

GOD GIVES THE FAMILY

STORY: CREATION / YEAR: FAMILY

BIG TRUTH: GOD GIVES THE FAMILY

Genesis 2:24; Deuteronomy 11:18-19; Psalm 78:6-8; 127:3-5; 145:4; Matthew 19:3-6

BIBLE VERSE: GENESIS 1:28

"And God blessed them. And God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'"

BIG IDEAS

- Family is God's idea and design.
- The relationships within the family reflect the relationship between the Godhead.
- The family exists to spread the worship and fame of God across the earth.

BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 1

In the beginning, there was God. God existed perfectly and righteously. He needed nothing because He was and is completely satisfied in Himself. Though God was complete, He chose to create the heavens, the earth, and mankind. God made these things to bring Himself glory.

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 created the family



Every child should feel:

- Thankful for the gift of family that God has given them



Every child should:

- Practice serving the members of their family



Every child should want:

- To honor and respect their family

FAMILY DEVOTION: GOD DESIGNED FAMILY

Everything is from God. There is nothing original or new on the earth. Family is not a man-made idea or concept. Family is God's design for how created man would live on the earth.



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BIBLE VERSE: GENESIS 1:28

“And God blessed them. And God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

God created the first family.

- Everything God does has a purpose. His purpose is to bring glory to Himself.
- He alone is deserving of receiving glory from everything because He alone is holy and righteous.
- When He created the first man and woman, He created them to bring Him glory through their relationship with one another and their relationship with Him.
- He created the man first and then the woman. After He created the woman, He gave her to the man to be his helper and wife.
- When God gave man the woman, He created the first family.
- Family is from God. It is His idea and His design. It is not man's idea.

God determined the purpose of family.

- Because family comes from God, He determined its purpose.
- Family does not exist for man, but to bring God glory.
- By creating a family, God revealed Himself to the world.
- When God created the first family through Adam and Eve, He gave them a purpose.
- They were created to be in a relationship with one another that reflects the relationship of the Godhead, or Trinity.
- Their relationship shows God's power and creativity. It shows the way in which He works through man.
- He made family to multiply and have children.

God blessed the first family.

- Just as God found everything He created good, He found the first family to be good.
- He blessed the first family. He provided them with everything they needed to live and multiply.
- He gave them good gifts and allowed them dominion and power over the living things on the earth.
- God sees family as good and a reflection of Himself.

BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 1

The Creation Of The World

Opening Illustration:

Ask the children to create an illustrated map showing the way to their house. Help the children label the map and include the necessary directions to help a person find their house. Once they finish, allow them to share their maps and then remind them that God is the Creator of families. He has a purpose and plan for us.

BIG IDEA: FAMILY IS GOD'S IDEA AND DESIGN.

What does the word 'design' mean? (It is the way in which something is made, built or organized to exist or function.)

What does it mean for something to be a person's idea? (It means that it originates or comes from that person.)



Read Genesis 2:18, 1:28, and Deuteronomy 6:6 with the children. Lead them in a discussion about how God creates families and gives instructions for how families are to live.

God created people to live in families.¹

- God created the world to bring Him glory.
- He created mankind to reflect His image and to bring Him glory.
- God created the first family and gave them a home.
- God made the world in such a way that people could live on the earth and thrive.
- God set the world in motion and gave man dominion over every living creature on it.
- God created people to live together in family units, to be a part of one another's lives.
- He did not create people to live isolated or alone.

God determined the way a family would begin.

- God did not create man and then leave him to live as he chose.
- He gave instructions to the very first family when He created them.
- He showed them how to live as a unique family in a way that glorifies God.
- God determined that a man would leave his parents when he married his wife and the two would live as one.
- In this way, a new family would be formed. This is God's plan and design for people.²

Family is part of God's plan for mankind.

- God created the first man and there was no companion for him.
- God didn't leave the man companionless. His plan was not to create people who lived alone or as individuals.
- He created a helper for the man, a woman to be his wife.
- He gave the woman to the man as his wife and commanded them to multiply the earth with more people.
- Family is God's design for mankind.

