

GOD IS REDEEMER

STORY: REDEMPTION

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS REDEEMER

Psalm 130:7-8; Romans 3:21-26; Colossians 1:13-14; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 9:11-14; 1 Peter 1:18-22; Revelation 5:8-10

BIBLE VERSE: EPHESIANS 1:7

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace."

BIG IDEAS

- We cannot redeem ourselves.
- God sent His Son to redeem us from our sin.
- Our redemption is purchased by the blood of Jesus.
- Redemption is final and forever.

BIBLE STORY: RUTH 1-4

When Naomi and Ruth returned to Bethlehem, they were two women without husbands or family. They were in need of protection and help. Boaz, one of Naomi's relatives, chose to bring them into his family. When he brought them into his family, he provided protection and help. God is the Redeemer of every person. He sent His Son to pay our sin debt so that we might become part of His family.

STORY: REDEMPTION

Thankfully, God does not just leave us in the broken world, but is repairing the brokenness through His Son. From the very beginning of time, God promised He would fix creation, and He kept His promise by sending Jesus to rescue us from our sin. Jesus came to live on the earth and willingly died on the cross so that sin's power over creation would be broken forever.

BIG AIMS**Every child should know that:**

- God has provided a rescue plan for us through Jesus

**Every child should feel:**

- A desperate need to be rescued from sin and death

**Every child should:**

- Remember that God proved He is more powerful than sin and death through Jesus

**Every child should want:**

- To be rescued by Jesus who is our Savior

FAMILY DEVOTION: ONLY JESUS CAN REDEEM

There is no person who is able to redeem himself or herself. Only the blood of Jesus could redeem people. Because Jesus lived a perfect life, He alone could redeem us.

BIBLE VERSE: EPHESIANS 1:7

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace."

We are all held captive by our sin.

- We are all sinful and we all sin against God.
- Our sin nature leads us to sin.
- Our hearts are sinful and are set on pleasing ourselves instead of God.
- Our sin holds us captive.
- We are slaves to it.
- We are controlled by our hearts and our hearts are sinful.
- Our sinful hearts are not free; they are slaves to sin.

God is rich in grace and He gave Jesus to save us.

- Our sin causes us to owe a debt to God.
- He is holy and righteous and our sin dishonors Him.
- He is rich in grace and He gave His only son to pay our sin debt.
- God freely gave Jesus to us.
- He did not ask that we do anything in order for Him to send Jesus.
- God was gracious and loving when He sent Jesus.

We receive redemption through Jesus.

- Jesus lived a perfect and sinless life.
- He became man so that He might pay our sin debt.
- Jesus died on the cross for our sin.
- He took on our sin and paid our sin debt so we would not have to pay it ourselves.
- We are set free from our sin by Jesus.

BIBLE STORY: RUTH 1-4

The Kinsman Redeemer

Opening Illustration:

Bring in several small baskets or containers and construction paper. Help the children create "wheat" using brown or yellow construction paper. Help them cut strips of construction paper to look like wheat. Scatter the wheat throughout the classroom. Divide the children into groups and then have them to race each other to see who can collect the most wheat. Once the children have all had a chance to collect wheat, lead them in a discussion about how Boaz redeemed Ruth and Naomi like God redeems us from our sin.

- Our sin debt is something that we cannot pay ourselves.
- Ruth and Naomi could not care for themselves, but Boaz brought them into his family by redeeming them.
- God redeems His people by sending His Son to pay their sin debt.
- He is our Redeemer.

BIG IDEA: WE CANNOT REDEEM OURSELVES.**Every person is sinful and owes a sin debt.**

- From the first man and woman to every person who has lived or will live, all have sinned.
- We all have sinful hearts that lead us away from God.
- No one, besides Jesus, has lived a life without sin.
- We all rebel against God and His commands.
- We all seek to please ourselves instead of God.



Divide the children into pairs or small groups. Give each group a piece of paper and pencils. Ask them to write what they think the word “Redemption” means. Next talk with them about different ways we experience redemption in our lives. Remind them that God is our Redeemer.

We all need to be redeemed.¹

- Because we all are sinful, we are in need of someone to redeem us.
- There is no person who is able to redeem themselves.
- We need someone to redeem us, or set us free from our sin debt.
- Ruth and Naomi could not redeem themselves.
- They needed the help of a relative, or kinsman.
- They needed someone to provide for their needs and to bring them back into the family.

We cannot pay our own sin debt.

- No one is able to pay his or her sin debt.
- We are all sinful and because of our sin, we cannot pay for our sin debt.
- We all need to be redeemed from our sin.
- We all need to be made new.

What did Naomi and Ruth need help with? (They needed help providing for themselves.)

What do we need to be redeemed from? (We need to be redeemed from our sin.)

1. Psalm 19:14: God is our Redeemer. He washes away our sin and makes us new.

BIG IDEA: GOD SENT HIS SON TO REDEEM US FROM OUR SIN.**God always had a plan to save us.**

- God is all knowing and in control of all things.
- He always had a plan to save us from our sin.
- When God sent Adam and Eve out of the garden, He told them He would save them one day.²
- God did not leave them in their sin, separated from Him.

