

BIG TRUTH: GOD'S FAMILY IS DIVERSE

Daniel 7:14; Matthew 28:19; Romans 12:4-8; 1 Peter 4:10-11

BIBLE VERSE: REVELATION 7:9

"After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,"

BIG IDEAS

- God created every race, ethnicity, and people group for His glory.
- God is redeeming a family through Jesus.
- This family is made up of people from every race throughout history.
- We have a deeper connection and belonging to this family over any other family members we might have.
- These people are united by the blood of Jesus and will worship Him forever together.

BIBLE STORY: ACTS 8:26-40

As Jesus' disciples went out preaching the gospel, Philip encountered an Ethiopian eunuch on his way back to Ethiopia after having worshipped in Jerusalem. Philip joined the eunuch in his chariot and shared the truth of Jesus with him. This eunuch believed the gospel and was baptized into the family of God.

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:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALL GOD'S PEOPLE

Help your child cut out people from different colors of construction paper. Use a template that you find online for a person. Next, use string to attach these people together and then hang them up in your house. Talk with your child about how God's family is made up of people from different ethnicities and people groups. Everyone in God's family doesn't look exactly alike.

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

Acts 8:26-40.

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

Because of persecution, Jesus' followers were scattered and continued to preach the Word of God to those who had not heard it. Philip was one of Jesus' followers who continued to preach the gospel. When Philip was in Jerusalem, he received a message from an angel of the Lord. The angel told Philip to go to a particular road leading from Jerusalem to Gaza. Philip left Jerusalem and went to the road the angel told him to go to. Philip saw an Ethiopian eunuch in a chariot reading the words of the prophet Isaiah. Philip went over to the Ethiopian in the chariot and asked the Ethiopian if he understood what he was reading. The Ethiopian replied that he could not know unless someone guides him. He invited Philip to join him in his chariot where Philip explained the good news of the gospel to the Ethiopian. The Ethiopian believed the gospel. He believed that Jesus died for his sin. Philip and the Ethiopian came upon some water and the Ethiopian commanded that his chariot be stopped. He asked Philip to baptize him in the body of water, showing that he had believed in Jesus and was a part of the family of God. The Ethiopian went on his way rejoicing and Philip continued preaching the gospel to those who had not heard it. Philip and the Ethiopian were not the same ethnicity. They did not belong to the same people group, yet they both are a part of God's family. God's family is diverse and made up of people from all over the world.

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

- Where did the angel of the Lord tell Philip to go? (He told Philip to go to the road leading from Jerusalem to Gaza.)
- Who did Philip meet on the road to Gaza? (He met an Ethiopian eunuch reading the prophet Isaiah.)
- How did the Ethiopian's life change that day? (He believed the gospel and became a part of the family of God.)



As a family, memorize Revelation 7:9 by setting a timer and seeing who can write the verse from memory before the timer goes off.



Use a large Styrofoam ball to create a globe. Help your child use markers to draw the different water and land masses on the globe. Next, help your child identify different continents and countries on the globe. Remind your child that God's family is made up of believers from every part of the world.

As a family, create a praise chart listing words that your family can use to worship God together.



Spend time with your child talking about the different physical characteristics of your family members. Point out that though there are differences, your family is one family. Remind your child that the family of God is made up of people who don't all look the same or have the same languages, but there is just one family of God.



Spend some time praying as a family and thanking God for the diversity that is in the world and in His family.