

## **BIG TRUTH: GOD'S PEOPLE ARE THE CHURCH**

*Ezekiel 36:28; Jeremiah 31:33; 2 Corinthians 3:5-6; 5:17; 1 Peter 2:9-10; Exodus 19:5-6; Matthew 16:18*

## **BIBLE VERSE: COLOSSIANS 1:18**

*"And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent."*

## **BIG IDEAS**

- God's people are devoted to Him above all else.
- God's people are made new.
- God's people are set apart and sent with the gospel.
- God's people live by faith and run with endurance.

## **BIBLE PASSAGE: COLOSSIANS 1:13-20**

## **UNITE: LIVING IN COMMUNITY**

The Unite year is an exploration of what it means to be united in Christ as the family of God (Romans 12:5). When we are saved, we are brought into the family of God- seen throughout the Old Testament as "God's People" and in the New Testament and today as the church (Exodus 6:7; Colossians 1:18). We are set free from our sin to walk in freedom in Christ (Galatians 5:1) and use our influence to call others to do the same.

## **SERIES AIMS**



### **Every student should know...**

- God has always been making and keeping a people for Himself
- In this age, the church is God's people
- Being a part of God's people should inform every aspect of our lives



### **Every student should feel...**

- Love for God and the people of God
- Accountable to God and to the church to pursue holiness
- Responsible to use their influence to make much of God alone



### **Every student should strive to...**

- Study the connections between God's people in the Old Testament
- and the church in the New Testament
- Memorize the Bible verse each week
- Invite others into God's people, the church



### **Every student should want...**

- Be marked by their faith
- Talk about God every day, in every setting and circle of influence
- Live as a faithful member of their local church

## **FAMILY WORKOUT:**

This week we will consider how to discuss with our son or daughter the truth that God's people are the church. We will pray for our son or daughter to be devoted to Christ as we lead them to live faithful lives with endurance.

# GOD'S PEOPLE ARE THE CHURCH



**Read Colossians 1:13-20 this week and answer the questions below in your journal:**

- Why is it good news for believers that those who have faith in Jesus have been transferred from the domain of darkness to the kingdom of God's beloved Son?
- How do these verses help explain the preeminence of Christ? Why is this truth important to note? How does this truth set Christ apart?
- What is meant by the statement that all things were created through Christ and for Him? How does this affect the way we view creation and ourselves?
- Since Christ is the head of the church, how should the church live in relation to Christ?

**Read Colossians 1:13-20 and meditate on these verses this week. Use the questions below to guide your meditation:**

- Ponder the truth that God's people are His church. How can you discuss this truth with your son or daughter this week?
- Consider the truth that God's people are devoted to Him. How can you model this truth to your son or daughter this week?
- Ponder the truth that God's people run the race with faith and endurance. How can you help your son or daughter understand this truth?



**Pray with your son or daughter this week.**

- Ask God to help them grow their devotion to Him.
- Pray for your student this week. Ask God to help them run their race with endurance this week.



**Memorize Colossians 1:18 this week.**

- Write the verse on an index card and review each day to help your son or daughter remember it.
- Discuss some challenges you've faced in your Christian walk with your son or daughter. Help them identify some challenges they face. Pray with them and encourage them to walk with endurance by trusting in Jesus' promises.
- Meet with your student this week to help them identify a specific way they can participate as a part of the body of Christ this week. Help them understand that running the race with endurance involves serving in the body of Christ.