

**BIG TRUTH: GOD COMMANDS US TO BE HOLY**

Exodus 19:4-6; Leviticus 19:1-2, 20:22-24; Deuteronomy 7:6; Matthew 5:48; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-5; 1 Peter 1:13-16, 2:9-12

**BIBLE VERSE: 1 PETER 1:16; LEVITICUS 11:44**

*"You shall be holy, for I am holy."*

**BIG IDEAS**

- We must be holy because God is holy.
- Do not have other gods besides God.
- Do not make fake gods.
- Do not misuse God's name.
- Keep the Sabbath day holy. Rest and worship God.

**BIBLE STORY: EXODUS 20:1-11**

God commands His people to be holy because He is holy. God requires His people to be what He is---holy. God gave His people the law so that they might know how to be holy and that they can't be holy apart from Him. The Ten Commandments serve as a snapshot of God's law which shows every person his or her need of a savior. The law is good and right, yet there is no man or woman who can keep the whole law in his or her own power. The law reveals the character of God and what God requires of His people. Most importantly, it shows man his desperate need of a savior.

**FOUNDATION: GOD IS HOLY - GOD GIVES THE LAW**

God is holy. This means that He is separate from all of creation. There is nothing like Him in existence and nothing that can even be compared to Him. He is complete, perfect, and separate in every single way possible. God commands that His people are to "be holy just as He is holy." In our own imperfection, there is no way we can be holy, but in God's grace He gave His people the law. The law points us to who God is, our need for Him, and that our only hope to become holy like God is through the shedding of innocent blood on behalf of the guilty.

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

- God is perfect and holy
- The Ten Commandments

**Every child should:**

- Define "good" by God's standard

**Every child should feel:**

- Incapable of being holy on their own

**Every child should want to:**

- To be holy because God is holy

The Family Devotion on the next page is a weekly tool for the home. It is designed for you as family to gather for a few minutes on a set night of the week to unpack the Big Truth together. Use the model below and customize it to fit your family. As you continue to learn, love, and live out the Big Truth, some additional Hooks (next page) are provided that correspond to the Big Aims (see above). Use them to keep the conversation going throughout the week with your family.

**GOD IS HOLY AND WE SHOULD BE, TOO!**

Help your child make a list of the attributes of God on a poster board or large piece of paper. Together decorate the poster board and then display it in your house. Talk about the ways in which God shows us that He is holy. He is always faithful, kind, loving, and just. He is wise and good. Because God is holy, His people should seek to be holy, too.

**DISCOVER IT:**

Read 1 Peter 1:13-16.

**THINK ABOUT IT:**

Peter wrote his letter to fellow believers to encourage them to be like Christ. God is holy and more important than any other being. Peter reminded his fellow believers of this truth about God. He also encouraged them to seek to be holy like God is holy. He reminded them of how they used to act and behave before they knew Christ and encouraged them to not do those things anymore. Instead, he encouraged them to act like Christ and to be like God. We are all encouraged to be holy like God is. When we read and study the Bible, God's Word, we learn how to be holy like God is.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

- Why did Peter write his letter to his fellow believers? (He wanted to encourage them to be like God.)
- Why should believers be like God? (God wants His people to be holy like He is and His people should obey Him.)



As a family memorize 1 Peter 1:16. Share with your child a specific way that you try to be holy like God is. Perhaps it's spending time alone with God in prayer on a daily basis, or asking God to help you put on the fruit of the Spirit.



Using brown paper bags, create the Ten Commandment stones. Draw the outline of the tablets on the bag and then cut it out. As a family write the Ten Commandments on the "tablet" and then display the "tablet" in your home. Throughout the week, talk with your child about the first four commandments. Talk about why God gave the commandments to His people and why they are important to us.



Trace your child's hands with their fingers spread apart. Next cut out their traced handprints out. Write the first four commandments on small pieces of paper that your child decorates. Help your child attach the commandments onto their handprints after they've memorized the commandment. Talk with them about why God gave us the commandments and what it means to be holy.



As a family go early to church one day or stay after service is over. Spend some time together in the sanctuary of your church with your children talking about what it means that God is holy. Explain to your child the different aspects of the church service and how they are all part of acknowledging that God is holy. Spend some time in prayer as a family praising God for His holiness.