God's people. He rose up from the dead in victory, never to die again! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, are forgiven their sins. They are God's dearly-loved people who have special closeness with Him all the days of their lives. And when they die, they will go to live perfectly happy with Him forever. This wonderful, free gift can be ours, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Isn't that wonderful news!

## Discussion **Questions**

#### choose a few

- 1. God created us to do what? To love and obey Him perfectly.
- 2. Do we love and obey God perfectly? No, we do not. We have all chosen to disobey Him.
- 3. Do we deserve special closeness with God? No.
- 4. What do we deserve from God? His punishment for our sins.
- 5. What does God give His people that is better than they deserve? He sent Jesus to take the punishment for their sins so that they could be saved.
- 6. How can we become God's people and receive the free gift of salvation? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. God loves to answer this prayer!

use with all THREE lessons

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! How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift... When We Trust in Jesus As Our Own Savior. We all have broken God's good laws. We all deserve His punishment for our sins... and we know that we can never deserve His forgiveness. How sad! 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!

#### BIBLE TRUTH BIBLE VERSE

"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved." --Romans 10:9-10, ESV

**Learn a Little:** "If you confess Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

#### Meaning

To believe something in your heart is to think that something is true. To confess something is to others is to tell them what you think is true. Christians are those who believe in their hearts that Jesus is the Son of God, who died on the cross to save God's people from their sins. They believe that He rose from the dead on the third day, showing that He had beaten sin and death for them. They love telling this good news to others that they might believe and be saved, too. We must believe in our own hearts that He is our Savior and be willing to confess to others that He is our Lord, if we are to be saved, too!

## Discussion Questions

- 1. What does it mean to believe something in your heart? To think that it is true.
- 2. What does it mean to confess something? To tell others what you think is true.
- 3. Who do Christians believe in their heart is Lord? What does that mean? They believe Jesus is Lord. They believe He is the Son of God who we should all obey.
- 4. What amazing thing do they believe Jesus did? He died on the cross for the sins of God's people and on the third day, God raised Him from the dead. He beat sin and death for God's people!
- 5. How can Jesus become our Savior? When we turn from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior.

#### BIBLE STORY Discussion Questions

#### The Case of the Amazed, Mad Man choose a few

- 1. What did Jesus' followers do that made Saul so mad? They told everyone that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead to save God's people. They told everyone to turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.
- 2. What did Saul tell Jesus' followers to do? To stop telling people about Jesus.
- 3. Why didn't Jesus' followers stop telling others about Jesus? *Because they wanted others to be forgiven their sins and know God.*
- 4. What did Saul do to Jesus' followers? He found them, hurt them and had them put in jail.
- 5. Why did Jesus' followers move to other cities? So that Saul couldn't hurt them and so they could tell more people about Jesus.
- 6. What happened to Saul when he went to Damascus to get rid of Jesus' followers who had moved there? Jesus appeared to him on the road. He became blind and was taken to Damascus. He prayed, turned away from his sins and trusted in Jesus as his Savior.
- 7. What did Saul start doing after he became a follower of Jesus? He went around and told everyone the good news of Jesus, too.
- 8. How can we be saved from our sins, like Saul was? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.