

SIN KILLS OUR PURPOSE

STORY: FALL / YEAR: ETERNITY

BIG TRUTH: SIN KILLS OUR PURPOSE

Jeremiah 2:1-8; 10:1-16; Romans 1:21-25; 3:10-12, 14-18; Isaiah 44:9-20; Ephesians 4:17-18

BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 1:25

"Because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen."

BIG IDEAS

- We were created to worship God with all our heart.
- We were created to worship God in all of life.
- Sin lies to us and causes us to doubt the truth.
- In our sin, we choose to worship the creature instead of the Creator.

BIBLE STORY: 1 KINGS 11:1-11

Solomon was ruler of God's people, yet he didn't always follow God's ways. Solomon had many wives and concubines. His wives and concubines worshiped false gods and idols. Solomon was influenced by his wives and concubines, and began worshiping their false gods and idols. Solomon missed his created purpose, which is to glorify God and worship Him alone.

STORY: FALL

Everything was perfect in the world until we broke it. When humanity chose to sin, the world that was once perfect became messed up and broken. Sin is ultimately a rejection of God Himself. Because of sin bad things happen, we experience all types of pain, and death has come into the world. All of creation groans and wishes that the world be perfect and good like it was before.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- Sin makes us dead



Every child should feel:

- Broken over sin and its effects on the world and our lives



Every child should:

- Look around and acknowledge the ways that sin kills us and the world around us



Every child should want:

- To experience new life in Christ

FAMILY DEVOTION: CREATED TO WORSHIP

Our created purpose is to glorify God. We glorify God by worshiping Him with all of our being. Sin takes us away from our created purpose and leads us to death.



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STORY: FALL

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ROMANS 1:25

“Because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.”

God is the Creator and the one, true God.

- There is only one God.
- There has always only been one God.
- God has always existed because He has no beginning.
- God will always exist because He has no end.
- God is the beginning of everything.
- God created everything and gives everything life because He is the true God.
- Life is from God because He is the giver of all life.

Sin leads people to believe lies about God instead of truth.

- Sin leads to spiritual blindness in people.
- They follow their sinful hearts and they are led farther and farther away from God and the truth.
- Because they are so enslaved and engrossed in their sin, they are blind to the truth about Him.
- This spiritual blindness causes people to reject what is true about God; instead, they believe in a lie.
- Their false belief leads them to worship false gods that they create themselves using things that are created by God, the Creator.

Sin leads people to worship created things instead of God.

- Spiritual blindness leads people to reject God.
- Our spiritual blindness leads us to exchange what we know is true about God for lies.
- We choose instead to worship things that are created and not the Creator of all things.
- This further leads us into darkness. We are all in need of salvation that can only be found in God's Son, Jesus.

BIBLE STORY: 1 KINGS 11:1-11

Solomon Worships False Gods

Opening Illustration:

Have each child make his or her own scepter using empty paper towel holders. You can use different colors of wrapping paper, stickers, and markers to decorate the “scepters”. After the children make their own “scepters”, talk to them about what a scepter symbolizes (power and authority) and then talk about how we want to rule ourselves. We reject God and His joy, power, and rule and desire to rule ourselves.

BIG IDEA: WE WERE CREATED TO WORSHIP GOD WITH ALL OUR HEART.¹**We should love God with all that we are.**

- Worshiping God means that we love Him with our whole hearts.
- Everything about us should show that we love God with our whole lives.
- Our attitude should show that our hearts are fully devoted to God.
- Our choices and the way we live our daily lives should reveal that we are fully devoted to God.
- When we love God with all that we are, we will worship Him.
- Solomon did not love God with all of his heart. He chose instead to worship the false gods of his wives.



Divide the children into small groups or pairs. Ask the children to make a list of ways that their group can show God worship. Ask the groups to share their lists and then remind the children that we are created to worship God.

Our love for God should be displayed in worship.

- When we love God with all of our heart, we will worship Him.
- Our lives will be lives lived to worship God in everything that we do.
- We will desire to show Him worship by offering our lives to Him daily.
- When we love God, we are fulfilling part of our created purpose.
- Solomon turned away from God and disobeyed Him. Solomon chose to worship other false gods and idols instead of the one true God.

Our lives should be lives that worship God always.

- We are created to worship God only.
- We are created to be in a relationship with Him.
- Our lives fulfill their created purpose when they are lived loving and serving God. When we do this, we worship Him with all that we have.
- Everything that we do should be worship to God. When we go to work, school, or play, we can do these things with an attitude and heart of worship.

With what part of our lives should we worship God? (We should worship God with all of our lives and all of our hearts.)

1. Matthew 22:37: We should love God with all that we are and have. We are created to love and worship God.

BIG IDEA: WE WERE CREATED TO WORSHIP GOD IN ALL OF LIFE.²**We are created to worship God alone.**

- Our hearts are created to worship the one true God.
- When God made man, man was created to bring God glory.
- We bring God glory by worshiping Him always and with everything we have.
- We are not created to worship false gods or idols.
- Solomon did not fulfill his created purpose. Instead, he chose to walk in spiritual darkness by worshiping false gods and idols.
- God is the one true God and the only being we are created to worship.



Give each child a blank piece of cardstock. Ask the children to create a road sign that warns drivers about something. Give them markers and crayons to help them create their signs. Talk with them about how Solomon didn't listen to God's warnings and turned away from God. Remind them that we are created to worship God in all of life.

