

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS SAVIOR

Isaiah 45:21-22; Psalm 3:8; 35:9-10; Ephesians 1:7; Titus 2:13; 1 John 4:14; Jude 1:25

BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 43:11

"I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no Savior."

BIG IDEAS

- God fights for His people.
- God rescues His people.
- Jesus is the Savior of the world.

BIBLE STORY: 1 SAMUEL 17

The Israelites faced the Philistines and couldn't defeat them. God used a shepherd boy named David to defeat the giant Goliath and to save the Israelites from the Philistines. God is the Savior of the world.

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.
- 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 be able 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 a truth about God each week.

**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.

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.

GOD FIGHTS FOR US

Use cardboard to create a sword for your child. Ask your child to help you create the sword by decorating it and wrapping it in construction paper or aluminum foil. As you create the sword talk with your child about how God fights for us. He is our Warrior. He rescues us and is our Savior.

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

1 Samuel 17.

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

Life can be really hard sometimes. We can face many enemies and hard times. God's people, the Israelites faced some hard times. When they were being led by King Saul, they were facing a nation called the Philistines. The Philistines were mighty, and the Israelites couldn't defeat them by themselves. They tried to defeat them, but they could not. The Philistines even had a mighty man, a giant named Goliath who challenged the Israelites. This giant said if they sent out one of their warriors, he would fight him and defeat the whole nation. None of the Israelite soldiers wanted to fight Goliath. God knew His people were struggling. He is always aware of all things because He is all-knowing. David, a young Israelite shepherd boy, was sent by his father to the battle camp to see how his brothers were doing. When he got to the camp, he heard and saw their trouble. He volunteered to fight Goliath. He wasn't afraid to fight the giant, not because he thought he was so much stronger and a better soldier than anyone else. He trusted God and knew that the battle belonged to the Lord. David had great faith in God's power to win the battle. At first the Israelites didn't want David to fight the battle, but they eventually let him. He went out against Goliath and fought him with a slingshot and five stones. God used David to defeat Goliath and the Philistines. That day God won the battle for the Israelites. He showed them that He is the One who fights for them. Because He used a young shepherd boy and not some mighty warrior, there was no denying that it was God who was doing the fighting. God is our Savior. He fights for us and rescues us. He sent Jesus to save us from our sin and He alone is the Savior of the world. Just like God rescued the Israelites from Goliath, He rescued the world when He sent Jesus to die on the cross.

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

- Why did the Israelites need to be rescued? (They were fighting the Philistines and couldn't defeat them.)
- Who did God use to defeat Goliath? (God used David, a young shepherd boy.)



As a family, memorize Isaiah 43:11 by writing the verse on a posterboard and hanging it up in your kitchen or somewhere it can be easily seen. Review the verse each day until your child has learned it.



Blow up two balloons and have a pretend sword fight using the balloons as swords. After you play this game, discuss with your child the truth that God is our Rescuer and He fights for us. Remind them that He fights our battles.



Throughout the week this week point out the ways that God fights for us. Share some of the ways that God has fought for your family and provided for you. Help your child see some of the small ways and big ways that He provides and fights for them.



Spend time praying with your child this week. Thank God for being our Savior.