

**CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 3:
How Can We Be Saved?
It Is God's Free Gift...**

When the Holy Spirit Works in Our

----- !

**HINT: What did God put deep inside of us
so we can know and love Him?
It starts with an "h" and it rhymes with "starts."**

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 11, Bible Truth 3, Lesson 1



Big Question 11: How Can We Be Saved?

Answer: It Is God's Free Gift... When the Holy Spirit Works in Our Hearts!

Bible Truth 3 Meaning

All of us are sinners. We would rather do things our own way rather than obey God. We have hearts that are dead and empty of love for Him and His good ways! We would never choose to love God on our own. But guess what God does for His people? He treats them so much better than they deserve! He sends His Holy Spirit to work in their hearts. When they hear God's Word, He helps them know they are sinners. He helps them want to stop disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He makes their hearts alive to God and gives them a special closeness with Him. Now they want to obey Him and love Him. We can be God's people, too! We can ask God to send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. He can help us to ask God to forgive our sins, trust Jesus as our Savior, and live for Him. Then we can have special closeness with God now; and when we die, we will go to live perfectly happily with Him forever.

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

"...He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit." --Titus 3:5-7, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Who are sinners? *All of us.*
2. Would we rather do things our way or God's way? *Our way!*
3. What are sinners' hearts empty of? *Love for God and His good ways.*
4. Do sinners choose God on their own? *No, they don't.*
5. Who does God send to work in hearts of His people? *The Holy Spirit.*
6. What does the Holy Spirit do in the hearts of God's people? *Helps them to know they are sinners; helps them want to stop disobeying God; helps them trust Jesus as their Savior.*
7. What book does God use? *His Word, the Bible.*
8. Can we ask the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts? *Yes, we can. He can help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** God, we praise You for being the Changer of the hearts of sinful people, like us.
- C** God, we confess that we are all sinners. We have hard hearts that are slow to believe, love and obey You. We need Jesus to save us!
- T** Thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to work inside us that we can know You, love You and live for You. You give us what we need but could never get on our own.
- S** God, send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. Give us faith as we hear Your Word, the Bible. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us new creations! Give us the new birth! We want to know You and live for You! In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing about What We're Learning!

Big Q & A 11 Song from *Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 11, track 12*
(adapted version of "Here We Go Looby Loo")

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

Big Question 11 Action Rhyme Song

 from *Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 11, track 13*

Refrain:

