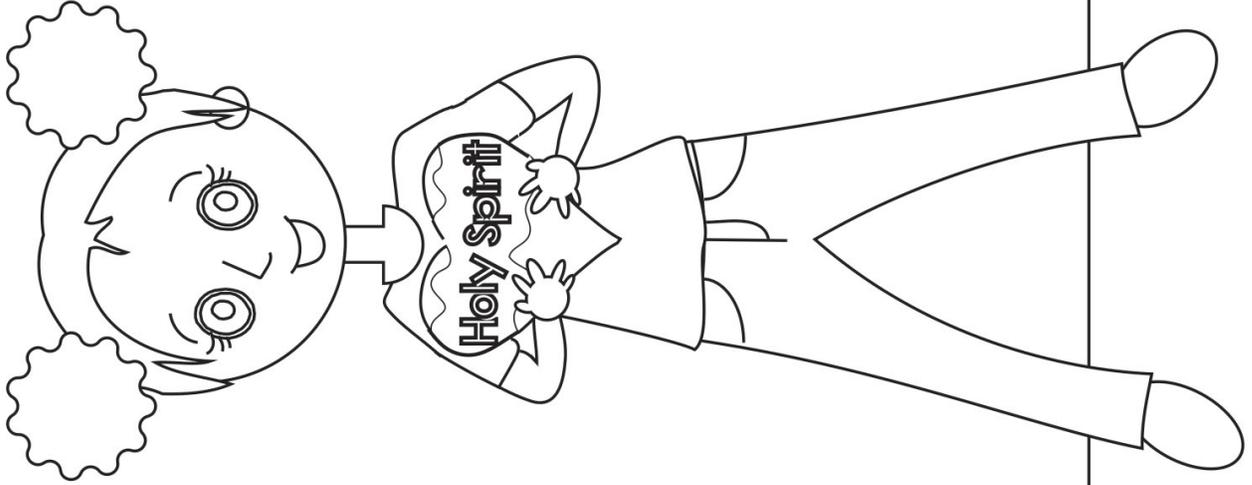


CAN YOU GUESS BIBLE TRUTH 4:
Why Do God's People Keep
Believing in Him?
It Is God's Sustaining Grace...

The Holy Spirit Works

of God's People!

HINT: This word is the opposite of "outside." It starts
with an "l" and it rhymes with "thin slide."



Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 13, Bible Truth 4, Lesson 1



Big Question 13 : How Can I Know What God Is Like?

Answer: It Is God's Sustaining Grace... The Holy Spirit Works Inside of God's People!

Bible Truth 4 Meaning

God created all people with a special heart, deep inside of them. It's different from the heart in your body that pumps blood and you feel beating. This special heart is invisible, but it's the part of you that lives forever and can know God. In the Bible, this special heart is also called our spirit. The sad news is that the beautiful, special heart that God gave us is broken with sin. Yes, we have all chosen to turn away from God and disobey Him. We deserve His punishment, not His friendship. But there's good news, too! God's Holy Spirit can work in our heart and change it. He does this when we listen to God's Word and when we pray. He can help us see our sins, turn away from them, and trust in Jesus as our Savior. And when we do, He makes our heart clean and new, able to know God and wanting to love and serve Him. This is how we become God's people. And that's just the beginning of what the Holy Spirit does inside us when we become God's people. He goes on working in our hearts, making the most amazing changes. He helps us know God and want to live for Him more and more. He gives us wisdom to understand God's Word and boldness to tell others about Him. He helps us turn away from anger, jealousy, hatred and pride and replaces them with love, peace, patience, kindness, joy, goodness and self-control in their place. What a wonderful gift the Holy Spirit is! God's people would never be able to keep on loving God and living for Him, if the Holy Spirit did not live inside them. The Holy Spirit can come and live in our hearts, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

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

"And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee." --2 Corinthians 1:21-22, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. What is the name of the special heart that God created all people with? *A spirit.*
2. What does this special heart do? *This special heart is the part of us that lives forever and can know God.*
3. What is in the special heart God gave us that caused it to be broken? *Sin.*
4. Who can work in our broken heart and change it? *God's Holy Spirit.*
5. How does the Holy Spirit working in our hearts and change it? *He works in our hearts when we listen to God's word and when we pray. He can help us see our sins, turn away from them, and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*
6. What kind of changes does the Holy Spirit make in our heart when we trust in Jesus as our Savior? *He makes our hearts clean and new, able to know God and wanting to know and serve Him.*
7. How else does the Holy Spirit go on working in the hearts of God's people? *He gives us wisdom to know God's word and boldness to tell others about them. He helps them to turn away from sin and fills them with love, peace, patience, and many other good things.*
8. How can we become God's people who have the Holy Spirit live inside of us? *When we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** Holy Spirit, we praise You for the way You can powerfully work in our hearts, changing us from the inside out.
- C** We confess that many times we are proud, jealous, envious and hateful. We need Jesus to save us. We need Your Holy Spirit to replace with humility and love. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, Holy Spirit, for being stronger than any of our sins. Thank You for being able to work so powerfully in our hearts and truly change us.
- S** Holy Spirit, work in our hearts, help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Fill our heart with Your good ways. Make us joyful, peaceful, kind, patience, self-controlled, joyful, loving and good. Give us wisdom and make us bold and strong to do God's will. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

