

BIG TRUTH: LIFE HAS A PURPOSE

Psalm 139:13-16; Proverbs 16:4; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; Romans 8:28; Ephesians 2:10; Colossians 1:16

BIBLE VERSE: PSALM 138:8

“The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.”

BIG IDEAS

- God has a purpose for your life.
- Even when life doesn’t make sense, God is still at work for your good and His glory.
- God’s purpose for your life is bigger than your life.

BIBLE STORY: MARK 5:1-20

Jesus healed the man with an unclean spirit for a reason that was beyond just healing him. God has a purpose for our lives and He works His purpose out for our good and His glory.

STORY: CREATION

God created everything. Everything we see, hear, feel, taste, and that exists was created by Him. Not only did He create everything, but He created everything perfectly, including humanity. He created mankind in His very image and likeness to reflect His worth. All of creation was made just like He wanted and designed it to be. To His delight, God looked at everything He made and declared that it was good. All creation exists for God, is good, and was created to bring Him glory.

BIG AIMS**Every child should know that:**

- Life comes from God

**Every child should feel:**

- Responsible to use the life that God has given them for His glory

**Every child should:**

- Find joy in the life that God has given them

**Every child should want:**

- To submit their lives to God’s plans

PURPOSEFUL LIVING

Help your child create a Life's Purpose scrapbook. Ask your child to find different things from nature or around your house and either take a picture, sample, or draw a picture of them. Place the pictures or samples onto construction or art paper. Create a book using metal rings or staples. God gives us purpose just like other things have purpose. Life has purpose.

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

Mark 5:1-20.

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

In the country of Gerasenes, there was a man with an unclean spirit who lived among the tombs. This man was plagued by the unclean spirit so much so that he was isolated in the tombs. The man would cry out day and night and cut himself with stones. No one could stop him from hurting himself. No one was strong enough to restrain him. He would break free from any shackles or chains they would use to restrain him. One day when Jesus reached the shore of Gerasenes, the man saw Him and ran up to him, falling down at His feet. He cried out, begging Jesus not to torment him or send him out of the country. Jesus asked the spirit its name and it replied, "Legion". The man in the tombs had been possessed by many spirits that had tormented him for many years. The spirits asked to be sent into a herd of pigs in a field nearby. Jesus sent the spirits into the herd of two thousand pigs. The pigs ran down the hillside and drowned in the sea below. The man who had been possessed by the spirits returned to his normal self. He begged Jesus to take him with Him, but Jesus sent him to his home, telling the man to tell others all that God had done for him. The man returned to his home and told many people how God had set him free. Many people marveled at all that had happened to the man. God had a purpose for the man's life. He has a purpose for each of our lives. He gives us purpose when He creates us and He works in us to fulfill His purpose.

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

- Why did the man live among the tombs? (He was possessed by many unclean spirits and he cried out and cut himself with stones.)
- What did the man do when he saw Jesus? (He ran and fell down at His feet.)
- How did Jesus help the man? (He set him free from the spirits.)
- What purpose did Jesus give the man? (He told him to tell others all that God had done for him.)



As a family, memorize Psalm 138:8 by creating a matching game from the verse. Write each word of the verse on an index card twice. Take turns making matches. When all the words are matched, put them together and say the verse out loud.



Help your child tell the story of the man with the unclean spirit by creating a comic strip. Use colored pencils and art paper to create the comic strip. Talk with your child about how God had a purpose for the man with the unclean spirit just like He has a purpose for our lives.

Share a time when you saw God work a difficult situation or circumstance out for your good and His glory. Talk with your child about how God works all things out for our good and His glory when we follow and obey Him.

Spend time with your child this week praying and thanking God for giving our lives purpose.