1. Genesis 2:24: God designed how a family would form. He determined that a man and woman would become one flesh and live as a family.
2. Matthew 19:6: God determines how families are formed and it is not for mankind to end families that God has formed.

BIG IDEA: THE RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN THE FAMILY REFLECT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GODHEAD, OR TRINITY.³

What does the word 'relationship' mean? (It means that people are connected to one another and live with one another in some way.)

The Godhead exists together in harmony.

- God is one God in three persons. The three persons make up the Godhead.
- The Godhead lives together in harmony and unity perfectly because God is perfect.
- The three persons of the Godhead do not live to please themselves as individuals or to do their own will.
- The three persons live together in submission and harmony.
- God created the family to function in a similar way.
- The family was created to live in submission to God's created order and in harmony with one another.



Help the children name the different relationships in their families, such as mom, dad, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. Ask them to share what is special about one of their relationships or ways they show love in their families. Remind them that the relationships in a family reflect the relationship of the Godhead.

Each family is one unit made up of individual members with unique identities.

- The Godhead is made up of three persons, yet it is One.
- The family is one unit or one group, yet it is made up of different members.
- Each member has a position or place in the family given by God.
- This is seen in the creation of the first family. God was first, then He created man. After He created man, He created woman and gave her to man to be his helper.
- After the first family was formed, God blessed them and caused them to multiply by bringing children into the their unit.
- We see in Scripture that children are to live in submission to their parents.

How do the relationships within the family reflect the relationship of the Godhead? (The family is one unit, yet it has individual members. The Godhead is one God with three persons. They all live in harmony with one another.)

3. 2 Corinthians 1:21-22: The Trinity, or Godhead, exists in harmony and gives an example of how the family should live with one another.

BIG IDEA: THE FAMILY EXISTS TO SPREAD THE WORSHIP AND FAME OF GOD ACROSS THE EARTH.⁴

What does it mean to worship something? (It means to set your attention and heart on praising something or someone.)

Families spread the worship of God to others through faithfully teaching their children to worship God.⁵

- When God made the family, He commanded them to multiply and fill the earth.
- This meant that the first man and woman were to have children.
- God didn't give the first family children for them alone to enjoy, but for them to teach them the commands of God.
- It is a command of God that parents teach their children the statutes of God.
- God desires that parents train their children to know God, to love God, and to serve God.



Play a game of “Mother May I” with the children. Talk with them about how we bring God glory through our families when we obey our parents.

Families give God praise and make Him famous through their obedience to Him.

- When God created the first family, He gave them all they would need.
- Part of giving them what they needed was giving them boundaries and guidelines.
- God gave the family instructions on how to live lives that glorified God.
- When families live as God has instructed and commanded in His Word, they bring Him glory and make His name famous in the earth.
- Families give God praise with their lives when they obey Him.
- When fathers and mothers are living in harmony with one another, they give God praise.
- When children are obeying their parents and showing them honor, they give God praise.
- When the family unit lives in harmony and correct submission, like the Godhead, they are giving God praise and making Him famous.

4. Psalm 145:4: Families are the way that God's wonderful works are passed from one generation to the next.

5. Deuteronomy 11:19: God commands parents to teach their children God's commands and about His works.

HOOKS

**Family Hide-N-Seek**

Play a game of hide and seek. When the person who is the finder locates someone, that person must join hands with the finder. They will then go around and look for another person together. Keep playing until everyone is found and all the children have linked hands. Talk with them about how God gives us family to reflect Him to the world.

**Family Balloon Pop**

Give each child a balloon that has been blown up. Gather the children together with their balloons. Yell, "Fly your balloon!" When you do, instruct the children to throw their balloons. The children should stand in the spot that their balloon lands. Once you've played several times, bring the children together with their balloons. Ask the children to hold their balloons together. Remind them that God gives us a family to reflect Himself to the world. Families bring God glory through their obedience to Him.