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

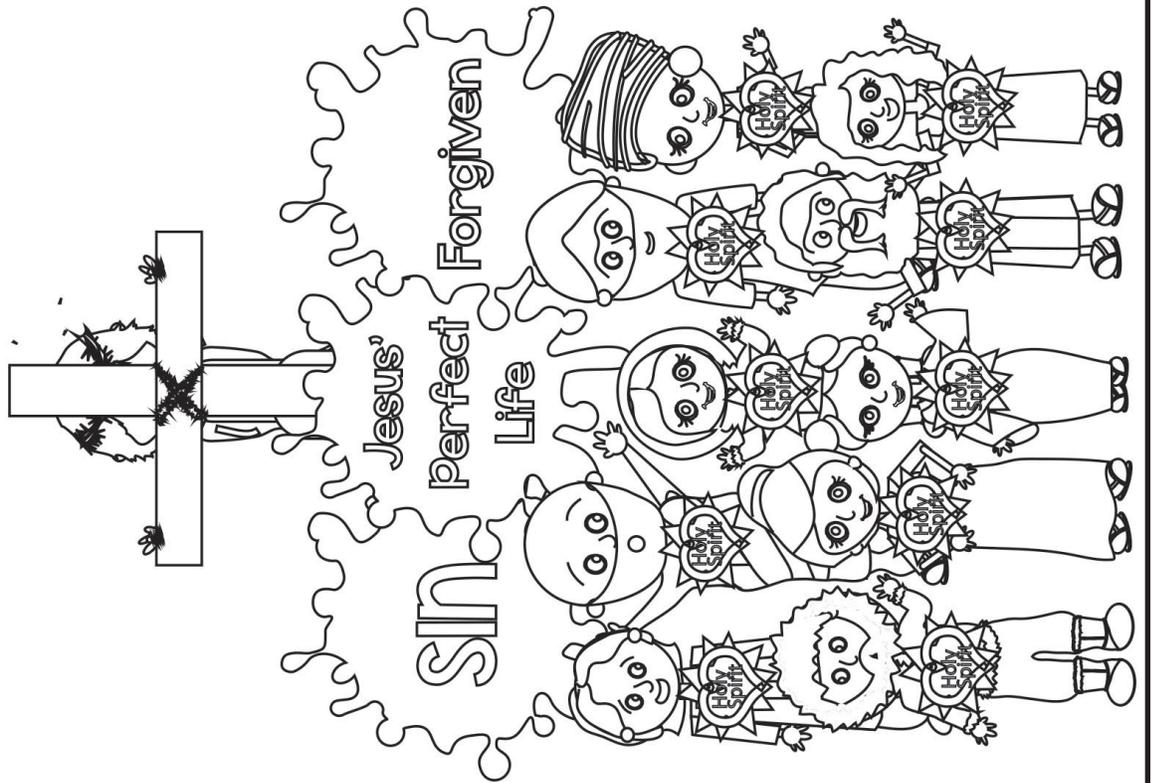
Verse 1

I disobey God, I need a Savior,
You disobey God, You need a Savior,
We all disobey God, We need a Savior.
To save us from our sins. *Refrain*

Verse 2

Jesus, He paid the price, the perfect sacrifice,
On the cross, gave His life,
Bought us eternal life,
Takes away all our sin,
Makes our hearts clean within,
When we repent and believe in Him. *Refrain*

“He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit.” --Titus 3:5-7, ESV



Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 11, Bible Truth 3, Lesson 2



Big Question 11: How Can We Be Saved?

Answer: It Is God's Free Gift... When the Holy Spirit Works in Our Hearts!

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

"...He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit." --Titus 3:5-7, ESV

Learn a Little: "He saved us by the Holy Spirit."

Meaning

We could never please God with our own good works. Only through Jesus' perfect life offered up in the place of sinners can we be saved. And what a salvation it is! God, Himself, sends His Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of His people. He gives them the gift of faith. He helps them turn away from their sins. He makes them clean of their sins and all new on the inside. This is how we become God's people--His heirs; that is, His children who will receive eternal life with Him forever.

Some Questions for You

1. Can we ever please God with our own, good works? *No.*
2. Whose perfect life can pay for our sins and save us? *Jesus'!*
3. Who does God send to work in our hearts? *The Holy Spirit.*
4. What does the Holy Spirit do inside of the hearts of people? *He helps them turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He makes their hearts clean, as if they had never sinned. He lives inside of them and makes them God's people forever.*
5. Can we ask the Holy Spirit to work in our heart? *Yes, we can! God loves to answer this prayer!*

Let's Pray!

- A** God, we praise You for being the Changer of the hearts of sinful people, like us.
- C** God, we confess that we are all sinners. We have hard hearts that are slow to believe, love and obey You. We need Jesus to save us!
- T** Thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to work inside us that we can know You, love You and live for You. You give us what we need but could never get on our own.
- S** God, send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. Give us faith as we hear Your Word, the Bible. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us new creations! Give us the new birth! We want to know You and live for You! In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

