DEEP DOWN DETECTIVES

Fundamentals:

Unit 10, Bible Truth 4

What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?

He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...

The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church!

Unit 10: The Holy Spirit, the Indwelling God

UNIT OVERVIEW

God's Holy Spirit works in our heart as we hear God's Word, the Bible. He gives us the gift of faith in Jesus. He helps us to turn away from living for ourselves and to live for God instead. This is how we become God's people.

But that's just the beginning of what the Holy Spirit does in God's people! He goes on living inside of them their whole lives, helping them and changing their hearts. He helps them to know God and obey His laws. He helps them to love God and others like Jesus did. He comforts them when they are sad and helps them to be brave when they are scared. He helps them know the right way to live. The Holy Spirit in our hearts is a wonderful gift that God loves to give to us when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

In this unit we will learn four truths about God's Holy Spirit.

UNIT BIBLE VERSE: Ezekiel 36:26, ESV

"I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you."

BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION: What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?

ANSWER: He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...

OPTIONAL Big Question 10 INTRODUCTION LESSON (Use Hide 'n' Seek Kids Unit 10 Material)
Story: The Case of the Heart Helper *Acts 1-2*
Bible Verse: Ezekiel 36:26-27, ESV

BIBLE TRUTH 1: The Holy Spirit Lives in God's People (3 Lessons Available)
Story: The Case of the Eager Waiters
Acts 1-2
Bible Verse: 1 Corinthians 6:19, ESV

BIBLE TRUTH 2: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage (3 Lessons Available)
Story: The Case of the Scaredy Cat Scat *Matthew 26-28; Mark 14-16; Luke 22-24; John 13-21; Acts 1-2*
Bible Verse: 2 Timothy 1:6-7, ESV

BIBLE TRUTH 3: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Wisdom (3 Lessons Available)
Story: The Case of the Secret Weapon Within *Mark 13:9-13; 15-16; Acts 1-4*
Bible Verse: Ephesians 1:17, NIV 1984

→ **BIBLE TRUTH 4: The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church**
(3 Lessons Available)
Story: The Case of the World's Biggest Building *Genesis; the Gospels; Acts*
Bible Verse: Acts 9:31, NIV 1984

Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 10 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 10: THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE INDWELLING GOD

12 Big Q & A 10 Song
13 Big Question 10 Song: What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?
14 Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: I Will Give You a New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV
15 Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: A New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV (other version)
16 Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: Within You Ezekiel 36:26, ESV (other version)
17 Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: You Shall Be Clean Ezekiel 36:25-27, ESV
18 Big Question 10 Hymn: The Church's One Foundation, v.1
19 Big Question 10 Praise Song: Create in Me a Clean Heart

What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People? He Changes Their Heart to Be Like Jesus...

Bible Truth 1: The Holy Spirit Lives in God's People

20 Bible Verse: The Temple of the Holy Spirit 1 Corinthians 6:19, ESV
21 Bible Verse: Do You Not Know? 1 Corinthians 6:19, ESV (other version)
22 Extra Bible Verse: I Will Ask the Father John 14:16-17, ESV
23 Extra Bible Verse: What Father Among You? Luke 11:11-13, ESV

Bible Truth 2: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Courage

24 Bible Verse: Fan into the Flame 2 Timothy 1:6-7, ESV
25 Extra Bible Verse: And Now, Lord Acts 4:29,31, ESV
26 Extra Bible Verse: Now, Lord, Look upon Their Threats Acts 4:29,31, ESV (other version)

Bible Truth 3: The Holy Spirit Gives God's People Wisdom

27 Bible Verse: I Keep Asking Ephesians 1:17, NIV 1984
28 Extra Bible Verse: If Any of You James 1:5, ESV
29 Extra Bible Verse: If Any of You Lacks Wisdom James 1:5, ESV (other version)

Bible Truth 4: The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church

30 Bible Verse: The Church Was Strengthened Acts 9:31, NIV 1984
31 Extra Bible Verse: Behold, A Great Multitude Revelation 7:9-10, ESV
32 Extra Song: God's One Big Plan

Unit 10: The Holy Spirit, the Indwelling God

Unit Big Question (and Answer): What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?
He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus!

Unit Bible Verse: "I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you." -- Ezekiel 36:26, ESV

Bible Truth 4 Concept: The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church

Many people think that a church is a building, but it's not. "Church" is the name for all of God's people.

God's Church is built by the Holy Spirit, one person at a time. The Holy Spirit works in the hearts of people, giving them the gift of faith as they hear God's Word, the Bible. The Holy Spirit helps them believe God's Word, turn away from their sins, and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

God has always planned for the Holy Spirit to bring people from everywhere in the whole world to be part of His people, the Church. The Bible tells us that the Church will be made up of people from every people and language in the world.

Each week, groups of God's people meet together to worship God in gatherings all over the world. This is what we call "going to church." But in heaven, the whole Church--all of God's people, from everywhere and every time--will gather together to worship God forever. What a gathering that will be! The Bible tells us that it will be so many people that we won't even be able to count them. We can be part of God's Church--God's people--too, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse: Acts 9:31

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."

Learn a Little: "[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit."

Meaning

The Holy Spirit strengthens and encourages God's people, the Church. He works in their hearts, giving people faith to repent of their sins and believe in Jesus as their Savior as they hear God's Word. He fills their hearts and helps them to grow in understanding God's Word and in loving God. He helps them to live in the fear of the Lord-- that is, He helps them want to honor and obey God most of all.

We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins an trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, we will be part of God's Church, too. We will enjoy the encouragement of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

Bible Truth 4 ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the Builder of Your Church by Your Holy Spirit.

C God, we confess that we are all sinners who need You to give us faith to believe in Jesus. We need Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. We need Jesus to be our Savior!

T Thank You, God for calling people from every tribe, nation, and language to be Your people, the Church.

S God, work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts that we might know and love You, and love Him. Build Your Church, in us and in people, all over the world! In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Bible Truth 4 Story

The Case of the World's Biggest Building
Genesis; the Gospels; Acts

Songs Used in Bible Truth 4

Big Q & A 10 Song
Big Question 10 Song: What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?
Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: I Will Give You a New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV
Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: A New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV (other version)
Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: Within You Ezekiel 36:26, ESV (other version)
Extra Big Question 10 Bible Verse Song: You Shall Be Clean Ezekiel 36:25-27, ESV
Big Question 10 Hymn: The Church's One Foundation, v.1
Big Question 10 Praise Song: Create in Me a Clean Heart
Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse Song: The Church Was Strengthened Acts 9:31, NIV 1984
Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse: Behold, A Great Multitude Revelation 7:9-10, ESV
Bible Truth 4 Extra Song: God's One Big Plan

The Case of the World's Biggest Building

Genesis; the Gospels; Acts

Story-telling Tips

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Practice telling story with expression. Look for words that might be new to your children. Plan to explain the meaning of them to the children. The numbers in the story correspond to elements of the picture. Practice pointing to the pictures as you read the story. Shorten the story, if necessary, for your child/group of children.
3. If desired, choose a listening assignment for the children (listed below). Listening with a purpose helps the children keep focused and glean more from the story. The three, different assignments allow you to re-tell the story three times with fresh purpose. Answers to the listening assignments are found at the end of the story.

During your presentation:

1. If you are telling the story to a group of children, maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story. Tell the story with enthusiasm and expression. Take time to show each story scene to the children as you tell it. Use the cue numbers in the story to highlight corresponding parts of the picture as you tell the story.
2. The Clue Catcher question at the bottom of each scene helps the children keep engaged with the story.
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.
5. At end of the story, repeat the listening assignment question and ask for answers. Close in prayer.

INTRODUCTION/ LISTENING ASSIGNMENTS (Optional)

"Our story is called: The Case of the World's Biggest Building. Here is your listening assignment... "

Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

I need to find out:

1. Who was the builder?

2. What did this builder plan to build? What would it be like when it was finished?

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible Verse is Acts 9:31, NIV 1984:

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."

I need to find out:

1. Who helped Jesus' disciples obey God's plan to tell others about Jesus?

2. How did Holy Spirit help the Church grow?

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

I found six clues, but only 4 of them are in the story.

They are: a boat, a kangaroo, a hamburger, a listening man, a big plan, and sunglasses.

