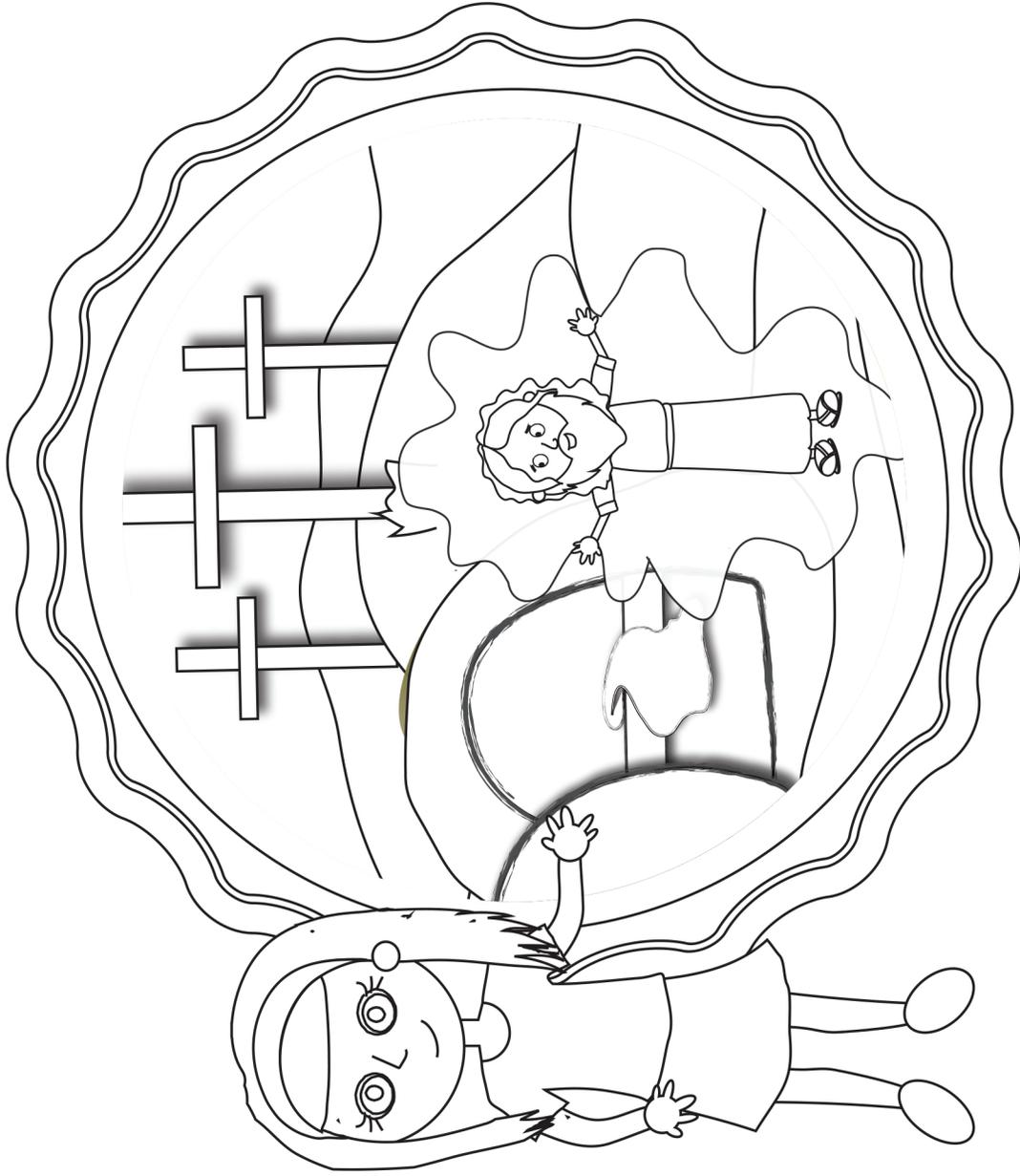


CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH!
What Is God's Love for
His People Like?
It's More than They Could
Ever Deserve...

God gave His Son,

to save them!

HINT: "What's the name of
God's Son? It starts with
the letter "J."



Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 1, Lesson 1



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them!

