

**BIG TRUTH: SIN REJECTS THE RULE OF GOD**

*Psalm 33:10; Isaiah 14:27; Jeremiah 15:6; Hosea 4:6; Romans 1:18-32; 8:5-8; Ephesians 2:1-2; Colossians 1:21*

**BIBLE VERSE: COLOSSIANS 1:21**

*And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds*

**BIG IDEAS**

- We are separated from God.
- We reject God's rule.
- We reject God's truth.
- We reject God's law.
- We reject God's joy.

**BIBLE STORY: LUKE 15:11-24 (THE PRODIGAL SON)**

The story of the Prodigal Son reveals our rejection of God. It tells the story of a father who has two sons. The younger son decides that he wants his inheritance early, and when he gets it he takes it and runs away. He didn't truly love his father, he only wanted the money that the father would leave to him. This parable reveals that even though we reject God, God is merciful and gracious to us.

**STORY: FALL**

Everything was perfect in the world until we broke it. When humanity chose to sin, the world that was once perfect became messed up and broken. Sin is ultimately a rejection of God Himself. Because of sin bad things happen, we experience all types of pain, and death has come into the world. All of creation groans and wishes that the world could be perfect and good like it was before.

**BIG AIMS****Every child should know that:**

- When we do not submit our lives to God's rule over us, that is sin

**Every child should feel:**

- Sorrow over sin

**Every child should:**

- Recognize examples of ways that they reject God's rule in their lives

**Every child should want:**

- To live under God's rule

**REVIEW**

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.

**DISCOVER IT:** *(Use the passage to illustrate the Big Truth.)*

Luke 15:11-24

**THINK ABOUT IT:** *(Use the commentary to reinforce the Big Truth.)*

The parable of the Prodigal Son shows us a picture of our rejection. The younger son wanted his inheritance early, and when his father gave it to him, he took it and he ran off. He lived recklessly, spending the money and doing whatever he wanted. He had rejected his father, his family's business, and the order of life so that he could chase his sin and his own desires. Eventually, he ran out of money and he got hired to feed pigs. He didn't even have enough money to buy food, so he found himself longing to eat the same food that the pigs were eating. Finally, he decided to return to his father, not as a son, but to submit himself to his father as a servant. However, when he was still a long way from getting to the father's house, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. His father ran to him, hugged him, and threw a huge party because his son had returned. Even though the son had rejected the father, the father embraced him and still treated him like his son. In our sin, we reject God our Father, but He is gracious and merciful to us.

**TALK ABOUT IT:** *(Use the questions to discuss the Big Truth)*

- What does rejection mean?
- How did the son reject the father in the story of the Prodigal Son?
- What were the consequences of the son's rejection?
- What was the father's response to the son, despite his rejection?



As a family, memorize Colossians 1:21 by creating a puzzle from the verses. Write the verses on a large sheet of paper or poster board and then cut the paper to make a puzzle. Take turns putting the puzzle together to reveal the verses. (You can also hide the puzzle pieces throughout your house and have your child search for the lost puzzle pieces.)



As a family, spend some time talking about what it means to reject something or someone. Use a dictionary to look up the definition of "rejection" and then use a thesaurus to find words that mean something similar. Talk with your child about how our sin is a rejection of God's rule and reign in our lives.



Hide a treasure in a local park or in your yard and then take your child on a treasure hunt looking for it. Give your child a map to help him or her find the treasure. As you hunt for the treasure, talk to them about how our sin separates us from God like you're separated from the treasure, but God overcomes our sin by sending Jesus to pay our sin debt.



Spend some time this week praying with your child and modeling prayers of confession, confessing that we are sinners who reject God's rule over our lives.