God willingly sent His Son to save us.³

- God did not hesitate to send His only Son to pay our sin debt.
- Only a sinless person could pay our sin debt.
- Jesus came to the earth.
- He became human like us.
- He lived a sinless life.
- God sent Jesus to redeem us and to make us new again.
- Ruth went to Boaz's field to gather wheat for Naomi and her.
- Boaz was the kinsman, or relative who could help Naomi and Ruth.
- He knew Ruth and Naomi could not help themselves.
- He provided for them by giving them extra wheat.
- God provided for us by giving us Jesus to redeem us.



Give the children a small piece of paper and ask them to write down one word from the lesson, such as "Ruth", "Wheat", "Redemption", etc. Next, ask them to hide their pieces of paper throughout the room and then allow the children to hunt for the piece of paper. When all of the papers have been found, talk with the children about the words they wrote down. Remind them that Ruth was redeemed by Boaz like we are redeemed by God.

*How did Boaz help Ruth and Naomi? (He provided for them by giving them extra wheat.)
Who did God send to redeem us? (God sent His Son, Jesus to redeem us.)*

2. Genesis 3:15: God promised Adam and Eve and all of mankind that a Savior would come who would destroy Satan. Jesus is our Redeemer.

3. 1 John 4:9: God sent Jesus even while we were still sinners. He made a way for us to be redeemed.

BIG IDEA: OUR REDEMPTION IS PURCHASED BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS.**God required a perfect sacrifice for our sin.**

- Just anyone could not redeem us.
- In order for our sin debt to be paid, a sacrifice without blemish was needed.
- No one is without sin, except Jesus.
- Jesus is our sinless, perfect sacrifice.
- Only He could redeem us from our sin.
- Boaz was the perfect helper for Ruth and Naomi.
- He had the ability and connection to be their kinsman redeemer.
- A kinsman redeemer is a relative who could restore family members who were in great need.
- Ruth and Naomi were in need.
- They needed restoring to their community and family.
- Boaz was the perfect redeemer for them.



Have the children each stand behind their seats. Tell them that in order for them to sit down, they will have to be “redeemed”. Give each child a piece of candy or prize and tell him or her they can sit down now. Talk with the children about how they didn’t have to do anything to be “redeemed”. They gained access to their seat through the prize you gave them. We are redeemed by Jesus’ blood and by nothing that we do.

Our sin required the death of a perfect sacrifice.⁴

- The wages of sin is death.
- Our sin debt requires a blood sacrifice.
- Jesus is that sacrifice.
- Our sins are paid for through Jesus’ death.
- When Jesus died on the cross, His blood redeemed us from our sins.
- Boaz redeemed Ruth by making her his wife and a part of his family.
- His marriage gave Naomi and Ruth rights in their family and community again.
- God’s redemption of us gives us a place in His family.
- We are no longer outsiders, separated from God.

How did Boaz make Naomi and Ruth part of his family? (He married Ruth.)

How did God redeem us? (Jesus died on the cross for our sins.)

4. Genesis 3:3: Our sin caused death to come into the world. In order for our sin to be paid for, death must happen.

BIG IDEA: REDEMPTION IS FINAL AND FOREVER.**God's redemption is forever.**

- The work of Jesus on the cross cannot be undone.
- When He paid for our sins, He paid for our past, present, and future sins once and for all.
- When He died on the cross, His death forever washed away our sin.
- Boaz redeemed Ruth forever.
- He made her his wife forever.

Forgiveness for our sins is final.⁵

- When we turn away from our sin and believe in Jesus, our sins are forgiven.
- This act does not have to happen over and over.
- Once our hearts are made new by Jesus, they are always new.
- Our redemption is forever and always.
- God will never take our redemption away.
- The work of Jesus is final and complete.
- Ruth and Naomi became part of Boaz's family forever.
- They were no longer on the outside.



Bring in several round objects, such as a ring, hula-hoop, or ball. Allow the children to examine the objects. Ask the children to find the end of the round objects. Remind them that these objects go in a circle forever just like our redemption through Jesus is forever.

Is God's redemption forever? (Yes. Once God redeems us, we are always redeemed.)

5. John 10:29: Our forgiveness is forever. Nothing can remove us from God's hand. Once we have saving faith, we are saved forever.

HOOKS

**A Purchased Redemption**

On several pieces of paper or index cards write down things that can be purchased. On one of the cards write down the words “Our Redemption”. Hide these cards throughout the room and ask the children to find them. When all of the cards have been found, gather the children together and talk about each one. Lead them in a discussion about how our redemption is bought by Jesus’ blood.



- There is nothing we can do or say to earn our redemption.
- Because we are all sinful, we are unable to pay our sin debt.
- God made a way for us to be redeemed.
- He sent His Son, Jesus to pay our sin debt.

**Forever Free**

Bring in several small ropes. Divide the children into pairs and use the ropes to tie their hands together. Ask the children to do certain tasks with their tied hands, such as write their name, clap their hands, etc. Talk with them about how difficult and nearly impossible it is to do certain things with their hands tied. Untie their hands and ask them to do the same tasks. Lead them in a discussion about how we are slaves to our sin debt, but Jesus’ blood sets us free and it is forever.



- When we are in our sin, we are held captive.
- We cannot please God or do right things because of our sin debt.
- God sent Jesus to pay our sin debt and redeem us.
- When we are redeemed, we are set free forever.
- Our redemption is forever.