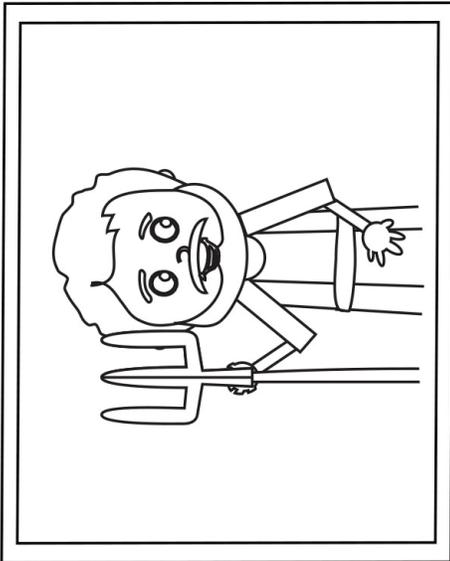
He Saved Us: Titus 3:5-7 from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 11, track 21

He saved us, he saved us,
By regeneration
And renewal of the Spirit.
He saved us, he saved us,
By the Holy Spirit.

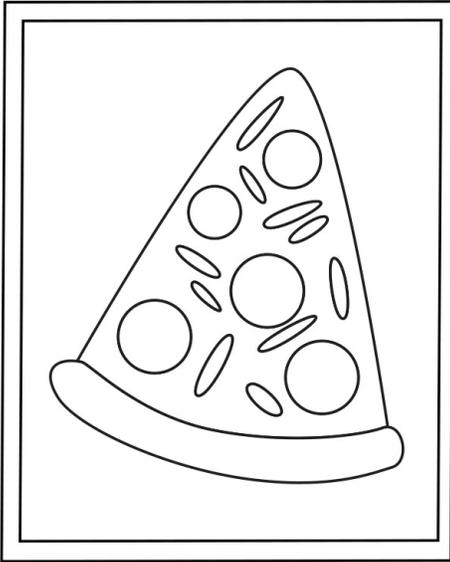
The Holy Spirit whom he poured out,
On us richly,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
The Holy Spirit whom he poured out,
On us, through Jesus Christ.
Titus Three, verses five through seven.

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives* Parent Resources for Unit 11 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

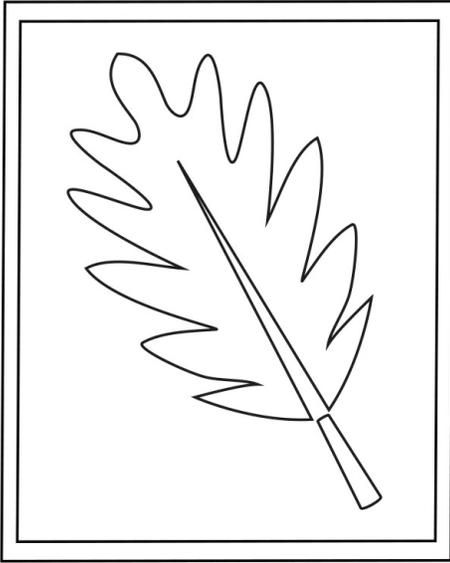
Which four of these clues belong in our story? Which two do not? Put an X in the boxes of the four that belong.