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

I need to figure out:

1. Which four belong in our story?

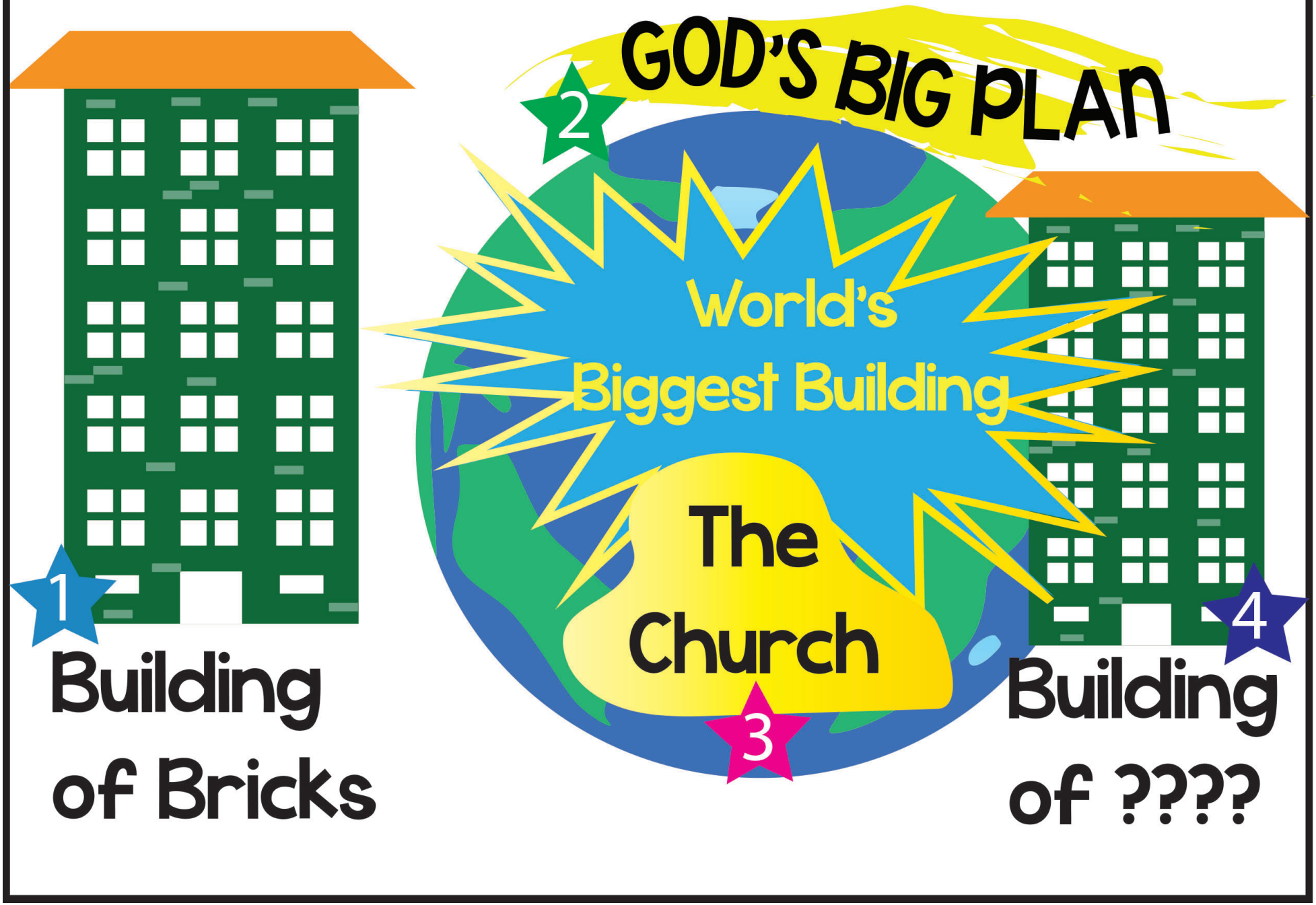
2. Who would one day praise God all together, when God's plans were finished?

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.


GOD'S BIG PLAN
1
2
3
4
World's
Biggest Building
The
Church
Building
of Bricks
Building
of ????

Story Scene 1

What do you think of when you think of a big building? 1 A tall tower made of lots of bricks or metal, reaching high into the sky, perhaps?

A building certainly IS that, usually. But really, a building can be most ANYTHING big that someone builds from lots of little pieces... and it might not look ANYTHING like what we first think of when we think of a building.

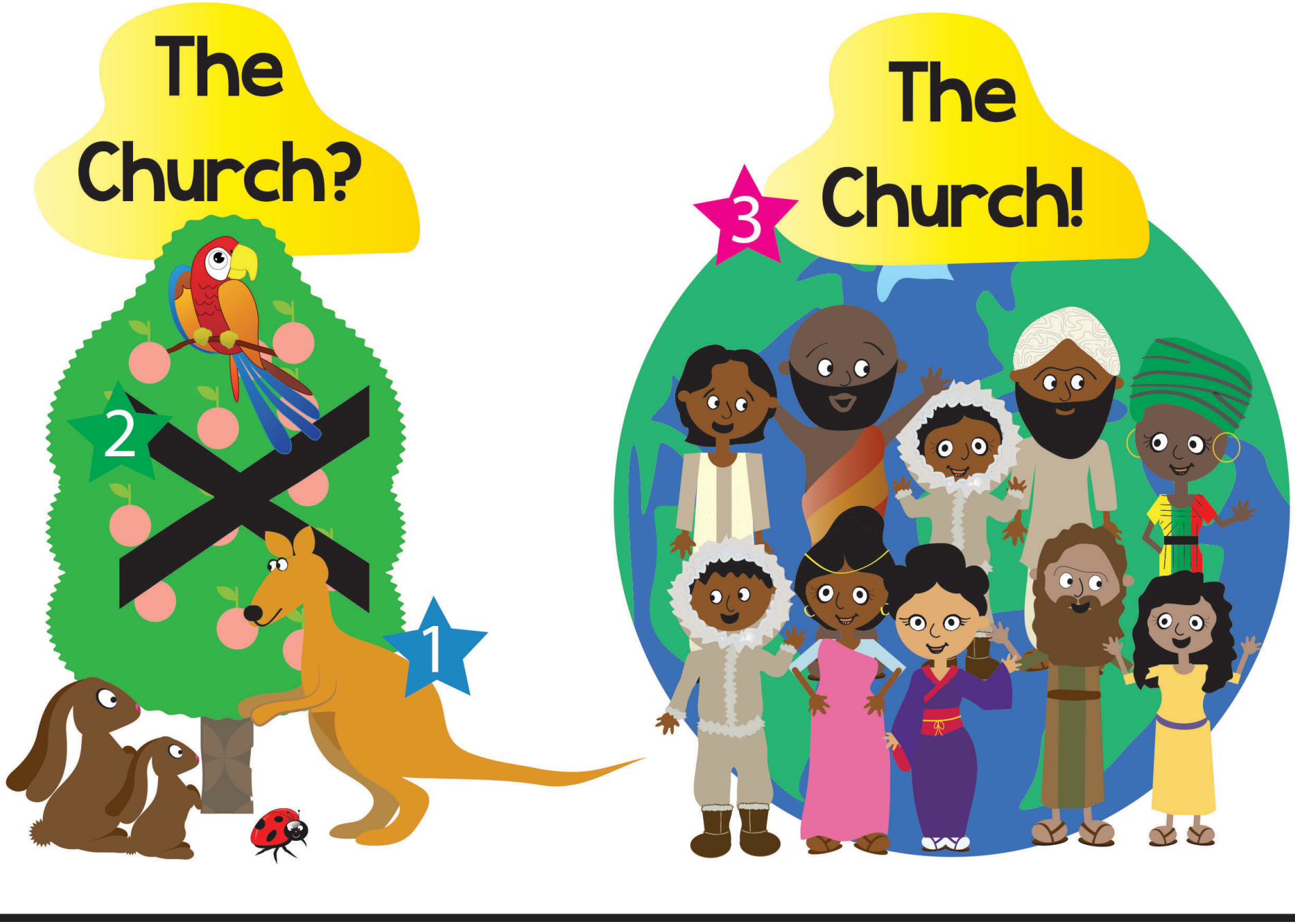
This is the story of God's big plan to build the 2 biggest building in the world... and it was one of those OTHER kinds of buildings. It would be built from billions of pieces of something that was NOTHING like wood or metal.

What was the name of the big something that God planned to build? 3 It was called "the Church."

And 4 from what did He plan to build His Church? Do you have any idea?

Can you guess?

Clue Catchers: Can you point to the building make from bricks? God's Church won't be like that at all!


The Church?
2
1
3
The Church!

Story Scene 2

Are you ready for this? God was planning to build His Church from lots and lots of one kind of creature. Yes, it would be a HUGE gathering of millions, even billions of this LIVING, BREATHING creature. What kind of creature do you think God planned to use? Hmmm... would it be 1 kangaroos? Or rabbits? Trees or birds or bugs?

What do you think?

2 Nope. God didn't plan to make His Church from any of those creatures. God's Church would be made from a creature who looked a lot like... well... US! Matter a fact, it IS us! 3 People!

Clue Catchers: Can you find the bug in the picture?

3
GOD
Perfect Wonderfulness
The
1
Church!
2
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
5
4
Savior

Story Scene 3

That's right! 1 "The Church" is God's name for 2 all of His people, from every time and every place in the world, gathered together and living with Him forever. All of their millions and billions of hearts would be full of His love, like one, happy heart. And all of their millions and billions of mouths would be full of His praise, like one, joyful song.

3 Together, they would enjoy God's Perfect Wonderfulness. God's big building would be very, very special, wouldn't it?

But there was something else that would make God's Church very special. It was WHAT--or really WHO--He would use to join all those people together. Can you guess who?

Can you guess?

It would be God, Himself. 4 Jesus, God's Son would make them God's people; and,
5 God's Holy Spirit would live inside of them. He would unite all of the hearts of God's people in their love of God to enjoy Him together. What an amazing plan God had!

Clue Catchers: Can you find the picture of God's Perfect Wonderfulness that God's people would enjoy together?

