

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS POWERFUL

Jeremiah 10:12; 27:5; Isaiah 40:26; 44:24; Matthew 8:27; Deuteronomy 3:22-24; Psalm 27:1; Isaiah 41:4-5; 2 Chronicles 32:7-8; John 16:33; Ephesians 1:21; 1 Corinthians 15:55-57

BIBLE VERSE: JEREMIAH 32:17

"Ah, Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you."

BIG IDEAS

- God is more powerful than creation.
- God is more powerful than our fears.
- God is more powerful than death.

BIBLE STORY: JOHN 11

When Jesus' friend, Lazarus, became very sick and died, Jesus taught Lazarus' sisters and His followers a great truth about Himself and the hope He had brought to the world. Jesus is more powerful than creation, death, and our fears. He brings life and overcomes death.

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.

GREATER THAN DEATH

Talk with your child about how death is a consequence of our sin and it is part of life. Remind them that we cannot overcome death on our own, but God is not bound by death. Remind them that God is greater than death.

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

John 11.

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

Jesus had three friends He was very close with, Lazarus, Mary, and Martha. Jesus loved them and they loved Him. Jesus spent time with them. When Jesus was ministering somewhere away from Lazarus, Mary, and Martha, Lazarus became very sick. He was so sick, his sisters sent for Jesus to come to them. They were afraid for Lazarus' life. Jesus received the news of Lazarus' illness, but He didn't immediately leave. Instead, He decided to wait two days before going to them. In the two days that Jesus waited to leave, Lazarus died and was buried. Jesus then traveled to His friends' home. Mary and Martha were very sad that their brother had died, especially because they knew that Jesus could have saved his life. When they saw Jesus, they both told Him they knew He had the power to save Lazarus' life if He'd only been there. Jesus wasn't surprised by Lazarus' death. He knew he was going to die, but He also knew that He had great power over death. Jesus had a lesson to teach His friends and the world. He raised Lazarus from the dead by calling him from the grave. It was one of Jesus' greatest miracles on earth. Many people couldn't believe that Lazarus got up from the grave. Jesus taught the people that He had great power and He especially had power over death. God is powerful and He has power over death. He has power over creation and our fears. We do not have to fear or worry. God controls all things.

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

- Why did Lazarus die? (He grew very sick.)
- What did Jesus show the world about Himself? (He showed them His power over death.)



As a family, memorize Jeremiah 32:17 by playing Hangman. Use the verse as the puzzle for Hangman. Review the verse daily to help them learn the verse.



Throughout the week point out the different things in life that we do not control, such as the traffic lights, the sun shining, when it gets dark, etc. Tell your child that we do not control these things, but God controls all things. He is all-powerful.



Throughout the week point out the ways that God is more powerful than our fears. Point out different things that we might be afraid of when you notice them, such as heights, the dark, deep water, etc. Remind your child that God is more powerful than our fears.



Spend time praying with your child this week. Thank God for being more powerful than our fears.