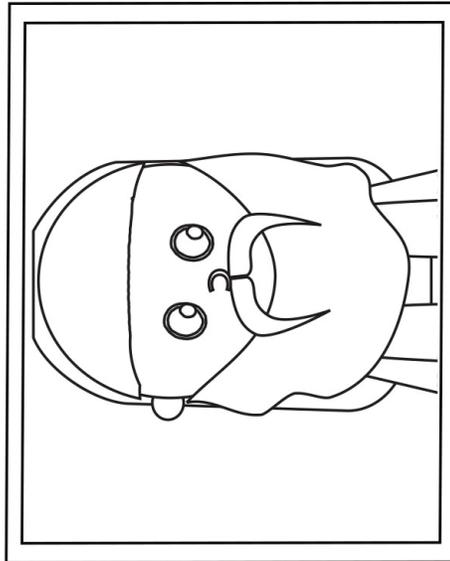
A Farmer



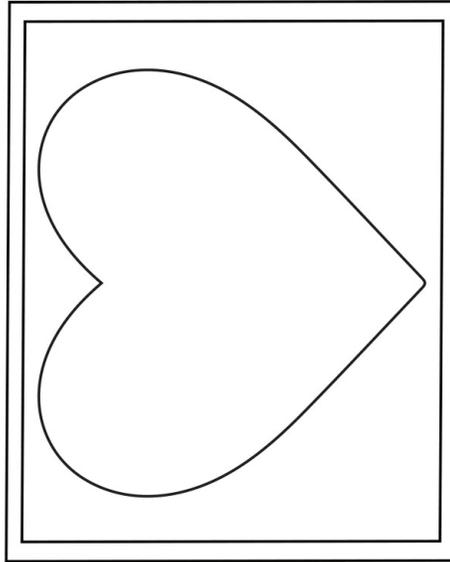
A Pizza



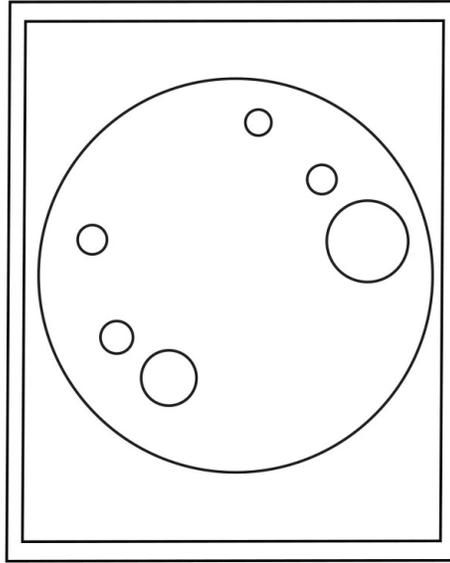
A Leaf



An Important Man



A Heart



The Moon

Answer: The farmer, important city person, a heart, and the moon belong. The pizza and the leaf do not.

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 11, Bible Truth 3, Lesson 3



Big Question 11: How Can We Be Saved?

Answer: It Is God's Free Gift... When the Holy Spirit Works in Our Hearts!

Bible Truth 3 Meaning

All of us are sinners. We would rather do things our own way rather than obey God. We have hearts that are dead and empty of love for Him and His good ways! We would never choose to love God on our own. But guess what God does for His people? He treats them so much better than they deserve! He sends His Holy Spirit to work in their hearts. When they hear God's Word, He helps them know they are sinners. He helps them want to stop disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He makes their hearts alive to God and gives them a special closeness with Him. Now they want to obey Him and love Him. We can be God's people, too! We can ask God to send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. He can help us to ask God to forgive our sins, trust Jesus as our Savior, and live for Him. Then we can have special closeness with God now; and when we die, we will go to live perfectly happily with Him forever.

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

"...He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit." --Titus 3:5-7, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. What were the country people and the city people think about Jesus? *They were amazed at the things He told them about God and the great things He did by God's power.*
2. Who was working in the hearts of people as Jesus taught them about God? *The Holy Spirit.*
3. What was the Holy Spirit doing in people's hearts? *He was giving them faith to believe in Jesus and to want to turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior.*
4. Who was Nicodemus? *He was an important teacher of God's Word who lived in the big city of Jerusalem.*
5. What was something new that Jesus taught Nicodemus? *That no one can do enough good things to please God. We are all sinners. We all need God's Holy Spirit to come into our hearts and clean them of sin and give us faith to believe in Jesus.*
6. What is something we can ask God the Holy Spirit to do in our hearts today? *To work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then, our hearts will be clean of sin and we will be born again as God's dearly-loved people. Ask Him to help you. He loves to answer this prayer!*

Let's Pray!

- A** God, we praise You for being the Changer of the hearts of sinful people, like us.
- C** God, we confess that we are all sinners. We have hard hearts that are slow to believe, love and obey You. We need Jesus to save us!
- T** Thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to work inside us that we can know You, love You and live for You. You give us what we need but could never get on our own.
- S** God, send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. Give us faith as we hear Your Word, the Bible. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us new creations! Give us the new birth! We want to know You and live for You! In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Praise God Right Now!

