

GOD THE FATHER IS THE REDEEMER

THE STORY: REDEMPTION

BIG TRUTH: GOD THE FATHER IS THE REDEEMER

Psalm 130:7; Isaiah 41:14, 47:4; Romans 3:24; Colossians 1:12; Titus 2:11; 1 Peter 1:21

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”

BIG IDEAS

- The Father loves His enemies.
- The Father provides sacrifice for our sin.
- The Father gives eternal life to those who deserve eternal death.

BIBLE STORY: NUMBERS 21:1-9

The Israelites grumbled against God and complained about His provision for them, even after He gave them victory over their enemies. God loved them even though they were His enemies. He loves us even though we are all born enemies of God because He our Redeemer.

THE STORY

The Story is the good news of the gospel. All of Scripture tells the Story of God the Father’s work to redeem a people from the power of sin through God the Son so that they might live for His glory through the power of the Holy Spirit. During this series we will explore the four main movements of the Story of God, and our response to the life-altering Gospel Story!

BIG AIMS



KNOW

Every child should know that:

- God is the author, subject, and hero of the gospel story
- Salvation comes by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone



DO

Every child should strive to:

- Describe the gospel message through Creation, Fall, Redemption, and New Creation
- Memorize the Bible verse each week



FEEL

Every child should feel:

- Brokenness over the depth of our sin against God
- Joy in Jesus, our Savior and King



WANT

Every child should want:

- To study the Bible so that they can better understand God’s story of redemption
- To share the gospel story with those who are separated from God in their sin

FAMILY DEVOTION: THE FATHER REDEEMER

God is our heavenly Father and He is our Redeemer. We cannot redeem ourselves because of our sinfulness, but God steps in as our Father and provides the sacrifice for our sin.

GUIDE 6

THE STORY: REDEMPTION

GOD THE FATHER IS THE REDEEMER



P

BIBLE VERSE: JOHN 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”

God loves all of the earth.

“For God so loved the world...”

- Not only is God the Creator of all things, but He is the Father of all things. He is the heavenly Father who rules and reigns over all the earth. As the Father, God’s love is perfectly displayed to the earth in His care and sustaining of life on earth. God loves His creation and every person.
- God does not just love part of creation, or only those who follow Him. He loves all people and all of His created things. He loves perfectly and displays His love perfectly and righteously.

God provided redemption to the world.

“...that He gave His only Son...”

- Because we are all sinful, we cannot redeem ourselves. We are all in need of redemption. God provided this redemption for the world when He sent Jesus to the world.
- Jesus took on human flesh and lived the perfect life that no person could live. Jesus died in our place on the cross because it was God’s way of redeeming the world. God sacrificed on our behalf because He is a good and perfect God.

God’s provision is complete and satisfactory.

“that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”

- When God provided the necessary sacrifice for our sins, His provision was perfect. God’s sacrifice on our behalf was satisfactory to pay our sin debt.
- God’s redemption of the world through Jesus’ death on the cross was complete. There is no additional sacrifice or payment needed because Jesus’ death fully paid for man’s sin.

BIBLE STORY: NUMBERS 21:1-9

God Loves His Enemies

Opening Illustration:

Use streamers, craft sticks, and glue to help the preschoolers create serpents on a staff. Help the preschoolers cut the streamers in the shape of a snake. Use glue or tape to attach the streamer to the end of a craft stick. Share with the children how Moses made a bronze serpent to save the Israelites from the fiery serpents who were attacking them.



BIG IDEA: THE FATHER LOVES HIS ENEMIES.¹

God loves everyone perfectly.

- Love is from God because He is the beginning of all things.
- We know how to love because God first loved us. He is perfect because He is without sin and He is fully righteous and holy. His love is perfect and the way He loves even His enemies is perfect.
- He loves all people, even those who reject Him forever. His love is unfailing and never ends. Just as He loved the Israelites even though they grumbled against Him, He loves us.



Help the preschoolers define the word “enemies” and tell them that being an enemy is being a “bad guy”. Help them name some “bad guys” from the cartoons or movies they might watch and point out what makes them “bad guys.” As you talk with them, discuss the ways that God loves His enemies and how we are all His enemies because we are all sinful.

God’s love is unconditional.

- God does not love like man. Man’s love is conditional and imperfect. God’s love is unconditional. He does not wait for us to love Him before loving us and showing us that He loves us. He does not stop loving us when we disobey Him or sin against Him.
- His love is steadfast and faithful. His love endures even through our rejection and rebellion against Him. He continues to love us always.

God’s love is sacrificial.

- God’s love is sacrificial. He gives us Himself even to those who hate Him. God gave salvation to the Israelites even though they grumbled and spoke against Him. We know how to love sacrificially because God has first loved us sacrificially.
- God shows His love with the ultimate sacrifice through His Son, Jesus. He gave Jesus, His perfect Son, to live the life we could not live and die the death we deserve.

How does God love His enemies? (He loves the world and we are all sinners and enemies of God.)