Bible Truth 1 Meaning

All people have rebelled against God and have broken His laws. All have chosen to do things their own way, not God's. Their hearts should be full of love for God, but instead, their hearts are dead and empty of love for God and His good ways. That's why all people deserve God's punishment for their sins. They deserve to be separated from Him forever. How sad! But God is so kind and merciful! He chose to save sinners, like you and me, even though we did not deserve it. Yes, God chose to love sinners, even though their hearts were so dead and empty of love for Him. And He didn't just love them a little bit. He loved them a lot! He loved them so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to live and perfect life and give it up as the full payment for their sins when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really done it! He had redeemed sinners, so that they could become God's special people—His, dearly-loved, adopted children forever! We can be God's special people, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Hasn't God loved us so much through Jesus!

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

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."
--- 1 John 4:10, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Who has rebelled against God and broken His good laws? *All people have.*
2. Are the hearts of all people full of love for God or dead and empty of love for Him? *They are dead and empty of love for Him.*
3. Who deserves God's punishment for their sins? *All people.*
4. Did God love His special people even while their hearts were so dead and empty of love for Him? *Yes, He did.*
5. Who did God send to save His people? *Jesus!*
6. What must we do, if we are to be God's special people? *Turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise you, God for being so full of love for Your people. You were filled with love for them before they loved You or knew You!
- C** God, we should be filled with love for You and Your good ways, but so many times we are not. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for loving sinners, even before they loved You. Thank You for making the way for them to be saved through Jesus.
- S** Work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Give us new hearts full of love for You. Help us to become Your people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Let's Sing about What We're Learning!

Big Q & A 8 Song from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 12

(sung to the tune of "Baa, Baa, Black Sheep")

What is God's love for His people like?
More than they could ever deserve!
What is God's love for His people like?
What is God's love for His people like?
What is God's love for His people like?
More than they could ever deserve!

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives* Parent Resources for Unit 8 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

Big Question 8 Action Rhyme Song from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 13

What is God's love for His people like?
What is God's love for His people like?
What is God's love for His people like?
It's more than they could ever deserve.

Verse 1

God loves His people from all places,
from all times, with ev'ry kind of faces.
God loves His people from ev'ry nation,
And He loves them all through Jesus Christ.

Refrain

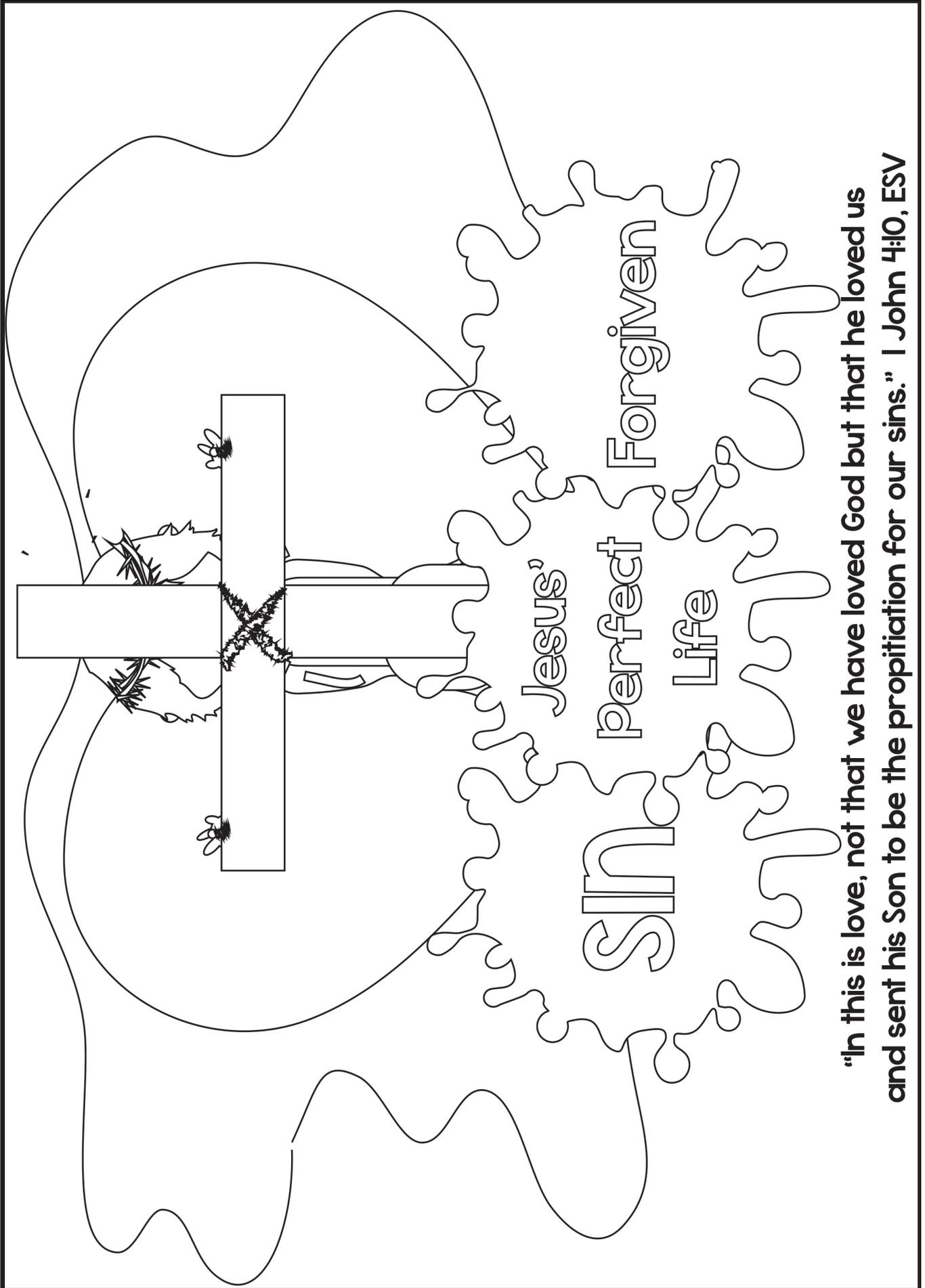
God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.
God's love for His people is more than they could ever deserve.

