

GOD'S MERCY IS GIVEN THROUGH JESUS

BIG TRUTH: GOD'S MERCY IS GIVEN THROUGH JESUS

John 3:16-18; Romans 5:6-11; Titus 3:3-7; 1 John 4:10-11

BIBLE VERSE: EPHESIANS 2:4-5

"But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved."

BIG IDEAS

- We are dead in our sin deserving God's righteous judgment.
- In His love God chose to extend mercy to those who do not deserve it.
- God's mercy is on display through the sinless sacrifice of Jesus in our place.

BIBLE STORY: EXODUS 12

God is a God full of mercy. He showed His mercy to the Israelites by passing over their houses if they were marked with the blood of a lamb. This day of mercy is called the Passover and it reminds us of God's great mercy to all in sending His Son, Jesus, to save the world.

STORY: REDEMPTION

Thankfully, God does not just leave us in the broken world, but is repairing the brokenness through His Son. From the very beginning of time, God promised He would fix creation, and He kept His promise by sending Jesus to rescue us from our sin. Jesus came to live on the earth and willingly died on the cross so that sin's power over creation would be broken forever.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- God provides mercy and grace through Jesus
- Mercy is when God does not give us what we deserve; grace is when God gives us what we do not deserve



Every child should feel:

- Awe at God's goodness in His mercy and grace to us



Every child should:

- Give thanks because God is merciful and gracious to us



Every child should want:

- To accept God's gifts of mercy and grace that He extends to us through Jesus

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UNDESERVED MERCY

Help your child understand mercy by planning a special day for them. Take your child to his favorite place to eat and then to a fun park or a special playground to play. Tell your child that he has done nothing to deserve the special day, but you are showing him mercy like God shows us mercy by sending Jesus while we are sinners.

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

Exodus 12.

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

The Israelites were enslaved to the Egyptians. They had been mistreated and kept as slaves for many years. The Israelites cried out to God for mercy. They cried out to Him to be freed from their slavery. God heard their prayers and because of His great love for them, He made a way for them to be free. Moses was God's chosen servant and the leader of God's people. Even though God sent Moses to Pharaoh asking him to set the Israelites free, Pharaoh's heart hardened against God. God did many miracles in the land of Egypt to show Pharaoh that He was the one true God, but Pharaoh refused to listen. Finally, God told Moses that He would strike down the firstborn of every household unless that household followed God's command. God commanded people to kill a lamb or goat and to place the blood over their doorpost. If they did this, then God's judgment would pass over them and their firstborn would remain alive. God showed the people mercy by offering a way for His judgment to pass over them. Pharaoh did not listen to God and he lost his firstborn child. Any household that did as God commanded was saved. This passing over shows us how much God loved His people and it shows us how much God loves us. God sent Jesus to be our Passover lamb. Jesus is the way that God's judgment can pass over us. We can be free from our sins when we turn from them and believe in Jesus. After Pharaoh's firstborn child died, he let the Israelites go free. We are set free when we believe in Jesus. God's love and mercy are shown to us through the Passover Lamb, Jesus.

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

- What happened to the households who didn't listen to God's command? (Their firstborn child died.)
- How does God pass over our sins? (He passes over our sins through Jesus.)
- How can we be free from our sin? (When we turn from our sin and believe in Jesus, we are set free from our sin nature.)



KNOW



DO



FEEL



WANT

As a family memorize Ephesians 2:4-5 by dividing the verse into sections. Each family member should take a section of the verse and say it out loud. Once each member has said his part, say the verse together as a family.

Create a doorpost using craft sticks glued to a piece of paper. Next, use red finger paint to mimic putting blood over the doorpost. Talk with your child about how God's judgment passes over us when we have saving faith in Jesus.

Spend some time this week sharing with your child your own salvation experience. Share with your child what it means to you that God passes over your sin through Jesus.

Spend some time this week singing praise songs as a family thanking God for loving us.