

GOD'S CHURCH EXISTS TO MAKE HIM KNOWN

BIG TRUTH: GOD'S CHURCH EXISTS TO MAKE HIM KNOWN

Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 28:18-20; Ephesians 4:11-13; Colossians 1:28; Matthew 5:16; Acts 1:8; Romans 10:11-15

BIBLE VERSE: 1 PETER 2:9-10

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

BIG IDEAS

- The church is a royal priesthood.
- The church is a holy people.
- The church exists to proclaim God's glory.

BIBLE STORY: ACTS 4

In the early days of the church, Peter, John, and the other disciples preached the truth of the gospel boldly, even when it meant they endangered their lives. The early church served one another and ministered to each other and others. God's church is set apart for His glory. It exists for His purposes and is made holy by Him for Him.

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



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



Every child should feel:

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



Every child should strive to:

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



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

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A HOLY PEOPLE

Create a scavenger hunt for your preschooler that includes things with holes. Use pictures as a guide to help your preschooler find things with holes in your house. Once the scavenger hunt is finished, talk with them about how God's people, His church, are a holy people because they are set apart and made righteous through Jesus.

DISCOVER IT: (Use the passage to illustrate the Big Truth.)

Acts 4.

THINK ABOUT IT: (Use the commentary to reinforce the Big Truth.)

After Jesus' resurrection and ascension, or return to Heaven, the early church began. Jesus' disciples and followers began fulfilling His command to take the gospel into the world. Early believers gathered together to encourage one another and to share the gospel with others. Peter and John, two of Jesus' disciples, were on their way into the temple one day when they encountered a man who had been lame for a long time. They healed the lame man and shared the gospel of Jesus to those around him. This angered the Sadducees and ultimately resulted in Peter and John being arrested. Though Peter and John were imprisoned, many people who had heard the truth about Jesus after they healed the lame beggar believed the gospel and were saved. Peter and John were released from prison and the early church gathered to care for them and one another. The early church loved one another sacrificially and boldly proclaimed the gospel to those who had not yet believed. The early church continued to grow and grows even today. God's church exists for His purposes. He has set apart His church as His holy people, making them righteous through the blood of Jesus. The church exists to make God known to the world. It is a holy people and a royal priesthood, meaning that members of the body of Christ are called to love one another with a Godly love and to go into the world telling others what Jesus has done for the world.

TALK ABOUT IT: (Use the questions to discuss the Big Truth)

- What is the purpose of God's church? (The church's purpose is to make God known in the world by sharing the gospel and caring for one another.)
- How did the early church fulfill its purpose? (They shared the gospel boldly and cared for one another faithfully.)



KNOW

Help your child memorize 1 Peter 2:9-10 by creating a puzzle from the verses. Write the verses on a piece of paper and then cut the paper into puzzle pieces. Take turns putting the puzzle together and saying the verses out loud together..



DO

Help your preschoolers plan a special meal for a neighbor or close friend. Allow your preschooler to help you prepare it and deliver it. Talk with your preschooler about how the church exists to help one another and to bring God glory by serving and loving one another.



FEEL

Each morning this week, pray with your child to understand that the church exists to bring God glory and make Him known in the world.



WANT