

THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

SUMMER: FOUNDATIONS

BIG TRUTH: THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

Deuteronomy 4:35, 4:39; 1 Kings 8:60, 1 Corinthians 8:4; Ephesians 4:6; Jude 25

BIBLE VERSE: DEUTERONOMY 6:4

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

BIG IDEAS

- God is one. There is only one God. There are no other gods.
- There is no being like God. He is the most powerful, smartest, controlling force in existence.
- Since there is only one God, He is the most important being—past, present, and future.

BIBLE STORY: EXODUS 32-33

God is the only God and He alone deserves and should be worshiped. The Israelites disobey God when they create a golden calf as an idol. God reminds them that He alone is the true God and the most important being in existence.

FOUNDATION: GOD IS

“God is” means that there is only one god in the universe. He alone is Lord over everything that exists, and He alone is worthy of our worship. This also means that every good thing that exists comes from God. All good things come from Him because goodness is a part of who He is as the one true God. It is a part of His nature and character to be good, and everything that comes from God is good. Thankfully God has not chosen to withhold His goodness from His creation, but instead gives it freely to us.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- There is only one true God, and He is good.
- We can know God because He has made Himself known through creation and Word.
- God alone is our source of life and joy.



Every child should feel:

- Loved by God, and thankful for His love for us.
- Broken over the depth of our sin against God.
- Joy in Jesus, the only Son of God who came to save us.



Every child should strive to:

- Memorize the Bible verse each week about who God is.
- Pray that God would open their hearts and minds to know Him more.
- Tell someone else about the God who is.



Every child should want:

- Learn more about the God who has made Himself known.
- Repent of their sin and of the lies they believe about God.
- Cling to God as the source of truth.

FAMILY DEVOTION: THERE IS NONE LIKE GOD

God is the most important being ever. He alone is God and He is unique in His power, control, and greatness. He alone deserves our worship and service.

BIBLE VERSE: DEUTERONOMY 6:4

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

There is only one God.

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

- There are many false gods in the world and there were many in the ancient world when Moses lived and led the Israelites. These false gods are fake and powerless. They can do nothing to help people who worship them because they aren't real. Even today there are false gods we call idols, like money, material things, and even other people, but they are useless to help anyone.
- God, the God of the Bible is the only true God. He alone is God. There are no other gods. He is true and real and He alone rules over all things. He doesn't even compare to the false idols that people create. The Israelites created a golden calf as a false idol when they create impatient waiting for Moses to return from Mt. Sinai, but this golden calf was useless to them.

God's people should only worship Him.

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

- Because God is one, this means He is exclusive. There is no one like Him and He alone is worthy of all of our worship. He was worthy of the Israelites' worship, but they rejected Him and chose a false god instead. He taught them that their created god was fake when Moses destroyed the golden calf and the people suffered the consequence of their rebellion.
- God is still the only one worthy of our worship and praise because He is the only God. Even though people create false gods, God alone deserves to be praised and to have our complete adoration. He is our only God.

No one is like God.

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

- Because God alone is one, He is the only Lord and Savior of the world. No one else is like God. He is unique and He alone is Savior. There is no other Lord. Though people may create false gods and worship idols in their hearts, there really is only one Lord and that is the true God.
- God alone is the only one who can offer everlasting hope to anyone. He alone is the only hope of His people and the world. When Israel worshiped the golden calf, only God could save them from their own rebellion. He alone is the one true ruler of all.

BIBLE STORY: EXODUS 32-33

The Golden Calf

Opening Illustration:

Divide the children into small groups and give each group a box or container of crayons. Ask the children to separate the crayons according to their color. Make sure that in each container of crayons there is only one of a certain color. Once the children separate the crayons, point out that there is only one of a particular color. Tell the children that there is only one God. He is not like any other thing or person. He is the only God.

BIG IDEA: GOD IS ONE. THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD. THERE ARE NO OTHER GODS.¹**There is only one true God.**

- God's people the Israelites rejected God as their true God. They chose to create a fake god instead of remaining true to God.
- The Israelites asked Aaron to make them a god while Moses was with God on the mountain top. Aaron took their gold jewelry and made a golden calf.
- Though Aaron had created the golden calf himself, the people treated it as if it were a true God. It was fake and not even alive.
- The people worshiped it and danced around it, sinning against the one true God.
- God is the only God. He alone is One and there are no others.



Instruct the children draw pictures to re-tell the story of the golden calf. Remind the children that there is only one God as they draw their picture stories.

All other gods are false.

- The Israelites created false gods. They made a calf out of gold. They called it a god and worshiped it as if it were a god, but it was just a calf made from gold.
- We create fake gods too. We worship, or praise a material thing instead of worshiping the true God.
- There is only one God. He is the true God. There are no other gods.

