

GOD IS REDEEMER

STORY: REDEMPTION / YEAR: ETERNITY

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS REDEEMER

Psalm 130:7-8; Romans 3:21-26; Colossians 1:13-14; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 9:11-14; 1 Peter 1:18-22; Revelation 5:8-10

BIBLE VERSE: EPHESIANS 1:7

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace."

BIG IDEAS

- We cannot redeem ourselves.
- God sent His Son to redeem us from our sin.
- Our redemption is purchased by the blood of Jesus.
- Redemption is final and forever.

BIBLE STORY: RUTH 1-4

When Naomi and Ruth returned to Bethlehem, they were two women without husbands or family. They were in need of protection and help. Boaz, one of Naomi's relatives, chose to bring them into his family. When he brought them into his family, he provided protection and help. God is the Redeemer of every person. He sent His Son to pay our sin debt so that we might become part of His family.

STORY: REDEMPTION

Thankfully, God does not just leave us in the broken world, but is repairing the brokenness through His Son. From the very beginning of time, God promised He would fix creation, and He kept His promise by sending Jesus to rescue us from our sin. Jesus came to live on the earth and willingly died on the cross so that sin's power over creation would be broken forever.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- God sent Jesus to die in our place as our substitute // We need a substitute because we cannot pay our sin debt on our own



Every child should feel:

- Awe at Jesus's willingness to sacrifice Himself as our substitute



Every child should:

- Talk about why we need a substitute and how Jesus is our substitute



Every child should want:

- To believe in Jesus's work on their behalf to pay their sin debt

FAMILY DEVOTION: GOD SENT HIS SON

We could not save ourselves. No person is without sin. Just like Ruth and Naomi could not help themselves, we cannot save ourselves. Just like Boaz was their kinsman redeemer, Jesus is our perfect Redeemer. God sent His Son to redeem us.

BIBLE VERSE: EPHESIANS 1:7

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace."

We are all held captive by our sin.

- We are all sinful and we all sin against God.
- Our sin nature leads us to sin.
- Our hearts are sinful and are set on pleasing ourselves instead of God.
- Our sin holds us captive.
- We are slaves to it.
- We are controlled by our hearts and our hearts are sinful.
- Our sinful hearts are not free; they are slaves to sin.

God is rich in grace and He gave Jesus to save us.

- Our sin causes us to owe a debt to God.
- He is holy and righteous and our sin dishonors Him.
- He is rich in grace and He gave His only son to pay our sin debt.
- God freely gave Jesus to us.
- He did not ask that we do anything in order for Him to send Jesus.
- God was gracious and loving when He sent Jesus.

We receive redemption through Jesus.

- Jesus lived a perfect and sinless life.
- He became man so that He might pay our sin debt.
- Jesus died on the cross for our sin.
- He took on our sin and paid our sin debt so we would not have to pay it ourselves.
- We are set free from our sin by Jesus.

BIBLE STORY: RUTH 1-4

The Kinsman Redeemer

Opening Illustration:

Bring in several small baskets or containers and construction paper. Help the children create "wheat" using brown or yellow construction paper. Help them cut strips of construction paper to look like wheat. Scatter the wheat throughout the classroom. Divide the children into groups and then have them to race each other to see who can collect the most wheat. Once the children have all had a chance to collect wheat, lead them in a discussion about how Boaz redeemed Ruth and Naomi like God redeems us from our sin.

- Our sin debt is something that we cannot pay ourselves.
- Ruth and Naomi could not care for themselves, but Boaz brought them into his family by redeeming them.
- God redeems His people by sending His Son to pay their sin debt.
- He is our Redeemer.

BIG IDEA: WE CANNOT REDEEM OURSELVES.**Every person is sinful and owes a sin debt.**

- From the first man and woman to every person who has lived or will live, all have sinned.
- We all have sinful hearts that lead us away from God.
- No one, besides Jesus, has lived a life without sin.
- We all rebel against God and His commands.
- We all seek to please ourselves instead of God.



Have the children read Genesis 3. Lead them in a discussion about what it has meant that Adam and Eve sinned. Remind them that we are all sinful. We all fall short of God's glory.

We all need to be redeemed.¹

- Because we all are sinful, we are in need of someone to redeem us.
- There is no person who is able to redeem themselves.
- We need someone to redeem us, or set us free from our sin debt.
- Ruth and Naomi could not redeem themselves.
- They needed the help of a relative, or kinsman.
- They needed someone to provide for their needs and to bring them back into the family.

We cannot pay our own sin debt.

- No one is able to pay his or her sin debt.
- We are all sinful and because of our sin, we cannot pay for our sin debt.
- We all need to be redeemed from our sin.
- We all need to be made new.

What did Naomi and Ruth need help with? (They needed help providing for themselves.)

What do we need to be redeemed from? (We need to be redeemed from our sin.)

1. Psalm 19:14: God is our Redeemer. He washes away our sin and makes us new.

BIG IDEA: GOD SENT HIS SON TO REDEEM US FROM OUR SIN.**God always had a plan to save us.**

- God is all knowing and in control of all things.
- He always had a plan to save us from our sin.
- When God sent Adam and Eve out of the garden, He told them He would save them one day.²
- God did not leave them in their sin, separated from Him.