Go to the Deep Down Detectives Parent Resources for Unit 13 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

Big Q & A 13 Song from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 13, track 12 (adapted version of "On Top of Old Smoky")

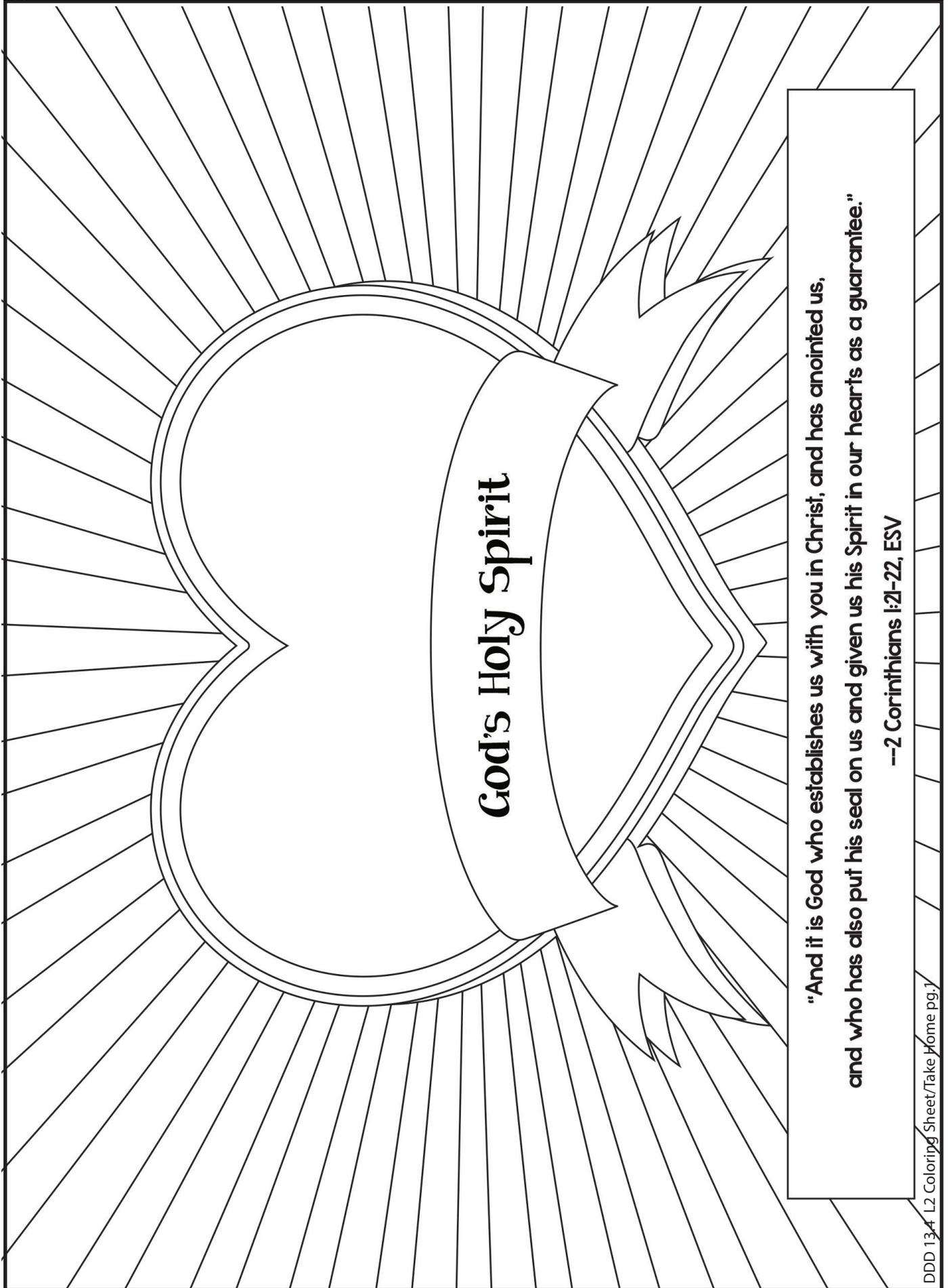
Why do God's people keep believing in God?
And why do God's people keep living for Him?
Because God sustains them, yes, God alone,
That's why God's people keep believing in God.

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

Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him?
Why do God's people keep believing in Him?
What keeps them going? Why do they persevere?
There's just one reason for their lasting faith,
It is grace, God's sustaining grace.

