

**BIG TRUTH: JESUS IS OUR SUBSTITUTE**

**BIBLE VERSE: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:21**

*“For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

**BIG IDEAS**

- All have sinned and are in need of a substitute.
- God sent His Son, Jesus to be our substitute.
- Jesus died in our place.
- Jesus satisfied our sin debt.

**BIBLE STORY: JOHN 19**

God sent His Son to the earth to pay our sin debt. We all owe a sin debt because every person is born with a sin nature and every person sins. Jesus came to the earth and lived a sinless life until He was crucified on the cross. When Jesus was crucified, He took on the sins of the whole world and paid for them by dying. Though He was innocent and not guilty of any sin, He willingly took the place of every person on the cross so we would not have to pay for our sins. Jesus was buried in a borrowed tomb after His death.

**BIG AIMS**



**Every child should know that:**

- All have sinned and are in need of a substitute.
- God sent Jesus to be our substitute.



**Every child should feel:**

- Loved by a God who gave His Son as their substitute.



**Every child should be able to:**

- Explain that all have sinned and God sent His Son.



**Every child should want:**

- The desire to know more about Jesus, who is their substitute.

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.

## JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS

As a family create a “Want Ad” seeking a sinless sacrifice. Help your child think of the many things we need forgiveness for, such as bad attitudes, lying, stealing, disobeying, etc. Remind your child that God provided a sinless sacrifice when He sent Jesus to pay our sin debt.

## BIBLE VERSE: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:21

*“For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

## DISCOVER IT:

Read John 19:16-37.

## THINK ABOUT IT:

Jesus came to this earth and lived a sinless life. He faced all the temptations to sin that we face, but He never sinned. He was wrongfully accused and sentenced to die on the cross. He willingly went to the cross to die for our sins. When He was on the cross, He took on the sins of all the world and He paid the price of our sin---death. He freely gave up His life on the cross and was buried in a tomb by His disciples. He was in the tomb for three days.

## TALK ABOUT IT:

- Who did God send to be our substitute? (He sent His only Son, Jesus.)
- Why do we need a substitute? (We are all sinful and in need of someone to save us.)

**KNOW**

Help your child memorize 2 Corinthians 5:21 by playing bean bag toss with your child. Take turns tossing the beanbag toss. The person who hits the mark gets to say the verse aloud.

**DO**

As a family go on a scavenger hunt to find the following items: a rock, two sticks, something black, something red, something white, and something green. After you find all the items, lead your child in a discussion of what each of them represents using the following guide:

- A Rock---the tomb
- Two sticks—the cross
- Something Black---Sin
- Something Red—blood
- Something White---a clean heart
- Something Green—growing in Christ

**FEEL**

Lead your child through a discussion of how Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again on the third day.

**WANT**

Throughout this week at different mealtimes give your child the option of substituting something they don't like for something they do like. Use this week to allow your child to pick something like candy or a sweet thing that you normally would not allow them to have as often. Remind your child every time that God sent Jesus to be our substitute just like you're allowing them to substitute.

As a family spend time singing praise songs and thanking God for sending His Son to take our place on the cross.