

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 13:

Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? and the Answer is:

It Is God's Sustaining Grace!

Meaning:

All people enjoy many good things and suffer many bad or sad things in this world. Enjoying good things or going through bad things make some people turn away from God. They love the good things too much or get mad at God for the bad things that happen.

But that's not what happens with God's people. They have put their trust in Jesus. They want to love God most of alleven more than the good things they enjoy. They trust God and His good plans-even as they go through bad or sad things.

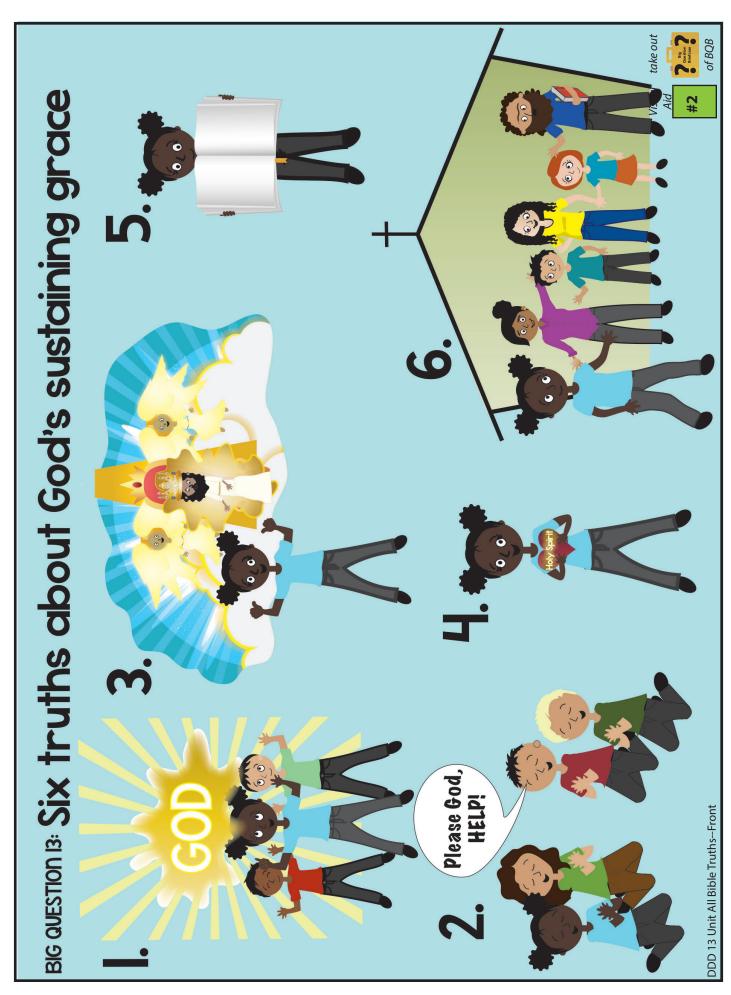
What makes the difference? It's God and His sustaining grace! That is, His gifts of strength to help us keep on believing in Him and living for Him. God will always give His people what they need! He wants them to depend on Him and He loves for them to ask for His help. He will never fail them. God will help you like this, too, if you turn away from your sins and put your trust in Jesus.

Let's sing our Big Question Song:"

Big Q & A I3 Song

DDD ESV Songs 13, track 12 (adapted version of "This Old Man")

Why do God's people keep believing in God?
And why do God's people keep living for Him?
Because God sustains them, yes, God alone,
That's why God's people keep believing in God.



This Unit's Bible Truths

"It Is God's Sustaining Grace" 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 SIX Bible truths that all tell us more about God's sustaining grace.

