

BIG TRUTH: SIN KILLS OUR JOY

Jeremiah 2:12-13; Psalm 81:11-13; Isaiah 5:12-13; John 10:10; Romans 1:18-23; 1 Peter 5:8

BIBLE VERSE: PSALM 51:12

"Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit."

BIG IDEAS

- Sin causes us to try to find our joy in false saviors.
- Idolatry always robs us of joy.
- Joy can only be found in the one true Savior.

BIBLE STORY: 2 SAMUEL 11, 12:15-23

David's life was full of the many blessings of God, yet he turned away from God and sought his joy in sinful things. David allowed his heart to seek joy in an earthly relationship with Bathsheba instead of finding his joy in God 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

A JOY KILLER

Help your child create a sword using cardboard or poster board. Use markers to label the sword the Joy Killer. Help your child think of the things that he or she loves more than God. Talk with him or her about how our hearts create idols and they rob us of our joy.

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

2 Samuel 11, 12:15-23.

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

When the kings of Israel went to fight the Ammonites, King David chose to remain in Jerusalem. Instead of going to battle himself, he sent his servants and soldiers. Late one evening, David began walking around on his rooftop. He saw a beautiful woman bathing on another rooftop. David learned that the woman was the wife of Uriah, one of David's soldiers. Though David knew the right thing to do, he chose instead to seek his own pleasure. He sent for Bathsheba and lay with her. Bathsheba became pregnant. David did not immediately repent. Instead, he sent for Uriah, thinking that Uriah would go home to Bathsheba. Uriah was a dedicated soldier, and instead of going home, Uriah slept outside of David's house. David still did not repent of his sin. He got Uriah drunk, thinking that then Uriah would go home to Bathsheba and David's sin would be covered up, but Uriah did not go home to Bathsheba. David then sent Uriah back to battle and asked that Uriah be placed on the frontlines of the battle in a place where he would surely be killed. Uriah was killed in battle, so David sent for Bathsheba to make her his wife. When Bathsheba gave birth to David's child, the Lord caused the child to die. David was filled with sorrow because he knew he had sinned against God. Whenever we love other things more than God, they lead us to sorrow. Our only true source of joy is in God. Our sin kills our joy and robs of us happiness.

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

- How did David sin against God? (David laid with another man's wife, lied, and then had Uriah killed.)
- How does our sin kill our joy? (It leads us away from God and causes us to worship something other than God.)

**KNOW**

As a family, memorize Psalm 51:12 by writing the verse on a piece of paper and then using watercolors to decorate it. As you paint, take turns saying the verse out loud

**DO**

Take your child for a walk through your neighborhood. Point out the different material things that you see. Tell your child that when we love these things more than God, we are creating idols. Tell your child that only a relationship with Jesus can bring us true joy.

**FEEL**

Spend some time as a family praying for one another. Ask God to help you as a family identify the idols you have in your hearts and to repent of them.

**WANT**