

BIG TRUTH: OUR SIN MAKES US EMPTY

Psalm 115:4-8; Isaiah 44:9-11; 55:1-3; Hosea 8:3-5,7; John 4:10-14

BIBLE VERSE: JEREMIAH 2:13

“For my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.”

BIG IDEAS

- Sin can never satisfy our heart.
- In our sin we look to false saviors to satisfy our hearts.
- In our sin we reject the true Savior who can satisfy our hearts.

BIBLE STORY: JOHN 4

Jesus chose to go to Samaria because He knew the Samaritan woman would be at the well. He met her there and shared the truth about who He is with her. He gave her living water that would cause her to never thirst again, just as He offers the same to every person who believes in Him. Our sin keeps us from this living water. It causes us to look to others to satisfy ourselves.

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 our sin and we suffer consequences because of sin

**Every child should:**

- Understand sin as disobedience against God and His plan

**Every child should feel:**

- Burdened by the reality of their sin

**Every child should want:**

- To repent of their disobedience against God

LIVING WATER

Gather together several dark cups. Fill one cup with fresh water, one with soda, one with milk, and the other with tea or cold coffee. Use a bandana to blindfold your child and have them taste each cup of liquid and then guess what they think is in the cup. Once they've tasted every cup, remind them that God gives us living water through Jesus Christ. Only He can truly satisfy us.

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

John 4

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

The Samaritan woman had lived a life looking for happiness and satisfaction in other places. She had looked to other people to bring her happiness and joy, but they had not brought her the joy and happiness she was looking for. One day, in the middle of the day, she goes to the well to draw water. She had lived such a life that she was not very welcome around the other women of the town. At the well was Jesus. He was Jewish and He asked her for a drink of water. She was very surprised that He spoke to her because she was a woman and she was a Samaritan. For many years the Jews and the Samaritans had not gotten along. The Jews disliked the Samaritans so much that they would not even travel through Samaria, but chose to go around it instead. Jesus had chosen to go through Samaria and He had stopped at this well and asked this woman for a drink of water. She questioned Him and revealed that she was surprised that He would ask her for a drink. As Jesus talked with the woman, He shared His truth with her. He did not really need a drink from her. He had come to Samaria to give her living water that would cause her to never thirst again. He offered her salvation from her sins and she believed in Him. She went to the town to tell other Samaritans that she had met the Messiah. They, too, came to meet Jesus and they believed in Him. He offers this same living water to everyone today. Our sin keeps us from drinking from His living water. We seek other things to please us, just like the Samaritan woman had sought other things to please her. They had all left her feeling empty, but then Jesus gave her water that satisfied her soul and filled her with joy and happiness.

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

- What was unusual about Jesus asking the Samaritan woman for a drink? (Jews and Samaritans didn't get along.)
- What did the woman think Jesus wanted? (She thought He wanted a drink of water.)
- What did Jesus give the woman at the well? (He gave her living water that satisfied her soul.)

**KNOW**

As a family, memorize Jeremiah 2:13 by playing a game of hide-n-seek. When the person who is it finds the person who is hiding, he or she gets to say the verse out loud. Play several times until the verse is memorized.

**DO**

Help your child make a list of things that bring them happiness. Share with your child some things that bring you happiness. Remind them that even though we find happiness in these things, they can never satisfy us for all of eternity. Only Jesus can give us true satisfaction.

**FEEL**

As a family, take a walk through a park or around your neighborhood. Look for different water sources, such as creeks, rivers, water hoses, fire hydrants, etc. Talk with your child about how Jesus offers living water that will satisfy our souls for all of eternity.

**WANT**

As a family, spend some time talking about the different things that we seek to satisfy us, such as hobbies, money, material things, etc. Talk with your child about how these things may bring us happiness, but they can never satisfy us for all of eternity. Only Jesus can satisfy us for all of eternity.

Spend some time this week praying with your child and thanking God for giving us living water through Jesus Christ.