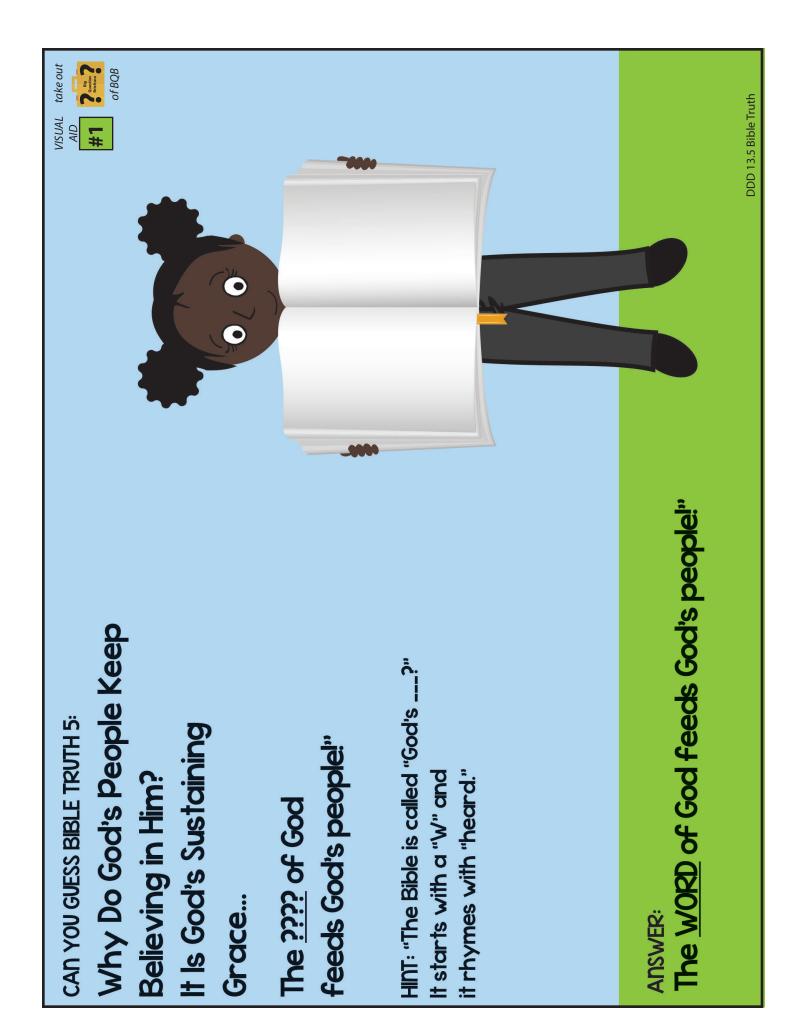
Who would like to hand me the picture with our six Bible truths on it? It's in the Big Question Box/Briefcase."

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

After everyone has had a good look say...

"Ok, we've learned four truths about how God sustains His people. They are: "God Alone Sustains His People," "God, the Father, Promises to Help His People," "Jesus Provides God's People with Everything They Need to Live for God," and, "The Holy Spirit Works Inside God's People." (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 six 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:

"Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? It Is God's Sustaining Grace!
The ???? of God Feeds God's People!"

We're missing one word. Here's the hint to what the missing word is. It says: "The Bible is called "God's ____?" It starts with a "W" and it rhymes with "heard."

Can you guess? It's "WORD."

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

"Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? It Is God's Sustaining Grace!
The WORD of God Feeds God's People!"

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

When your body is hungry you feed it food. The food makes your body strong to do what you need it to do. But did you know that the spirit God put inside our bodies needs to be fed, too? Not hamburgers or hot dogs, but a spiritual kind of food.

What is this spiritual food? It's the Word of God, the Bible. When God's people read God's Word, the Holy Spirit uses it to feed their spirits. He uses it to help them know God better, to guide them in God's will, and to give them strength to do whatever God wants them to do.

And just like our bodies work best if we feed them each day, God's people know that it is best for their spirits if they read and think about God's Word every day. They know that God uses His Word to sustain them, even through the most difficult times. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then God will use His Word to help us to keep on loving and living for Him, too.



Bible Truth 5 Bible Verse

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

Deuteronomy 8:3 tells us:

Romans 15:4, ESV

"For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."

Learn a Little: "Through the encouragement of the Scriptures we have hope."

What does that mean?

God's Word, the Bible, was written long ago. God made sure everything was written down just right. He wanted His people to be able to trust every promise, and have hope that He would always take care of them and always be working for their good and His glory. He wanted them to read His Word and be instructed--that is, learn--how He wants them to love Him and live for Him.

God's Word may have been written long, long ago, but it still is just as true as ever. God still uses it to give God's people hope. He uses it to help them keep on loving Him and living for Him. He uses it to help them keep looking forward to the day when they will live with Him forever. Read God's Word! He can use it to help you to trust in Him and live for Him, too! He can give you hope!

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

For Whatever Was Written: Romans 15:4

DDD ESV Songs 13, track 34

For whatever was written in former days Was written for our instruction,
For whatever was written in former days
Was written for our instruction.
That through endurance and encouragement,
Of the Scriptures, we might have hope.
That through endurance and encouragement,
Of the Scriptures, we might have hope.
Romans Chapter Fifteen, verse four.

"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?"

DDD 13.5 Bible Verse Picture--Back



Listening Assignment #I Detective Dan's



Hi, Deep Down Detectives!

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

"The Case of the Confused Christians."



need to find out:

believers? What were they confused about? Where were teachers teaching bad things to

2. What book could help them know the truth?

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

Detective Dan Thanks!

> 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." 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

Answers:

- they confused about? To go back to the old, bad ways of living, like keeping special rules and using magic stones. 1. Where were teachers teaching bad things to believers? What were
- 2. What book could help them know the truth? God's Word, the Bible.

