

BIG TRUTH: GOD CREATED FAMILY

Genesis 1:27-28; Matthew 19:6; Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 4:4-7; Ephesians 5:31-32

BIBLE VERSE: 1 JOHN 3:1

“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God, and so we are.”

BIG IDEAS

- Family is God’s idea and design.
- The Father has created a special family.
- The Father loves His children when they did not deserve it.
- The Father invites us to be a part of His special family.

BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 15:1-6

God chose Abram to be the patriarch, or head of the special family He was going to create. In this narrative God’s covenant or special promise to Abram is that Abram’s descendants will be more numerous than even the stars in the sky. These people would be God’s children, His family.

FOUNDATION: GOD IS FATHER - GOD GIVES A FAMILY

God is our heavenly Father. The Bible teaches that God is three in one. He is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As Father, God rules over all things, is greater than all things, and loves sinful people by sending His one and only Son, Jesus, to die on the cross in our place. God becomes the Father of those who place their faith in Jesus Christ. The Bible tells us that God is the perfect Father who lovingly adopts us into His family through faith in His Son. Because God is Father we can become a part of a new family that will last forever.

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

- God is three in one
- God is the perfect Father

**Every child should feel:**

- Loved by the family at home and church

**Every child should be able to:**

- Pray to the Father in the name of Jesus

**Every child should want:**

- To trust the perfect Father who loves His children

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.

THE FATHER INVITES US TO BE A PART OF HIS SPECIAL FAMILY

Gather some twigs or small branches. Use them to form a tree on a large piece of paper. Draw the outline of leaves coming off of the branches. Help your child fill in the names of family members in their family tree beginning with a grandfather and/or grandmother. Our families are special to us because they love and support us. God's family is special, too.

DISCOVER IT:

Read I John 3:1

THINK ABOUT IT:

The Father loves His children so much that He calls us children. John understood the magnitude of this great gift as he was in great awe at the privilege of being a child of God. Believers have done nothing to merit becoming a child of God. It is solely the Father's love and willing sacrifice of His own Son that allows us to be adopted into the Father's family. What great love the Father has for us that He calls us His children when we least deserve it.

TALK ABOUT IT:

- Why does the Father invite us to be a part of His family? (He loves us so much and desires a relationship with us.)
- How do we become a child of God? (It is by our belief in the work of Jesus Christ that we become children of God.)



Read Genesis 15:1-6 with your child. Talk with them about the special family that God promised to give Abram. Remind them that family is God's idea. Talk with your child about your family.

- Who is part of our family? (Mom, dad, siblings, grandparents, etc.)
- How is our family special? (We love each other and have fun together and we take care of each other.)
- God's family is special too because God created them and He promised to bless them.
- We are part of God's special family because of Jesus.



Take your child outside on a clear night when the stars are really visible. Point out the different stars. Some are brighter than others. Point out constellations if you can. Remind your child that God promised Abram that Abram's descendants would be as numerous as the stars in the sky. Ask your child to count the stars. They are too numerous to count.



Help your child understand that family is God's idea by helping them create a family collage. On a piece of paper help them glue or tape pictures of things that remind them of different family members. Talk with them about how God created our family and families are His design for us.