

BIG TRUTH: LIFE IS A GIFT FROM GOD

Job 10:12; John 1:3-4; Acts 17:24-28; 1 Samuel 2:6; Psalm 36:5-9; 139:14; Romans 6:23; James 1:17

BIBLE VERSE: NEHEMIAH 9:6

"You are the Lord, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them, and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you."

BIG IDEAS

- God is the author of all life.
- Life is not something we deserve; it is a good gift from God to us.
- We are completely dependent upon God for our next breath.
- Understanding that life is a gift produces a heart of worship.

BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 18:1-15

God made a covenant, or promise, to Abraham to give him a son. God promised this to Abraham, but many years passed and Abraham and Sarah still had no son. They had begun to think that they wouldn't have a son, so God reminded them of His promise that He would give them a child. God is the author of all life and He fulfilled His promise to Abraham and Sarah.

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:**

- Find joy in the life that God has given them

**Every child should feel:**

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

**Every child should want:**

- To submit their lives to God's plans

GOD GIVES LIFE

Take a trip to your local petting zoo or to a zoo. As you look at the animals, talk with your child about how God gives life to all things. He is life and life comes from Him. Life is a gift from God.

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

Genesis 18:1-15.

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

When God first called Abraham to follow Him, He promised to make a great nation from Abraham. Abraham and his wife, Sarah waited and waited for God to give them a child and when they were very old, it seemed that they would not have a child. God came to them and promised to give them a child. Sarah laughed when she heard God say she would have a baby because she was very old and well past childbearing age. She couldn't believe that it was possible that she would have a child. God heard her laugh and asked Abraham why she laughed. God reminded them that nothing is too hard for Him and nothing is impossible with Him. All life comes from God and it is not dependent upon man at all. God gave Abraham and Sarah a child even though they were very old. God is the giver of life. He alone determines when it begins and when it ends. He alone sustains life and gives life as a gift to man.

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

- Why did Sarah laugh? (She heard God say she would have a baby and she was very old.)
- What did God say to Sarah laughing? (He reminded them that nothing is too hard for Him or impossible with Him. All life comes from Him.)

**KNOW**

As a family, memorize Nehemiah 9:6 by playing a game of freeze tag. The person who is frozen can be unfrozen when he says the verse out loud.

**DO**

Help your child create the earth using a white coffee filter, green and blue markers, contact paper, and a spray bottle of water. Give your child a white coffee filter and ask her to draw land and water to resemble the earth. Next, use the spray bottle to wet the coffee filter slightly. Allow the filter to dry. (It may take awhile.) Once dry, cover the filter with contact paper or laminate it. Talk with your child about how God is the giver of all life. He created life and He continues to keep things alive.

**FEEL**

Spend some time this week talking with your child about ways to worship God for giving life. Talk with your child about his or her own birth and how it is a blessing from God that children are born. Remind your child that God is the giver of life, and life is a gift from Him.

**WANT**

Take a walk with your child through your neighborhood. Ask your child to point out the different living things that he sees. Talk with your child about how all life is from God and is a gift from Him.

Spend some time this week praying and thanking God for giving life.