

BIG TRUTH: WE ARE BROKEN IN OUR SIN

Isaiah 59:2; 64:6; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 1:19-23; 8:5-8; Ephesians 2:1-3; 4:17-19; Titus 1:15-16; 3:3

BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 6:23A

"For the wages of sin is death."

BIG IDEAS

- Our relationship with God is broken.
- Our hearts are broken.
- Our actions are broken.

BIBLE STORY: JOSHUA 7

Achan sinned against God and broke his relationship with God by keeping some of the spoils of war. Achan thought he could hide what he had taken and that no one would know, but God uncovered Achan's sin and revealed just how broken his heart was. We are broken and sinful and act in ways that displease God.

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 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.

BROKEN HEARTS

Gather together several broken items, such as a broken plastic fork, a ripped piece of paper, a torn paper plate, a broken flashlight, and include a picture of your family. Show the items to your child and ask them what they all have in common. They all have brokenness in common. Each person is broken in their hearts and action because of their sin natures.

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

Joshua 7

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

God's special people, the Israelites, had seen God do mighty things for them. He had parted the Red Sea and fought for them in every battle. When they went out to fight the people of Ai, they were defeated. The Israelites were mightier in number than the people of Ai, but Israel's soldiers ran away from Ai in great fear. Joshua, the leader of the Israelites, knew immediately that God was displeased with them because He had always fought for them. After the defeat in battle, Joshua sought the Lord to find out why God had not fought for them. God told Joshua that someone had disobeyed God by keeping some of the devoted things from other nations. God had commanded the Israelites to not keep any of the devoted things for themselves, yet someone had. God was angry with His people and He commanded Joshua to call all of the people together and God promised to reveal who the person was. When Achan's tribe was called forward, God revealed that it was Achan who had kept the devoted things. Achan confessed that he had taken devoted things and hidden them in the ground under the tent. Achan was stoned to death for his sin. His heart had led him to sin against God because his heart, like our hearts, was sinful and broken.

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

- What had the Israelites seen God do for them? (He had done mighty things.)
- Why were the Israelites defeated in battle against the people of Ai? (Someone had kept the devoted things for themselves.)
- Why did Achan keep the devoted things for himself? (His heart was sinful and broken.)



As a family, memorize Romans 6:23a by playing a game of freeze tag. The person who is frozen gets to say the verse out loud.



Help your child draw a heart and cut it out. Using a pen start drawing a zig-zag line down the center for every sin you and your child have committed. Keep naming sins until the line reaches the bottom of the heart. Talk with your child about how our hearts are broken because we are sinful.



Write down several actions on index cards. Some should be good actions and some bad actions. Hide the actions around your house or outside and ask your child to find them. When he or she finds a card, read the action and ask them to identify it as a good action or bad action. Remind your child that our actions are broken and sinful because of our sinful hearts.



Spend some time praying with your child asking God to show you both your broken actions. Thank God for His forgiveness through Jesus Christ.