

BIG TRUTH: GOD PROVIDES ADOPTION

John 1:11-13; Romans 8:14-17; Galatians 4:4-7; Ephesians 1:3-6; 1 John 3:1-3

BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 8:15

“For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’”

BIG IDEAS

- Our sin separates us from God.
- In His mercy and grace, God sent Jesus to save us from our sin.
- In His love, God not only saves sinners, but also adopts them into His family.
- Being adopted into God’s family means we get all the rights and privileges of sonship.

BIBLE STORY: 2 SAMUEL 9

David showed mercy and grace to Saul’s grandson, Mephibosheth when David restored all of Saul’s land to Mephibosheth. David did not have to show Mephibosheth grace and mercy, but he chose to do so because of his love for Mephibosheth’s father, Jonathan. David treated Mephibosheth as his own family. He brought him into his family and gave him rights and privileges. God brings us into His family when we repent and believe in Jesus.

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 adopts His children into a new family by His grace

**Every child should feel:**

- Awe at the gift of adoption that God has given to His people

**Every child should:**

- Treat others in the church with honor and respect because in Christ we are all members of the same family

**Every child should want:**

- To be adopted into God’s family through faith and repentance

THE FAMILY OF GOD

Draw the outline of a tree with many branches on a large piece of paper. Next, help your child list people in the Bible who are in the lineage of Jesus. For example, begin with Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Rahab, Ruth and Boaz, David, and Jesus. Also, write the names of any of your family members who have repented and believed in Jesus. Talk with your child about how God adopts us into His family when we repent and believe in Jesus.

DISCOVER IT: *(Use the passage to illustrate the Big Truth.)*
2 Samuel 9.

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

David became the next king of Israel after Saul. Saul tried many times to kill David because Saul was so jealous of him. Saul's son, Jonathan loved David and was a loyal friend to him. After Saul and Jonathan died, David sought to honor Jonathan. He sent word seeking any living relatives of Saul and Jonathan and he found Jonathan's son, Mephibosheth. Mephibosheth was lame and unable to walk. David could have cast Mephibosheth away, but he didn't. He brought Mephibosheth into his family and treated him like his own relative. He gave Mephibosheth all that had belonged to Saul and Jonathan. David also made sure that Mephibosheth was cared for all the days of his life. David adopted Mephibosheth as a member of his own family like God adopts us into His family when we repent and believe. God makes us His sons and daughters and gives us the same rights and privileges as if we had been born His children.

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

- Why did David take care of Mephibosheth? (He loved Jonathan and wanted to honor him.)
- How did David treat Mephibosheth like a family member? (He gave him land and the rights and privileges of being in his family.)



As a family, memorize Romans 8:15 by creating word art with the verse. Write the verse on a piece of paper or poster board. Use markers, colored pencils and crayons to decorate the words in the verse. As you decorate it, say the verse together several times.



Spend some time during meal times this week talking about what the privileges are of members of your family. For example, talk about how being a member of your family means you get to have family game nights, you get to share in meals, you get to go on vacation together, etc. Remind your child that when we repent and believe in Jesus, we become part of God's family and we have rights and privileges.



Take your child to your local zoo or petting zoo. Point out the way that the animals are separated from one another. Talk with your child about how we are separated from God by our sin, but when we repent and believe we are adopted into His family.



As a family, create a song that shows what it means to be in your family. Help your children think of the rights and privileges that come with being in your family and write a song that shows them. Remind your child that when we are adopted into God's family, we have the same rights and privileges as His children.

Spend some time this week singing songs of praise to God. Sing songs praising God for adopting us into His family.