Big Question 11 Hymn: Grace that Is Greater than All Our Sin from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 11, track 15

Verse 1

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

Words: Julie H. Johnston Music: Daniel B. Towner

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives* Parent Resources for Unit 11 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

Big Question 11 Praise Song: Blessed Be the Name from *Deep Down Detectives* ESV Songs 11, track 16

All praise to Him who reigns above	Blessed be the name,
In majesty supreme.	Blessed be the name,
Who gave His Son for man to die,	Blessed be the name of the Lord;
That He might man redeem!	Blessed be the name,
	Blessed be the name,
	Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Bible Story for Big Question 11, Bible Truth 3**The Case of the Surprising, Second Birthday***John 3*

Dear Parents,

Big Question #11 is: "How Can We Be Saved?" Your child is learning that "It Is God's Free Gift...When the Holy Spirit Works in Our Hearts!"

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 can 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 know:

- 1. What special kind of second birthday did Jesus promise to all who trust in him as her Savior?**
- 2. To Who did Jesus tell about this birthday? What did they find so surprising about it?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is Titus 3:5-7:**

"...He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit."

I need to know:

- 1. What kind of special, second birthday does God give to each of His people?**
- 2. Who does God send to work in their hearts and give them this special, second birthday?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #3 Listening Assignment:I found six clues, but two of them are **NOT** in the story.

They are: a farmer, a pizza, a leaf, an important city person, a heart, and the moon.

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

I need to know:

- 1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't?**
- 2. Who did the Holy Spirit work inside of as they listened to Jesus preach? What special birthday did God give them when he worked?**

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 Surprising, Second Birthday*John 3**Story with lines separating paragraphs (text in bold, optional interaction cues in italics)*

Jesus and His close friends, the disciples, went out in the country to the people there. Jesus taught them all about God and did amazing things by God's power.

There were plain, country people, like shepherds, fishermen and farmers. There were fathers, mothers and children. There were sick people there. Important country people, like teachers of God's Word and rich people were there, too. And they all came to Jesus to hear Him teach about God and do amazing things.

And amazed they were, by what Jesus said and did! "This Jesus is not like any other teacher we've ever heard! What amazing things He says about God! What amazing things He does! He even heals sick people with just His words! Let's go and hear more. Let's go and see more," they exclaimed.

Soon, great big crowds of country people followed Jesus around, listening to Him teach about God and watching the amazing things Jesus did with God's great power.

But you know, Jesus wasn't the only one doing amazing things by God's great power. God, the Holy Spirit, was doing some amazing things, too.

For as some of those country people listened to Jesus talk about God and watched Him do amazing things by God's great power, God, the Holy Spirit, was at work in their hearts, changing them.

What kind of changes do you think the Holy Spirit was doing in them?

The Holy Spirit was giving them faith in Jesus, so that they would want to turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Yes, by His Holy Spirit, God was giving these people the best gift of all: the gift of being saved from the punishment they deserved from God for their sins.

This wonderful gift meant that God would forgive their sins and make them His dearly-loved people. They would get to know and love God in their hearts their whole lives. And one day, when they died, they would get to live with Him in heaven forever and ever. What a wonderful thing the Holy Spirit was doing as those country people listened to Jesus!

But God didn't just care about country people. He cared about city people, too. So, Jesus and His disciples went walk, walk, walking along the road, out of the country, and up, up, up the mountain to the great city of Jerusalem. What do you think Jesus did in Jerusalem?

Can you guess?

Jesus taught them about God and He did amazing things by God's great power, just like He had done in the country for the country people.

