

# GOD RULES TOMORROW

## STORY: CREATION

### BIG TRUTH: GOD RULES TOMORROW

Matthew 6:25-34; Luke 12:4-12; Luke 12:22-24; Philippians 4:4-9; John 16:33

### BIBLE VERSE: MATTHEW 6:34

*"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."*

### BIG IDEAS

- God is in control of tomorrow.
- God cares for creation's tomorrows.
- We do not have to fear tomorrow because God cares for us.

### BIBLE STORY: MATTHEW 6:25-35

In Jesus' sermon on the mount, He tells His listeners that there is no need to worry about tomorrow. He points to the flowers in the field and the birds in the air. God takes care of them. Imagine how much more God cares for people. God holds all of our tomorrows in His hand, so we never have to worry about them.

### STORY: CREATION

God created everything. Everything we see, hear, feel, taste, and that exists was created by Him. Not only did He create everything, but He created everything perfectly, including humanity. He created mankind in His very image and likeness to reflect His worth. All of creation was made just like He wanted and designed it to be. To His delight, God looked at everything He made and declared that it was good. All creation exists for God, is good, and was created to bring Him glory.

### BIG AIMS



#### Every child should know that:

- God is actively involved in creation



#### Every child should feel:

- Safe and secure in God's rule over creation



#### Every child should:

- Remember the ways that God is faithful



#### Every child should want:

- To trust God's control over creation

### FAMILY DEVOTION: WE DON'T HAVE TO FEAR TOMORROW

Because God is our Creator and He controls all things, we do not have to fear what will happen tomorrow. Not only does God control all things, but He tells us not to worry about tomorrow. We can rest knowing that He controls everything.

**BIBLE VERSE: MATTHEW 6:34**

*"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."*

**Worry and trust cannot exist together.**

- When we worry about our future, we aren't trusting in God.
- God is our Creator and He is more than able to provide for us.
- We do not have to worry or wonder if we will have what we need in the future.
- We don't have to fear our tomorrow when we trust God to be who His Word says He is.

**God is the rock we rest upon.**

- God provides for all of creation.
- Everything comes from Him.
- He provides the animals with all they need; He will provide for us, too!
- We can trust God to take care of us always.
- He tells us to not fear our future because He will take care of us.
- He is always faithful. There has never been a time when God has not been faithful and He will always be faithful.
- He is always loving. There has never been a time when He wasn't or hasn't been loving.

**We do not have to fear tomorrow because God controls it.**

- God controls everything, including our tomorrows.
- He is in the charge of everything.
- Because He is in charge of everything, we don't have to worry.
- Even when it seems like things aren't going to work out for us or be o.k., we can still trust God to take care of us.
- Even when we can't see what is going to happen in the future, we can trust that God is going to provide everything we need and then some.

**BIBLE STORY: MATTHEW 6:25-35**

*God Cares For Tomorrow*

**Opening Illustration:**

Bring in several plastic cups and straws for each child. Allow the children to take turns racing each other as they blow a cup across a table with a straw. After each child has had an opportunity to race, lead them in a discussion about how God is our Creator and He controls all things.

- How did you control what the cup did? (Each child controlled the cup by blowing through a straw.)
- Did the cup move on its own or when you blew on it? (It moved only when it was blown on.)
- You each controlled your cups with the straw just like God controls all of creation with His power.
- God is our Creator. He created everything and He controls everything.
- There is nothing that is outside of Him or His power.

**BIG IDEA: GOD IS IN CONTROL OF TOMORROW.<sup>1</sup>****Opening Question:**

*Who knows what will actually happen tomorrow? (No one knows. No one really knows what is going to happen tomorrow.)*

**God is all powerful and He controls all things.**

- We may not know what our tomorrow will bring, but God knows.
- Only He knows what will happen in the future because only He is all-knowing, or omniscient.
- We cannot control all things because we are not all powerful.
- Only God can control all things.
- God not only controls everything that happens today, He controls everything about tomorrow, too.



Allow each child to take a turn guessing what they think will happen tomorrow. After most children have had a turn, talk with them about how none of us really knows what will happen tomorrow, but God does. He knows because He controls tomorrow. He's in charge of every tomorrow.

**God knows exactly what will happen tomorrow.**

- God is actively at work in the world.
- He is actively at work in our lives.
- God knows all that will happen tomorrow because He controls all things.
- God takes care of all creation, so He knows what will happen tomorrow.
- God rules over creation.
- He is the ruler of all things.
- Nothing happens without His causing it or allowing it to happen.
- Because He holds all the power, He controls all of our tomorrows.

