

GOD CREATED ME FOR HOLINESS

STORY: CREATION

BIG TRUTH: GOD CREATED ME FOR HOLINESS

Leviticus 19:2; 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13; 2 Timothy 1:8-9; Colossians 3:12

BIBLE VERSE: 1 PETER 1:15

“But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct.”

BIG IDEAS

- God alone is holy.
- God gave the people the law for their holiness.
- We can only become holy through Jesus.
- God’s people are called to pursue holiness every day.

BIBLE STORY: EXODUS 19-20; MATTHEW 5:17-20

God is holy and righteous. He requires that His people seek to be holy like He is. He gave Moses the commandments to help His people know how to be like Him. We are all called to pursue holiness everyday because God is holy.

STORY: CREATION

God created everything. Everything we see, hear, feel, taste, and that exists was created by Him. Not only did He create everything, but He created everything perfectly, including humanity. He created mankind in His very image and likeness to reflect His worth. All of creation was made just like He wanted and designed it to be. To His delight, God looked at everything He made and declared that it was good. All creation exists for God, is good, and was created to bring Him glory.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- God created them with purpose for a purpose



Every child should feel:

- Awe at the intentionality of God in giving purpose to our lives



Every child should:

- Live in a way that is honoring to the Lord



Every child should want:

- To learn more about God’s purposes for their lives

FAMILY DEVOTION: THE GIFT OF PARENTS

God’s design for people is that they live in families. He gives the gift of parents to children as a way of blessing them. Parents are gifts because they serve as God’s way for children to learn about Him and to learn how to serve Him.

BIBLE VERSE: 1 PETER 1:15

“But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct.”

God’s people should fight the desires of sin daily.

- We are all born sinful and our hearts are sinful.
- Because our hearts are sinful, we seek sinful things.
- God’s people are called to pursue holiness because they are created to be holy.
- God rescued His people through Jesus and that means that His people can fight the desires of sin.
- Because God is who He is and He has shown grace and mercy to His people, His people should seek to be like Him.

God calls us holy when we repent and believe in His Son.

- God sent His Son, Jesus to pay our sin debt.
- Because Jesus took on the sin of the world when He died on the cross, we don’t have to pay that sin debt.
- We can be free from the hold that sin has on our hearts when we repent and believe in Jesus.
- God sees us as He sees Jesus when we repent and believe in Jesus.
- God calls those who have turned away from their sin and believe that Jesus died for them holy because Jesus is holy.

Because God calls His people holy, they should pursue holiness daily.

- God chooses to call those who have followed Christ holy.
- He chooses to not see our sin, but to see us as holy.
- Because God shows us mercy and grace, we should pursue holiness everyday.
- Pursuing holiness means that we seek to obey God’s commands.
- Pursuing holiness means we deny our sinful desires and we seek instead to be like Christ.

BIBLE STORY: EXODUS 19-20; MATTHEW 5:17-20

God Gives The Law

Opening Illustration:

On heavy cardstock paper, write down different things that God created. Make sure to include the following: sea creatures, birds, animals, angels, and man. You can have as many pieces of cardstock as you like. Place the pieces of cardstock on the floor and then play a game of beanbag toss with the children. When a child hits one of the pieces of paper, they get to turn it over and tell the class something that God created. When every child has had a turn, lead them in a discussion about God as the Creator of all things. Make sure to include that God created the sea creatures, birds, animals, angels, and man and He rules over everything.

BIG IDEA: GOD ALONE IS HOLY.¹**No one is like God because He is unique.**

- God is one. He is the only true God.
- There is no one like God. He alone is mighty, all-knowing and powerful.
- There is no other person who is like God.
- No one has the power He has.
- No one has the wisdom He has.
- No one is everlasting like He is.
- He is the only truly holy being because He is the beginning of all things.



Write the Ten Commandments on small pieces of paper or index cards. Hide them around the room and ask the children to seek out the commandments. Review the Ten Commandments with the children and remind them that no one is holy like God.

No one is holy like God because He is the only perfect being.

- God makes no mistakes.
- He is perfect because He is sinless.
- All that God does is right and true.
- He has always been holy and He will always be holy.
- Man is not perfect. Man is sinful and in need of a Savior.
- Man is not naturally holy like God is.

God is the holiest of all beings and His people should seek to be like Him.

- No person will ever become God or be exactly like Him.
- Even though we can never be God, He does command us to pursue holiness.
- He commands His people to pursue being like Him and He gave the law to help us know how to be holy.
- After Jesus came to earth and paid our sin debt, He left His Spirit with us to guide us toward holiness.
- Pursuing holiness does not grant us salvation, but it is evidence that we have trusted in Jesus alone for our salvation and that His Spirit lives within us.
- Because we have His Spirit, we can pursue holiness and seek to be like God.

Who is holy like God? (No one is holy like God is. He is the holiest of all beings.)

1. 1 Samuel 2:2: *There is no one holy like God is. We can not become God, but we can seek to be like Him.*

BIG IDEA: GOD GAVE HIS PEOPLE THE LAW FOR THEIR HOLINESS.²**God's law shows us how to live for Him.**

- From the very beginning of creation, God established His law and rule.
- He gave commands to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden for their own good and His glory.
- As His people turned away from Him, He established the Ten Commandments to help the people see their need for Him.
- God's law and commands help us know how to please Him.
- His law serves as a guide to help us know how to live in a right relationship with Him.



