

BIG TRUTH: SIN KILLS OUR PEACE

Isaiah 57:20-21; Romans 3:10-12, 14-18; James 4:1-4

BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 8:5-6

“For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.”

BIG IDEAS

- God is the author of peace.
- Sin is a rejection of God that always leads to confusion.
- Sin destroys our peace with God, others, and self.
- The only way we can have peace is through the power of the Holy Spirit.

BIBLE STORY: 1 SAMUEL 16:14-23, 18:1-16

Saul turned away from God and sinned against Him. When Saul sinned, God sent an evil spirit to torment Saul. Saul's life was in turmoil. David served Saul and played music to help calm him, but Saul's soul would be tormented once the music stopped. David followed God and obeyed Him. His soul was at rest because God is the author of peace. Sin kills our peace just like sin killed Saul's peace.

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

PEACEFUL LIVING

Take your child on a trip to your local botanical gardens or for a walk in the park. Talk with your child about how sometimes people go to the park or other places to find peace. Remind your child that only God can give us true peace. Our sin steals our peace and leads us to confusion and torment.

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

1 Samuel 16:14-23, 18:1-16.

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

Saul was the king of God's People, the Israelites. Saul had been anointed by God to be the king, but during Saul's reign as king, he turned away from God. Saul chose to disobey God because Saul became proud and puffed up. God disciplined Saul by taking the throne away from Saul's family. No one in Saul's family would be king after him because of his disobedience. God's Spirit left Saul, and a harmful spirit came to torment Saul. Saul was greatly troubled by the harmful spirit, and he sought peace from it by having David play music for him. Saul continued to be tormented by the spirit. As David grew more popular than Saul, the spirit tormented Saul even more. His jealousy and anger overtook him and he tried to kill David. Saul could not find peace on his own from the harmful spirit. We try to find peace in other ways than God. The only way we can really have peace is to have a relationship with God. God is the only person who can give us everlasting peace.

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

- Why did a harmful spirit come to torment Saul? (He disobeyed God and God sent the harmful spirit.)
- How did Saul try to find peace from the harmful spirit? (He had David play music for him.)
- Who is the only person who can give true peace? (Only God can give us true peace.)



As a family, memorize Romans 8:5-6 by writing sections of the verses on different colored pieces of paper. Next, place the same colors of paper on the floor and play a game of beanbag toss. When someone lands on a color, he or she gets to say that corresponding section of the verses. Once everyone has a chance to say part of the verses, put them together and say them all together.



As a family, create a list of things that make each family member feel at peace. Talk with your child about how only God can give us true peace.



Play a game of dizzy bat. Use a plastic toy bat and take turns placing your forehead on the bat and spinning around. Next, try to run in a straight line. After you play a while, talk with your child about how hard it was to run in a straight line when you were dizzy. Remind your child that when we reject God, it leads to confusion and turmoil instead of peace.



Spend time as a family praying and thanking Him for giving us peace through His Spirit when we have a relationship with Him.