1
2
3
4
5
6

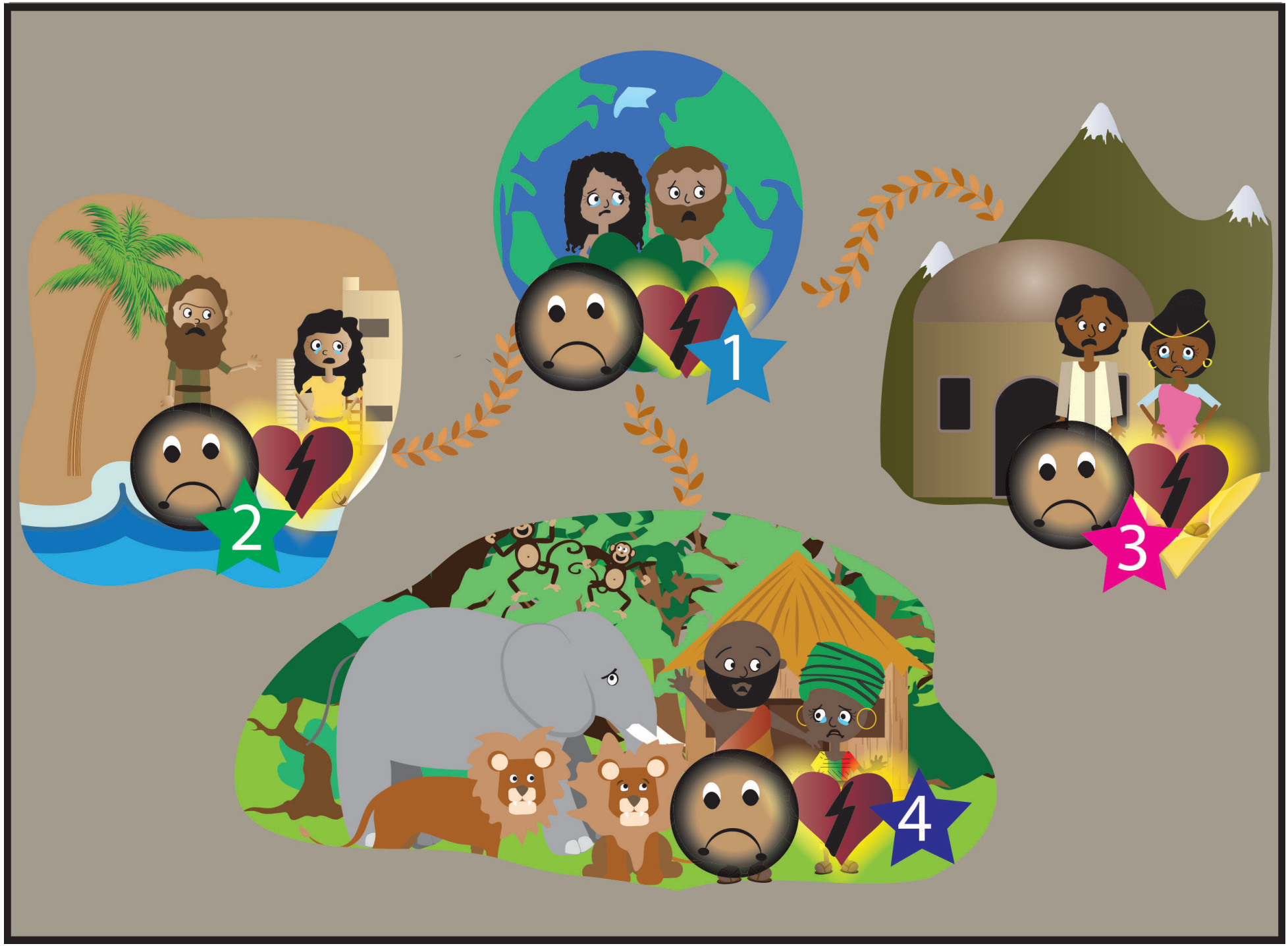
Story Scene 4

First come plans, next comes the work; and, that's just what God did. He began His work by 1 creating this wonderful world and everything in it, including 2 those people who would make into His Church.

God is spirit, and if people were to know Him and be part of His big, beautiful Church, they would have to have a spirit, too. So that's what He gave them. God created people, alone, with 3 a spirit inside their bodies, so they could know and love Him. He named those first people, Adam and Eve.

God told Adam and Eve to fill the whole earth with children, and grandchildren and great-grandchildren, etc. And that's what they did. These children grew up and spread out across the whole world. 4 Some made ships and sailed to far-away islands. 5 Some climbed tall mountains and made their homes near snowy peaks. 6 Others settled in thick jungles and forests and many, more places. They had families and made their homes throughout the whole world. They had different skin colors and spoke different languages. One day, God's beautiful Church would include some of them all. Together, they would lift up their praises to God.

Clue Catchers: Can you find the children of Adam and Eve living in the jungly forests?


1
2
3
4

Story Scene 5

But that one day was not yet. The people of the world didn't look very much like God's beautiful Church right then. You see, from Adam and Eve on down, all people had all chosen to turn away from God and live life their own way. 1 2 3 4 Their hearts--like ours-- had become ugly, broken, and even dead to God, all because of this terrible sin. Every one of them deserved to be shut out from God's presence and to never know Him. Never, ever! How sad!

Clue Catchers: Can you find the hearts of the people in the mountains, broken with sin?

1
SIN
Jesus' Perfect Life
Forgiven
2
3
4
Gospel
Holy Spirit
5
God's Word, the Bible

Story Scene 6

But sin wouldn't ruin God's plans to build His Church! God knew that people would rebel against Him, and so He had always made it part of His plan to rescue them and make them beautiful, Himself, through His Son, Jesus.

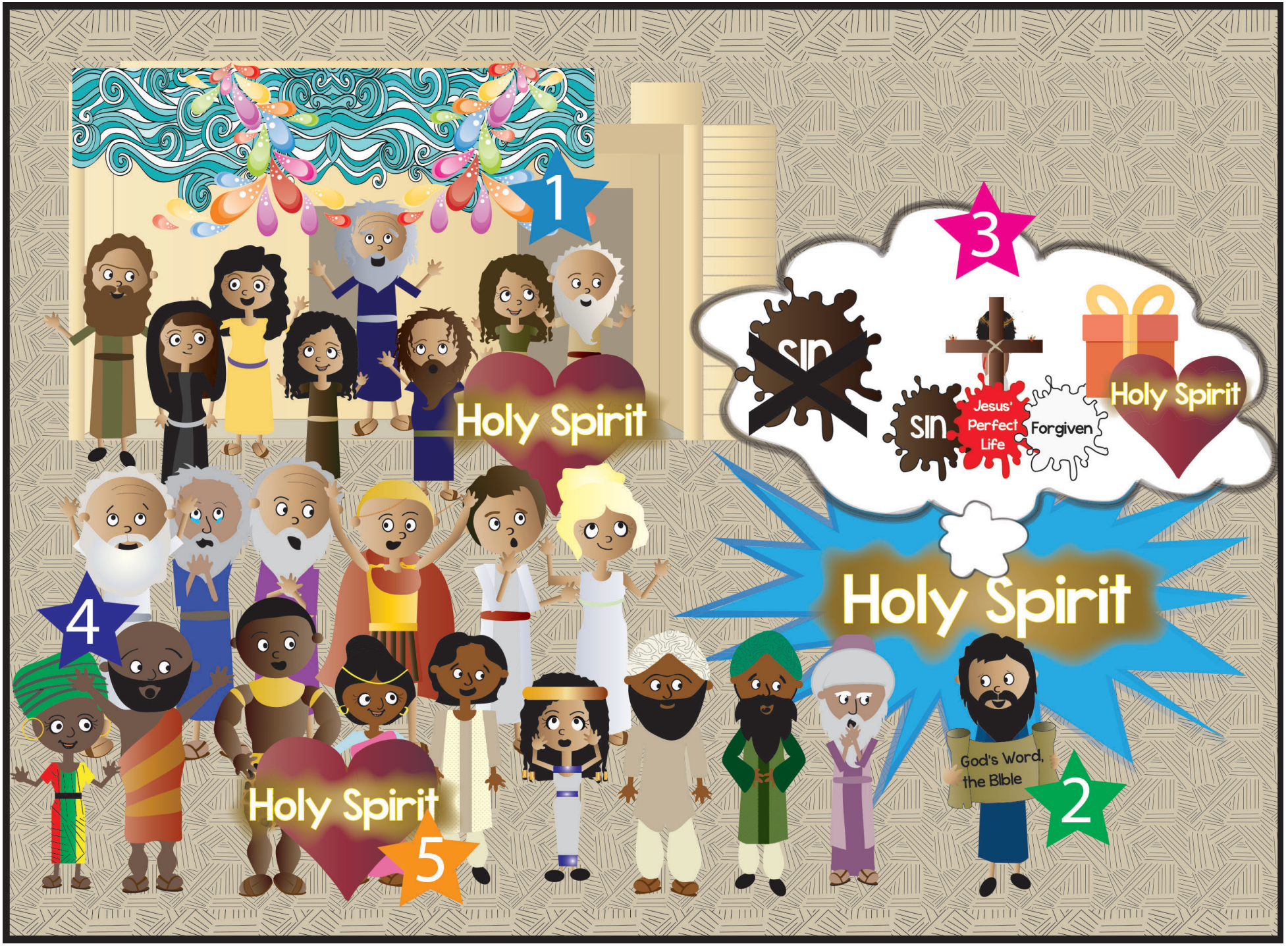
So at just the right time, God sent Jesus to redeem His people. Jesus would take away their sins. He would make them beautiful for God.

Jesus lived a perfect life here on earth. 1 Then on the cross, He suffered and died. 2 He gave up His life as the full payment for the sins of God's people so they could be forgiven.

On Day One and Two, Jesus' body lay dead in the cave grave; but on Day Three, 3 Jesus rose from the dead in victory! He made the way for us to forgiven our sins and to become God's people, the Church.

4 "Go into every part of the world, making disciples of all people," 5 Jesus told His eleven disciples after He rose from the dead. It was time to begin to bring the good news of salvation to the world so that God's Church would be from every people, just as God had always planned.

Clue Catchers: Can you find Jesus paying for the sins of God's people as He suffered and died on the cross?


1
Holy Spirit
3
SIN
SIN
Jesus' Perfect Life
Forgiven
Holy Spirit
Holy Spirit
4
Holy Spirit
5
God's Word, the Bible
2

Story Scene 7

THOSE disciples do ALL THIS?! How? They were so fearful, so weak! They didn't know what to say; and, there were so few of them! They could never do this big job by themselves, could they?

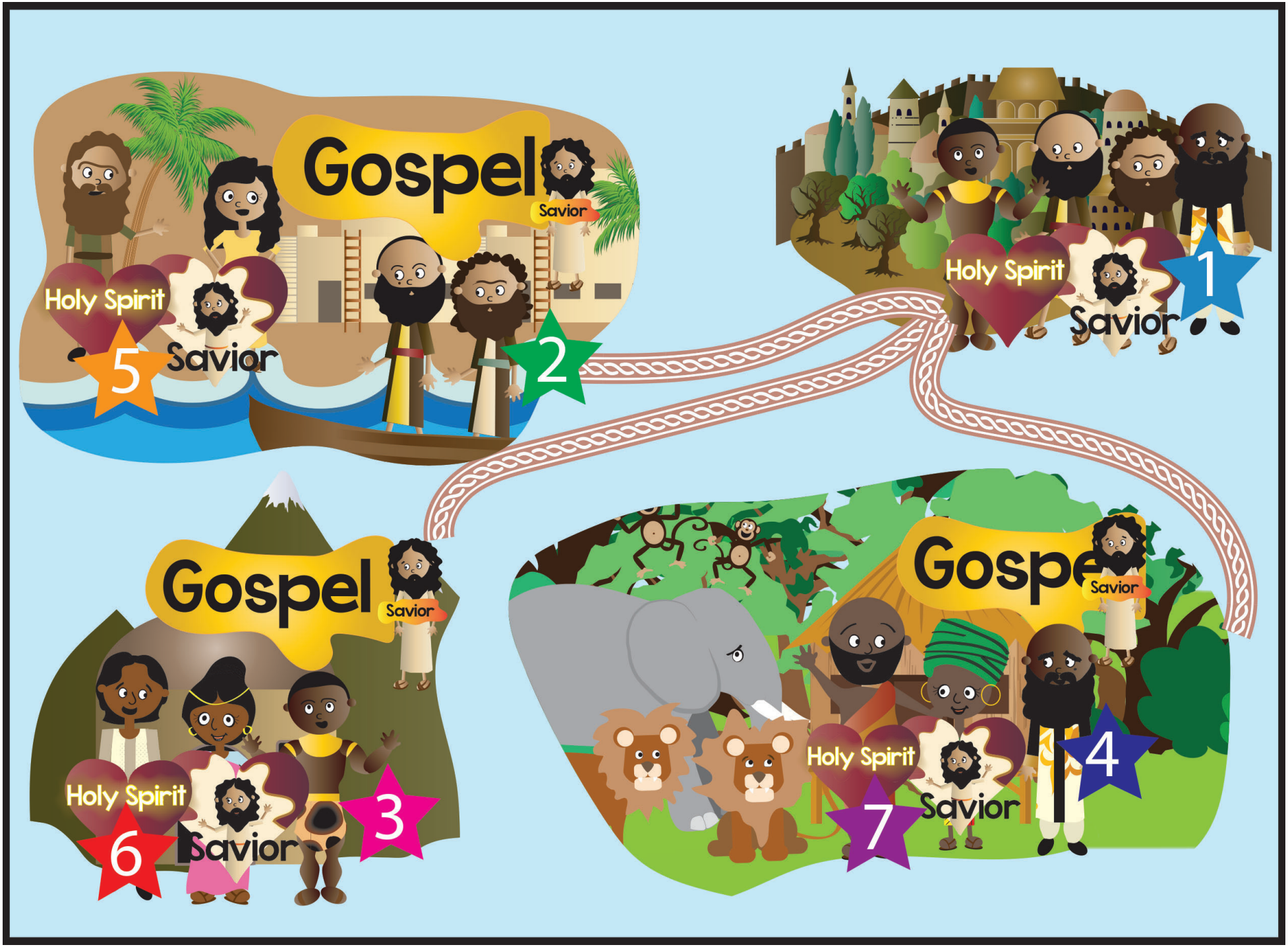
Do you think they could do it?

No! There was NO WAY they could do this job ALONE, but God never planned for them to. He would help them carry out His plan by 1 sending His Holy Spirit to live inside of them. He would work in their hearts as they heard God's Word. He would help them and many others turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He would help them grow to love God more and live for Him each day... full of boldness and full of wisdom!

And that's just what happened. Filled with God's Holy Spirit, 2 the disciples went out and 3 told the good news of Jesus to 4 everyone who would listen!

And as the disciples spoke, 5 the Holy Spirit worked in the hearts of the listeners. He helped them turn way from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior, too. He changed and filled their hearts. He made these ugly, broken, sinful hearts into the new, beautiful, God-loving hearts of God's people. God's Church was becoming bigger and bigger and bigger! God's plan was coming true!

Clue Catchers: Can you find people listening to the good news of Jesus and the Holy Spirit working in their hearts?


Gospel
Savior
Holy Spirit
5
Savior
2
Holy Spirit
Savior
1
Gospel
Savior
Holy Spirit
6
Savior
3
Gospel
Savior
Holy Spirit
7
Savior
4

Story Scene 8

Now these 1 new believers joined the first disciples in sharing the good news of Jesus. Further and further away they went to new parts of the world.

2 Some got in ships and sailed to the far-away islands. (3) Others climbed over the snowy mountains. 4 Still others made their way through thick jungles and forests and many, more places.

Everywhere they went, they shared the good news of Jesus. And everywhere they went, the Holy Spirit worked. 5 6 7 People turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior. The Holy Spirit came to live in their hearts. God was building His Church from people of every nation and language.

Clue Catchers: Can you find the new believers going to the far-away islands to tell the people there about Jesus?

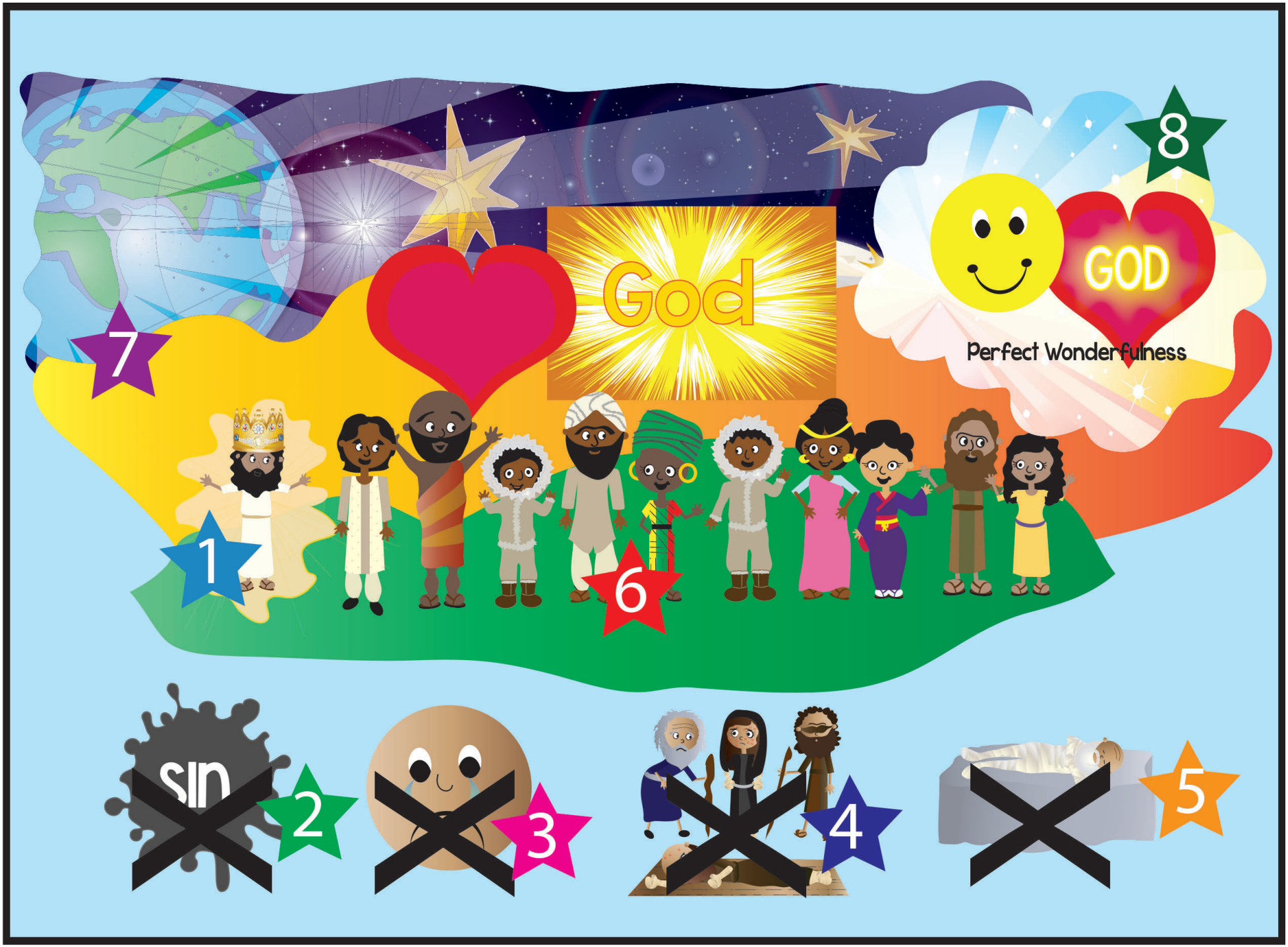
1
Gospel
Savior
2
Holy Spirit
The Church

Story Scene 9

On and on, 1 for thousands of years now, Jesus' followers have kept on telling the people of the world the good news of Jesus.