Verse 2

God loved His people before the beginning,
Even before they were repenting and believing,
God loved His people from ev'ry nation,
And He loved them all through Jesus Christ.

Verse 3

God loved His people, He sent Jesus,
To save them, so forever they would be His,
God loves His people from ev'ry nation,
And He always will through Jesus Christ.



"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." | John 4:10, ESV

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 1, Lesson 2



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them!

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

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."
--- 1 John 4:10, ESV

Learn a Little: "[God] sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Meaning

We are all sinners who have rebelled against God, yet God chose to love us... and to love us in the deepest way possible! He sent Jesus to save us. Yes, God sent His dearly-loved Son to earth to be the propitiation for our sins. He was the atoning sacrifice that would pay for our sins and satisfy God's judgment against us. Jesus would live a perfect life, then offer it up as the full payment that would bring the forgiveness we needed. And He chose to do this while we still were rebelling against Him! How wonderful is this free gift of God! How deep is His love! This atoning sacrifice is for us, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Some Questions for You

1. Who shows us what real love is? *God and the way He has loved us through Jesus.*
2. Why do none of us deserve God's love? *Because we are all sinners who have chosen to disobey Him.*
3. Who did God send to save us? *Jesus.*
4. What did Jesus do to save us? *He lived a perfect life and gave it up as the full payment for the sins of all who would ever turn from their sins and trust in Him as their Savior.*
5. What does it mean that Jesus was the propitiation for our sins? *God is holy and He hates sin. He hates OUR sin and we deserve His punishment for sin. Jesus took all of God's hate for the sins of God's people when He suffered and died on the cross. That is how they can be God's dearly-loved people.*
6. How can Jesus' sacrifice cover our sins and we become God's people? *When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

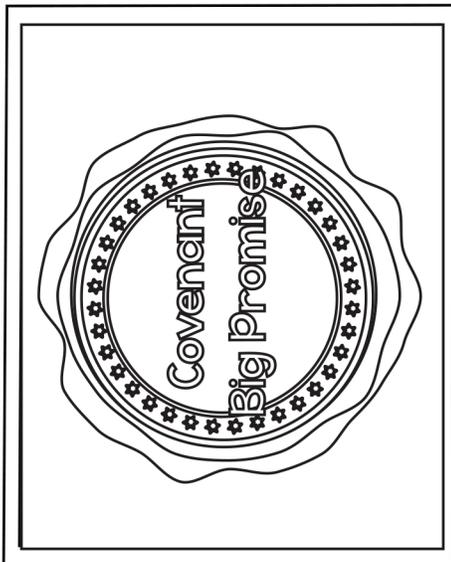
- A** We praise you, God for being so full of love for Your people. You were filled with love for them before they loved You or knew You!
- C** God, we should be filled with love for You and Your good ways, but so many times we are not. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for loving sinners, even before they loved You. Thank You for making the way for them to be saved through Jesus.
- S** Work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Give us new hearts full of love for You. Help us to become Your people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

