

GOD GIVES FAITH THAT RAISES THE DEAD TO LIFE

BIG TRUTH: GOD GIVES FAITH THAT RAISES THE DEAD TO LIFE

John 5:24; Romans 3:23-26; 6:13; Ephesians 2:8

BIBLE VERSE: ROMANS 1:17

“For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

BIG IDEAS

- Through faith we have access to God.
- God gives faith that raises the spiritually dead to life.
- God gives faith that makes all things possible through Him.
- God gives faith that helps His people live for Him.

BIBLE STORY: MARK 9:14-27; ROMANS 10:9-10

A father's young son was possessed by an unclean spirit. The boy was in great need of healing. The father took the son to Jesus and asked Jesus to heal his son if He could. Jesus did more than heal the son; He gave the father great faith to believe in Him. God gives us faith to believe in Him.

FOUNDATION: GOD IS JOY—GOD GIVES FAITH

God Himself is joy. Joy is not just an attribute of God. All joy is found in Him. Psalm 16:11 says, “In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” We were created to delight and find joy in God. There is always more about God to know, see, experience, and love than we could ever imagine. Sin separated us from God and also from the joy that comes from knowing Him. In the midst of that, God gives us faith to restore our relationship with Him and to know Him again. Not only is God the truest source of joy, but He gives us faith so we can have access to that joy.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know:

- Joy is found in the presence of God
- Faith is a gift from God to hope and trust in Him



Every child should feel:

- The difference between a temporary happiness and a lasting joy



Every child should be able to:

- Memorize John 3:16
- Recognize things that make them happy, but talk about God as the source of joy



Every child should want to:

- To one day have faith in Jesus to save them from their sins
- To experience true joy in Christ alone

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.

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FAITH TO LIVE BY

Take your child on a blindfolded walk around your house or outside. This time, tell them you will lead them, but only with your voice. They must listen to your voice and trust that you are leading them in the right way. God gives His people faith to live for Him and to trust Him. This faith is a gift from Him and allows His people to obey Him.

DISCOVER IT:

Read Mark 9:14-27.

THINK ABOUT IT:

The father of the demon-possessed boy believed in Jesus' miracles at first. He brought his son to Jesus' disciples to ask them to heal his son, but they could not. Jesus saw the father and His disciples and others who had gathered and asked why they were arguing. The father asked Jesus to heal his son, if He could. Jesus knew that the father didn't have true faith, so He showed him how to really believe in Him. The father asked Jesus to give him faith. Jesus healed the man's son by sending the unclean spirit out. God gives us faith to live for Him and to show us that all things are possible with Him.

TALK ABOUT IT:

- Who gave the father faith to believe? (Jesus gave the father faith to believe in Him and not just in the miracles.)
- How do we get faith to live daily for God? (God gives us faith to live for Him daily.)



Help your child memorize Romans 1:17. Talk with your child about the faith that God gives you to live for Him daily and to obey Him.



Take your child on a faith journey to a special destination, such as a grandparent's house or for ice cream. As you take your journey, ask your child to guess where he thinks you're going. Tell him that you're going somewhere special and that he has to trust you. When you arrive, remind him that God gives us faith to believe in Him, too.



As a family, make a list of needs or concerns you have. These could be behaviors that your child needs to change or people who are sick and you'd like to see be well. Spend time this week praying as a family for these things. Keep track of them and talk with your child when God answers one of them. If your child is especially obedient, remind him or her that you prayed for them to be and God gave you faith to believe.



Spend time as a family talking about your own faith. Talk with your child about the daily things that you ask God to help you with and the ways you ask Him to help your unbelief. Pray together thanking God that He gives faith daily to obey and serve Him.