BIG TRUTH: WE ARE SEPARATED

Genesis 3:23-24; Deuteronomy 31:16-18; Micah 3:4; Romans 1:18-21; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 2:12; 4:18; Colossians 1:19-22

BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 59:2

"But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear."

BIG IDEAS

- Sin is lostness.
- Sin is brokenness.
- I am broken and lost.

BIBLE STORY: LUKE 15:1-7

Jesus spent His time on this earth seeking out sinners so that He might share the good news with them. The Pharisees and scribes grumbled against Jesus because He spent time with sinners, yet Jesus taught them that even one lost person is of great value to God. Just like a shepherd will leave his flock to find one lost sheep, Jesus came to the earth to save the lost. We are the lost sheep in need of Jesus.

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

KNOW

Every child should know that:
- Sin makes us dead

DO

Every child should:
- Look around and acknowledge the ways that sin kills us and the world around us

FEEL

Every child should feel:
- Broken over sin and its effects on the world and our lives

WANT

Every child should want:
- To experience new life in Christ

LITTLE LOST SHEEP
Hide a few objects around your house. Ask your child to help you find the missing objects. We are all lost like the hidden objects. God is our Shepherd and He sent His Son, Jesus to rescue us.

DISCOVER IT: *(Use the passage to illustrate the Big Truth.)*
Luke 15:1-7.

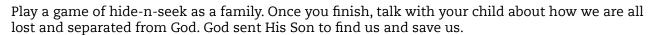## THINK ABOUT IT: *(Use the commentary to reinforce the Big Truth.)*
Jesus was confronted by some of the most important men in His day, the Pharisees and the scribes. These men questioned Him about the way He ministered to sinners. They didn't understand that we are all sinners. They didn't understand that every person is separated from God. Jesus told them a story about a shepherd who had a flock of a hundred sheep. One sheep got lost; it wandered off the path and away from the flock. The shepherd could have left the sheep to wander and take care of itself. The shepherd could have chosen to take care of the ninety-nine sheep left in his fold. The shepherd didn't do that. He chose to leave the ninety-nine who were safe and go look for the lost sheep. Jesus told this story to show the people listening that He left His heavenly home to come to earth to seek us out. We are the lost sheep. We need our heavenly Shepherd to find us. We are all separated from God because of our sinful hearts. Jesus came to earth to seek and save the lost. We are the lost.

TALK ABOUT IT: *(Use the questions to discuss the Big Truth)*
- What question did the Pharisees and scribes ask Jesus? (They wanted to know why He was letting sinners come near Him.)
- What did the shepherd decide to do when one of his sheep was lost? (He decided to go and look for the lost sheep.)
- How are we like the lost sheep? (We are lost and separated from God because of our sinful hearts.)

KNOW

As a family, memorize Isaiah 59:2 by playing a game of freeze tag. The frozen person can be unfrozen when he or she says the verse out loud.

Play a game of hide-n-seek as a family. Once you finish, talk with your child about how we are all lost and separated from God. God sent His Son to find us and save us.

DO

With your child, blow up several balloons and have a contest to see who can pop the most balloons. Once all of the balloons are popped, talk with your child about how we are broken and lost like the balloons because of our sin.

FEEL

Before bedtime each night this week, spend a few moments praying with your child thanking God for sending Jesus to seek and to save. Remind your child that we are like the lost sheep. We are separated from God because of our sinful hearts.

WANT