Refrain
That's why God's people say:
"I'm gonna keep on believing in God,
I'm gonna keep on living for Him,
Yes, I'm gonna keep on believing in God,
And It's all thanks to Him, thanks to Him.

God sustains His people in many ways,
His Spirit works inside them
As they read His Word and pray,
He gives them faith
to keep in trusting in Him,
To keep on living for Him
to the very end. *Refrain*



God's Holy Spirit

**"And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee."
--2 Corinthians 1:21-22, ESV**

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 13, Bible Truth 4, Lesson 2



Big Question 13 : How Can I Know What God Is Like?

Answer: It Is God's Sustaining Grace... The Holy Spirit Works Inside of God's People!

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

"And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee." --2 Corinthians 1:21-22, ESV

Learn a Little: "God establishes us in Christ, and has given us his Spirit in our hearts."

Meaning

God's people keep on believing in God because God, Himself, establishes them. That means He makes sure they keep on standing firm in their trust in Him. Jesus is the Christ. He's the special one sent by God to save sinners and make them God's people forever. It's because of Jesus that God's people stand firm in their faith. Jesus bought them with His blood. He paid for them and owns them. They will always stand firm in the faith because no one can ever take them away from Him. They will be God's dearly-loved people forever. And as His people, forgiven through Jesus, God gives them another, most wonderful gift: He puts His Holy Spirit in their hearts. The Holy Spirit reminds them that they are God's dearly loved people. He helps them remember the truths of God's Word and believe them. He helps them be strong and brave in Jesus. He reminds them that they belong to God and one day will go to live with Him forever. God's people never have to go through anything alone. God's Holy Spirit is always with them, living inside of them. And He will go on living inside them their whole lives. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Some Questions for You

1. What does Christ mean? Who is He? *Christ means special sent one from God. Jesus is the Christ, God's special Sent One who would be the Savior of God's people.*
2. What does establish mean? *To establish something means to make something happen so that it stays that way.*
3. Who did God send to make people like you and me His dearly-loved people and keep us this way forever? *Jesus, the Christ, the special Savior God sent to save us from our sins.*
4. Who do God's people belong to? Who owns them? *God does! How wonderful!*
5. Who does God send to live in the hearts of His people, helping them to keep on believing in Him, loving Him, and living for Him forever? *His Holy Spirit.*
6. How can we become God's people? How can we be His forever and enjoy His Holy Spirit living in our hearts? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** Holy Spirit, we praise You for the way You can powerfully work in our hearts, changing us from the inside out.
- C** We confess that many times we are proud, jealous, envious and hateful. We need Jesus to save us. We need Your Holy Spirit to replace with humility and love. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, Holy Spirit, for being stronger than any of our sins. Thank You for being able to work so powerfully in our hearts and truly change us.
- S** Holy Spirit, work in our hearts, help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Fill our heart with Your good ways. Make us joyful, peaceful, kind, patience, self-controlled, joyful, loving and good. Give us wisdom and make us bold and strong to do God's will. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Sing Our Bible Verse!

Go to the Deep Down Detectives Parent Resources for Unit 13 to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

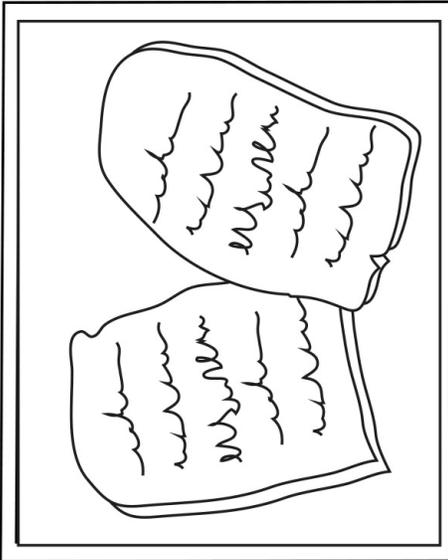
It Is God Who Establishes Us with You: 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, from Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 13, track 27

It is God who establishes us with you in Christ,
It is God who establishes us with you in Christ,
Has anointed us, also put his seal on us,
And given us, given us,
His Spirit in our hearts. (Sing it again! Faster!)

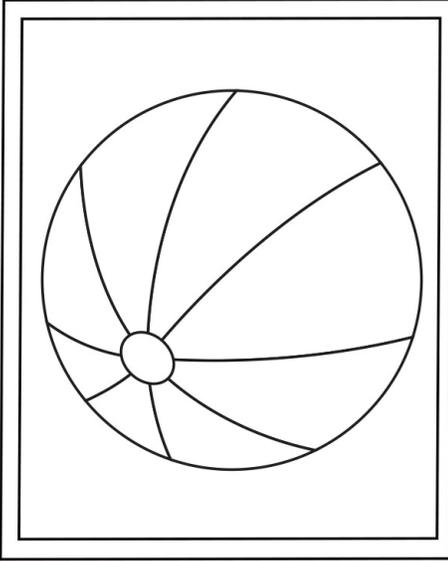
It is God who establishes us with you in Christ,
It is God who establishes us with you in Christ,
Has anointed us, also put his seal on us,
And given us, given us,
His Spirit in our hearts.

