

BIG TRUTH: GOD OFFERS A NEW RELATIONSHIP

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 11:19-20; 36:22-28; Romans 5:1-5; 6:17-18; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Ephesians 2:19; Colossians 1:19-22

BIBLE VERSE: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:19

“That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.”

BIG IDEAS

- Our sin separates us from God.
- Jesus rescues us from our sin and restores our relationship to God.
- Through Jesus we become ambassadors instead of rebels.

BIBLE STORY: MARK 5

In our sin, we are all separated from God. We do not have a relationship with Him because we are separated by our sin. The demon-possessed man was separated from society. Jesus saw him and cast out the many demons possessing the man. The man was free to live his life among others. He was free to have relationships with others. Jesus sets us free from our sin and enables us to have a relationship with God.

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**KNOW****Every child should know that:**

- God is making all things new

**FEEL****Every child should feel:**

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

**DO****Every child should:**

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

**WANT****Every child should want:**

- To see creation be made new by God

A RESTORED RELATIONSHIP

Create a paper chain using different colored construction paper. As you create it, talk with your child about how our sin enslaves us and keeps us from God. Jesus rescues us from our sin and restores our relationship with God.

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

Mark 5.

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

Jesus and His disciples traveled by boat across the Sea of Galilee to the land of the Gerasenes. As soon as Jesus stepped off of the boat, He met a man who was possessed by many demons. The man was walking around the tombs, or cemetery, crying and cutting himself with stones. He had been possessed for a long time and was isolated from everyone. The demons did not want Jesus to send them away, but Jesus commanded them to leave the man. The demons asked to be sent into a herd of pigs—nearly two thousand of them! Jesus sent the demons into the pigs and then the pigs ran down a steep cliff, fell into the ocean, and drowned. The herdsmen were astonished. They could not believe that all two thousand of their pigs had perished so quickly because demons had entered them. They ran into town to tell everyone and more people came to the tombs. When they arrived, they saw the once demon-possessed man sitting up in his right mind. They couldn't believe it. He had been so violent when the demons possessed him. No one had been able to help him. He had broken every set of chains that had been placed on him and now he was normal. The man was overcome with joy and asked to go with Jesus, but Jesus told him to return to town and tell others all that God had done for him. The man joyfully returned to town and told everyone what Jesus did for him. He had experienced God's mercy and had been restored. We are like the demon-possessed man while we are sinners. We are isolated and separated from God. Jesus rescues us through His death and resurrection and He restores our relationship to God.

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

- What separated the man from the rest of the town? (He was possessed by demons.)
- How did Jesus help him? (Jesus released the demons from him and restored him to society.)
- How does Jesus restore us? (When we have saving faith in His work on the cross, we can be restored to God.)



As a family, memorize 2 Corinthians 5:19 by creating a jigsaw puzzle from the verse. Write the verse on a piece of paper and then cut it out to make a puzzle. Take turns putting the puzzle together and saying the verse out loud.



As a family, make a batch of homemade cookies. Place the ingredients in separate bowls and let your child help you pour them into the mixing bowl. Talk with your child about how we're separated from God because of our sin, but Jesus rescues us.



As a family, play a game of hide-and-seek. After you play awhile, talk with your child about how the person who is hunting for the hidden people is separated from them just like we are separated from God by our sin. Jesus rescues us from our separation and restores our relationship to God.



During dinner this week, use paper plates that have dividers to separate food. Help your child serve each person by placing the food onto the plates. Talk with your child about how the food is separated and isolated just like we are when we are in our sin. Jesus rescues us and restores our relationship with God. Allow your child to mix some of his food together if he likes and tell him that's what it's like when Jesus restores us to God.

Spend some time this week praying, thanking Jesus for restoring our relationship to God.