All sorts of city people came to Jesus. Plain ole city people, like the people who sold food and cloth in the markets. Sick people came to see Him. Important, city people, like the Pharisees (the teachers of God's Word) Important, city people, like Even city people who had done lots of bad things came to Jesus.

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

And amazed they were, by what Jesus said and did! "This Jesus is not like any other teacher we've ever heard! What amazing things He says about God! What amazing things He does! He even heals sick people with just His words! Let's go and hear more. Let's go and see more," they exclaimed. And soon, great big crowds of city people followed Jesus around, listening to Him teach about God and watching the amazing things Jesus did with God's great power.

But you know, Jesus wasn't the only one doing amazing things by God's great power in the big city of Jerusalem. Can you guess who else was at work?

Can you guess who?

It was God, the Holy Spirit. He had done amazing things in the country people; and now, He was doing amazing things in the city people, too. For as some of those city people listened to Jesus teach about God and they watched Him do amazing things by God's great power, God, the Holy Spirit, was at work in their hearts, changing them. He was giving them faith in Jesus that they would want to turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior.

Yes, the Holy Spirit was giving them faith in Jesus, so that they would want to turn away from disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Yes, by His Holy Spirit, God was giving these people the best gift of all: the gift of being saved from the punishment they deserved from God for their sins.

This wonderful gift meant that God would forgive their sins and make them His dearly-loved people. They would get to know and love God in their hearts their whole lives. And one day, when they died, they would get to live with Him in heaven forever and ever. What a wonderful thing the Holy Spirit was doing as those city people listened to Jesus!

Now among the city people who came to Jesus, there was a man named Nicodemus. Nicodemus was NOT a plain ole city person. He was a very, VERY important city person. Why, he was one of the most important people in the city and in the country! What made Nicodemus so important? It was what he taught.

Can you guess who Nicodemus taught about that would make him so important?

Nicodemus taught the people about God. He was one of the best of all the teachers of God's Word. He was one of men who told everyone else just exactly how they should please God by obeying God's good laws written down in the Bible.

Nicodemus had spent years and years learning God's Word and teaching it to everyone else. But when Jesus came to Jerusalem, Nicodemus just shut his mouth and listened and watched. He was amazed at what Jesus taught about God. He was amazed at the mighty things Jesus did by God's power. When Nicodemus was around Jesus, he could see that Jesus was not just another teacher like himself or any of the other teachers. Jesus was a teacher especially sent by God.

Nicodemus didn't feel like such a great teacher. He felt like a learner. "No one could do the things Jesus does, if God had not sent him. But there's so much more about Him and what He teaches that I don't understand. I have to find out more," Nicodemus thought.

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

But perhaps what amazed Nicodemus the most were the changes he saw in the city people who came to Jesus—especially the city people who had done really bad things. For years, Nicodemus had taught these people to work hard to obey all of God’s good laws. These good works were how they could please God, he taught them. But never in all his years did Nicodemus EVER see changes in people like the changes he saw when Jesus taught! Jesus was teaching and people were turning away from the bad things they had been doing! Jesus was teaching and people were putting their trust in God! Jesus was teaching and people were CHANGING!

What was going on? What was changing these people? Nicodemus wanted to know. He decided he would go to find Jesus and talk to Him, all by himself. So one night, Nicodemus made his way down the dark, dark streets of that big city of Jerusalem to the place where Jesus stayed. That night as they talked, Jesus answered Nicodemus’ questions.

“Trying hard to keep all of God’s good rules is not how people become God’s people,” Jesus told Nicodemus. “All people are sinners who have disobeyed God. They all deserve God’s punishment, not His friendship. No one can ever obey God’s laws well enough to please God,” Jesus told Nicodemus. “No, the only way you can become God’s people is when God’s Holy Spirit works in your heart. Only the Holy Spirit can come in and make it brand new,” Jesus said.