Second Corinthians One, twenty-one and two.

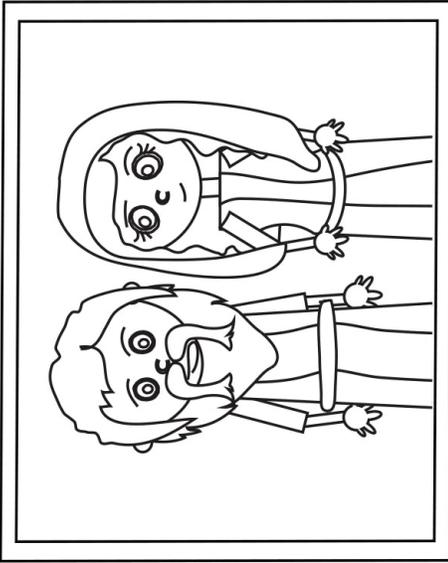
Which four of these clues belong in our story? Which two do not? Put an X in the boxes of the four that belong.



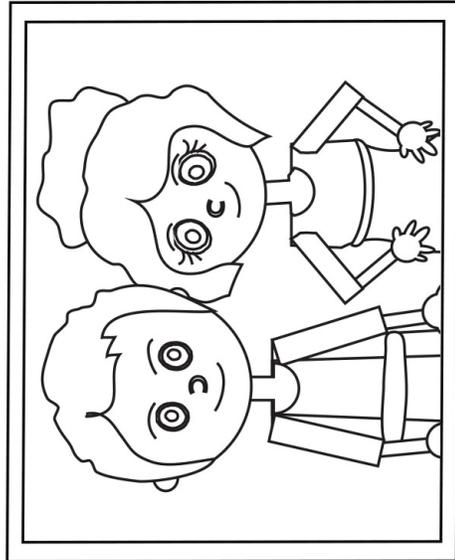
God's Word



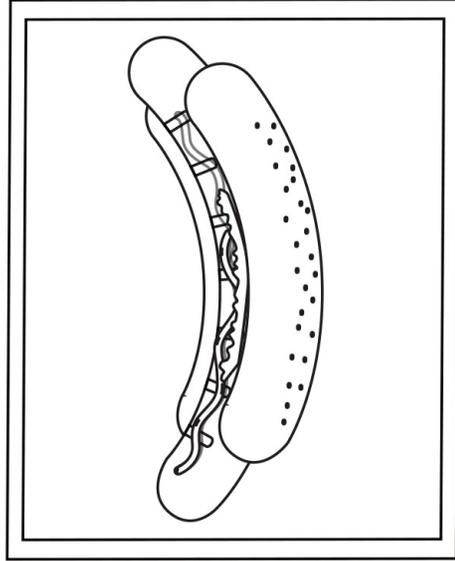
A Beach Ball



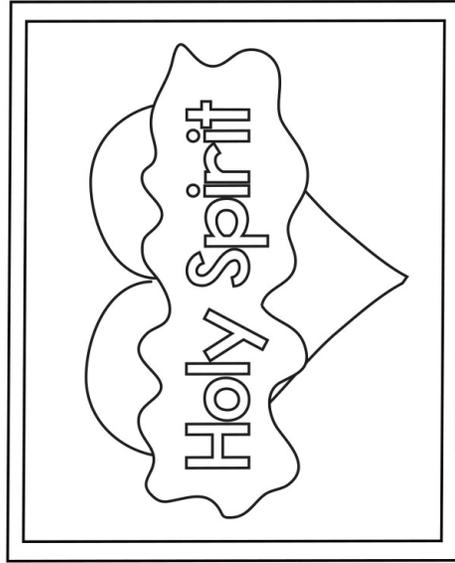
Jews



Gentiles



A Hot dog



The Holy Spirit in a Heart

Answer: God's laws, the Jew, the Gentile, and the Holy Spirit in a heart belong. The beach ball and the hot dog do not.

Deep Down Detective Devotion: Unit 13, Bible Truth 4, Lesson 3



Big Question 13 : How Can I Know What God Is Like?

Answer: It Is God's Sustaining Grace... The Holy Spirit Works Inside of God's People!

