

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS GRACIOUS

Exodus 33:19; 34:6; 2 Chronicles 30:9; Nehemiah 9:31; Isaiah 30:18; Ephesians 2:7-8; Romans 3:24; 5:2; 6:23; Titus 2:11

BIBLE VERSE: EPHESIANS 1:7

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace"

BIG IDEAS

- God gives His people what they do not deserve.
- We are saved by God's grace.
- We are sealed by God's grace.

BIBLE STORY: EPHESIANS 1:1-17

God is a kind and loving God. He is gracious and gives us what we do not deserve. He sent Jesus to save us, and He chose us to be His sons and daughters. He calls us His children because of His love and kindness for us.

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 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 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 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'S LAVISH GRACE

Choose a day to fix all of your child's favorite foods or to participate in all of your child's favorite activities. As you go about your day, tell your child that you are lavishing grace on them. Tell them that God lavishes His grace upon us by sending His Son to die for us.

DISCOVER IT: *(Use the passage to illustrate the Big Truth.)*
Ephesians 1:1-17.

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

Paul was a follower of Jesus. He helped to start many churches and he wrote many letters to those churches to help them know how to live for Jesus. In his letter to the Ephesian church, he reminded them of the lavish grace of God in their lives. He wrote to them about God's grace in choosing all believers before even the heavens and earth were created. God knew from the beginning that He would save the world. He knew Jesus would be the Savior of the world. God sent Jesus to save the world even though the world was so sinful. God still offers this salvation now even though the world is still sinful. People still reject God and don't want to follow Him. A lot of people even deny He exists, yet God shows grace to them. Grace is when we get something we do not deserve. Jesus dying in our place and offering us forgiveness and redemption is the grace of God. We can't earn this grace, nor do we deserve it. God's grace doesn't stop there. He gives the Holy Spirit to every person who believes in Him. The Holy Spirit is a gift to those who believe in God. He seals God's redeemed people and keeps them. The Holy Spirit is our Helper and guide. He helps us live for God in this life. God's grace is available daily to His people so we can live for Him in this world as we wait for Christ's return. God is so, so gracious to us.

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

- What is grace? (Grace is receiving something we do not deserve.)
- How is God gracious? (He sent Jesus to save us and gives us the Holy Spirit to guide us.)



As a family, memorize Ephesians 1:7 by writing the verse in finger paint on a piece of paper and saying the verse out loud as you write it.



Create treat bags for your neighbors and friends as a way to lavish them with grace and kindness. Tell your child that you are showing grace and kindness to your friends. Tell them that God lavishes His grace on us by sending Jesus to pay our sin debt.



Share with your child some ways you have seen God's grace in your life. Tell your child that God is gracious and shows grace to us when we do not deserve it.



Spend time singing praise songs as a family this week. Tell your child that God is gracious and adopts us into His family.