“Yes, it’s God’s Holy Spirit who comes in and cleans it of sin, just like water cleans away dirt. God does not hold your sins against you. They are paid for through Me, God’s Son. The Holy Spirit helps people repent—that is, He helps them to not want to disobey God anymore. He helps people love God and trust in Me as their Savior,” Jesus told Nicodemus. “And when the Holy Spirit works, He makes such a big change in your heart that it’s like becoming a whole new person—like being born again,” Jesus explained.

Nicodemus listened to Jesus’ words and this time he wasn’t just amazed. He was confused! What do you think confused him?

Can you guess?

“Born again? How can this be, Jesus? I’m a full-grown man. Do I have to be born like a baby from a mother again? I don’t understand,” Nicodemus told Jesus.

“Nicodemus, you are one of the big and best teachers of God’s Word, yet you don’t understand?” Jesus replied. “But this is why God has sent His Son—that’s ME!-- from heaven. Yes, God loved the world so much that He sent Me to be the Savior, so that whoever believes in Me won’t face God’s punishment for their sins,” Jesus said. “Instead, they will be forgiven and they will become God’s people forever,” He explained.

Nicodemus had much to think about that night as he went home. Jesus had taught him so much about God. New things he had never understood before. Jesus is God’s Son, the Savior. The Holy Spirit works inside people to help them believe and make them brand-new people—God’s people.

Did the Holy Spirit work in Nicodemus’ heart as he thought about these things? It seems that He did. For who was it who helped take down Jesus’ body from the cross when He died for the sins of God’s people? It was Nicodemus! And who was it who took Jesus’ body and buried it in a tomb. It was Nicodemus! Some say that some of Jesus’ enemies made Nicodemus stop being one of the important teachers because he believed in Jesus. The Bible doesn’t tell us that part of Nicodemus’ story.

But something I DO know for sure, is that we can ask God’s Holy Spirit to work in our hearts right NOW! He can help us to turn away from disobeying God and to trust in Jesus as our own Savior. Yes, even to you and me, God offers to give us the wonderful free gift of salvation--of life with God forever, through Jesus. Let’s ask God to work in our hearts! Let’s ask Him to give us this gift!

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. What special kind of second birthday did Jesus promised to all who trust in him as their Savior? To be a changed person, forgiving of their sins and one of God's dearly-loved people forever.

2. To whom did Jesus tell about this birthday? What did he find so surprising about it? To Nicodemus. He didn't understand that the Holy Spirit is the one who works inside us and changes our hearts. He is the one who helps us repent and believe so we can become God's people.

For You and Me:

That special second birthday wasn't just for important people like Nicodemus. It's for anyone who turns away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Ask the Holy Spirit to work in your heart and help you. He loves to answer these prayers!

**Detective Dan's Lesson 2 Listening Assignment:
Our Bible Verse is Titus 3:5, ESV:**

"... He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit."

I need to find out:

1. What kind of special, second birthday does God give to each of His people? To be made a new person inside their heart. God forgives their sins and helps them trust in Jesus as their Savior.

2. Who does God send to work in their hearts and give them this special, second birthday? The Holy Spirit.

For You and Me:

That second that special second birthday that God gave to his people long ago is something he still gives to people even today. How? When? When they turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. Ask the Holy Spirit to come and work in your heart and help you do this. He loves to answer this prayer!

Detective Dan's Lesson 3 Listening Assignment:

Our six clues were: a farmer, a pizza, a leaf, an important city person, a heart, and the moon.

1. Which four belong in our story?

The farmer, the important city person, the heart and the moon belong.

2. Who did the Holy Spirit work inside of as they listened to Jesus preach? What special birthday did God give them when he worked? He worked inside of many country and city people. The Holy Spirit helped them turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He changed their hearts so they would become God's people. This is the special, second birth of salvation through Jesus.

For You and Me:

The Holy Spirit work in the hearts of many as they listen to Jesus preach from God's Word long ago. And He still works in hearts today as we listen to God's Word. Ask Him to work in your heart. Ask Him to help you to turn away from your sins and trust in Jesus as your Savior.