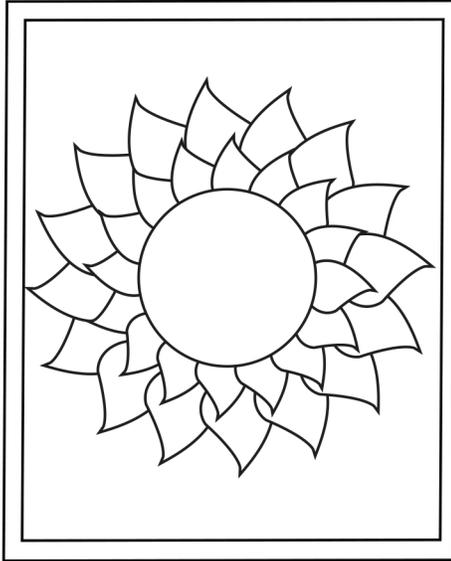
This Is Love: 1 John 4:10 from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 8, track 20

This is love,
Not that we loved God,
But that He, that he loved us,
He sent his Son,
And He sent His Son,
The propitiation for our sins.
He sent his Son,
And He sent His Son,
The propitiation for our sins.
First John Four, ten.

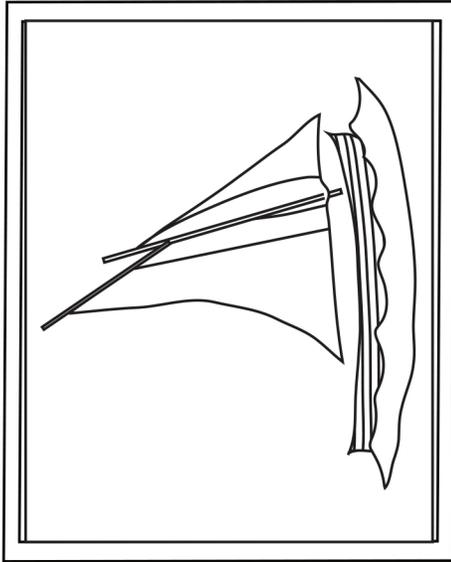
Which four of these clues belong in our story? Which two do not? Put an X in the boxes of the four that belong.



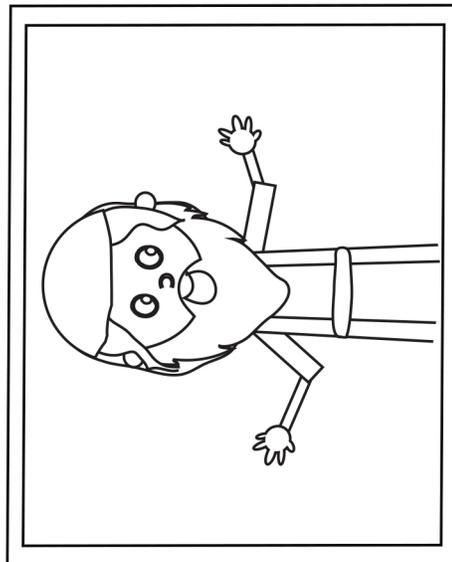
A Big Promise (Covenant)



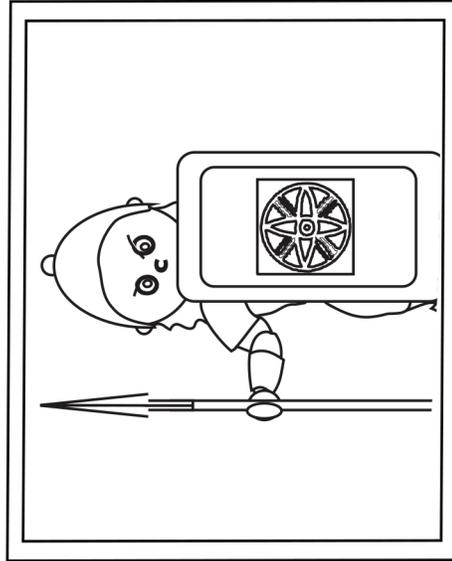
The Sun



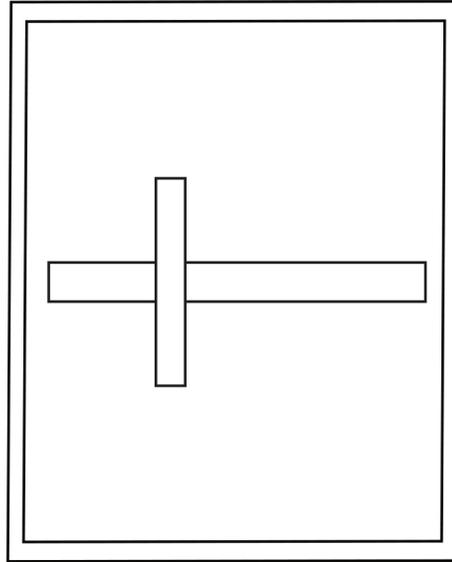
A Boat



A Man Named Jeremiah



Soldiers



A Cross

Answer: The big promise, the man named Jeremiah, the soldiers and the cross belong. The sun and the boat do not.

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 8, Bible Truth 1, Lesson 3



Big Question 8: What Is God's Love for His People Like?

Answer: It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them!

Bible Truth 1 Meaning

All people have rebelled against God and have broken His laws. All have chosen to do things their own way, not God's. Their hearts should be full of love for God, but instead, their hearts are dead and empty of love for God and His good ways. That's why all people deserve God's punishment for their sins. They deserve to be separated from Him forever. How sad! But God is so kind and merciful! He chose to save sinners, like you and me, even though we did not deserve it. Yes, God chose to love sinners, even though their hearts were so dead and empty of love for Him. And He didn't just love them a little bit. He loved them a lot! He loved them so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to live and perfect life and give it up as the full payment for their sins when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really done it! He had redeemed sinners, so that they could become God's special people—His, dearly-loved, adopted children forever! We can be God's special people, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Hasn't God loved us so much through Jesus!

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

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."
--- 1 John 4:10, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Why did God's people need God to save them? *Because they were sinners who kept on disobeying Him and His good laws.*
2. What did the people of Israel promise God that they would do? *They would love God and obey His good laws.*
3. What did God promise to do for the people of Israel, if they loved Him and obeyed His good laws? *They would be His dearly-loved people. He would take care of them and give them good things. He would give them homes in a special place where they could worship Him and He would protect them from their enemies.*
4. Did the people of Israel love God and keep His good laws? *No. They did not.*
5. What did God do before He let the enemies come in and destroy their special place and make them work for them? *He warned them many times through people like Jeremiah.*
6. What were the people of Israel saddest about when they were taken away by their enemies? *That they had broken their big promise to God and that they didn't deserve to be His people anymore.*
7. What good news did Daniel, Ezekiel and Zechariah give the people of Israel? *That God still loved them. He punished them so they would turn back to love and obey Him. He would take them back to their special place to live. He would send Jesus to beat their biggest enemy--sin and death.*

Let's Pray!

- A** We praise you, God for being so full of love for Your people. You were filled with love for them before they loved You or knew You!
- C** God, we should be filled with love for You and Your good ways, but so many times we are not. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for loving sinners, even before they loved You. Thank You for making the way for them to be saved through Jesus.
- S** Work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Give us new hearts full of love for You. Help us to become Your people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Let's Praise God Right Now!

Big Q & A 8 Hymn: And Can It Be from *Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 18*

Refrain

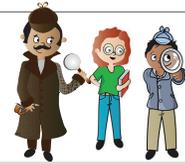
Amazing love, how can it be?
That thou, my God, should die for me?
Amazing love, how can it be?
That thou, my God, should die for me?

Words: Charles Wesley Music: Thomas Campbell

Big Question 8 Praise Song: God Is So Good from *Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 8, track 19*

God is so good (powerful, holy),
God is so good (powerful, holy),
God is so good (powerful, holy),
He's so good (powerful, holy) to me.

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives Parent Resources for Unit 8* to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

Deep Down Devotions: Unit 8, Bible Truth 1 Story Concepts**P.1****The Case of the Costly Children**

Exodus 24, Jeremiah 25, Isaiah 9,42,43,49, Ezekiel 37, Daniel 9, Zechariah 8-14

Dear Parents,

Big Question #8 is: "What Is God's Love for His People Like?" Your child is learning that "It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them."

Here's a copy of the Bible story they are learning along with the "Listening Assignment" for each lesson. These assignments provide a different teaching emphasis for each lesson, helping the children dig deeper into each Bible truth. They match up with your child's take home for each lesson. We hope that these resources help your family to dig down deeper into the truths of God's Word!" Happy digging!

