

GOD IS IN CONTROL

REVIEW - CREATION

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS IN CONTROL

Psalm 33:10; Proverbs 16:9; 19:21; 21:1, 30; Isaiah 14:24; Daniel 4:34-35; Ephesians 1:11; Colossians 1:17; Hebrews 2:8

BIBLE VERSE: PSALM 138:8

The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

BIG IDEAS

- God rules creation.
- God rules nature.
- God rules life.
- God rules angels.
- God rules tomorrow.

BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 37-45 (JOSEPH)

Joseph's story reminds us that God is always in control. Even in things that happen that are bad, God is not surprised by them. In fact, He is working in them for good and for His glory. This is true even when Joseph's brothers sell him into slavery because of their jealousy. God is with Joseph through all of his life, protecting him and caring for him and setting him up to be able to take care of his people and family, because God is in control of all things.

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 the Creator and He rules over all that He has created



Every child should feel:

- Trust that God is in control of the future



Every child should:

- Talk about ways that God is faithful



Every child should want:

- To live with security knowing that God is in control of our lives

FAMILY DEVOTION

Guide 9 acts as a review for the preceding weeks. Use this guide and devotion to support, reinforce, and review concepts learned throughout the past weeks and to test your child's understanding and memory of these truths.

BIBLE VERSE: PSALM 138:8

The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

God controls every story.

- The Psalmist tells of God's power and control over all things.
- God is the author of every story and every story is under His control.
- We do not have to worry about our purpose being fulfilled.
- God will fulfill His purpose for us because He is the ultimate authority.
- God is in control of everything, so He controls every story.

God fulfills His purpose for us out of love.

- God's love is eternal.
- He continues to love us even when we do not obey.
- He loves us no matter what we do or don't do, and He fulfills His purpose for us.
- Because God loves us He will work in our lives.
- We do not have to wonder if He will fulfill His purposes.
- His love is steadfast and unchanging.
- God will fulfill His purposes for us.

God controls His purposes for us.

- God controls all things because He is the mightiest of all beings.
- God is in charge of His purposes for our lives.
- The choices we make are all within His boundary around us.
- He controls our story.

BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 37, 39-46

Joseph

Opening Illustration:

Bring in a large piece of blank paper and tape it to a wall or to the board. Give the children several markers. Tell the children that you are going to create a story with pictures about a boy and girl going to school one day. Help the children come up with the story and draw pictures to tell the story on the large piece of paper. (Older children can write parts of the story.) Once they have finished, talk with them about how their story is created by God and controlled by Him.

- Who created the story about our girl and boy? (We created the story.)
- Who controlled what happened to the boy and girl? (We controlled it.)
- God creates our stories. He gives us life and is involved in our lives.
- God also controls our stories. He is in charge of all things and He watches over our lives and cares for us.
- There is nothing that is outside of Him or His power.

Guide 9 acts as a review for the preceding weeks. The Big Ideas in Guide 9 are the Big Truths that were learned in Guides 4-8. Use this week as an opportunity to review and reinforce these truths. For further study, information, or resources, refer back to Guides 4-8.

BIG IDEA: GOD RULES CREATION.

BIBLE VERSE: PSALM 135:6

“Whatever the Lord pleases, He does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps.”

See Guide 4 for more information on this Big Idea.

BIG IDEA: GOD RULES NATURE.

BIBLE VERSE: PSALM 19:1

“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.”

See Guide 5 for more information on this Big Idea.

BIG IDEA: GOD RULES LIFE.

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 11:25

“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.”

See Guide 6 for more information on this Big Idea.

BIG IDEA: GOD RULES ANGELS.

BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 8:38-39

“For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

See Guide 7 for more information on this Big Idea.

BIG IDEA: GOD RULES TOMORROW.

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.”

See Guide 8 for more information on this Big Idea.

HOOKS

**Joseph's Road Trip**

Ask each child to create a map of the stops in Joseph's story. Give each child a blank piece of paper and provide them with stickers, markers, and other supplies to decorate their maps. Help them plot the different things that happened to Joseph until he was reunited with his family. Talk with the children about how just like God had a purpose for Joseph, God has a purpose for everyone in creation.

**Simon Says**

Play a game of Simon Says. Let several children pretend to be Simon. Talk with the children about how when they are Simon, they are in control of what the other children do. God is in control of all things perfectly at all times.