2 On and on, the Holy Spirit has been working in their hearts of listeners, building God's Church as more and more people turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

Clue Catchers: Can you find a picture of the Holy Spirit working in the hearts of people as they hear the good news of Jesus?


God
GOD
Perfect Wonderfulness
8
7
1
6
sin
2
3
4
5

Story Scene 10

One day, God will be finished building His Church. When will that be? When the good news of Jesus has gone out to the whole world; God's plans for building His Church are completed; and, all His people are saved and filled with His Holy Spirit.

And on that day, 1 Jesus will return here to earth. He will take away every last speck of sin in God's people. 2 Sin and 3 pain, 4 sickness and 5 death will be gone for good! Jesus will 6 gather them all together to live with Him in the 7 new heaven and earth He will make for them.

What a beautiful, happy sight will be God's people, the Church, then. They will be the biggest, most beautiful building that has ever been built, made up of more people than can even be counted, in a perfectly happy, new world... and they will enjoy 8 God's Perfect Wonderfulness and praise Him FOREVER!

Clue Catchers: Can you find the picture of God's people, the Church, living happily with Jesus in the new heaven and earth?

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 builder? The LORD.
2. What did this builder plan to build? What would it be like when it was finished? His Church. It would be a huge gathering of God's people, loving Him and praising Him forever.

For You and Me:
Did you know that we can be a part of God's people, the Church, too. How? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. God will fill us with His Holy Spirit and we can join in loving Him and praising Him now and forever.

Detective Dan's Lesson 2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible Verse is: Acts 9:31, NIV 1984:
"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."

1. Who helped Jesus' disciples obey God's plan to tell others about Jesus? God's Holy Spirit.

2. How did Holy Spirit help the Church grow? He helped the believers be bold to tell others about Jesus and gave them words to say. He worked in the hearts of those listening and helped them put their trust in Jesus, too.

For You and Me
God's Holy Spirit can help us become a part of God's people, the Church, too. We can ask Him to work in our hearts and help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us to love God and live for Him.

Detective Dan's Lesson 3 Listening Assignment:
Our six clues were: a boat, a kangaroo, a hamburger, a listening man, a big plan, and sunglasses.
1. Which four belong in our story?
The boat, the kangaroo, the listening man and the big plan belong. The hamburger and the sunglasses do not.
2. Who would one day praise God all together, when God's plans were finished? All of God's people, the Church!

For You and Me:
Did you know that we can be a part of God's people, the Church, too. How? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. God will fill us with His Holy Spirit and we can join in loving Him and praising Him now and forever.

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

Our Bible Truth is:
What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?
He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...
The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church!

Isn't it amazing that God chose to build His Church out of people like us! He is our good God, yet we have all chosen to disobey God. We deserve His punishment, but instead He offers to make us His people!

God sent Jesus to live the perfect life that we should have lived, but never did. On the cross, Jesus gave His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people so they could be forgiven and know special closeness with God as their Heavenly Father.

On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really beaten sin and death for them, once and for all! That's how God could make sinful people like us into His dearly-loved people, the Church!

We can become God's people, too, when we when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to help you. He loves to do this!

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being the Builder of Your Church by Your Holy Spirit.

C God, we confess that we are all sinners who need You to give us faith to believe in Jesus. We need Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. We need Jesus to be our Savior!

T Thank You, God for calling people from every tribe, nation, and language to be Your people, the Church.

S God, work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts that we might know and love You, and love Him. Build Your Church, in us and in people, all over the world!

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People? He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus!!

Meaning

God's Holy Spirit works in our heart as we hear God's Word, the Bible. He gives us the gift of faith in Jesus. He helps us to turn away from living for ourselves and to live for God instead. This is how we become God's people. But that's just the beginning of what the Holy Spirit does in God's people! He goes on living inside of them their whole lives, helping them and changing their hearts. He helps them to know God and obey His laws. He helps them to love God and others like Jesus did. He comforts them when they are sad and helps them to be brave when they are scared. He helps them know the right way to live. The Holy Spirit in our hearts is a wonderful gift that God loves to give to us when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Discussion Questions

choose a few

1. What does the Holy Spirit do in God's people? *He changes their heart!*
2. Who works in our heart as we hear God's Word, the Bible? *The Holy Spirit.*
3. In whom does the Holy Spirit give us faith? *Jesus.*
4. How long does the Holy Spirit keep working inside of God's people? *Their whole lives.*
5. Who does the Holy Spirit help us know? *God.*
6. What does the Holy Spirit help us obey? *God's laws.*
7. How does the Holy Spirit help God's people when they are sad or scared? *He comforts them and helps them to be brave.*
8. How can we become one of God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

BIBLE TRUTH

He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church!

Meaning

Many people think that a church is a building, but it's not. "Church" is the name for all of God's people. God's Church is built by the Holy Spirit, one person at a time. The Holy Spirit works in the hearts of people, giving them the gift of faith as they hear God's Word, the Bible. The Holy Spirit helps them believe God's Word, turn away from their sins, and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God has always planned for the Holy Spirit to bring people from everywhere in the whole world to be part of His people, the Church. The Bible tells us that the Church will be made up of people from every people and language in the world. Each week, groups of God's people meet together to worship God in gatherings all over the world. This is what we call "going to church." But in heaven, the whole Church--all of God's people, from everywhere and every time--will gather together to worship God forever. What a gathering that will be! The Bible tells us that it will be so many people that we won't even be able to count them. We can be part of God's Church--God's people--too, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Discussion Questions

choose a few

1. Is a church a building? *No. It's the name for all of God's people.*
2. Who builds God's Church? *The Holy Spirit, as He works in the hearts of people and gives them the gift of faith-- trusting in Jesus as their Savior.*
3. How does the Holy Spirit work inside someone's heart when they hear God's Word? *He helps him to believe what he hears, confess and turn away from his sins and trust in Jesus as his Savior.*
4. What did God always plan for the Holy Spirit to do? *God has always planned for the Holy Spirit to bring people from everywhere in the whole world to be part of His people, His Church*.
5. What do we mean we say that we are going to church? *That we are going to gather together with some of God's people to worship God, learn from His Word, and love one another.*
6. What will it be like when God's people, the Church is in heaven together? *All of God's people will at last gather together to worship God and be together forever.*
7. How can we become part of God's Church--His dearly loved people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Questions to aid discussion of the key concepts and for use in games

THE GOSPEL

God's Holy Spirit builds God's Church as He helps people hear and believe the gospel. What is the gospel, the good news about Jesus? *We have all chosen to disobey God and deserve His punishment for our sins! How sad! But God is so rich in mercy that He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross and take the punishment for all who turn away from their sins and trust Jesus as their Savior. For all who do, God will forgive their sins and they will enjoy special closeness with God now as His special people. And one day, they will get to live with Him forever. How amazing is God's love for His people! We can be God's people, too! When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, He will save us, too! It is His promise to us!*

BIBLE TRUTH BIBLE VERSE

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."--Acts 9:31, NIV 1984

Learn a Little: "[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit."

Meaning

The Holy Spirit strengthens and encourages God's people, the Church. He works in their hearts, giving people faith to repent of their sins and believe in Jesus as their Savior as they hear God's Word. He fills their hearts and helps them to grow in understanding God's Word and in loving God. He helps them to live in the fear of the Lord-- that is, He helps them want to honor and obey God most of all. We can become God's people when we turn away from our sins an trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, we will be part of God's Church, too. We will enjoy the encouragement of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

Discussion Questions

choose a few

1. What was being strengthened and who was strengthening it? *The church was strengthened by God's Holy Spirit.*
2. What is a church? *A group of Christians gathering together to worship God and love one another.*
3. What does it mean for a church to be strengthened? *Not that everyone has bigger muscles and can lift heavy things, but that their faith in God is growing stronger, they understand more of God and His Word; they are loving and knowing God more; they are becoming more obedient to His good ways; and more lovingly towards each other.*
4. How does the Holy Spirit encourage a church? *He is at work in the hearts of believers, helping them to keep saying "no" to sin; helping them to better understand God's Word; growing their faith in God; helping them become more loving and knowing God better; helping them become more obedient to God's good ways; and helping them to act more lovingly towards each other. He gives them wisdom and courage to live God's way, even when it is very hard.*
5. How were people in the church living? What does that mean? *In the fear of the Lord. It means to live to please God, in your heart, with your words and with all your life.*
6. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