For You and Me:

what is true. There, we can read about Jesus. There, we can learn how to continue to teach us more of His truth and make us strong to live for Him. turn away from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior. And there, God will Like the believers in Colossae, we can turn to God's Word, the Bible to know



Detective Dan's Listening Assignment #2

Hi, Deep Down Detectives!
I'm still working on the case called:
"The Case of the Confused Christians."



Our Bible Verse is Romans 15:4, ESV

"For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."

need to find out:

I. What was bad about the teachers in Colossae?

2. What book could the believers read to help them know how to know how to live for God?

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

Answers:

Our Bible Verse is: Romans 15:4, ESV

"For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."

- 1. What was bad about the teachers in Colossae? They were teaching the believers to go back to the old, bad ways of living, like keeping special rules and using magic stones.
- 2. What book could the believers read to help them know how to know how to live for God? God's Word, the Bible.

For You and Me:

Like the believers in Colossae, we can turn to God's Word, the Bible to know what is true. There, we can read about Jesus. There, we can learn how to turn away from our sins and trust in Him as our Savior. And there, God will continue to teach us more of His truth and make us strong to live for Him.



Listening Assignment #3 Detective Dan's

"The Case of the Confused Christians." I'm still working on the case called: Hi, Deep Down Detectives!



magic stone, a "bad" food, and a tree They are: a rabbit, a bad teacher, God's Word, a I found SIX clues, but TWO of them are NOT in the story.

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

Ineed to know

- TWO do NOT? I. Which FOUR pictures belong in the story and which
- What did he ask God to do? 2. Who asked God to help the believers in Colossae?

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

Detective Dan Thanks!

> 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

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

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

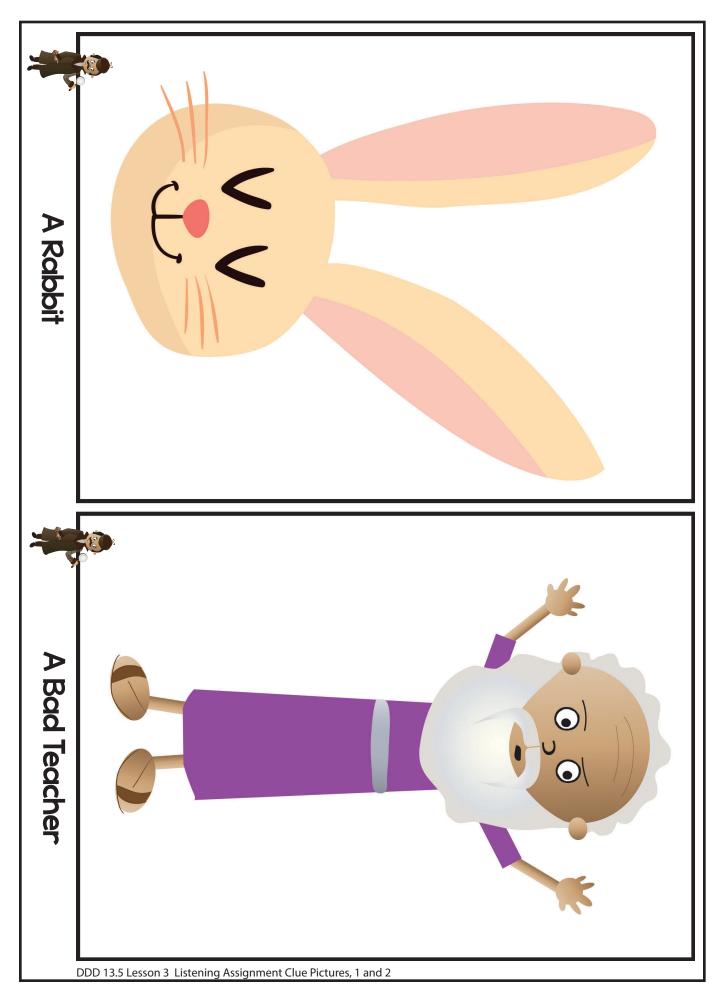
Answers:

"bad" food, and a tree. Our six clues were: a rabbit, a bad teacher, God's Word, a magic stone, a

- God's Word, a magic stone, and the "bad" food belong. The rabbit and the 1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't ?The bad teacher,
- in their hearts. to do? Epaphras did. To help them remember God's Word and use it to work 2. Who asked God to help the believers in Colossae? What did he ask God

For You and Me:

and live for Him. Ask Him to help you! He loves to answer this prayer! God to use it to work in our hearts. We can ask Him to help us to turn away Like the believers in Colossae, we need to remember God's Word and ask from our sins and trust in Jesus. And, we can ask Him to help us to love Him