The Gospel (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)**Our Bible Truth is:****How Can We Be Saved?****It Is God's Free Gift...****When the Holy Spirit Works in Our Hearts!**

How can we be saved? It is God's free gift... when the Holy Spirit works in our hearts. All of us are sinners. We would rather do things our own ways rather than obey God. We have hearts that are dead and empty of love for Him and His good ways! We would never choose to love God on our own. But guess what God has does for His people? He treats them so much better than they deserve! He sends His Holy Spirit to work in their hearts. When they hear God's Word, He helps them know they are sinners. He helps them want to stop disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He makes their hearts alive to God and gives them a special closeness with Him. Now they want to obey Him and love Him. We can ask God to send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts, too. He can help us to say "sorry" to God and to trust in Jesus as our Savior. Then we can have special closeness with God forever!

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

- A** God, we praise You for being the Changer of the hearts of sinful people, like us.
- C** God, we confess that we are all sinners. We have hard hearts that are slow to believe, love and obey You. We need Jesus to save us!
- T** Thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to work inside us that we can know You, love You and live for You. You give us what we need but could never get on our own.
- S** God, send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. Give us faith as we hear Your Word, the Bible. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us new creations! Give us the new birth! We want to know You and live for You!

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Big Question 11, Bible Truth 3 Overview: Key Concepts**P.7****Unit 11: The God Who Saves****Unit Big Question (and Answer):** How Can We Be Saved? It Is God's Free Gift!**Unit Bible Verse:** "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
--- Romans 6:23, ESV**Bible Truth 3 Concept: It Is God's Free Gift... When the Holy Spirit Works in Our Hearts!**

All of us are sinners. We would rather do things our own way rather than obey God. We have hearts that are dead and empty of love for Him and His good ways! We would never choose to love God on our own.

But guess what God does for His people? He treats them so much better than they deserve! He sends His Holy Spirit to work in their hearts. When they hear God's Word, He helps them know they are sinners. He helps them want to stop disobeying God and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He makes their hearts alive to God and gives them a special closeness with Him. Now they want to obey Him and love Him.

We can be God's people, too! We can ask God to send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. He can help us to ask God to forgive our sins, trust Jesus as our Savior, and live for Him. Then we can have special closeness with God now; and when we die, we will go to live perfectly happily with Him forever.

Bible Truth 3 Bible Verse: Titus 3:5, ESV

"...He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit."

Learn a Little: "He saved us by the Holy Spirit."**Meaning**

We could never please God with our own, good works. Only through Jesus' perfect life offered up in the place of sinners can we be saved. And what a salvation it is! God, Himself, sends His Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of His people. He gives them the gift of faith. He helps them turn away from their sins. He makes them clean of their sins and all new on the inside. This is how we become God's people--His heirs; that is, His children who will receive eternal life with Him forever.

Bible Truth 3 ACTS Prayer

- A** God, we praise You for being the Changer of the hearts of sinful people, like us.
- C** God, we confess that we are all sinners. We have hard hearts that are slow to believe, love and obey You. We need Jesus to save us!
- T** Thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to work inside us that we can know You, love You and live for You. You give us what we need but could never get on our own.
- S** God, send the Holy Spirit to work in our hearts. Give us faith as we hear Your Word, the Bible. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Make us new creations! Give us the new birth! We want to know You and live for You! In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Bible Truth 3 Story**The Case of the Surprising, Second Birthday***John 3*

Big Question 11, Bible Truth 3 Overview: Key Concepts

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Songs Used in Bible Truth 3

Big Q & A 11 Song

Big Question 11 Song: How Can I Be Saved?

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

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

Big Question 11 Praise Song: Blessed Be the Name

Bible Truth 3 Bible Verse Song: He Saved Us Titus 3:5-7, ESV

Extra Bible Truth 3 Bible Verse Song: I Will Give You a New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV