

GOD IS COMPLETELY SATISFIED IN HIMSELF

FOUNDATION: GOD IS SATISFIED - GOD GIVES A SUBSTITUTE

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS COMPLETELY SATISFIED IN HIMSELF

Genesis 1:1-2; 1 Chronicles 29:11; Job 41:11; Psalm 50:12; Isaiah 66:1-2; Colossians 2:10

BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 66:1

"Thus says the Lord: 'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me?'"

BIG IDEAS

- God does not need anything to survive.
- God is worthy of our worship because He has no weakness.
- God is not dependent upon anyone for help.
- God is completely satisfied in Himself and yet still cares for us.

BIBLE STORY: 2 SAMUEL 7

David desired to build God a house or temple. He wanted to provide God with a place to dwell because there was no house or temple then. What David didn't understand is that God is complete in Himself. He did not need David to provide Him with anything. God is completely in charge of everything. Everything that we have, He has given to us. There really is nothing that we could give God that wouldn't mean we were using things that He had provided to us. He is completely satisfied in Himself and has no need for anything.

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God is holy and just. Everything He does is right and good. In His holiness and justice, He must punish injustice. His righteous wrath (anger against sin) must be satisfied. Sin and rebellion cannot be ignored or looked over. It must be dealt with, and we as guilty sinners deserve God's wrath to be poured out on us. Thankfully, God, in His mercy, chose to forgive us. The only way He could do this was by punishing Jesus in our place. He sent His Son to be a substitute for our sin in order to rescue us. Jesus bore the punishment that we deserve.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know:

- God is satisfied in Himself
- God does not need anything and is not dependent on anyone
- God is satisfied through Jesus who died as our substitute



Every child should feel:

- Awe that God does not need anything



Every child should be able to:

- Recognize some things that they need and remember that God does not need anything



Every child should want to:

- Have a relationship with God because He is satisfied through His substitute

FAMILY DEVOTION: GOD IS SATISFIED

David wanted to build a house for God, but God didn't need a house. It wasn't bad that David wanted to do something for God, but David had a wrong view of God. David thought God needed the house, but God doesn't need anything.

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BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 66:1

"Thus says the Lord: 'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me?'"

God is greater than anything He has created.

- God is the greatest being of all beings. Nothing that God has created is greater than Him.
- Nothing that exists is greater or more powerful than God.
- God is the most supreme being. He is the creator of all things and He rules over all things.
- God rules over creation because He is the creator of creation.
- He has authority over all things and does not need anything.
- God is satisfied with Himself. He does not need anything from anyone.

God does not need anything from His creation.

- God is complete in Himself. He is not like man in that He does not need anything.
- Man needs all things from God and receives all things from God, but God needs nothing.
- Because God is complete, He lacks nothing.
- Man could never give God anything that didn't first come from God.
- Anything that man would do for God, he would do with ideas and materials that first originated with God.

GOD IS COMPLETELY SATISFIED
IN HIMSELF**BIBLE STORY: 2 SAMUEL 7***David And God's Temple*

Supporting Scripture: John 1:3; Colossians 2:10; 1 Chronicles 29:11

Teacher Introduction:

There is nothing that man could ever do for God that didn't first come from God. David desired to build God a house, a place for God to dwell, but what David didn't understand is that God didn't need David to build Him a house. It wasn't a bad thing that David wanted to do something for God. David's idea of who God is was not accurate. God is complete in Himself. He doesn't need anything from anyone, but David thought He did. David's idea to build God a house was because he thought God needed it.

God had not told David to build Him a house. David decided to build the house, not because he was obeying God, but because he thought God lacked something. What David learned from God is that God lacks nothing. If God wanted a house, He could create a greater house than anything David could ever build.

Teaching Guide:

The guide below is provided to help you teach the narrative: *David and God's Temple*. The four points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share from 2 Samuel 7 and teach the narrative: *David and God's Temple*. Footnotes are provided for further study of the text and God's interaction with His people. Throughout the lesson, questions are placed to help you guide the preschoolers to think about and process the narrative: *David and God's Temple*.

