

BIG TRUTH: WE ARE SEPARATED

Genesis 3:23-24; Deuteronomy 31:16-18; Micah 3:4; Romans 1:18-21; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 2:12; 4:18; Colossians 1:19-22

BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 59:2

“But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear.”

BIG IDEAS

- Sin is lostness.
- Sin is brokenness.
- I am broken and lost.

BIBLE STORY: LUKE 15:1-7

Jesus spent His time on this earth seeking out sinners so that He might share the good news with them. The Pharisees and scribes grumbled against Jesus because He spent time with sinners, yet Jesus taught them that even one lost person is of great value to God. Just like a shepherd will leave his flock to find one lost sheep, Jesus came to the earth to save the lost. We are the lost sheep in need of Jesus.

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

- Sin has broken our families

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

- Burdened at how sin breaks our families

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

- Be aware of the ways their sin affects their family

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

- Their family to be made new by Christ

A BROKEN HEART

As a family spend some time making heart-shaped sugar cookies. Once the cookies are finished, break some of the cookies in half. Our hearts are broken because of our sin. We are all broken and lost and in need of salvation.

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

Luke 15:1-7.

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

Jesus was confronted by some of the most important men in His day, the Pharisees and the scribes. These men questioned Him about the way He ministered to sinners. They didn't understand that we are all sinners. They didn't understand that every person is separated from God. Jesus told them a story about a shepherd who had a flock of a hundred sheep. One sheep got lost; it wandered off the path and away from the flock. The shepherd could have left the sheep to wander and take care of itself. The shepherd could have chosen to take care of the ninety-nine sheep left in his fold. The shepherd didn't do that. He chose to leave the ninety-nine who were safe and go look for the lost sheep. Jesus told this story to show the people listening that He left His heavenly home to come to earth to seek us out. We are the lost sheep. We need our heavenly Shepherd to find us. We are all separated from God because of our sinful hearts. Jesus came to earth to seek and save the lost. We are the lost.

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

- What question did the Pharisees and scribes ask Jesus? (They wanted to know why He was letting sinners come near Him.)
- What did the shepherd decide to do when one of his sheep was lost? (He decided to go and look for the lost sheep.)
- How are we like the lost sheep? (We are lost and separated from God because of our sinful hearts.)



KNOW

As a family memorize Isaiah 59:2 by writing the verse on a piece of paper. Cut the paper into smaller pieces. Remove one of the pieces of the verse and ask your child to write out the verse filling in the missing piece. Do this several times changing the missing piece each time.



DO

Gather a bowl full of different colored marbles. Divide the marbles into different groups according to color. Let your child pick one marble. This marble will be his or her "sheep." Next, hide the other marbles around your house and help your child find his or her missing "sheep", or the marbles that match the color of his or her chosen marble. Talk with them about how we are the lost sheep and God sent Jesus to find us like you're finding the marbles.



FEEL

Create a city scavenger hunt for your child. Take your child on a drive through your town and ask your child to hunt for different familiar places in your city. Tell your child that we are all lost and in need of being found like you are finding different places in your city.



WANT

Spend a few minutes before bedtime praying with your child thanking God for sending Jesus to rescue us from our brokenness.