

GOD IS FIXING OUR BROKEN RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS FIXING OUR BROKEN RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 11:19-20; 36:22-28; Romans 5:1-3; 6:17-18; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Ephesians 2:1-6; Colossians 1:19-23

BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 8:1

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

BIG IDEAS

- Our sin is a rejection of God Himself.
- In His mercy God makes a way to forgive our sin against Him.
- In His grace God makes a way to adopt us into His family.
- Our relationship with God can only be fixed through Jesus.

BIBLE STORY: LUKE 15:11-32

The parable of the Prodigal Son is an illustration of man and God. We are the wayward son, our hearts full of sin seeking our own way instead of our Father's way, which is best. God is the good Father who receives His wayward, sinful child back when he returns with repentance. God fixes our broken relationship with Him by making a way for our forgiveness.

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 fixes our relationships with Him and with others through Jesus



Every child should:

- See Jesus as God's plan for our brokenness



Every child should feel:

- Hope that God is fixing creation



Every child should want:

- To be made new through faith and hope in Jesus

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GOD MADE A WAY

Go for a drive with your child. Show your child different road signs and then show them a destination that has several routes to it. Show your child the different routes and tell your child that some places have multiple ways to get to them, but God only has one way and that is through Jesus. God made the way for us by sending Jesus to pay our sin debt.

DISCOVER IT:

(Use the passage to illustrate the Big Truth.)

Luke 15:11-32.

THINK ABOUT IT:

(Use the commentary to reinforce the Big Truth.)

The prodigal son was a young man who didn't like his father's ways. He didn't want to live with his father anymore. He wanted to leave and live his own life his way according to his own rules. He asked his father for his inheritance money and he left. The father was sad to see him go, but he did not stop him. The son was gone for a while and while he was away, he spent every bit of the money that his father had given him. He made a lot of bad decisions and did some really bad things. One day when he ran out of his money, he had to get a job working in a pig pen. The pigs were dirty and muddy and the young man had to eat the same food the pigs were eating. He was sad that he had made such a mess of his life. He decided to go back to his home and to tell his father he was sorry. His father had been waiting for his son to return everyday. He had been watching the road hoping that his son was going to come back one day. One day, the father saw a figure in the distance and he could tell it was his son. He ran to meet him and hugged him close. He was so happy to have his son home. The son apologized to his father and the father threw a big party to celebrate his son's return. We are like the young man. We go away from God and live by our own rules instead of God's. God is the father who welcomes us back to Him with open arms when we have saving faith. God made a way for our relationship to be fixed by sending Jesus to pay our sin debt. Like the prodigal son, we can return to God and repent of our sins and be welcomed into God's family.

TALK ABOUT IT:

(Use the questions to discuss the Big Truth)

- What did the young son ask to do? (He wanted his inheritance and he wanted to leave.)
- What happened when the young son left? (He spent all of his money and had to live with the pigs.)
- How did the father act when the son returned? (He welcomed him and threw a big party.)
- How did God make a way for us to return to Him? (He sent Jesus to pay our sin debt.)



As a family, memorize Romans 8:1 by taking turns saying the verse out loud. Spend some time talking about what the verse means to you.

Create a scavenger hunt of different gifts you've given your child over the years. Some examples might be, a special toy, a game, a new pair of shoes. After your child finishes the scavenger hunt, talk with your child about how they have done nothing to earn the gifts you've given them, but you show them grace in giving them gifts just like God shows us grace in giving Jesus.

For dinner one night, help your child decorate the table for a party. Use streamers and balloons and special plates. Talk with your child during dinner about how the father of the prodigal son threw a big party because he was so happy that his son had returned. Remind them that God is our Heavenly Father and He welcomes us into His family like the prodigal son was welcomed home.

Spend some time this week praying with your child and thanking God for fixing our broken relationship with Him.