Bible Truth 4 Meaning

God created all people with a special heart, deep inside of them. It's different from the heart in your body that pumps blood and you feel beating. This special heart is invisible, but it's the part of you that lives forever and can know God. In the Bible, this special heart is also called our spirit. The sad news is that the beautiful, special heart that God gave us is broken with sin. Yes, we have all chosen to turn away from God and disobey Him. We deserve His punishment, not His friendship. But there's good news, too! God's Holy Spirit can work in our heart and change it. He does this when we listen to God's Word and when we pray. He can help us see our sins, turn away from them, and trust in Jesus as our Savior. And when we do, He makes our heart clean and new, able to know God and wanting to love and serve Him. This is how we become God's people. And that's just the beginning of what the Holy Spirit does inside us when we become God's people. He goes on working in our hearts, making the most amazing changes. He helps us know God and want to live for Him more and more. He gives us wisdom to understand God's Word and boldness to tell others about Him. He helps us turn away from anger, jealousy, hatred and pride and replaces them with love, peace, patience, kindness, joy, goodness and self-control in their place. What a wonderful gift the Holy Spirit is! God's people would never be able to keep on loving God and living for Him, if the Holy Spirit did not live inside them. The Holy Spirit can come and live in our hearts, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

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

"And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee." --2 Corinthians 1:21-22, ESV

Some Questions for You

1. Who were Jews and what did they grow up doing? *People who grew up hearing and obeying God's Word.*
2. What did the Jews tried to do to please God? *They tried to please Him by keeping all of His good laws.*
3. Could the Jews really please God by keeping all of his good laws? *No, they could not! None of them could keep God's laws perfectly, which is the only way we can please God by keeping His laws.*
4. *Who kept all of God's good laws perfectly? Who did the Jews need to put their trust in? Jesus kept God's laws perfectly. The Jews needed to put their trust in Him as their Savior.*
5. What is a Gentile? What did they grow up doing? *Gentiles were people who didn't grow up knowing God's Word or obeying his laws. They worshipped fake gods and did what pleased them.*
6. *Who came to live inside these Jews and Gentiles to help them love God and live for Him? God's Holy Spirit.*
7. What happened when the new believers who had been Gentiles and Jews started gathering together as a church? *They started to go back to their old ways of living. The Gentiles started doing some of the bad things they used to do when they worshipped fake gods. The Jews started to think everyone needed to live like a Jew. Everyone was forgetting the good news of Jesus that saved them.*
8. *What did Paul remind the Galatians to do? What did Paul remind the Galatians when he wrote them? Only by believing in Jesus could they be saved. Only by the Holy Spirit in their hearts could they know and live for God.*
9. *How can we know God and live for Him? By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

Let's Pray!

- A** Holy Spirit, we praise You for the way You can powerfully work in our hearts, changing us from the inside out.
- C** We confess that many times we are proud, jealous, envious and hateful. We need Jesus to save us. We need Your Holy Spirit to replace with humility and love. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, Holy Spirit, for being stronger than any of our sins. Thank You for being able to work so powerfully in our hearts and truly change us.
- S** Holy Spirit, work in our hearts, help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Fill our heart with Your good ways. Make us joyful, peaceful, kind, patience, self-controlled, joyful, loving and good. Give us wisdom and make us bold and strong to do God's will. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Let's Praise God Right Now!

Big Q & A 13 Hymn: Jesus Paid It All

from *Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 13, track 17*

Verse 1

I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small,
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all."

Refrain

Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Words: Elvina M. Hall Music: John T. Grape
DDD BQ 13 BT4 L3 Coloring Sheet/Take Home pg2

Go to the *Deep Down Detectives Parent Resources for Unit 13* to get the Bible story and many more resources and songs for this unit at praisefactory.org

Big Question 13 Praise Song: I Will Sing of the Mercies

from *Deep Down Detectives ESV Songs 13, track 18*

I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing, I will sing,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever,
I will sing of the mercies of the Lord.
With my mouth will I make known
Thy faithfulness, Thy faithfulness,
With my mouth will I make known
Thy faithfulness to all generations.

**The Case of the Foolish Forgetters***Galatians*

Dear Parents,

Big Question #13 is: "Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him?" Your child is learning that It Is God's Sustaining Grace... The Holy Spirit Works Inside of God's People."

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:

Foolish means doing something without thinking it through well... and something bad happens.

- 1. Who was foolish? What were they doing without thinking it through well?**
- 2. What did they forget?**

Detective Dan's Lesson #2 Listening Assignment:

Our Bible Verse is 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, ESV:

"And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee."

I need to know:

- 1. Who did the Galatians forget to depend on to help them live for God?**
- 2. Who did they need to have live in their hearts and help them live for God?**

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

They are: God's laws, a beach ball, a Jew, a Gentile, a hot dog, and the Holy Spirit in a heart.

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

I need to know:

- 1. Which four belong in the story and which two don't?**
- 2. What did the Galatian believers need to confess to God? Who did they need to turn back to depending upon?**

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

“Good news! Good news! Come hear my good news!” Paul announced. Up tall mountains and down low valleys; through thick forests and alongside winding rivers, Silas and he had been travelling through the land of Galatia. And everywhere he went, Paul told the people the good news of salvation through faith in God’s Son. Can you remember the name of God’s Son?