God alone is Lord and Savior.

- Even though the Israelites had placed their trust in a fake god, that god could not help them. They just danced around it and sinned even more against the true God.
- God is the only Lord of His people. He is the only Savior. There is no one else who can help His people or rule over them.
- Only the God of the Bible is real and lasts forever. Only He can give us real hope that lasts forever.

Who is the only true God? (The only true God is the God of the Bible. All other things we call god are fake and not real.)

1. Deuteronomy 6:4: God is the only true God. There are no other gods.

BIG IDEA: THERE IS NO BEING LIKE GOD. HE IS THE MOST POWERFUL, SMARTEST, CONTROLLING FORCE IN EXISTENCE.²

God is unique.

- To be unique means to be one of a kind and not like anything or anyone else. To be unique means to be special and set apart from all other things and people.
- God is one of a kind. He is not like anything or anyone else.
- He is the only God and He alone has all the power and greatness of God.
- The Israelites forgot this truth when they decided to create their own god out of gold.
- They forgot that there isn't anyone like God. Only He can move mountains, cause the sea to stop raging, calm the storm, and offer salvation.



Instruct the children name some of the powerful people they know, such as their parents, a teacher, a principal, a friend, etc. Talk through what makes these people powerful. Next, ask the children if these people can make the sun stop shining or cause it to rain. Remind the children that only God is more powerful than anything and only He can control all things.

God is the most powerful being.

- In their sinful impatience, the Israelites forgot how truly powerful God is.
- They traded the most powerful being for a powerless created object that couldn't help them at all.
- Instead of worshiping the one being with all of the power, they worshiped a fake cow that wasn't even alive.
- God is more powerful than anything or anything.
- He is the one true God who created all things and holds all things together with His power.

God alone knows all and controls all.

- Not only does God have all of the power, He knows all things because He is sovereign over all. This means that He knows everything and controls everything.
- There is nothing outside of God's control or power. No one or thing is more powerful than God.
- The Israelites learned this truth when Moses destroyed the fake god they had created. The one true God can never be defeated or destroyed because He controls all things.

Who is like the one true God? (No one is as powerful or like the one true God.)

2. Jeremiah 10:6: *There is none like God. He is the only one in existence because He is one.*

BIG IDEA: SINCE THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD, HE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT BEING—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.³

Because God is the only God, He is the most important.

- God is one, which means He is the only one. He is one of a kind and there is no one like Him.
- No one or thing is as important as God.
- God is majestic and wonderful. He is unlike anything else we know.
- He is so grand, we cannot really ever fully understand His greatness because we have nothing to compare it to.
- He is so wonderful, we can only know in a little way how wonderful He is.

God's eternal nature makes Him important.

- God has no beginning and no end. He alone is uniquely eternal.
- Though His people will experience eternity, they are not like God because they all have a beginning.
- God has always been and He will always be. This is His majesty. This is His greatness.
- He is too lofty for us to really comprehend and that makes Him the most important being ever.

God alone is the greatest of all time and all beings.

- God is Creator. All things begin with Him and come from Him.
- He sustains all life and is the Author of every story. He is God, the Ruler and Lord of all things.
- The world and people are His creations and they therefore belong to Him.
- When we create something, it belongs to us and we are greater than it because we are the ones who made it.
- The same is true with God. He is the greatest because He is the beginning of everything.

What makes God the greatest being of all? (All things come from Him because He is the beginning of all things.)



Give the children a piece of paper and some markers. Ask them to draw pictures of some of their favorite toys or people. Next, ask the children to rank the things they drew pictures of in order from most important to least important. Talk through how we all have things that are more important to us than other things. Remind them that God is the most important being ever of all time forever.

3. 1 Chronicles 17:20: *There is no one like God. He alone is unique and is the only true God.*

HOOKS



KNOW

Who Is God?

Write the following verses on the board and read them to the children:

Zephaniah 3:17, Psalm 145:3, Psalm 95:3, and 1 Chronicles 29:11. Read these verses to the children and ask them what they say about God. Talk with them about how they tell us how great God is and how He is unlike anyone else. They show us that He is the most important being of all.



DO

One of a Kind

Instruct the children take turns sitting in a chair in front of the rest of the children. Ask the children to name one thing about the child sitting in the chair that is unique to them. Help them point out things such as hair color, freckles, an article of clothing, etc. Allow the children to take turns sitting in the chair if they want. Discuss with them how we each have some things that are unique, but we are all boys and girls. Remind them that God is one of a kind because He is the only God. There is no one else like Him. This makes Him the most important being of all.



FEEL

A God Of All Knowledge

Lead the children in a time of prayer. During this time of prayer, pray for the children to understand that God is the one true God and has all knowledge and control. Ask the Holy Spirit to help them grow in their understanding of who God is.



WANT