BIBLE STORY

The Case of the World's Biggest Building

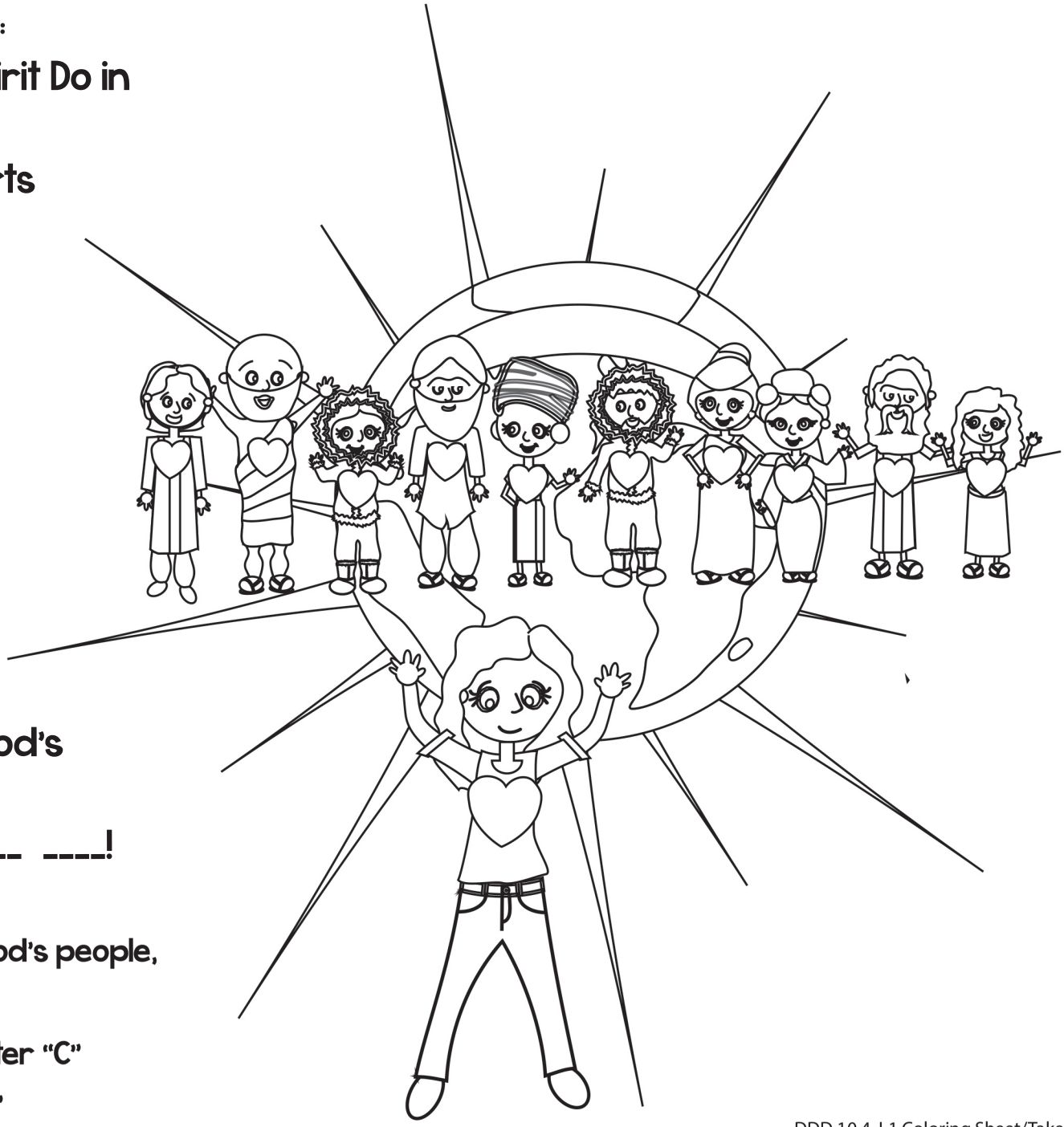
Discussion Questions

choose a few

1. Who was planning to build something very, very big? *God was.*
2. What was God planning to build? *His Church--a great gathering of people who love Him and know Him.*
3. What did God give people so that they could know Him and love Him? *A spirit.*
4. What did all people do that made their hearts ugly and full of sin? *They all chose to turn away from God and live life their own way.*
5. What did God plan to do to rescue His people so that they could become His people? *He sent Jesus to die on the cross to pay for their sins.*
6. Who did God send His Holy Spirit to live inside of? *Those who turned away from their sins and trusted in Jesus as their Savior.*
7. What did the Holy Spirit help these new believers do? *To live for God and boldly tell others the good news of Jesus that they might trust in Jesus as their Savior, too.*
8. When will God's Church be finished? *When the whole world has heard the good news of Jesus and His plans for His people here on earth are done.*
9. How can we become God's dearly-loved people? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.

CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 4:

What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?
He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus...



The Holy Spirit Builds God's

____ ____ ____ ____ ____ ____!

HINT: What's the name for God's people, gathered together?
This word starts with the letter "C" and it rhymes with "search."

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 10, Bible Truth 4, Lesson 1

Big Question 10 : What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?
Answer: He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus... The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church!

Bible Truth 4 Meaning

Many people think that a church is a building, but it's not. "Church" is the name for all of God's people. God's Church is built by the Holy Spirit, one person at a time. The Holy Spirit works in the hearts of people, giving them the gift of faith as they hear God's Word, the Bible. The Holy Spirit helps them believe God's Word, turn away from their sins, and trust in Jesus as their Savior. God has always planned for the Holy Spirit to bring people from everywhere in the whole world to be part of His people, the Church. The Bible tells us that the Church will be made up of people from every people and language in the world. Each week, groups of God's people meet together to worship God in gatherings all over the world. This is what we call "going to church." But in heaven, the whole Church--all of God's people, from everywhere and every time--will gather together to worship God forever. What a gathering that will be! The Bible tells us that it will be so many people that we won't even be able to count them. We can be part of God's Church--God's people--too, when we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."--Acts 9:31, NIV 1984

Some Questions for You

1. Is God's Church a building? *No. It's the name for all of God's people.*
2. Who builds God's Church? *The Holy Spirit, as He works in the hearts of people and gives them the gift of faith-- trusting in Jesus as their Savior.*
3. How does the Holy Spirit work inside someone's heart when they hear God's Word? *He helps him to believe what he hears, confess and turn away from his sins and trust in Jesus as his Savior.*
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7. How can we become part of God's Church--His dearly loved people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

A God, we praise You for being the Builder of Your Church by Your Holy Spirit.

C God, we confess that we are all sinners who need You to give us faith to believe in Jesus. We need Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. We need Jesus to be our Savior!

T Thank You, God for calling people from every tribe, nation, and language to be Your people, the Church.

S God, work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts that we might know and love You, and love Him. Build Your Church, in us and in people, all over the world! In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing about What We're Learning!

Big Q & A 10 Song *from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 10, track 12*
(sung to the tune of "Pop, Goes the Weasel")

What does the Holy Spirit do inside of God's people?
What does the Holy Spirit do?
He changes their hearts!

Big Question 10 Action Rhyme Song *from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 10, track 13*

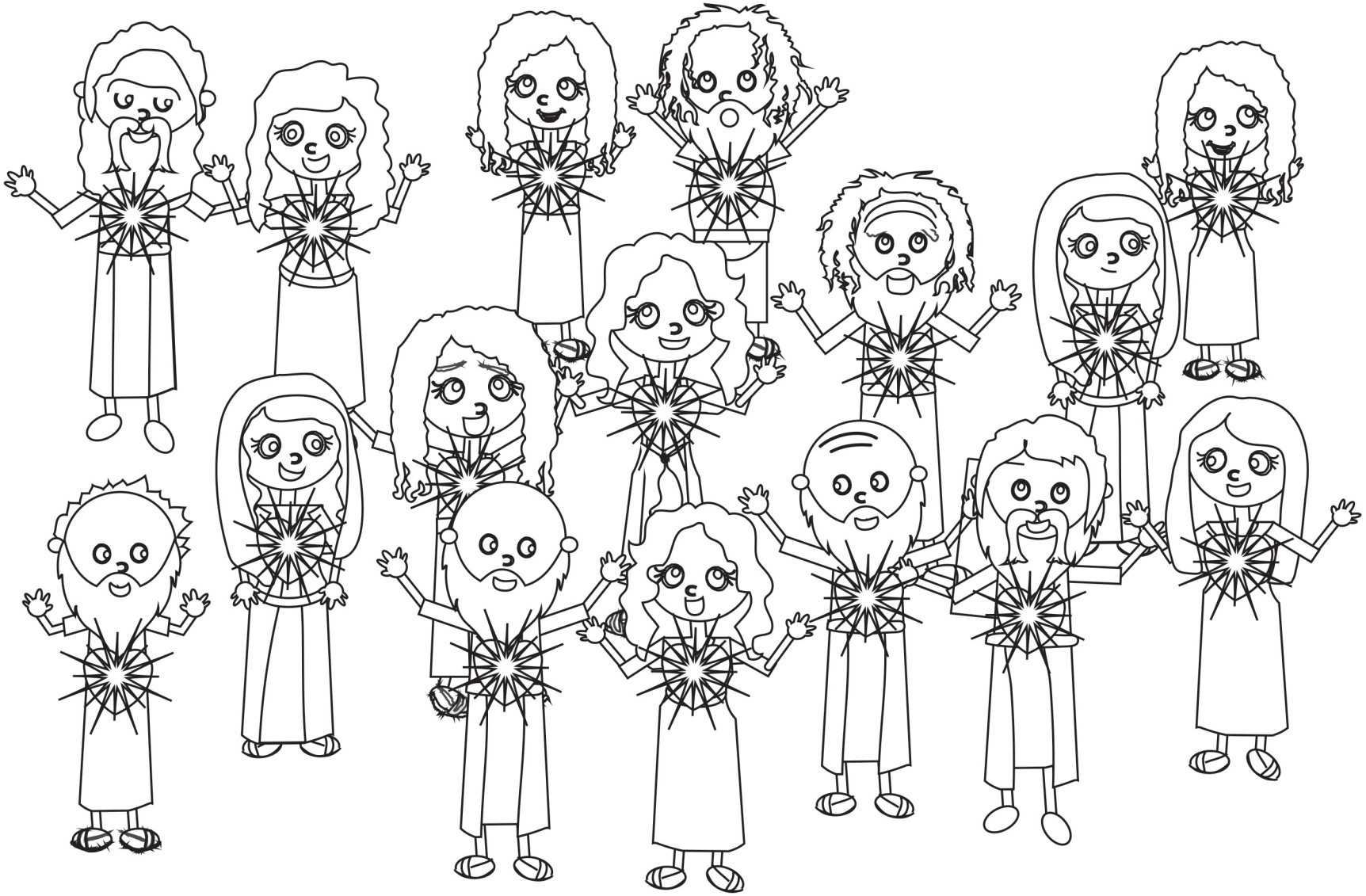
Refrain
What does the Holy Spirit do in God's people?
What does the Holy Spirit do in God's people?
He changes their hearts, He changes their hearts,
He changes their hearts to be like Jesus!