Can you tell me?

It’s Jesus! Yes, everywhere Paul went, he told people how they could become God’s people through Him.

Some of the people Paul talked to were Jews. They had grown up knowing about the LORD. They had heard God’s Word and were taught God’s laws. Each week, they had gathered together to praise God and learn more about Him. They tried to keep all of God’s laws, but they had sin in their hearts. They were law-breakers, not perfect law-keepers! Oh, how would they ever please God if they couldn’t keep His laws?

Do you know how?

Paul opened the Bible, God’s Word, and told them how.

“I’ve got good news for you! You can’t keep God’s laws perfectly, but Jesus could!” Paul said. “Jesus is God’s Son, the Messiah, sent to save us from our sins, just as God promised. Jesus obeyed God’s laws perfectly. He offered up His life as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of God’s people when He suffered and died on the cross. On the third day, Jesus rose from the dead, proving He had really fulfilled all of God’s laws and beaten sin and death for God’s people,” Paul told them. “Turn away from trying to please God on your own. Repent of your sins and trust in Jesus as your Savior. This is how you can be God’s people, not by trying to earn your way to being God’s people with your own law-keeping, as you used to!” Paul urged them.

Hmmm.... This was very, VERY different from anything these Jews had heard before. Could Jesus really be the Messiah? Could He really be the one God promised to save them from their sins? Had He really fulfilled all of God’s laws in their place? This was a lot to think about. Would they believe this good news Paul preached this day?

What do you think?

The Holy Spirit worked in the hearts of many of those Jews that day. He helped them turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He filled their hearts with joy and gave them power to live a new life for God. How happy they were that Jesus had saved them! How much better it was to have the Holy Spirit working inside them, helping them know God and live for Him! How glad they were to be free from trying to please God just by keeping His laws and never being able to do it! Yay!

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

But Paul's good news wasn't just for the Jews in Galatia. It was for the Gentiles who lived there, too. The Gentiles who didn't know God's Word or His laws. they had grown up worshipping fake gods, like Hermes and Zeus. They took their worship gifts to them and honored them with wild, worship parties and other bad things that they thought pleased these gods. How far from the LORD were these Gentiles! Oh, how would they ever please Him, the one, true God, if they kept worshipping these fake gods and doing these bad things?

Do you know how?

It was through Jesus!

So, Paul told the good news of Jesus to all the Gentiles who would listen, too, "Your gods are fake gods. I've come to tell you about the LORD, one, true God!" Paul told them. "HE is the One who created this whole world. He created you and gave you food to eat and all the other things that you enjoy," Paul explained. "And now He has sent His Son, Jesus, to save you from your sins and give you eternal life. Come, know the living God! Turn away from your fake gods and your sins! Put your trust in Jesus and be saved!" Paul exclaimed.

Hmmm.... This was very, VERY different from anything these Gentiles had heard before. Could the LORD be the one, true God? Could Jesus really be His Son, sent to save them? Could they really be forgiven their sins and have eternal life with God. This was a lot to think about. Would they believe this good news Paul preached this day?

What do you think?

The Holy Spirit worked in the hearts of many of those Gentiles that day. He helped them turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He filled their hearts with joy and gave them power to live a new life for God, just he had in the Jewish believers. How happy they were that Jesus had saved them! How much better it was to have the Holy Spirit working inside them, helping them know God and live for Him! How glad they were to be free from worshipping fake gods and trying to find happiness in their old, hopeless way of living. Yay!

These new believers began to gather together to hear God's Word and encourage each other in the wonderful good news they had come to believe. Once they had been Jews and Gentiles. Now they were believers in Jesus, brothers and sisters together in God's family. Soon there were little churches: in Lystra, Derbe, Iconium and other cities-- all over Galatia. How Paul happy was!

Up mountain, down valley. Through forests, along windy rivers went Paul with Silas again. Now he was leaving Galatia and going to other places to tell even more people the good news of Jesus. But even though Paul left the land of Galatia far behind, he never forgot about the little churches of believers gathering together there. He prayed for them and longed for news of them. Oh, how he hoped they were doing well and growing in the Lord!

One day, the news Paul was waiting for came. What kind of news would it be? Good news or bad news?

What do you think?

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

I'm sorry to say that it was **BAD** news! Things had started out well in the little churches of Galatia, but they had not stayed that way. Bad teachers had come in. "Paul has it wrong," they told the believers. "Gentiles have to trust in Jesus **AND** live by the Jews' old laws, if they are to be God's people," they taught. The believers in the little churches were so confused. Some started believing these bad teachers and began to leave Paul and the good news of Jesus behind! Oh, no!

Paul was worried and angry when he heard what was going on. Would everyone in Galatia forget the good news of Jesus that had saved them? He wanted to protect the little churches from these bad teachers! But what could he do?