1. Romans 5:10: God loves us even while we are His enemies.

GOD THE FATHER IS
THE REDEEMER**BIG IDEA: THE FATHER PROVIDED THE SACRIFICE FOR OUR SIN.²****We are all sinful and are unable to save ourselves.**

- Every person is born with a sin nature. This means that we do not naturally seek God or desire to obey His Word. Instead, we naturally seek to please ourselves and this leads us to sin against God. Even at a very young age, we break God's law. We focus on ourselves and do not follow God.
- Because we are all sinful, we are unable to save ourselves. There is no person who can live a good enough life to save himself or herself. We can't even be a sacrifice for others. Because of our sin, the payment is a sinless sacrifice. No one is able to do that because no one is sinless.



Have the preschoolers name some of the things their parents help them do, such as brush their teeth, comb their hair, put on their clothes, fix their meals, etc. Talk with them about how they depend upon their parents for these things. We need God to help us by saving us because we cannot save ourselves.

Our sin requires a perfect sacrifice.

- God declared that the payment for our sin is a sinless sacrifice. This means that a sinless person would have to die for our sin because the wage of sin is death.
- Our sin requires that this perfect sacrifice be made in order for us to be set free from our sin debt. Just like the Israelites had to look at a bronze serpent in order to be saved from the fiery serpents, we needed a perfect person to die for our sin.

God provided the payment for our sin.

- We couldn't save ourselves, but God could. He provided the perfect sacrifice for our sin. He sent Jesus, His only Son, to live the perfect life that we could not live.
- Jesus lived the perfect life on earth, taking on human flesh to be like us and then He died on the cross in our place. He was the perfect sacrifice necessary to pay for our sin.

How did God provide the right sacrifice for our sin? (He sent Jesus, His only Son, to live the perfect life and die in our place.)

2. Genesis 3:18-19: Creation no longer willingly yielded food for mankind after they sinned. Life would be difficult on earth as a result of sin.

3. Romans 5:12: It is through the sin of Adam that sin and death entered God's created world.

4. Romans 8:19-23: The natural world groans for the return of Christ when He will make all things new.



BIG IDEA: THE FATHER GIVES ETERNAL LIFE TO THOSE WHO DESERVE ETERNAL DEATH.³

Because of our sin, we all deserve eternal death.

- When the Israelites grumbled against God, their punishment was death. They were plagued by the fiery serpents whose bites would send them to their death. When Adam and Eve sinned, death entered the world. Our sin deserves death. Because of sin, we die a physical death, but we are also spiritually dead.
- Those who do not believe in Jesus as Savior will experience death for all of eternity. Because God is life and our sin separates us from Him, spending eternity separated from God is a never-ending death.



Play a game of ring toss with the preschoolers. You can use small caution cones, empty plastic bottles, or some other small item that the children could toss a ring onto. Let the children take turns tossing the rings. Instead of giving the preschooler who actually tosses a ring onto the container a prize, give the preschooler who misses them all. Talk with them about how we all deserve separation from God, but instead, God gives us life through Jesus.

God alone is the way to redemption.

- When the Israelites were attacked by the fiery serpents, the only way they could be saved was by looking at the bronze serpent. There was no other way for them to save themselves. For us, the only way to be redeemed from our sin is through God.
- We can only be saved through faith in Jesus as the Savior of the world. We can't be good enough or find another way to be reconciled to God. God alone is the giver of redemption because He alone is the Redeemer.

When we repent and believe, we receive eternal life.

- God's salvation for us is through His Son Jesus. When we repent of our sin and believe that Jesus died for us, we receive eternal life. This means we are no longer separated from God by our sin. Instead, we are reconciled to Him forever. Even when we die physically, we will be with God for all of eternity.
- If we die having rejected God's offer of redemption, we will receive eternal death. God offers His redemption to those who believe.

How does God give us eternal life? (When we repent and believe in Jesus, we are forgiven of our sin debt and no longer separated from God.)

3. John 3:16: God provided eternal life to those who believe in Jesus as Savior.

GOD THE FATHER IS THE REDEEMER



HOOKS



KNOW

Who's the Redeemer?

Gather the preschoolers into a circle. Have them close their eyes and then tap one child on the head. Next, have the all the children open their eyes and try to guess who the "redeemer" is, or who was tapped on the head. The child who is tapped on the head has to not give it away. Play this several times, then talk with the children about how God the Father is the Redeemer.



DO

- We can't save ourselves because we are all sinners.
- God made a way for us to be saved.
- He sent Jesus to die in our place and when we believe in Him, we can have eternal life with God.



FEEL

Friend or Foe

Bring in pictures of different animals, such as a picture of a dog, cat, tiger, bear, snake, etc. Show the pictures to the preschoolers and ask them to call out "friend" or "foe" when you hold up a picture. Talk with them about what makes each animal friendly or dangerous. Then talk with them about how we are all enemies of God because of our sin and we should feel thankful that God still loves us.



WANT

- An enemy is someone who works against someone else. We are enemies of God because of our sin.
- We reject God and His way. We rebel against Him and choose our own way instead.

A Redemption Prayer

Gather the preschoolers together to pray. Lead them in praying for God to help them to see their own sinfulness and need for Jesus. Pray over them, thanking God for making a way for us all to have eternal life if we believe in Jesus.