•many more resources for this Big Question came be found online at www.praisefactory.org•

Listening Assignments

"Hey, Kids! Detective Dan, here. Listen carefully to the story and help me answer these questions:

Detective Dan's Lesson #1 Listening Assignment:

I need to find out:

- 1. Who did God adopt as His dearly-loved children?**
- 2. What made adopting them so costly to God?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible Verse is 1 John 4:10, ESV

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

I need to find out:

- 1. Who did God love before they loved Him?**
- 2. Whose sins were forgiven by Jesus' sacrifice?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:

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

They are: a big promise, the sun, a boat, a man named Jeremiah, soldiers, a cross.

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

I need to figure out:

- 1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't?**
- 2. Who needed to confess their sins to God? Who needed to ask Him to be their 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.

The Case of the Costly Children *Exodus 24, Jeremiah 25, Isaiah 9,42,43,49, Ezekiel 37, Daniel 9, Zechariah 8-14*

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

"I have loved you and rescued from your enemies. I want to be your God. I want you to be my dearly loved people," the LORD told the people of Israel, long ago, as they gathered near the big mountain called Mt. Sinai.

"I want us to make a covenant together," the LORD told the people through Moses. **"I want to make big, big promises with you, sealed with blood. Promises that must be kept. "Do or die" promises,"** the LORD explained. **"I want to give you My big promise to always take care of you and give you many good things. I want to give you homes in your own, very special land. A place where you can worship Me and live happily. And I will get rid of all your enemies so you don't have to worry about them again,"** the LORD told the people.

"But, I want you to make Me a big promise, too," the LORD told them. **"A promise to love Me and keep all of My good laws,"** He said.

What would the people of Israel say? What would the people of Israel do? Did they want the LORD to be their God? Did they want Him to take care of them and give them all these good things? Did they want to be His dearly-loved people?

What do you think?

Yes, they did! They wanted the LORD to make His covenant with them. And they wanted these promises to be "Do or die" promises, sealed in blood. They wanted to make sure the LORD really kept His word and gave them all these good things He promised. What a wonderful life He was offering them!

Ahh, but there was also the OTHER question they had to ask themselves: did THEY want to make a covenant with the LORD? Did THEY want to promise to love Him and keep His good laws? Remember: their promises were covenant promises, too. They were also "Do or Die," sealed-with-blood promises which MUST be kept. Did they want to make that kind of promise to the LORD?

What do you think?

Yes, they did! The LORD loved them. His laws were good. Why would they NOT want to make this covenant promise with Him?! So they said to the LORD, "Yes, yes, yes! We will be Your dearly loved people! We will keep all of Your good laws. We will make a covenant with You—our "Do or Die" promise. We want You to be our God!" they told the LORD.

So the LORD gave the people the good laws of His covenant. Moses built an altar at the base of the mountain and set up twelve, stone towers-- one for each of the twelve, family groups among the people. Twelve, young men brought twelve large, worship gifts to offer to the LORD. Everyone listened as Moses read the LORD's promises and laws to the people. Blood was sprinkled on the altar and on the people. "We will do everything the LORD has said. We will obey Him and keep the covenant... we will do or die," the people promised. **And so the covenant was made. The LORD was their God and they were His people.**

The LORD kept all of His covenant with His people--every one of His big, "Do or Die" promises. He gave them a special land to live in. He gave them their own homes. He gave them fields full of good food and lots of children. He told them how to build a special worship so they could meet with Him. And He protected them from their enemies.

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

But what about the people of Israel? Did they keep the covenant promises they made to the LORD?

What do you think?

They did NOT! They did NOT love the LORD or keep His good laws as they promised. You see, it is one thing to MAKE a big promise to the LORD and another thing to KEEP it. The people WANTED to be God’s dearly-loved people. They WANTED Him to take care of them and give them all sorts of good things. They WANTED Him to give them homes in their own, very special land where they could worship Him and live happily. They WANTED Him to get rid of all their enemies. But there was something that the people of Israel had in their hearts--that we have in our hearts, too—that was causing a big problem. Do you know what it was?

Can you guess?

It was sin. Yes, ever since Adam and Eve first disobeyed God in the Garden, there has been sin in everyone’s heart. Sin that kept those people of Israel from obeying all of the LORD’s good laws. Sin that kept them from worshipping and loving Him as they should. Sin that kept them from loving each other the way they should, too. And so, the people broke their covenant to the LORD –yes, that big “Do or Die” promise...over and over and over. And that meant the people no longer deserved to be the LORD’s dearly-loved people and He should no longer be their God. What would the LORD do, now that the people had disobeyed?