Can you guess?

Paul knew just what to do. He sat right down and wrote them a letter to remind them of the truth! "Quick, take this letter to the churches in Galatia!" Paul told a messenger when he finished.

Up mountain, down valley. Through forests, along winding rivers the messenger went, passing on Paul's letter to be read to the little churches there.

"You foolish Galatians! Don't listen to those bad teachers!" Paul wrote them. "Don't go back to your old way of living! It didn't make you happy! It didn't make you right with God, or help you live for Him. No, the fruit of your old life was unhappiness and all kinds of sin!" Paul exclaimed.

"Only faith in Jesus can make you right with God. And, only the Holy Spirit living in your heart can help you know God and live for Him," Paul reminded them.

"Go back to the real gospel! Keep trusting in Jesus," Paul urged the believers. "And keep in step with the Holy Spirit whom God has put in your hearts! He's the one who changes you from the inside," Paul explained. "The fruit of the Holy Spirit is so different from the fruit of your old way of living! His fruit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness and self-control. There will never be a law against these good things that the Holy Spirit gives us! He helps us to keep on living for God!"

Paul

Would the little churches forget the gospel and fall apart, or would God sustain them? Would the Holy Spirit use Paul's words to help these believers?

What do you think?

Paul, himself, found the answer to that question himself, when a few years later he travelled with Timothy and Silas back up the mountains, down the valleys, through the forests, and along the winding rivers to Galatia once more. He rejoiced to find believers gathering together still. He preached God's Word to them and the Holy Spirit strengthened their hearts! God had been faithful to sustain His people and He always will be!

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:**I need to know:**

Foolish means doing something without thinking it through well... and something bad happens.

1. Who was foolish? What were they doing without thinking it through well? The new believers in the church in Galatia. They were obeying new, bad teachers who weren't teaching them the good news of Jesus.

2. What did they forget? They forgot that only by trusting in Jesus could they please God. They forgot that only by the Holy Spirit living in their hearts did they love God and live for Him.

For You and Me:

Like the people of Galatia, we need God's help if we are to live for Him. We can never do this on our own. But the good news is that we don't have to! God promises to forgive all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He promises to give the Holy Spirit to them. He will live in their hearts and help them live for God. Ask God to help you do this! He loves to answer this prayer!

Detective Dan's Lesson 2 Listening Assignment:**Our Bible Verse is 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, ESV:**

"And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee."

I need to find out:

1. Who did the Galatians forget to depend on to help them live for God? They forgot to depend on God and the good gifts of salvation and life that He gives them through Jesus.

2. Who did they need to have live in their hearts and help them live for God? The Holy Spirit.

For You and Me:

Like the people of Galatia, we need God's help if we are to live for Him. We can never do this on our own. But the good news is that we don't have to! God promises to forgive all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior. He promises to give the Holy Spirit to them. He will live in their hearts and help them live for God. Ask God to help you do this! He loves to answer this prayer!

Detective Dan's Lesson 3 Listening Assignment:

Our six clues were: God's laws, a beach ball, a Jew, a Gentile, a hot dog, and the Holy Spirit in a heart.

1. Which four belong in our story?

God's laws, the Jew, the Gentile, and the Holy Spirit in a heart belong. The beach ball and the hot dog do not.

2. What did the Galatian believers need to confess to God? Who did they need to turn back to depending upon?

That they had turned away from trusting in Jesus to make them right with God, and in the Holy Spirit to help them love God and live for Him. Instead, they were depending on themselves and trying to obey God's laws. They needed to turn back to depending upon Jesus and the work of the Holy Spirit in their hearts.

For You and Me:

Like the believers in Galatia, we, too, need to put our trust in Jesus. He alone can save us. And His Holy Spirit living in our hearts is the only One who can help us truly live for God. We can ask God to help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to put His Holy Spirit in our hearts and help us live for God.

The Gospel (story wrap-up if NOT using Listening Assignments)**Our Bible Truth is:**

How Can I Know What God Is Like?

It Is God's Sustaining Grace!

The Holy Spirit Works Inside of God's People!

Both Jews and Gentiles needed Jesus to be their Savior. They were all sinners who deserved God's punishment we can never please Him by their own goodness. Both Jews and Gentiles needed the Holy Spirit to live in their hearts. They needed Jesus to die on the cross for their sins. They needed Him to rise from the dead on the third day in victory over sin and death for them. And they needed Jesus to send the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts and help them love God and live for Him. This was the only way that they could be God's people and live as God's people. And it's the only way we can be God's people too... by turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. Ask God to help you do this. He loves to answer this prayer!