Opening Illustration:

Bring in a bag of Goldfish. Give each child only one goldfish cracker. Ask the children if they are satisfied with the goldfish. Most won't be satisfied with so little Goldfish. Remind them that we need lots of things to be satisfied, but God needs nothing.

- God is completely satisfied in Himself.
- Even if He never received anything from us or got any special gift, He'd still be satisfied because He doesn't need anything.
- We all have needs and God supplies those needs for us.

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BIG IDEA: GOD DOES NOT NEED ANYTHING TO SURVIVE.

God is the Creator of all things and needs nothing.¹

- Everything that exists does so because God created it.
- Even the inventions of man are made possible because God created man and gave man ideas.
- God doesn't need anything. He is not like man who has needs.
- David wanted to build God a house or temple because he thought God needed it.
- God quickly reminded David that He doesn't need anything.
- David thought God lacked something, but God lacks nothing.



Help the children think of all the things that God has created, such as the earth, the sun and the moon. Help them think of the things that God has given us, like ideas and thoughts, which help us invent things ourselves. Help them see that all things are given to us by God.

God does not have needs like we do.

- God is complete in Himself. He does not lack anything. There is nothing that God wants and doesn't have.
- Man does have needs. We cannot think of God in the same way we think of ourselves.
- Man needs certain things to survive.
- God needs nothing to survive.
- God reminded David that He lacked nothing when David determined to build God a temple.
- God didn't need David to build Him a temple.
- God was the one who had built David up as king and He was going to build a great house and lineage from David. David needed God, not the other way around.

What did David want to build for God? (David wanted to build God a temple.)

Why did God tell David not to build the temple? (God didn't need David to build the temple and David thought He did.)

1. 1. John 1:3: All that we have is from God. All things originate with God. We have nothing apart from God.

GOD IS COMPLETELY SATISFIED
IN HIMSELF**BIG IDEA: GOD IS NOT DEPENDENT UPON ANYONE FOR HELP.****God is all-powerful and complete in Himself.**

- David's understanding of God was wrong. David saw God as needing someone to build a temple for Him.
- God does not need anything from anyone.
- He is all-powerful. He can build His own temple.
- God spoke the world into being. He can easily create a temple for Himself.²
- God has everything that He needs in Himself. He doesn't need anything from man or the world.



Bring in an age appropriate puzzle that is already completed. Show the children the puzzle with all the puzzle pieces already in place. Tell them that the puzzle doesn't need to be worked because it has all of its pieces already. The puzzle is like God who doesn't need anything. He has all He needs already.

God does not rely upon anyone or anything; He is completely independent.

- Man is always dependent in some way. Man always relies upon something else or someone else.
- God relies upon no one. He is dependent upon no one.
- He does not need anyone to help Him do anything.
- He can provide all that He needs Himself because He is the powerful creator of all things.
- David understood this when God told him that He would actually build David a house.
- David needed God's help; God did not need David's help.
- All people need God, but God is dependent upon no one.

Why does God not need anything? (God is the creator of all things, so He has no need for anything.)

2. Genesis 1-2: God is so powerful that He spoke the world into existence. He spoke and things began existing. If God needs anything, He can create what He needs.

GOD IS COMPLETELY SATISFIED
IN HIMSELF**BIG IDEA: GOD IS WORTHY OF OUR WORSHIP BECAUSE HE HAS NO WEAKNESS.****God is the most holy of all beings.**

- God is more powerful than any other being.
- He does not have any weakness.
- He does not lack anything or need anything.³
- God did not need David to build Him a house to dwell in.
- God gave David everything that he possessed.
- God chose David to be king and blessed David in such a way that David was in a powerful position.
- David understood God's mightiness when God corrected him.
- David's response was to worship God because God is so mighty and so great.

We should worship God because He is mighty and powerful.⁴

- David understood that God is the most powerful being of all and David's response was one of worship.
- David changed his wrong view of God and gained a right view of Him. He understood who God really is and how mighty and powerful He is.
- God has no weakness. He is not like man. He is mightier and greater than man.
- God is worthy of our worship, but even more so, we can worship Him because of His majestic greatness.
- Because God has no weakness, He is able to meet every need we may have. We do not have to wonder if God is capable of meeting our needs.
- There is nothing too big or difficult for God and that is worthy of our worship.



Bring in a container that has wooden popsicle sticks and paper. Ask the children to make a house from the materials in the container. Tell them that they can't make the house out of the materials because they don't have glue to hold it together. Tell them that God is not like us. He has to only speak and things begin existing. He has no weakness.

Why is God worthy of our worship? (God has no weakness which means there is nothing He can't do.)

3. Colossians 2:10: God lacks nothing and needs nothing because He is the head of all things and has all control. He controls all things because He is the creator of all things.

4. 1 Chronicles 29:11: Everything is God's. All things are from Him, in Him, and bow to Him. He is worthy of our worship because He is majestic and great.

GOD IS COMPLETELY SATISFIED
IN HIMSELF**BIG IDEA: GOD IS COMPLETELY SATISFIED IN HIMSELF AND YET STILL CARES FOR US.****There is nothing that God needs from anyone or in any way.**

- God needs nothing to be satisfied.
- He is everything He needs and He is satisfied in Himself.
- We cannot think of God as being like man. He does not lack anything like we do. He is not missing anything or longing for anything like we are and do.⁵
- David thought of God through human eyes when he decided to build God a temple.
- God didn't need a temple though because He could have built His own temple.
- Anything that we do for God is part of God's plan to help us, not because God needs us to do it.



On the board or a large poster board make two columns. One should say "man" and the other should say "God". Help the children list the needs that man has everyday, such as food, water, clothing, sleep, etc. Next, help the children list the needs that God has everyday. God has no need for anything. God is completely satisfied in Himself.

God is fully satisfied, yet He still chooses to include us in His family.

- God did not create man because He was lonely or needed someone.
- If God had never created people, God would still be completely satisfied in Himself.
- God cared for David even though David had the wrong idea about what God needs or doesn't need.
- God corrected David and promised that His steadfast love would be with him forever.⁶
- God chose to include David in His family and His plan.
- God chooses to include us in His plan and family because He cares for us.
- There is no one greater than God and yet He loves us with an everlasting love.

Does God need anything from us to be satisfied? (No, He is satisfied in Himself. He needs nothing from man.)
Why does God choose to include us in His family? (He loves us.)

5. Isaiah 55:8-9: God is not like man. He is not constrained like man is. God's thoughts are not like man's. God's thoughts are higher and greater. He is mightier than any other.

6. Proverbs 3:12: God is our Father and He corrects those He loves. God corrected David because He loved David like a father loves his child.

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HOOKS

**Our Needs Versus God's Needs**

Bring in two containers. One container should be labeled "God" and the other should be labeled "Man". Bring in several items that we use everyday, such as toothpaste, water, snacks, clothing, toys, etc. Place the items in each of the containers. Have the children race to sort the items into the right container based upon man's needs and God's needs. The "God" container should be empty always.



- God doesn't need things like we need things.
- God is the giver of all things. He is the creator of all things, so there is nothing that He needs.
- We have a lot of needs and everything we need, we get from God.

**God Provides All We Need**

Have the children play musical chairs or march around the room to music. When the music stops, the child without a chair or the child first in line gets to name something that God provides for them, such as food, a family, a house, etc.



- God is completely satisfied in Himself. He has all that He needs and He even gives us all that we need.
- All that we have is from God. He provides us with everything we would ever need and then sometimes He even gives us things we want.

We Can Trust God

Divide the room in half using a strip of tape. Give each child a small plastic ping pong ball. Read different situations that we might trust God with and ask the children to toss their ping pong ball across the tape if they would want to trust God in that situation. Lead the children to understand that we can trust God in each and every situation because God has no weaknesses.

- God is complete in Himself and needs nothing.
- We can trust Him in every situation because He has no weaknesses.
- Nothing can stop God from doing what God wants to do.