

**BIG TRUTH: GOD'S FAMILY IS FOREVER**

Daniel 7:14; Isaiah 51:11; John 3:16; 1 John 3:1-2; Hosea 2:19-20; John 3:36; Revelation 7:16-17; Revelation 21:1-5

**BIBLE VERSE: 1 JOHN 5:12-13**

"Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life."

**BIG IDEAS**

- Life is found in Jesus.
- Sin leads to death and eternal separation from God.
- Everyone who repents of their sin and places their faith in Jesus finds life and a place in God's family.
- Our families are temporary, but God's family is forever.

**BIBLE STORY: JOHN 14:1-11**

As Jesus prepares His disciples for His crucifixion, He reminds them that He is the way to eternal life. Only through Jesus can a person know God and become a part of God's family. When we are part of God's family, we are His forever.

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

- The church is God's family
- The Christian life cannot be faithfully lived apart from the local church

**Every child should feel:**

- Loved by the church family that God has placed them into
- Love for their church family

**Every child should:**

- Participate in their local church
- Serve someone within their local church

**Every child should want:**

- To grow together in Christ with other members of God's family

**A FOREVER FAMILY**

As Jesus prepares His disciples for His crucifixion, He reminds them that He is the way to eternal life. Only through Jesus can a person know God and become a part of God's family. When we are part of God's family, we are His forever.

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

John 14:1-11.

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

As Jesus' ministry on earth was coming to an end, He began preparing His disciples for His crucifixion and ascension into Heaven. Some of Jesus' disciples did not fully understand what was going to happen to Jesus on the cross. As Jesus explained this truth to them, He reminded them that the only way for a person to know God and have access to Him is to believe in Jesus. Because we are all born sinful, we are all born spiritually dead. Because God is life and Jesus is God, the only way to have life is to know Jesus. When we look to Jesus for salvation, God is faithful to forgive us of the sin debt we owe. When we have saving faith in Jesus, God makes us part of His family. When we become part of His family, we are His sons and daughters forever. God's family is everlasting. It never ends. Our place in His family is always secure because nothing can take us away from God.

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

- What did Jesus prepare His disciples for? (He prepared them for His crucifixion and ascension into Heaven.)
- What is the only way to know God? (The only way to know God is to believe in Jesus.)

**KNOW**

As a family, memorize 1 John 5:12-13 by creating a matching game from the verses. Write each word of the verse on an index card twice and take turns making matches. Once all the matches are made, put the verses together and say them out loud.

**DO**

Take a drive with your child and point out all of the ONE WAY signs that you see. Talk with your child about how there is only one way to know God and be in His family and that is through Jesus.

**FEEL**

Help your child think of different ways that people may become a part of a family, such as through birth, adoption, marriage, etc. Remind your child that the only way to join God's family is through saving faith in Jesus.

**WANT**

Spend time at bedtime this week praying with your child and thanking God for making us a part of His family forever.