God willingly sent His Son to save us.³

- God did not hesitate to send His only Son to pay our sin debt.
- Only a sinless person could pay our sin debt.
- Jesus came to the earth.
- He became human like us.
- He lived a sinless life.
- God sent Jesus to redeem us and to make us new again.
- Ruth went to Boaz's field to gather wheat for Naomi and her.
- Boaz was the kinsman, or relative who could help Naomi and Ruth.
- He knew Ruth and Naomi could not help themselves.
- He provided for them by giving them extra wheat.
- God provided for us by giving us Jesus to redeem us.



Help the children create a comic strip of the story of Ruth. Help the children list the main parts of the story. Give them paper and colored pencils to create their comic strip. Remind the children that just as Boaz redeemed Ruth and Naomi, Jesus redeemed us.

*How did Boaz help Ruth and Naomi? (He provided for them by giving them extra wheat.)
Who did God send to redeem us? (God sent His Son, Jesus to redeem us.)*

2. Genesis 3:15: God promised Adam and Eve and all of mankind that a Savior would come who would destroy Satan. Jesus is our Redeemer.

3. 1 John 4:9: God sent Jesus even while we were still sinners. He made a way for us to be redeemed.

BIG IDEA: OUR REDEMPTION IS PURCHASED BY THE BLOOD OF JESUS.**God required a perfect sacrifice for our sin.**

- Just anyone could not redeem us.
- In order for our sin debt to be paid, a sacrifice without blemish was needed.
- No one is without sin, except Jesus.
- Jesus is our sinless, perfect sacrifice.
- Only He could redeem us from our sin.
- Boaz was the perfect helper for Ruth and Naomi.
- He had the ability and connection to be their kinsman redeemer.
- A kinsman redeemer is a relative who could restore family members who were in great need.
- Ruth and Naomi were in need.
- They needed restoring to their community and family.
- Boaz was the perfect redeemer for them.



Help the children make a list of some of the things they have purchased or that have been purchased for them. Ask the children to share something special that has been purchased for them. Lead them to discuss how it made them feel to receive something from someone else. Remind them that Jesus purchased our redemption through His blood on the cross.

Our sin required the death of a perfect sacrifice.⁴

- The wages of sin is death.
- Our sin debt requires a blood sacrifice.
- Jesus is that sacrifice.
- Our sins are paid for through Jesus' death.
- When Jesus died on the cross, His blood redeemed us from our sins.
- Boaz redeemed Ruth by making her his wife and a part of his family.
- His marriage gave Naomi and Ruth rights in their family and community again.
- God's redemption of us gives us a place in His family.
- We are no longer outsiders, separated from God.

How did Boaz make Naomi and Ruth part of his family? (He married Ruth.)

How did God redeem us? (Jesus died on the cross for our sins.)

4. Genesis 3:3: Our sin caused death to come into the world. In order for our sin to be paid for, death must happen.

BIG IDEA: REDEMPTION IS FINAL AND FOREVER.**God's redemption is forever.**

- The work of Jesus on the cross cannot be undone.
- When He paid for our sins, He paid for our past, present, and future sins once and for all.
- When He died on the cross, His death forever washed away our sin.
- Boaz redeemed Ruth forever.
- He made her his wife forever.



Ask the children to define the word “forever”. Allow some children to share their definitions of the word. Help the children think of things that seem to last forever or go on forever like numbers. Remind the children that God’s redemption of us is forever. It never ends. We cannot mess it up and have it taken away.

Forgiveness for our sins is final.⁵

- When we turn away from our sin and believe in Jesus, our sins are forgiven.
- This act does not have to happen over and over.
- Once our hearts are made new by Jesus, they are always new.
- Our redemption is forever and always.
- God will never take our redemption away.
- The work of Jesus is final and complete.
- Ruth and Naomi became part of Boaz’s family forever.
- They were no longer on the outside.

Is God’s redemption forever? (Yes. Once God redeems us, we are always redeemed.)

5. John 10:29: Our forgiveness is forever. Nothing can remove us from God’s hand. Once we have saving faith, we are saved forever.

HOOKS

**God's Free Gift**

Bring in a box wrapped in gift wrap. Before you wrap it, write the word "Redeemed" on a piece of paper and place it inside of the box. Allow the children to hold the box, to shake it, and to guess what they think is inside of them. Open the box and show the children what is inside. Lead them in a discussion about how God's free gift to us is redemption.



- God sent His Son to redeem us.
- We cannot earn our redemption, nor can we pay for it.
- It is God's free gift to us.

**Final Redemption Relay**

Write down synonyms for the words "final" and "redemption". Write the words "Final" and "Redemption" on the board. Divide the children into two groups and have them race each other to see who can grab a synonym and place it on the board under the correct word it is a synonym for. Once they finish, talk about the words and what they mean. Lead them in a discussion about how Jesus' redemption of us is final and forever.



- When Jesus paid our sin debt, His payment was complete.
- Jesus' redemption of us is final. When we repent and believe in Him, we no longer owe our sin debt. We are set free forever.