

THE FAITHFUL FATHER PROVIDES A NEW HOPE

BIG TRUTH: THE FAITHFUL FATHER PROVIDES A NEW HOPE

Romans 5:1-5; 8:22-25; 15:13; 1 Corinthians 1:9; Colossians 1:21-23; 2 Thessalonians 2:16; Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Hebrews 6:17-20

BIBLE VERSE: 1 PETER 1:3

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

BIG IDEAS

- Sin makes us dead, but through Jesus' death and resurrection we can be raised from spiritual death to life.
- Being a part of God's family means we have been given a new hope of a new life.
- In our sin, we had no hope; as a member of God's family we live a life full of hope.
- This hope shapes the way we live and our purpose in life.

BIBLE STORY: JOHN 11:1-44

We are all spiritually dead and God gives us new life through Jesus Christ. Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead as a symbol of what His death on the cross does for every person who believes in Him. Jesus gives us a new hope through His own death and resurrection.

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

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A NEW HOPE

Create a Hope Scavenger Hunt for your child. Include different people or places that bring people hope on this earth, such as police officers, doctors, ministers, homeless shelters, Salvation Army, etc. Once you finish the scavenger hunt, talk with your child about how the only true hope we can have is in Jesus.

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

John 11:1-44.

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

Every person is born spiritually dead because of our sin nature. Our sin separates us from God, the only true source of life. Jesus taught this truth when He raised Lazarus from the dead. One day, Jesus received word that his friend Lazarus was very sick. Jesus delayed going to Lazarus because He was revealing something very important about Himself to the world. When Jesus did arrive in Lazarus' town, Lazarus had already died and his sisters were mourning him. Lazarus' sisters believed in Jesus and they knew that He could help their brother. When Jesus told his sister that Lazarus would live again, Martha thought Jesus was only talking about when the dead will live in again in the final days. Jesus told her that He is the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in Him has life. Then, He showed this when He raised her brother from the dead. Lazarus came out of the tomb, pointing to the time when Jesus would come out of the tomb. Jesus brings a new hope to people who believe in Him. When we believe that He died for our sin and was raised again on the third day, we receive new life. Our new life brings us new hope that is eternal and everlasting.

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

- Why didn't Jesus go to Lazarus as soon as He heard Lazarus was sick? (He was revealing an important truth about Himself to the world.)
- How does Jesus bring us new hope? (Because Jesus lives again after His death, we know that those who believe in Him will live again.)
- How is the new hope that Jesus gives better than any hope we have in this world? (Hope in Jesus is everlasting and true. We can always count on Him.)



As a family, memorize 1 Peter 1:3 by writing each word on a strip of paper and taking turns seeing who can put the verse in order the quickest. Use a stopwatch to time each person trying to put the verse together. Say the verse together several times.



As a family, create Lazarus pops using candy sticks, Oreo cookies and white dipping chocolate. Melt the dipping chocolate or almond bark. Place the candy sticks in one end of the Oreo. Dip the Oreo in the chocolate to create a "mummy". As you create the Lazarus pops, talk with your child about how we have new life in Jesus because of His resurrection from the dead.



Help your child create a "Hope Collage" using pictures from old magazines or newspapers. Ask your child to create the collage using pictures that bring him or her hope. Talk with your child about how we have lasting hope when we have saving faith in Jesus.



Share with your child what it means to hope in something. Talk with your child about the difference between hoping in Jesus and hoping in this world. Remind him that our hope in Jesus is eternal and sure.

Spend some time this week praying with your child and thanking God for giving us new hope through Jesus.