

# GOD INVITES ME INTO HIS FAMILY

## REVIEW - REDEMPTION

### BIG TRUTH: GOD INVITES ME INTO HIS FAMILY

Hosea 1:10; Luke 18:16; John 1:12; Romans 8:23; 2 Corinthians 6:18; Galatians 4:5; Ephesians 1:5; 2:18; 5:1; 1 John 3:1

### BIBLE VERSE: 2 CORINTHIANS 6:18

*and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.”*

### BIG IDEAS

- God provides adoption.
- The faithful Father provides a new name.
- The faithful Father provides a new standing.
- The faithful Father provides a new hope.
- The faithful Father provides a new family.

### BIBLE STORY: LUKE 15 (THE PRODIGAL SON)

Jesus told a parable about a father who had two sons. His younger son grew tired of working for his father and asked for his inheritance early. Once he had received it, he left home, lived recklessly, and wasted all his money. Eventually, he went back home, thinking that he would ask his father to take him back as a servant. His father did not take him back as a servant, but rather welcomed him back as a beloved son. God is a faithful Father who invites us into 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:

- When we are redeemed, we are made a part of God's family



#### Every child should feel:

- Grateful that God would adopt us into His family



#### Every child should:

- Talk about adoption as a gift from God



#### Every child should want:

- To trust in God as their faithful Father

### BIBLE STORY

Guide 9 acts as a review for the preceding weeks. Use this guide and devotion to support, reinforce, and review concepts learned throughout the past weeks and to test your child's understanding and memory of these truths.

**BIBLE VERSE: 2 CORINTHIANS 6:18**

*and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.”*

**Through Jesus, God makes believers His children.**

- Our sin separates us from God. It prevents us from having a relationship with Him because God is holy and does not look on sin.
- Our sin leads us away from God and hurts the relationships we have with others.
- Our sin makes us isolated and alone.
- God adopts people into His spiritual family through His Son, Jesus.
- When Jesus died on the cross, His death removed the barrier between man and God—man’s sin.
- Now, those who repent and believe in Jesus become God’s sons and daughters and are no longer alone.

**Because of Jesus, believers are no longer fatherless.**

- Because of our sin, we are fatherless spiritually.
- We have no relationship with God, the Father and this makes us orphans spiritually.
- Because Jesus paid the price for our sin, the sin barrier is removed.
- Those who turn away from their sin and believe in Jesus are no longer orphans spiritually.
- They are welcomed into God’s family and He calls them His children.
- Those who have repented and believed call God Father.

**Believers are joined together by God’s Spirit.**

- Sin also isolates man from others. Our relationships are not what they can be because sin is a hindrance.
- When a person repents and believes in Jesus, those relationships are made better.
- Every person who follows Jesus becomes part of God’s family and he or she gains brothers and sisters in Christ.
- The Holy Spirit, or God’s Spirit joins fellow believers to one another to form God’s family.
- Every believer is connected to other believers through God’s Spirit.

**BIBLE STORY: LUKE 15:11-32****Opening Illustration:**

Help the children create a storybook about Jesus using different colored pieces of construction paper or cardstock. For younger children, supply markers and stickers to help them tell the main events of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. For older children, help them write the events of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. Focus on Jesus’ redemption of people.

Guide 9 acts as a review for the preceding weeks. The Big Ideas in Guide 9 are the Big Truths that were learned in Guides 4-8. Use this week as an opportunity to review and reinforce these truths. For further study, information, or resources, refer back to Guides 4-8.

### **BIG IDEA: GOD PROVIDES ADOPTION.**

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!’”*

See Guide 4 for more information on this Big Idea.

### **BIG IDEA: THE FAITHFUL FATHER PROVIDES A NEW NAME.**

BIBLE VERSE: 1 JOHN 3:1

*“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know Him.”*

See Guide 5 for more information on this Big Idea.

### **BIG IDEA: THE FAITHFUL FATHER PROVIDES A NEW STANDING.**

BIBLE VERSE: 1 PETER 2:9-10

*“But as you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”*

See Guide 6 for more information on this Big Idea.

### **BIG IDEA: THE FAITHFUL FATHER PROVIDES A NEW HOPE.**

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.”*

See Guide 7 for more information on this Big Idea.

### **BIG IDEA: THE FAITHFUL FATHER PROVIDES A NEW FAMILY.**

BIBLE VERSE: EPHESIANS 2:19

*“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.”*

See Guide 8 for more information on this Big Idea.

## HOOKS

**Prodigal Relay**

Divide the children into teams. Each team will have a bag of items from the Bible verse that they'll take turns running to the bag and putting one of the items on - whether a ring, a robe, sandals; or a balloon to blow up for the "celebration", etc. There can be more than one ring or robe, or sandals, etc. for each team to put on in their team bag. Once you play, lead the children in a discussion about how God adopts us into His family when we repent and believe in Jesus.



- Our sin separated us from God. It made us isolated and alone.
- God sent Jesus to pay our sin debt and to bring us back to Him.
- When we repent and believe in Jesus, we become part of God's family.
- We are adopted into His family and become His sons and daughters forever.

**Prodigal Son Puppet**

Give each child a brown or white paper lunch bag, as well as markers, yarn for hair, eyes, and brown felt for the children to glue items on the paper bag to make a "prodigal son". Sit in a circle after the bags are completed and have the bag puppets take turns telling what bad choices the young son made and what a celebration his father had for him when he returned home. The teacher can ask the bag puppets questions if the children have trouble telling a part of the story. Remind the children that God loves His children completely and they are completely His.