

WE ARE SEPARATED

STORY: FALL / YEAR: VALUE

BIG TRUTH: WE ARE SEPARATED

Genesis 3:23-24; Deuteronomy 31:16-18; Micah 3:4; Romans 1:18-21; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 2:12; 4:18; Colossians 1:19-22

BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 59:2

"But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear."

BIG IDEAS

- Sin is lostness.
- Sin is brokenness.
- I am broken and lost.

BIBLE STORY: LUKE 15:1-7

Jesus spent His time on this earth seeking out sinners that He might share the good news with them. The Pharisees and scribes grumbled against Jesus because He spent time with sinners, yet Jesus shared with them that even one lost person is of great value to God. Just like a shepherd will leave his herd to find one lost sheep, Jesus came to the earth to save the lost. We are the lost sheep in need of Jesus.

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 be perfect and good like it was before.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- all people are broken in sin and suffer consequences because of sin.



Every child should feel:

- Burdened by the reality of their sin



Every child should:

- Understand sin as disobedience against God and His plan



Every child should want:

- to be rescued from a life of sin and brokenness.

FAMILY DEVOTION: SEPARATED BY SIN

Every person is born with a sin nature that separates them from God. Our sinful hearts seek to do what pleases us instead of what pleases God and this causes us to be lost and broken.



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171 Promise Land Dr. Gray, TN 37615

STORY: FALL

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BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 59:2

“But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.”

Everyone has a sin nature.

- No one is born innocent or without sin.
- We are all born with a sin nature, with a heart that desires our own way over God’s way.
- Our hearts lead us to rebel against God, to sin against Him.
- No one can stand before God with a clean, pure heart.

Our sin separates us from God.

- Sin causes a barrier between man and God.
- Sin does not limit God’s forgiveness, but it separates man from God.
- Sin causes our hearts to turn away from God.
- God is holy and righteous.
- He does not sin.
- We are sinful and we do not seek God on our own.
- Our sin and rebellion break our relationship with God and separate us.

BIBLE STORY: LUKE 15:1-7

The Lost Sheep

Opening Illustration:

Before class hide an object, such as your Bible or another important object in the classroom somewhere. When the children enter the class, tell them that you have lost your object and you need their help to find it. After the children have found the object, lead them in a discussion about how we are all lost because our sin separates us from God.

- Every person has a sin nature and we are separated from God because of it.
- Even though we are lost and need to be found, like my object, God sent Jesus to find us and to pay our sin debt.

BIG IDEA: SIN IS LOSTNESS.**Lostness means not being on the right path.**

- Jesus shared a story, or parable about a shepherd who had a hundred sheep.
- One of his sheep wandered away and was lost. It was separated from the rest of the herd.
- The sheep was away from the protection and guidance of the shepherd.
- Sin causes us to be lost like this.
- It causes us to be away from God, to be separated from Him.¹
- Sin causes us to be lost and not on the right path.



Bring in a map of your town/city. Mark the location of your church on the map. Allow the children to look at the map and point out the location of the church. Next, talk with the children about how we would get lost if we took a wrong turn and went the wrong way just like our sin causes us to be lost and away from God.

Lostness means we need to be found.

- The lost sheep needed to be found by the shepherd.
- It couldn't find its own way back.
- Sin causes us to need to be found.
- Sin keeps us from being able to find our own way back to God.
- Sin means we aren't on the right path.
- It means we've lost our way and are headed in the wrong direction.

What does it mean to be lost? (You aren't on the right path. You're not headed in the right direction.)

What causes us to be lost? (Our sin causes us to be lost and in need of God.)

1. Hebrews 7:26: Sin separates us from God. Jesus is holy and righteous and separated from sin.

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BIG IDEA: SIN IS BROKENNESS.²**Sin breaks our relationship with God.**

- The sheep who lost its way was no longer with the shepherd.
- Our sin breaks our relationship with God.
- It separates us from Him and means we aren't being led by Him.
- Our sin leads us away from God, keeping us from knowing Him.

Sin breaks us.

- When God first created man and woman, they were perfect.
- They did not have to experience sorrow or separation from God.
- Our bodies are not perfect and eternal like they once were.
- They are broken now because of our sin natures.
- We experience death and sickness.
- Our hearts are not without sin and our sin breaks us and our relationship with God.



Divide the children into groups and ask them to make a list of behaviors that would make them angry or cause two people not to be friends, such as telling secrets, being mean, etc. Once each group has shared their list of behaviors, talk with the children about how our relationship with God was broken by sin and we are now lost and broken.

What breaks our relationship with God? (Sin breaks our relationship and separates us from God.)

2. Romans 8:19-22: Sin breaks everything. It broke creation causing death and decay to enter the perfect world God created. Sin breaks our relationship with God, separating us from our Creator.

BIG IDEA: I AM BROKEN AND LOST.**No one is on the right path without God's help.**

- We are all broken and lost before we know God.
- When we are born, our broken, sinful hearts lead us down the wrong path.
- Without God, our lives are not what they should be.
- We are all like the one lost sheep.
- We are in need of being found by our Shepherd, God.



Read Isaiah 59:2 out loud to the children and help the children define the word “iniquities” and then talk with them about how we are separated from God because of our sinful hearts.

We all have broken and sinful hearts.³

- Every person has a sinful heart.
- We don't naturally seek after God.
- Our choices show that we are seeking our own way.
- We are like the one sheep who wandered away from the flock and got lost.
- We need Jesus to find us.
- Our lostness keeps us away from God.
- Our brokenness keeps us from knowing we need God.
- Yet, the shepherd left the flock to look for the one lost sheep and God looks for us.
- God seeks us out and offers us salvation through His Son, Jesus.

What makes everyone broken and lost? (Sin causes us all to be broken and lost.)

3. Jeremiah 17:9: *Our hearts cannot be trusted. They are sinful and deceitful and will lead us to rebel against God.*

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HOOKS

**Lost And Wandering**

Prior to class, mark a path on the floor from one side of the room to the next. Bring in a blindfold and a stick or cane that can be used as a shepherd's hook. Ask for a volunteer to be the sheep. Blindfold the volunteer and give him or her the shepherd's hook. Ask them to walk from one side of the room to the next following the path that is marked on the floor. When they get off of the path, talk with the children about how we all are lost and away from God because of our sin.

**Separated and Broken**

Bring in different colored balloons already blown up. Place the balloons on the floor and ask the children to separate one color of balloons from the others, such as all of the blue balloons, using plastic spoons. They should carry the chosen balloon by placing it on the spoon and moving it away from the others. If they drop it, they have to go back and get another balloon. Once they have moved all of the designated balloons away from the others, talk with them about how we are separated from God and broken.



- Sin causes us to be separated from God.
- Sin breaks us and our relationship with God.
- We are like the balloons that have been separated from the rest.
- We are separated from God.