We should offer our lives to God's service as a form of worship.

- When we know God, our lives should be offered as a living sacrifice out of worship for God.
- Our lives are not our own; they are bought with the blood of Jesus.
- When we understand this, we can truly worship the one, true God.
- We should willingly seek to give ourselves up for God's service.
- We should seek opportunities to be used by God for His glory.
- Solomon was given a high position, yet he did not live a life that worshiped God.
- Solomon turned away from God and worshiped false gods and idols.

True worship is being fully devoted to God.

- When we offer our lives as living sacrifices, we can truly worship God.
- When we are truly worshiping God, we are fully devoted to God.
- Our hearts should be fully devoted to God and to His glory.
- We should not allow false gods or idols any place in our hearts.
- God is the only true God and He alone is worthy of all worship.

How should our lives be lived? (Our lives should be lived as living sacrifices to God.)

2. Romans 12:1: True worship is offering our bodies as a living sacrifice to God.

BIG IDEA: SIN LIES TO US AND CAUSES US TO DOUBT THE TRUTH.³**Our sinful hearts are easily deceived.**

- Because of the sinfulness of our hearts, it is easy for our minds to be deceived.
- When we hear a lie or even a half-truth, we begin to wonder if it is true and God is lying.
- Satan easily deceived Adam and Eve and he continues to deceive mankind today.
- The sin in our hearts leads us to doubt God's Word.
- We begin to think that His Word is not true and that the lies of Satan are true.



Help the children think of some of the common lies that they tell. Some examples might be, saying they have finished all their homework, studied for a test, telling their parents they have brushed their teeth, etc. Remind the children that our hearts believe lies and then begin to doubt God's truth.

Satan is crafty and uses lies to lead us away.

- Solomon was warned twice by God to not intermarry with foreign women.
- Solomon ignored God's warnings and commands because of the sin in his heart.
- Satan used the desires of Solomon's heart to lead Solomon away from God.
- Solomon's heart was given over to his foreign wives. He loved them more than he loved God, so he followed them in idol worship.
- Satan uses many techniques to deceive us. Our sinful hearts believe his lies and we turn away from God.

Our hearts believe lies leading us to sin.

- Our hearts are wicked and deceptive. The feelings we have are most often deceiving and not reality.
- Eve heard Satan's lie that God was keeping something good from her, and her heart led her to sin.
- We believe lies and turn away from God.
- We see the lies of the world around us and we believe we must be like the world instead of following God.
- Our hearts deceive us and we walk farther and farther into sin.

What causes us to doubt the truth? (Our sinful hearts believe lies and then we begin to doubt truth.)

3. 2 Corinthians 11:3: Eve was deceived by Satan's lies and we are easily deceived, too.

STORY: FALL

SIN KILLS OUR PURPOSE

BIG IDEA: IN OUR SIN, WE CHOOSE TO WORSHIP THE CREATURE INSTEAD OF THE CREATOR.⁴

We willingly choose the lie over the truth.

- Though we can be deceived by the lie, we make a choice to sin. We are not forced into believing the lie.
- Eve knew the truth about God. She had a relationship with Him, yet she chose to believe the lie.
- Solomon had been warned by God, yet Solomon did what he wanted instead.
- We are like Eve and Solomon. We have God's truth, yet we seek another way.
- We willingly choose to follow our sinful, deceptive hearts over following God.



Play a game of musical beanbag. The person left holding the beanbag gets to name a created thing that we worship instead of worshiping God.

Choosing the lie causes us to turn away from God.

- Eve chose the lie and her relationship with God was radically changed.
- Solomon chose the lie and his relationship with God was changed.
- When we choose the lie and follow our hearts, we are turning away from God.
- Following our hearts means that we are not being led by God. Instead, we are choosing to listen to what our sinful hearts are saying.
- The lie always leads us away from God because God does not lie. He is perfect in every way.

In our sinful blindness, we worship what God made instead of God.

- We are created for worship. Because we are created for worship, we will worship something or someone.
- We are created to worship God and to be in a relationship with Him.
- When we believe the lie over His truth, we turn away from Him.
- As we walk in our spiritual blindness, we will seek out something to worship.
- We will worship the created things that God made instead of worshiping Him.
- We will create false gods and idols from the things that God made and we won't worship Him.

What do we worship instead of worshiping God? (We choose to worship the created things.)

4. Romans 1:25: We exchange what we know is true about God for a lie and we worship created things instead of worshiping Him.

HOOKS

**Two Lies And A Truth**

Give the children index cards and markers. Ask the children to write down three things about themselves—two that are untrue and one that is true. Gather the cards and read each one out loud to the children. Ask the other children to guess which statement is true for each child. Once every child's card has been read, lead them in a discussion about how we believe lies over the truth and we turn away from God.



- Sin leads us to believe lies and to turn away from God.
- Even though we are created to worship God, we exchange this truth for a lie and begin worshiping creation instead.

**Truth Draw**

Divide the children into pairs or groups and have them write down truths and lies about God. Allow each group to share their truths and lies and ask the other children to guess what is true and what is a lie. Make sure to point out the truths and lies. Lead the children in a discussion about how we exchange the truth for a lie and turn away from worshiping God.



- It's easy for our hearts to believe in lies and to deny the truth.
- When we believe in lies, we turn away from God.
- We begin worshiping other things instead of worshiping God.