DDD 13.5 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Picture 2 for kids

DDD 13.5 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Picture1 for kids

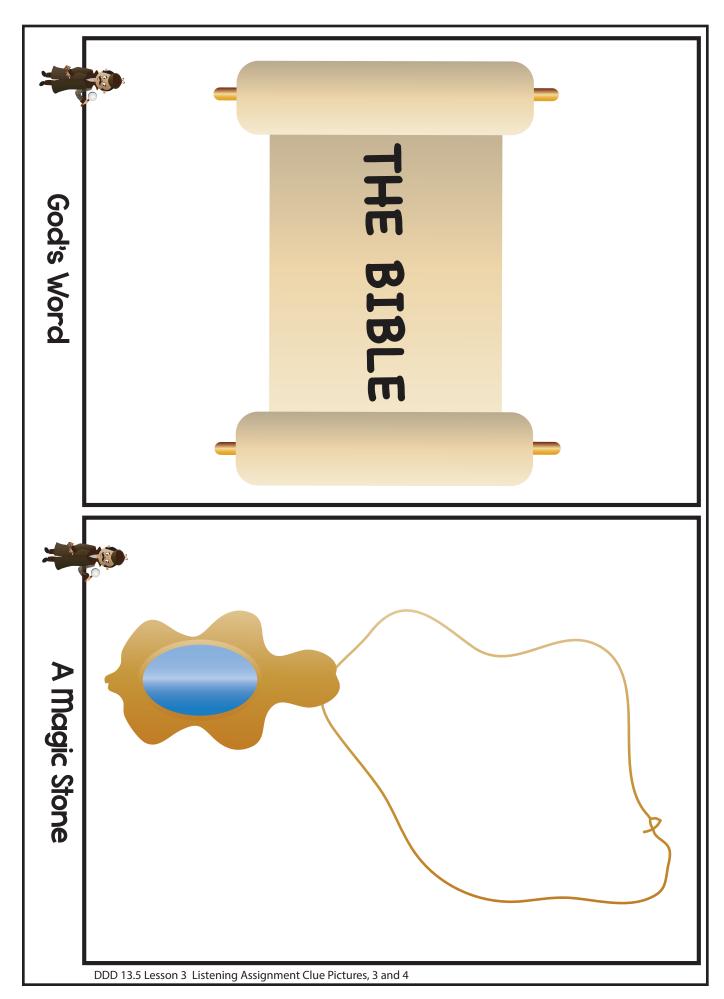
Question 2

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take out

Place in

VISUAL AID





Question 2

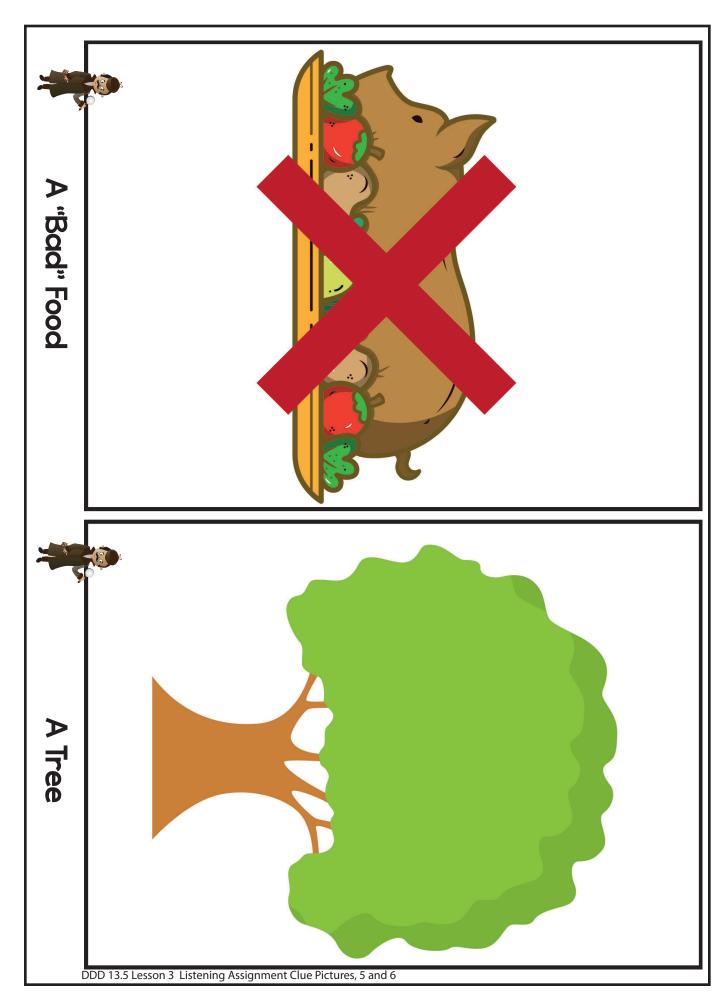
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DDD 13.5 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Picture 6 for kids

DDD 13.5 Lesson 3 Listening Assignment Clue Picture 5 for

take out

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Question 2

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