

**BIG TRUTH: GOD IS FOREVER**

Genesis 1:1; Exodus 3:13-14; Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalm 90:1-4; 102:25-28; Isaiah 40:28; Colossians 1:17; 1 Timothy 6:13-16; Revelation 1:4; 22:13

**BIBLE VERSE: REVELATION 4:8B**

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

**BIG IDEAS**

- God is eternal (neither new nor old).
- God gives eternal life.
- Eternity exists for God’s glory.

**BIBLE STORY: REVELATION 4:8-5:15**

John’s exile to the Island of Patmos became much more than a prison sentence. While on the island, he experienced a vision about God and future events. His vision shows how God has always been, is now, and will always be. Not only is God eternal, He gives eternity to man.

**STORY: NEW CREATION**

Part of the beauty of the gospel is that God does not just rescue us from the power of sin, but He is also making everything new. God offers new creation to those who place their faith in Jesus. This newness comes in two ways. The first is that by breaking the power of sin, Jesus is making men and women into brand new people with new identities. Second, God is not only making people new, but He is also going to make a new heaven and a new earth for us to live on and worship Him in.

**BIG AIMS****Every child should know that:**

- God is making all things new

**Every child should feel:**

- Wonder at how God takes the brokenness of creation and makes it new

**Every child should:**

- Thank God for fixing what sin has broken and making a new creation

**Every child should want:**

- To see creation be made new by God

**NOW AND FOREVER**

Help your child create a cross using one continuous string. Glue the string to a piece of paper as you shape it into a cross. Talk with your child about how Jesus is eternal and He gives us eternal life when we have saving faith in Him.

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

Revelation 4:8-5:14.

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

John was a disciple of Jesus during Jesus' earthly ministry. Once Jesus returned to heaven, John continued to tell people about Jesus. He was persecuted for his faith in Jesus and eventually was exiled to the Island of Patmos. While he was on the island, he received a vision from God. During his vision, he was taken up in the spirit to heaven. He saw God sitting on a magnificent throne in heaven and four creatures surrounding the throne giving praise to God. John also saw twenty-four elders praising God. In God's hand was a scroll. God asked who is worthy to open the scroll, but no one in heaven was worthy except for the Lamb who was slain. John saw the Lamb and watched as He opened the scroll. The four creatures and elders praised the Lamb for His worthiness and His everlasting nature. The Lamb who was slain is Jesus and John saw Jesus and God in their eternal glory. God is forever and the creatures and elders proclaimed that they are eternal. God created eternity for His own glory and He receives glory through the praise of those who are in heaven with Him. He gives us eternity when we have saving faith in Jesus who paid our sin debt. We can be with God now and forever when we turn away from our sin and believe in Jesus.

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

- Why was John exiled to the island of Patmos? (He continued to share about Jesus.)
- What did John see while he was on the island? (He was given a vision of God in heaven.)
- How does God give eternity to us? (When we place saving faith in Jesus, we have eternal life.)

**KNOW**

As a family, memorize Revelation 4:8b by having your child write the verse several times. Say the verse out loud to help your child remember it.

**DO**

As a family, take turns drawing circles with sidewalk chalk. See which family member can draw the biggest circle. Once you draw several circles, talk to you child about how a circle doesn't really have a beginning and end. It just continues to go around and around. God doesn't have a beginning and end, either. He is always and forever.

**FEEL**

As a family, watch the sunrise. Talk with your child about how the sun rising signifies the day beginning and the sun setting signifies the day ending. Most things have a beginning and an end, but God does not.

**WANT**

As a family, memorize Revelation 4:8b by writing the verse on slips of paper and hiding them around your house. Have your child hunt for the pieces of paper. Every time she finds one, help her say the verse out loud.

Spend some time this week praying, thanking God for being eternal and giving us eternity.