

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS FOREVER

Genesis 1:1; Exodus 3:13-14; Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalm 90:1-4; 102:25-28; Isaiah 40:28; Colossians 1:17; 1 Timothy 6:13-16; Revelation 1:4; 22:13

BIBLE VERSE: REVELATION 4:8B

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

BIG IDEAS

- God is eternal (neither new nor old).
- God gives eternal life.
- Eternity exists for God’s glory.

BIBLE STORY: REVELATION 4:8-5:15

John’s exile to the Island of Patmos became much more than a prison sentence. While on the island, he experienced a vision about God and future events. His vision shows how God has always been, is now, and will always be. Not only is God eternal, He gives eternity to man.

STORY: NEW CREATION

Part of the beauty of the gospel is that God does not just rescue us from the power of sin, but He is also making everything new. God offers new creation to those who place their faith in Jesus. This newness comes in two ways. The first is that by breaking the power of sin, Jesus is making men and women into brand new people with new identities. Second, God is not only making people new, but He is also going to make a new heaven and a new earth for us to live on and worship Him in.

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

- Through Jesus, we can have new, true, eternal, abundant life in God

**Every child should feel:**

- Excitement for the opportunity to live eternally with God

**Every child should:**

- Talk about how this life will pass away, but eternal life in God is forever

**Every child should want:**

- To live for eternity rather than what feels right in the moment

ETERNAL LIFE

Spend time with your child looking up the lifespan of certain insects and animals. Talk with your child about how life on earth is not eternal, but God gives eternal life to those who repent and believe.

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

Revelation 4:8-5:14.

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

John was a disciple of Jesus during Jesus' earthly ministry. Once Jesus returned to heaven, John continued to tell people about Jesus. He was persecuted for his faith in Jesus and eventually was exiled to the Island of Patmos. While he was on the island, he received a vision from God. During his vision, he was taken up in the spirit to heaven. He saw God sitting on a magnificent throne in heaven and four creatures surrounding the throne giving praise to God. John also saw twenty-four elders praising God. In God's hand was a scroll. God asked who is worthy to open the scroll, but no one in heaven was except for the Lamb who was slain. John saw the Lamb and watched as He opened the scroll. The four creatures and elders praised the Lamb for His worthiness and His everlasting nature. The Lamb who was slain is Jesus and John saw Jesus and God in their eternal glory. God is forever and the creatures and elders proclaimed that they are eternal. God created eternity for His own glory and He receives glory through the praise of those who are in heaven with Him. He gives us eternity when we have saving faith in Jesus who paid our sin debt. We can be with God now and forever when we turn away from our sin and believe in Jesus.

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

- Why was John exiled to the island of Patmos? (He continued to share about Jesus.)
- What did John see while he was on the island? (He was given a vision of God in heaven.)
- How does God give eternity to us? (When we place saving faith in Jesus, we have eternal life.)



As a family, memorize Revelation 4:8b by playing a game of hide-n-seek. The person who is found last gets to say the verse out loud.



Share with your child what it means to you to have eternal life. Talk with your child about the gift of eternal life.



Ask your child to write his or her own definition of "eternity." Talk with your child about how eternity is hard for us to understand because everything ends on earth. Eternity is from God because He is eternal and He gives eternal life when we repent and believe.



Spend some time this week praying, thanking God for being eternal and giving us eternity.