

# JESUS UNDESERVEDLY TAKES OUR PLACE

## BIG TRUTH: JESUS UNDESERVEDLY TAKES OUR PLACE

Isaiah 53:4-6; Romans 8:1-4; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:22-24; 3:18; 1 John 4:9-10; Revelation 5:9

## BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 5:8

*"But God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*

## BIG IDEAS

- The only person who can satisfy the righteous requirement for sin is God Himself.
- Jesus is fully God.
- Jesus is also fully man.
- Jesus faced every temptation that we face without sinning.
- Jesus did not deserve to die in our place, but instead, chose to in order to rescue us and bring glory to God.

## BIBLE STORY: PHILEMON

Paul sends a letter to Philemon and those gathered together for the sake of Christ requesting that they welcome Onesimus as a brother and not as a slave. Paul offers to pay any debt that Onesimus might owe Philemon and the church there even though Paul did not owe it himself. Jesus pays our sin debt even though He does not owe it.

## 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

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## THE UNDESERVED GIFT

Ask your child to help you make gift bags to give to your neighbors. Include special treats that you buy or make and a card. Talk with your child about how the neighbors haven't done anything to deserve the gifts, but you are giving them to them to show them love. Remind your child that God showed us love by sending Jesus to take our place.

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

Philemon.

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

Onesimus was a slave. He was not a free man, and in order for him to become free, he would have to buy his freedom. Paul shared the good news of Jesus with Onesimus, and Onesimus believed the gospel. As Paul is sending Onesimus back to Philemon, Paul sends a letter to Philemon and the church there. Paul asks Philemon to receive Onesimus back as a free man. Paul acknowledges that Onesimus owes a debt to Philemon for his freedom, and Paul offers to pay the debt for Onesimus. Paul doesn't owe the debt. He does not have to pay Onesimus' debt, but he loves him and wants him to live freely as part of the church there with Philemon. God loves us. We cannot pay our sin debt like Onesimus could not pay his slave debt. God sent Jesus to pay our sin debt for us. Jesus took our place on the cross and died a death He did not deserve to die that we might be free from our sin and be reconciled to God.

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

- What did Paul ask of Philemon? (He asked that Philemon accept Onesimus back as a free man.)
- What did Paul offer to do for Onesimus? (He offered to pay his slave debt for him.)
- How is Paul's offer like God's sacrifice on our behalf? (Paul didn't owe the debt and God didn't owe our debt.)



As a family, memorize Romans 5:8 by setting a timer and seeing who can write the verse the most before the timer goes off. Say the verse together several times.



As a family, create a collage that shows the differences between man and God. Help your child think of the ways that man is not like God. Talk with your child about how Jesus is fully God and fully man.



Throughout this week, give your child a small gift each day. As you give the gift, tell your child that they have done nothing to deserve the gift. Remind your child that we did nothing to deserve Jesus taking our place.



Help your child create a special gift for someone in your family or neighborhood. Talk with your child about how the person doesn't deserve the gift, just like we don't deserve to benefit from Jesus' death on the cross.

Spend some time this week praying and thanking Jesus for dying a death He did not deserve.