Verse 1
He gives life to the hearts of God's people,
He gives them the gifts of repentance and faith,
He puts love in the hearts of God's people,
He helps them love God and others always. *Refrain*

Verse 2:
God gives power to the hearts of God's people,
He gives them the courage to live boldly for Him,
He gives wisdom to the hearts of God's people.
He reveals His Holy Word to them. *Refrain*

Go to the Deep Down Detectives Parent Resources for Unit 10 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

DDD BQ 10 BT4 L1 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg2



"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."--Acts 9:31, NIV 1984

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 10, Bible Truth 4, Lesson 2

Big Question 10 : What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?
Answer: He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus... The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."-- Acts 9:31, NIV 1984

Meaning

The Holy Spirit strengthens and encourages God's people, the Church. He works in their hearts, giving people faith to repent of their sins and believe in Jesus as their Savior as they hear God's Word. He fills their hearts and helps them to grow in understanding God's Word and in loving God. He helps them to live in the fear of the Lord-- that is, He helps them want to honor and obey God most of all.

Some Questions for You

1. What was being strengthened and who was strengthening it? *The church was strengthened by God's Holy Spirit.*
2. What is a church? *A group of Christians gathering together to worship God and love one another.*
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5. How were people in the church living? What does that mean? *In the fear of the Lord. It means to live to please God, in your heart, with your words and with all your life.*
6. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

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T Thank You, God for calling people from every tribe, nation, and language to be Your people, the Church.

S God, work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts that we might know and love You, and love Him. Build Your Church, in us and in people, all over the world! In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

The Church Was Strengthened: Acts 9:31 *from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 10, track 30*

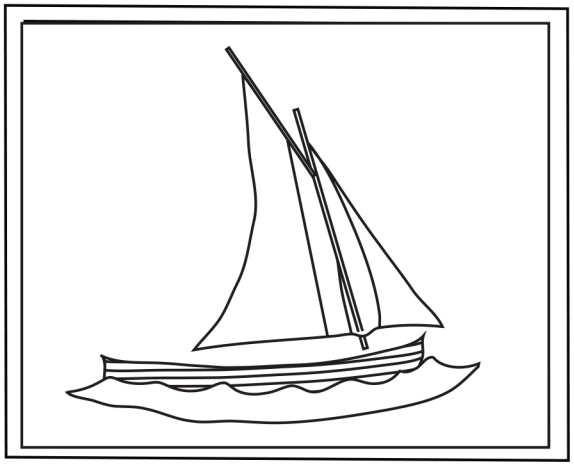
Then the church was strengthened and encouraged,
By the Holy Spirit, by the Holy Spirit
It grew in numbers, It grew in numbers,
Living in the fear,
The fear of the Lord, (repeat)

Acts Nine, thirty-one.

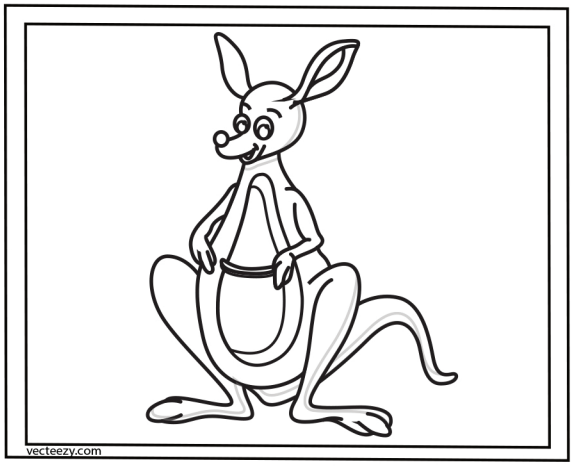
Go to the Deep Down Detectives Parent Resources for Unit 10 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

DDD BQ 10 BT4 L2 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg2

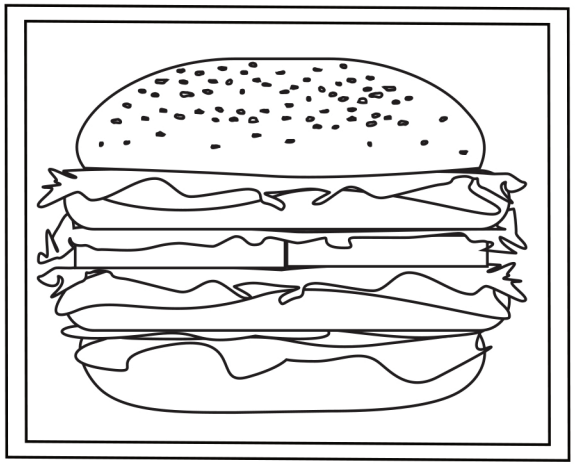
Which four of these clues belong in our story? Which two do not? Put an X in the boxes of the four that belong.



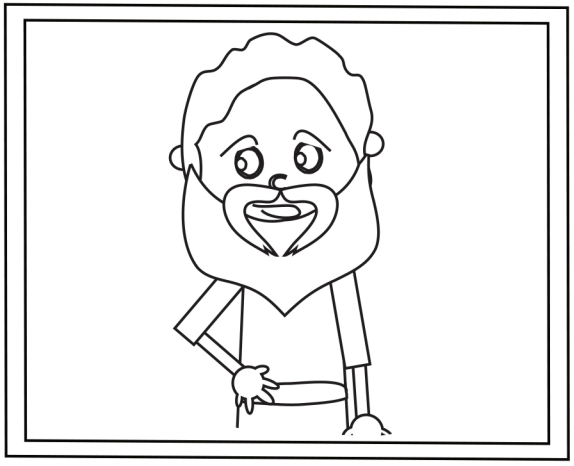
☐ A Boat



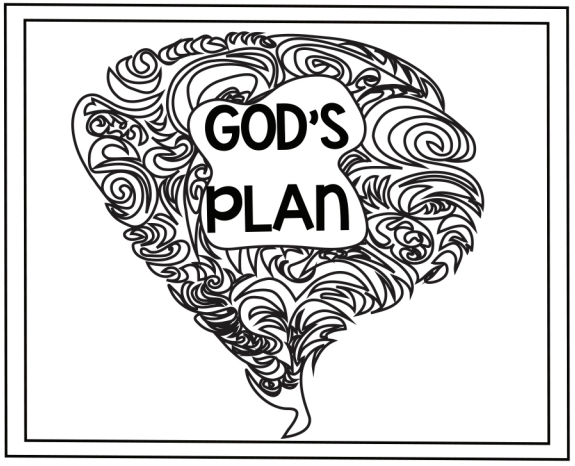
☐ A Kangaroo



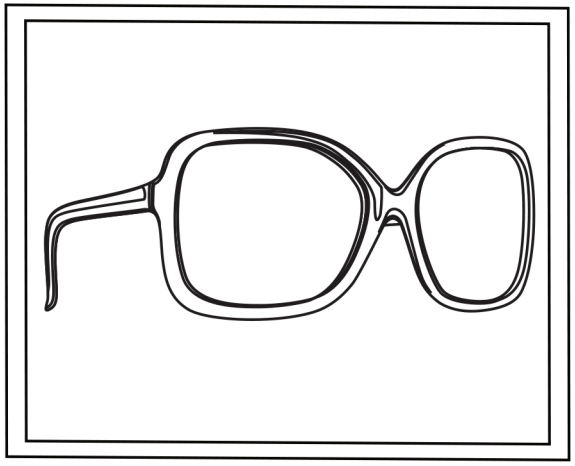
☐ A Hamburger



☐ A Listening Man



☐ A Big Plan



☐ Sunglasses

Answer: The boat, the kangaroo, the listening man and the big plan belong. The hamburger and the sunglasses do not.

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 10, Bible Truth 4, Lesson 3

Big Question 10 : What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People?
Answer: He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus... The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church!

Bible Truth 4 Meaning

Our love for others changes. Sometimes we love others a lot. Sometimes we don't love them very much. But God's love for His people is not like that. God's love for His people never changes. God loved His people before they loved Him or even knew Him. He paid for their sins through Jesus' perfect life as He suffered and died on the cross. He adopts them as His people when they turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Nothing will ever stop God from loving His people! They are bound in love to Him through Jesus, and that is a love that will never, ever end!

How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

"[The church] was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord."--Acts 9:31, NIV 1984

Some Questions for You

1. Who was planning to build something very, very big? *God was.*
2. What was God planning to build? *His Church--a great gathering of people who love Him and know Him.*
3. What did God give people so that they could know Him and love Him? *A spirit.*
4. What did all people do that made their hearts ugly and full of sin? *They all chose to turn away from God and live life their own way.*
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Let's Pray!

