

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 provides mercy and grace through Jesus
- Mercy is when God does not give us what we deserve; grace is when God gives us what we do not deserve

**Every child should feel:**

- Awe at God’s goodness in His mercy and grace to us

**Every child should:**

- Give thanks because God is merciful and gracious to us

**Every child should want:**

- To accept God’s gifts of mercy and grace that He extends to us through Jesus

FREELY FREE

Plan a special outing or treat for your child, such as a day at the park or a trip to the store to buy a toy. Make sure you do something that your child hasn't asked for recently. Talk with your child about how he or she hasn't done anything to earn this treat or deserve it. You are giving them the treat because you love them. Talk with them about how God's redemption of us wasn't earned and was a gift from Him. His redemption makes us really free from our sin debt.

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

Ruth 1-4

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

Naomi and Ruth arrived in Bethlehem from Moab with nothing. They were both widows and had no one to care for them or protect them. Naomi sent Ruth to gather wheat from the fields of a man named Boaz. Boaz was a good man who was distantly related to Naomi. Boaz liked Ruth and told his servants to leave extra wheat for her. When Ruth returned home to Naomi and shared with her that Boaz had shown her special favor, Naomi knew that there was hope for them. Because Boaz was related to Naomi, he could help them become a part of a family again. Boaz could serve as their kinsman redeemer, or the relative who took them in and cared for them. In order for Boaz to be their kinsman redeemer, he would have to choose to make Ruth his wife. Naomi sent Ruth to Boaz one evening to ask him to be their kinsman redeemer. Boaz made sure that no other relative was before him and then he agreed to marry Ruth. Boaz redeemed Naomi and Ruth. He made them a part of his family forever. Every person is like Ruth and Naomi. They are in need of redemption. God sent Jesus to redeem us by paying our sin debt for us. God is our Redeemer and His redemption is forever. We can never lose our redemption from God.

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

- Could Ruth and Naomi help themselves? (No, they could not provide for themselves without help.)
- How did Boaz help Naomi and Ruth at first? (He told his servants to leave extra wheat for Ruth to collect.)
- How could Boaz help Naomi and Ruth forever? (He could redeem them and make them part of his family.)
- How does God redeem us? (He sent Jesus to pay our sin debt.)
- Are we able to redeem ourselves? (No, we are all sinful and cannot redeem ourselves.)

**KNOW**

As a family memorize Ephesians 1:7 by using loud and soft voices to say the verse. Repeat this until you each can say the verse.

**DO**

Take your child on a drive to see your local police station or show him or her pictures of police officers. Talk with him or her about what a police officer does and how sometimes they have to arrest people and take them to jail. Remind them that our sin holds us captive like we are in jail, but God sent Jesus to set us free by redeeming us from it.

**FEEL**

Place a jar or cup on the kitchen counter or in a place where it is seen every day. In one of the cups, place marbles, beans, or some other small object. Tell your child that the jar is the "Redemption Jar" and he or she can "redeem" or trade in an object from the jar for a special treat or privilege. Throughout the week allow your child to use the "Redemption Jar", but make sure they use it when they least deserve it. Talk with them about how God redeemed us when we had done nothing to deserve it.

**WANT**

Spend time this week talking about what it means to be redeemed. Share with your child what it means to you that God has redeemed you and you are no longer held captive by your sin.

Spend some this week at bedtime, praying and thanking God for sending Jesus to redeem us.