Play a game of musical beanbag with the children. When the music stops, the child holding the beanbag gets to name one of the Ten Commandments. Remind the children that God gave the law for the holiness of His people.

God's law reveals the sinfulness of our hearts.

- God's law acts as a mirror that reflects our sinfulness to us.
- His law is impossible to keep in our sinful state.
- While we are sinners and held captive to our sinful nature, we are not able to keep God's law perfectly.
- Our selfishness rules over us and causes us to not love God as we should.
- God gave the law out of kindness to us. It's His kindness that shows us our own need for Him.

Obedience to God's law produces right living.

- When we obey God's law and commands, we love Him as we should.
- We walk in obedience to Him by repenting of our sin and believing in His Son for salvation.
- After we turn away from our sin, we can live in obedience to God because we have His Spirit to guide us and help us.
- The Israelites had God's law to help them know how to live rightly before Him.
- Without His law, they could not have known how to be holy.

Why did God give the law? (He gave the law to help the people know how to be holy.)

2. Deuteronomy 30:16: Following God's law produces fruitful living for us.

BIG IDEA: WE CAN ONLY BECOME HOLY THROUGH JESUS.³**We are born slaves to sin.**

- Because Adam and Eve sinned, we are born sinful.
- Our hearts are born slaves to sin.
- We do not seek to do things that bring God glory.
- Our hearts reject Him and seek to please ourselves.
- Though we may try to do good things, our motives for doing them are selfish, making them not good.
- Everyone is born enslaved to his or her sin.

Jesus sets us free from our sin.

- We are all sinful and no one is able to save himself from his sin.
- We are all in need of someone to save us.
- God did not leave us in our sin.
- He sent His Son, Jesus, to pay our sin debt.
- Jesus came to earth and lived a perfect life.
- He died on the cross for our sin and paid our sin debt in full.
- He sets us free from the hold that our sin has on us.

When we are free from sin, we can be like Jesus.

- While we are sinners, it's impossible for us to be holy.
- When we turn away from our sin and believe in Jesus, we are set free from our sin.
- No longer are we held captive by our sin. We are set free to pursue righteousness and to seek to be like God.
- We can pursue holiness and seek to become more like Jesus every day.

How can we be holy? (When we know Jesus, we can become more like Him.)



Divide the children into pairs and give each pair a large piece of paper and colored pencils. Ask the children to draw a picture of their partner. Allow the pairs to share the pictures and then ask the children to compare their portraits, identifying the things they have in common with others and the differences. Remind the children that we can only be holy when we know Jesus as our Savior.

3. 2 Timothy 1:9: God has called us to a holy life. It is the work of His grace and mercy through Jesus Christ.

BIG IDEA: GOD'S PEOPLE ARE CALLED TO PURSUE HOLINESS EVERY DAY.⁴**God commands His people to be like Him.**

- God redeems His people so they might be with Him.
- God not only redeems His people so they might be with Him, but so they may be like Him.
- He commands His people to seek to be like Him.
- He is perfect and the best way for His people to live is to seek to be like Him.



Write the Fruit of the Spirit on index cards. Hide them throughout the room. Ask the children to take turns finding the Fruit of the Spirit. Remind them that we should daily seek to be like God.

To be like God, we must put to death our sinful passions.

- God is not sinful. In order for us to be like God, we must put off or put away our sinful desires.
- Our hearts are naturally sinful and wicked. We seek to please ourselves instead of pleasing God.
- In order to be holy like God is, we must put to death these passions and desires.
- Every day we must seek to set aside our sinful desires and seek to be like God.

To be like God, we must seek to be holy every single day.

- In order to grow and become more like God, we must seek to be like Him every day of our lives.
- Pursuing holiness is not a single event. It is a daily event.
- Everyday we must seek to say no to our sinful desires and instead to seek to obey God's commands.
- When we seek to daily die to our sinful desires and seek to please God, we will become more like Him. Our obedience will produce holiness in us.

How often are we called to pursue holiness? (We are called to pursue holiness everyday.)

4. 2 Corinthians 7:1: *God's people should cleanse themselves daily of their sinful desires and seek to be like God.*

HOOKS

**Mighty Mountain Of Truth**

Bring in a container of Lego blocks. Ask the children to build a mountain using the Lego blocks. As they build the mountain, talk with the children about how God spoke to Moses and the Israelites from the mountain. Remind them that He gave them His truth and the Law to help them live for Him.

**Pursuit Of Holiness**

Bring in plastic straws, small cotton balls or pom-poms and paper cups. Label the cups with the word "holy". Divide the children into groups and give each group a cup, several pom-poms and plastic straws. Ask the children to use the plastic straws to blow the pom-poms into the plastic cup. After the groups complete the task, lead them in a discussion about how God's people are called to pursue holiness everyday. Everyday we should put on the things that make us more like God.



- God's people should pursue to be holy like He is holy.
- We can pursue holiness by seeking to be like God and we can do this by seeking to put on the Fruit of the Spirit.
- When we pursue holiness, we become more like God.