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

- A** Holy Spirit, we praise You for the way You can powerfully work in our hearts, changing us from the inside out.
- C** We confess that many times we are proud, jealous, envious and hateful. We need Jesus to save us. We need Your Holy Spirit to replace with humility and love. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, Holy Spirit, for being stronger than any of our sins. Thank You for being able to work so powerfully in our hearts and truly change us.
- S** Holy Spirit, work in our hearts, help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Fill our heart with Your good ways. Make us joyful, peaceful, kind, patience, self-controlled, joyful, loving and good. Give us wisdom and make us bold and strong to do God's will.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Unit 13: The God Who Sustains

Unit Big Question (and Answer): Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him? It Is God's Sustaining Grace!

Unit Bible Verse: "Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you; he will never permit the righteous to be moved." --Psalm 55:22

Bible Truth 4 Concept: It Is God's Sustaining Grace... The Holy Spirit Works Inside of God's People!

God created all people with a special heart, deep inside of them. It's different from the heart in your body that pumps blood and you feel beating. This special heart is invisible, but it's the part of you that lives forever and can know God. In the Bible, this special heart is also called our spirit.

The sad news is that the beautiful, special heart that God gave us is broken with sin. Yes, we have all chosen to turn away from God and disobey Him. We deserve His punishment, not His friendship.

But there's good news, too! God's Holy Spirit can work in our heart and change it. He does this when we listen to God's Word and when we pray. He can help us see our sins, turn away from them, and trust in Jesus as our Savior. And when we do, He makes our heart clean and new, able to know God and wanting to love and serve Him. This is how we become God's people.

And that's just the beginning of what the Holy Spirit does inside us when we become God's people. He goes on working in our hearts, making the most amazing changes. He helps us know God and want to live for Him more and more. He gives us wisdom to understand God's Word and boldness to tell others about Him. He helps us turn away from anger, jealousy, hatred and pride and replaces them with love, peace, patience, kindness, joy, goodness and self-control in their place. What a wonderful gift the Holy Spirit is! God's people would never be able to keep on loving God and living for Him, if the Holy Spirit did not live inside them. The Holy Spirit can come and live in our hearts, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse: 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, ESV

"And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee."

Learn a Little "God establishes us in Christ, and has given us his Spirit in our hearts."

Meaning

God's people keep on believing in God because God, Himself, establishes them. That means He makes sure they keep on standing firm in their trust in Him. Jesus is the Christ. He's the special one sent by God to save sinners and make them God's people forever. It's because of Jesus that God's people stand firm in their faith. Jesus bought them with His blood. He paid for them and owns them. They will always stand firm in the faith because no one can ever take them away from Him. They will be God's dearly-loved people forever. And as His people, forgiven through Jesus, God gives them another, most wonderful gift: He puts His Holy Spirit in their hearts.

The Holy Spirit reminds them that they are God's dearly loved people. He helps them remember the truths of God's Word and believe them. He helps them be strong and brave in Jesus. He reminds them that they belong to God and one day will go to live with Him forever.

God's people never have to go through anything alone. God's Holy Spirit is always with them, living inside of them. And He will go on living inside them their whole lives. We can become God's people, too, when we turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Big Question 13, Bible Truth 4 Overview: Key Concepts**p.8****Bible Truth 4 ACTS Prayer**

- A** Holy Spirit, we praise You for the way You can powerfully work in our hearts, changing us from the inside out.
- C** We confess that many times we are proud, jealous, envious and hateful. We need Jesus to save us. We need Your Holy Spirit to replace with humility and love. We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, Holy Spirit, for being stronger than any of our sins. Thank You for being able to work so powerfully in our hearts and truly change us.
- S** Holy Spirit, work in our hearts, help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Fill our heart with Your good ways. Make us joyful, peaceful, kind, patience, self-controlled, joyful, loving and good. Give us wisdom and make us bold and strong to do God's will. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Bible Truth 4 Story**The Case of the Foolish Forgetters***Galatians***Songs Used in Bible Truth 4**

Big Q & A 13 Song

Big Question 13 Song: Why Do God's People Keep Believing in Him?

Big Question 13 Bible Verse Song: Cast Your Burden on the LORD Psalm 55:22, ESV

*Extra Big Question 13 Bible Verse Song: Cast Your Burden Psalm 55:22, ESV (other version)**Extra Big Question 13 Bible Verse Song: The LORD Your God Is with You Zephaniah 3:17, NIV 1984*

Big Question 13 Hymn: Jesus Paid It All, v.1

Big Question 13 Praise Song: I Will Sing of the Mercies

Bible Truth 4 Bible Verse: It Is God Who Establishes Us with You 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, ESV

*Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse: And It Is God 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, ESV**Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse: The Fruit of the Spirit Galatians 5:22,25, ESV**Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse: The Fruit Galatians 5:22,25, ESV**Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse: I Will Ask the Father John 14:16-17, ESV**Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse: I Will Give You a New Heart Ezekiel 36:26, ESV**Bible Truth 4 Extra Bible Verse: You Shall Be Clean Ezekiel 36:25-27, ESV*