What do you think He would do?

What would the LORD do? He did plenty! First, He warned them over and over to turn away from their sin. He sent godly men like Jeremiah to them, saying, “Remember your big promise to the LORD! He wants to be your God. He wants you to be His dearly-loved people. Turn away from disobeying His good laws. Turn back to worshipping and loving Him! If you do, He will forgive you. If you do not, then He will send punishments to help you turn back to Him,” Jeremiah warned them.

Did the people of Israel listen to the LORD’s warnings? Did they turn back to worship and love Him? Not really. So at last, the LORD sent punishments. He let their enemies come into their land and destroy their homes and worship place. He let them take the people of Israel far away and made them work very, very hard for them.

Boo, hoo! Boo, hoo! How sad the people of Israel were! They missed the good things that God had given them. They missed their homes. They missed the place where they worshipped the LORD. They did not like working for their enemies.

But most of all, they were sad that they had not kept their big promise to the LORD. They knew that they had not worshipped or loved Him as they promised they would. They knew that they had not loved others as they promised they would, either. They knew that they should not be His dearly-loved people anymore and He should not be their God. This is what they deserved for breaking their “Do or Die” promises with the LORD. They knew they had sin in their hearts; and at last, they began to turn away from their sins. But was it too late? Was this really the end of the LORD’s love for His people?

What do you think?

No, it was not! Even though they should not be God’s dearly loved people anymore, God kept on loving His sinful people.

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

The LORD sent godly men like Daniel, Ezekiel and Zechariah to encourage the people with wonderful news: “You have broken your promises to the LORD, but He still loves you,” they told the people. “Listen to the good plans He has for you: ‘I have punished you so you would turn back to Me, but I won’t keep on punishing you,’ the LORD told them. ‘On just the right day, your punishment will be over. I will free you from your enemies. You won’t have to work for them anymore. You will get to go back to your homes in the special land. You can build a new place to worship Me. I will take care of you and give you good things,” the LORD promised them.

“But I have even better plans for you than freeing you from your enemies and bringing you back home,” the LORD told them. “I’m going to make a NEW covenant with you. A new “Do or Die” promise sealed with new blood. I’m going to beat your even bigger enemy: the sin in your hearts that keeps you from loving and obeying Me!” He promised.

“Yes, I’m going to send you a Messiah, a Savior. He will be My Son. He is going to come to earth. He is going to take the punishment that all My people deserve for disobeying Me. It will be gone for good. His blood will take away their sins. His blood will seal this new “Do or Die” covenant. Then I will give My people new hearts filled with My Holy Spirit. Then all My people, from every place in the whole world, will be saved to know Me and love Me and obey Me. And one day, they will even live with Me, forever happy,” the LORD promised. “This covenant will last forever.”

What wonderful news this was! The people of Israel were so happy! They believed God’s big promise to free them from their enemies. They believed His promise to send them back home to their special land.

And, they believed that one day God would send a Messiah, a Savior, to beat their biggest enemy of all: the sin in their hearts that kept them from loving and obeying Him.

The people waited and waited. They looked for the day God promised. And at last it came! They left working for their enemies and went back home to their special land. They built new homes and they build a new place to worship God. Then they waited and waited some more. They waited for the day the Savior would come. And while they had to wait a very long time, at last that day came, too.

Who was the Messiah, the Savior, God’s Son? I bet you know His name?

Can you tell me?

It’s Jesus! That’s right. Jesus was born a baby in Bethlehem. He grew up, up, up until He was a man. And what a man Jesus was! He kept all of God’s laws His whole life. He was perfect! And what did Jesus do with that perfect life? He did just exactly what God promised He would do. He saved all God’s people when He took the punishment for their sins on the cross. With His own blood He sealed the new covenant that God was making with His people. A covenant that couldn’t be broken...EVER...because it was the blood of God’s perfect Son, Himself, that was keeping the promises for God’s people.

Yes, Jesus suffered and died on the cross that day. He was buried in a cave grave and watched over by guards. But that was not the end of the story, was it? What would happen on the third day?

Can you tell me?

On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, never to die again. He had really done it! He had beaten sin and death for God’s people, once and for all! How great is God’s love for His people! Even though they do not love Him or obey Him as they should, He loved them so much that He chose to send His Son Jesus to save them from their sins...so that they could know Him in their hearts now, and one day, go to live with Him forever.

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 did God adopt as His dearly-loved children?

All who would turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. His promises began with the people of Israel, but have spread out to include people from the whole world.

2. What made adopting them so costly to God? God adopted them by paying for their sins, Himself, when Jesus suffered and died on the cross.

For You and Me:

We, too, can become God's dearly-loved, adopted children 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: 1 John 4:10, ESV

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

1. Who did God love before they loved Him? God loved all His people before they loved Him—the people of Israel, and all others who would turn to Him and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

2. Whose sins were forgiven by Jesus' sacrifice? All of God's people—all who would turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

For You and Me:

We, too, are sinners who have broken God's laws. We, too, deserve His punishment for our sins. But the good news is that we, too, can be forgiven our sins when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Detective Dan's Lesson 3 Listening Assignment:

Our six clues were: a big promise, the sun, a boat, a man named Jeremiah, soldiers, and a cross.

1. Which four belong in our story?

The big promise, the man named Jeremiah, the soldiers and the cross belong. The sun and the boat do not.

2. Who needed to confess their sins to God? Who needed to ask Him to be their Savior? The people of Israel.

For You and Me:

Like the people of Israel, we, too, are sinners who have broken God's laws. We, too, deserve His punishment for our sins. But the good news is that we, too, can be forgiven our sins when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

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

Our Bible Truth is:

What Is God's Love for His People Like?

It's More than They Could Ever Deserve...

God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them!

Just like God's people from long ago, we do not love God or obey Him as we should. We deserve God's punishment, too, don't we? But the good news is that when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior, He will save us, too! We will be His dearly-loved people—His adopted children. He will give us new hearts that want to love and obey Him. And one day, at just the right time, we will go to live with Him in heaven, forever happy!

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A We praise you, God for being so full of love for Your people. You were filled with love for them before they loved You or knew You!

C God, we should be filled with love for You and Your good ways, but so many times we are not. We need a Savior!

T Thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for loving sinners, even before they loved You. Thank You for making the way for them to be saved through Jesus.

S Work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Give us new hearts full of love for You. Help us to become Your people.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Deep Down Detectives Devotions: Big Question 8, Bible Truth 1 Key Concepts p.5**Unit 8: The God Who Loves**

Unit Big Question (and Answer): What Is God's Love for His People Like?
It's More than They Could Ever Deserve!

Unit Bible Verse: "Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!"
--1 Chronicles 16:34, ESV

Bible Truth 1 Concept: God Gave His Son, Jesus, to Save Them

All people have rebelled against God and have broken His laws. All have chosen to do things their own way, not God's. Their hearts should be full of love for God; but instead, their hearts are dead and empty of love for God and His good ways. That's why all people deserve God's punishment for their sins. They deserve to be separated from Him forever. How sad!

But God is so kind and merciful! He chose to save sinners, like you and me, even though we did not deserve it. Yes, God chose to love sinners, even though their hearts were so dead and empty of love for Him. And He didn't just love them a little bit. He loved them a lot! He loved them so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to live and perfect life and give it up as the full payment for their sins when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really done it! He had redeemed sinners, so that they could become God's special people—His, dearly-loved, adopted children forever! We can be God's special people, too, if we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Hasn't God loved us so much through Jesus!

Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse: 1 John 4:10, ESV

"In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Learn a Little: "[God] sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Meaning

We are all sinners who have rebelled against God, yet God chose to love us... and to love us in the deepest way possible! He sent Jesus to save us. Yes, God sent His dearly-loved Son to earth to be the propitiation for our sins. He was the atoning sacrifice that would pay for our sins and satisfy God's judgment against us. Jesus would live a perfect life, then offer it up as the full payment that would bring the forgiveness we needed. And He chose to do this while we still were rebelling against Him! How wonderful is this free gift of God! How deep is His love! This atoning sacrifice is for us, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 1 ACTS Prayer

- A** We praise you, God for being so full of love for Your people. You were filled with love for them before they loved You or knew You!
- C** God, we should be filled with love for You and Your good ways, but so many times we are not. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You for loving the world so much that You sent Jesus to be our Savior. Thank You for loving sinners, even before they loved You. Thank You for making the way for them to be saved through Jesus.
- S** Work deep inside our hearts. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Give us new hearts full of love for You. Help us to become Your people. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Bible Truth 1 Story**The Case of the Costly Children**

Exodus 24, Jeremiah 25, Isaiah 9,42,43,49, Ezekiel 37, Daniel 9, Zechariah 8-14