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C God, we confess that we are all sinners who need You to give us faith to believe in Jesus. We need Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. We need Jesus to be our Savior!

T Thank You, God for calling people from every tribe, nation, and language to be Your people, the Church.

S God, work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts that we might know and love You, and love Him. Build Your Church, in us and in people, all over the world! In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Praise God Right Now!

Big Q & A 10 Hymn: The Church's One Foundation

from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 10, track 18

Verse 1
The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation,
By Spirit and the Word;
From heav'n He came a sought her,
To be His holy bride,
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Words: Samuel J. Stone Music: Samuel S. Wesley

Big Question 10 Praise Song: Create in Me a Clean Heart

from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 10, track 19

Refrain
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.

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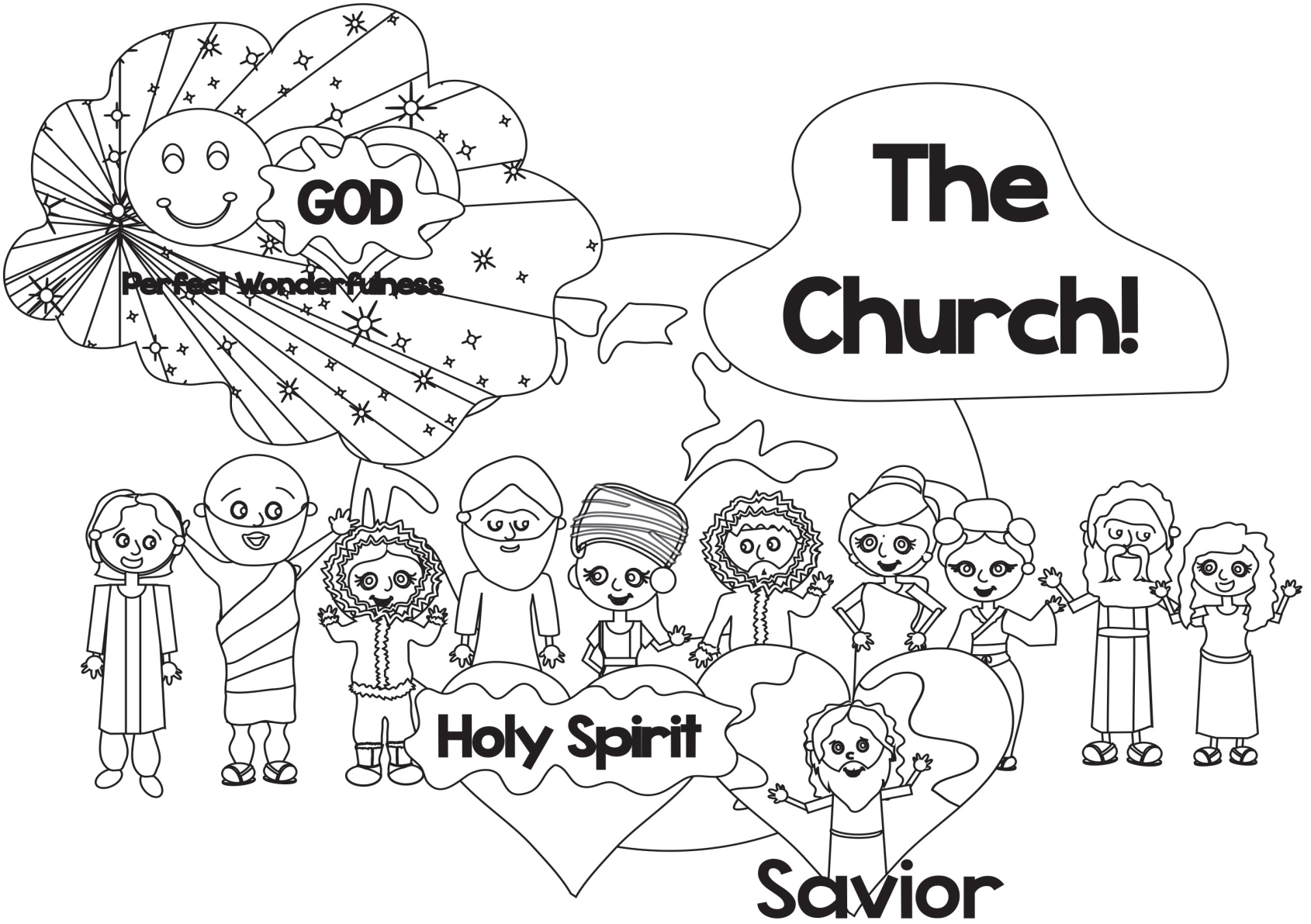
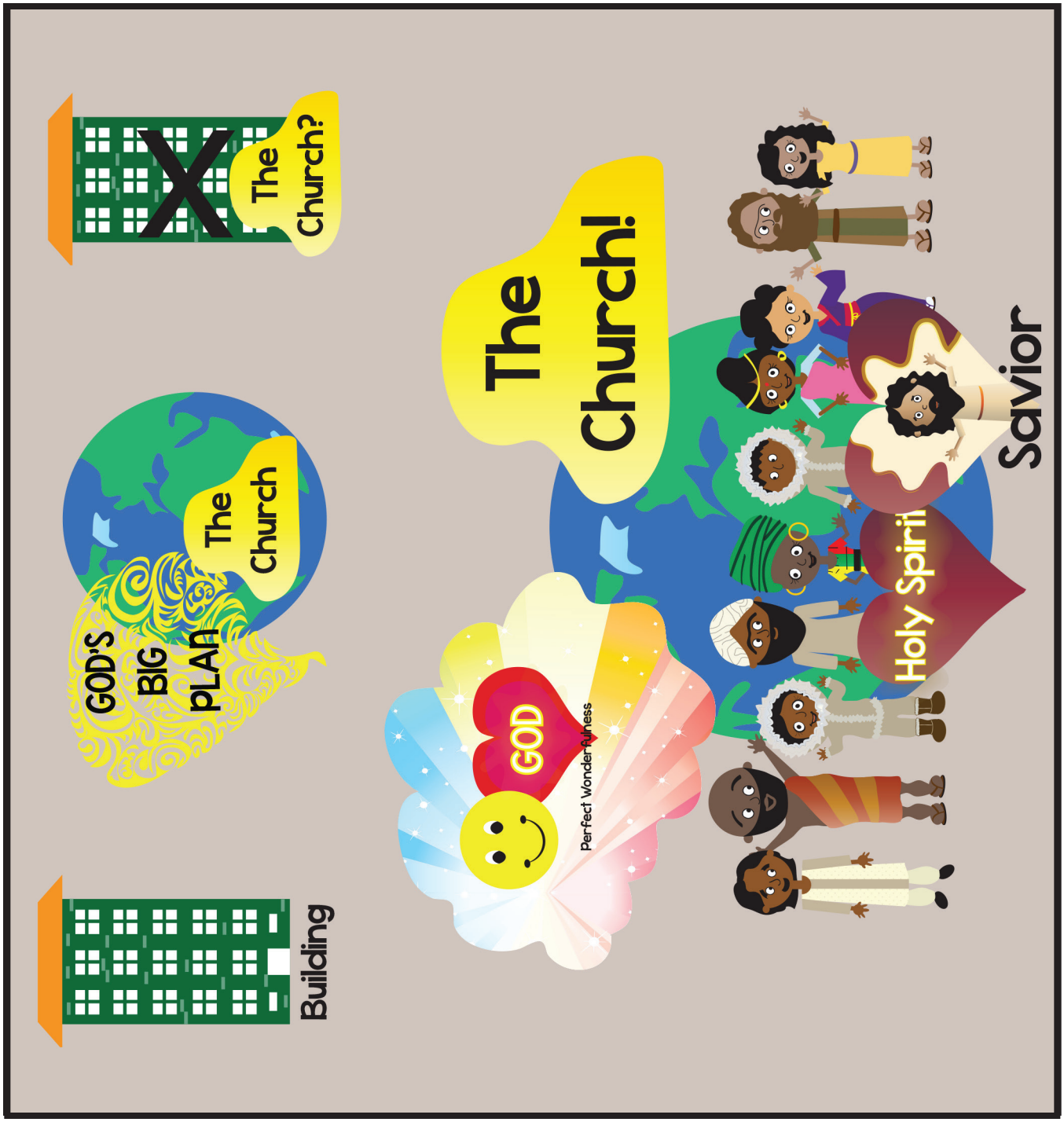
DDD BQ 10 BT4 L3 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg2



Our Big Question is: "What Does the Holy Spirit Do in God's People? He Changes Their Hearts to Be Like Jesus... The Holy Spirit Builds God's Church!" Isn't it amazing that God chose to build His Church out of people like us! He is our good God, yet we have all chosen to disobey God. We deserve His punishment, but instead He offers to make us His people! God sent Jesus to live the perfect life that we should have lived, but never did. On the cross, Jesus gave His perfect life as the full payment for the sins of God's people so they could be forgiven and know special closeness with God as their Heavenly Father. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really beaten sin and death for them, once and for all! That's how God could make sinful people like us into His dearly-loved people, the Church! We can become God's people, too, when we when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Ask Him to help you. He loves to do this!

The Case of the World's Biggest Building Jigsaw Puzzle Page

Genesis; the Gospels; Acts

Make copies of picture and cut out into an appropriate number of pieces for your children.
Or, you can print out color versions of this puzzle by downloading it from praisefactory.org.

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