

# STORY: NEW CREATION

## GOD IS ALIVE

### BIG TRUTH: GOD IS ALIVE

Job 12:10; 33:4; Isaiah 42:5; Jeremiah 10:10; Matthew 16:16; Acts 17:24-28; 1 Timothy 6:13

### BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 1:3-4

*"All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men."*

### BIG IDEAS

- God is life.
- God gives new life.
- God is making us alive.

### BIBLE STORY: ACTS 9:1-31

God is the God of all life, physical and spiritual. Saul received physical life from God at his conception, but he lived his life persecuting Christ's followers until God changed Saul's life. On the road to Damascus, Saul saw the light of Christ and believed. Saul received spiritual life, or new life from Christ when he believed and his life was never the same.

### STORY: NEW CREATION

Part of the beauty of the gospel is that God does not just rescue us from the power of sin, but He is also making everything new. God offers new creation to those who place their faith in Jesus. This newness comes in two ways. The first is that by breaking the power of sin, Jesus is making men and women into brand new people with new identities. Second, God is not only making people new, but He is also going to make a new heaven and a new earth for us to live on and worship Him in.

### BIG AIMS



#### Every child should know that:

- God offers us a new relationship with Him through Jesus



#### Every child should:

- Remember the sacrifice of Jesus that makes it possible to have a new relationship with God



#### Every child should feel:

- Valued by God because of the new relationship He offers



#### Every child should want:

- To be a part of God's family as one of His holy, chosen people

**A NEW LIFE**

Help your child build a bird's nest using twigs and grasses. Build the nest in a small container to keep it together. The bird's nest represents new life. Birds lay their eggs in the nests and new birds come from the eggs. Jesus gives us new life when we have saving faith in Him.

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

Acts 9:1-31.

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

Saul was very religious. He knew the rules that God's people had followed for many years, but he did not know Jesus. He thought that people who followed Jesus were wrong and he hated them so much he spent all of his time having them arrested or even killed. Saul was a smart man, but he was blind to the truth. He was separated from God because of his sinful heart. One day, Saul began traveling to the town of Damascus searching for followers of Jesus. As he was traveling, he was blinded by a bright light and heard a voice speaking to him. He was confused and shocked, but then Jesus spoke to Saul. Jesus asked Saul why he was persecuting Him. Jesus explained to Saul that when Saul hurt Christians, he was hurting Jesus. Saul understood for the first time that Jesus was the one true Savior. He knew that he had been wrong about everything. Three days after he got to Damascus, something like scales fell off of his eyes and he could see again. He was immediately baptized and began following Jesus. He was dead in his sin, but Jesus made him alive. Jesus gave him new life. Saul stopped persecuting Christians and began telling other people about Jesus. His life was transformed. In our sin, we are dead. Only Jesus can make us alive when we have saving faith in Him.

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

- How did Saul feel about Christians before meeting Jesus? (He hated them and thought they were wrong.)
- What would Saul do to Christians before he met Jesus? (He would put them in prison or have them killed.)
- How did Saul's life change after he met Jesus? (He began following Jesus and telling others about Him.)



As a family, memorize John 1:3-4 by creating a puzzle out of the verses. Take turns putting the puzzle together. Say the verses out loud several times to help memorize them.



As a family, plant a flower. Talk with your child about how there was no life in the pot before you planted the seeds, like when we are dead in our sin. When we have saving faith in Jesus, we receive new life.



Using a pair of sunglasses, help your child create "scales" for his eyes. Tape tissue paper over the lenses of the sunglasses. Ask your child to wear the sunglasses and describe what he sees. Next, remove the tissue paper and ask your child to describe what he sees. Talk with your child about how scales came off of Saul's eyes and he received new life, and this can be our story too when we have saving faith in Jesus.



As a family, spend some time praying this week, thanking God for sending Jesus to make us new.