*What does God know about our tomorrows? (He knows exactly what is going to happen.)*

*How does God know what is going to happen in our tomorrows? (He controls all things.)*

1. John 14:27: We do not have to fear or worry about anything. God controls all things and will take care of His people.

**BIG IDEA: GOD CARES FOR CREATION'S TOMORROWS.<sup>2</sup>****God takes care of all of creation.**

- The plants, animals, and birds are taken care of by God.
- All of creation is kept alive and sustained by God.
- God takes the time to provide the right conditions for vegetation to grow so that animals have the food that they need.
- God watches over and cares for all of His creation.
- He notices when one insect dies or a bird passes away.
- Every created thing is under God's care and watch.

**God watches over all of creation.**

- God notices when even the littlest thing happens in creation.
- God feeds the animals.
- He provides for the birds.
- He provides for the plants and flowers in all of creation. He cares about the future of creation.
- He is not uninvolved in creation.
- He cares about creation's tomorrows.

**God provides for everything on the earth and in heaven.**

- Nothing escapes God's care.
- He watches over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air.
- When we look around at our world, we can see how He cares for it daily.
- Our world would not continue and function if God was not providing for it.
- He takes care of the world and cares about the world's future.



Bring in several pictures of different types of flowers and colorful birds. Allow the children to pass the pictures around and then ask them to describe what the birds and flowers look like. Remind them that each of these things is taken care of by God. God loves us so much more so we can trust Him to care for our tomorrow.

2. Psalm 24:1: Everything belongs to the Lord. All of the earth belongs to Him and He cares about its future.

## BIG IDEA: WE DO NOT HAVE TO FEAR TOMORROW BECAUSE GOD CARES FOR US.

### Man is higher than any other created thing.

- God made man with a greater purpose.
- Man is not like the rest of creation.
- If God cares for and provides for the rest of creation, He cares for man even more.
- Man is God's special creation. Nothing else in creation bears God's image.
- Nothing else in creation was created for relationship.
- If God cares for the plants and birds, He cares even more so for man.

### God watches over man.

- God is intimately involved in man's life.
- He watches over all of mankind because He cares about man.
- Man doesn't have to wonder about tomorrow because God is watching over man and his tomorrow.
- Because God is so powerful and He loves mankind, man doesn't have to fear tomorrow.
- We do not gain anything by worrying about our tomorrow because we do not have the power to control the future.
- Only God has the power to control the future and only God controls the future.
- We can rest in this knowledge because we know that God cares about us.
- God cares more for us than He does for any other part of creation.

### The rest of creation will pass away, but not man.<sup>3</sup>

- Man is the only created being who is promised a resurrection, or new life after an earthly death.
- The world will end one day, but those who have saving faith in Jesus will be resurrected to live forever.
- We don't have to worry about what our tomorrow here on earth will bring because we know who is in control of our tomorrow—God.
- God loves us and promises that those who have saving faith will live again in a new world.

*Why do we not have to fear tomorrow? (We don't have to fear because God cares about us. He watches over us.)*

3. 1 John 2:17: The earth will pass away, but those who follow God will not.

STORY: CREATION  
GOD RULES TOMORROW

## HOOKS

**God Cares For Us**

Before class write the following verses on small pieces of paper:  
Psalm 121:3; Psalm 23; Psalm 115:12; Luke 12:30; Matthew 10:30-31.



Add any other verses you know about God caring for us. Have the children take turns choosing a piece of paper and then looking up the verse and reading it to the class. Once all the verses have been read, lead the children in a discussion about how God cares for us and we don't have to worry about tomorrow. He watches over us.

**We Don't Have To Fear Tomorrow**

Separate the room in half. On one side of the room label it "Fear" on the other side label it "Don't Fear". Think of several things or scenarios that produce fear in us, such as snakes, spiders, being alone in the dark, etc. Ask the children to walk to one side of the room or the other when you read the item or scenario. If they fear what you say, they should walk to the "fear" side and vice versa. Lead them in a discussion about how we don't have to fear anything because God cares for us. We especially don't have to fear tomorrow because God cares for us.



- We may fear these things, like spiders and snakes, but we don't have to be afraid of tomorrow.
- God watches over us because He cares about us.
- He cares for our tomorrows, so we don't have to worry about them.

**God Controls Tomorrow**

Bring in a small container of oil, a larger container of water, and an eyedropper. Tell the children that the oil represents worry and the water represents trust in God. Use the eyedropper to place a few drops of oil in the container of water. Show the container with the oil and water in it to the children. The trust and worry don't mix. Lead them in a discussion about how we don't have to worry about tomorrow because God controls tomorrow.

- If we are worrying, then we aren't really trusting.
- Just like the oil and water do not mix, our trust and worry don't mix.
- We don't have to fear tomorrow because God controls tomorrow.
- He is in charge of everything and He controls our tomorrows.