

**BIG TRUTH: GOD IS FOREVER**

Genesis 1:1; Exodus 3:13-14; Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalm 90:1-4; 102:25-28; Isaiah 40:28; Colossians 1:17; 1 Timothy 6:13-16; Revelation 1:4; 22:13

**BIBLE VERSE: REVELATION 4:8B**

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

**BIG IDEAS**

- God is eternal (neither new nor old).
- God gives eternal life.
- Eternity exists for God’s glory.

**BIBLE STORY: REVELATION 4:8-5:15**

John’s exile to the Island of Patmos became much more than a prison sentence. While on the island, he experienced a vision about God and future events. His vision shows how God has always been, is now, and will always be. Not only is God eternal, He gives eternity to man.

**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****KNOW****Every child should know that:**

- God offers us new life (new desires, purpose) through Jesus

**FEEL****Every child should feel:**

- The need to live differently because of Jesus

**DO****Every child should:**

- See life in light of God’s promises to those who are in Jesus

**WANT****Every child should want:**

- To be freed and rescued from their sin and given new life in Jesus

**THE ETERNAL GIFT OF GLORY**

Help your child create a paper chain the length of your house. Use narrow strips of paper stapled together to create the paper chain. Help your child write an attribute of God's glory on each paper strip before connecting it to the previous one. Spread the paper chain out its full length. The length of the paper chain doesn't even come close to the eternal gift of God's glory to us.

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

Revelation 4:8-5:14.

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

John was a disciple of Jesus during Jesus' earthly ministry. Once Jesus returned to heaven, John continued to tell people about Jesus. He was persecuted for his faith in Jesus and eventually was exiled to the Island of Patmos. While he was on the island, he received a vision from God. During his vision, he was taken up in the spirit to heaven. He saw God sitting on a magnificent throne in heaven and four creatures surrounding the throne giving praise to God. John also saw twenty-four elders praising God. In God's hand was a scroll. God asked who is worthy to open the scroll, but no one in heaven was except for the Lamb who was slain. John saw the Lamb and watched as He opened the scroll. The four creatures and elders praised the Lamb for His worthiness and His everlasting nature. The Lamb who was slain is Jesus and John saw Jesus and God in their eternal glory. God is forever and the creatures and elders proclaimed that He is eternal. God created eternity for His own glory and He receives glory through the praise of those who are in heaven with Him. He gives us eternity when we have saving faith in Jesus, the One who paid our sin debt. We can be with God now and forever when we turn away from our sin and believe in Jesus.

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

- Why was John exiled to the island of Patmos? (He continued to share about Jesus.)
- What did John see while he was on the island? (He was given a vision of God in heaven.)
- How does God give eternity to us? (When we place saving faith in Jesus, we have eternal life.)

**KNOW**

As a family, memorize Revelation 4:8b by writing the verse on slips of paper and hiding them around your house. Have your child hunt for the pieces of paper. Every time she finds one, help her say the verse out loud.

**DO**

As a family, take turns drawing circles with sidewalk chalk. See which family member can draw the biggest circle. Once you draw several circles, talk to you child about how a circle doesn't really have a beginning and end. It just continues to go around and around. God doesn't have a beginning and end, either. He is always and forever.

**FEEL**

As a family, watch the sunrise. Talk with your child about how the sun rising signifies the day beginning and the sun setting signifies the day ending. Most things have a beginning and an end, but God does not.

**WANT**

As a family, take a walk through your neighborhood. As you walk, talk with your child about the different things that you see, such as trees, flowers, houses, cars, and etc. Talk with your child about how those things have beginnings and endings, but God does not. He is eternal.

Spend some time this week praying, thanking God for being eternal and giving us eternity.