

4TH GRADE GUIDE 6

GOD IS SATISFIED FOUNDATION: GOD IS

BIG TRUTH: GOD IS SATISFIED

Isaiah 66:1; 45:22-25; Jeremiah 9:24; Leviticus 1:3-4; Romans 3:23-25; Colossians 1:12; Galatians 3:11-13

BIBLE VERSE: ACTS 17:25

nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

BIG IDEAS

- God is completely satisfied in Himself.
- God does not need us, yet He cares for us.
- God is satisfied through His substitute.

BIBLE STORY: 2 SAMUEL 7

When David experienced rest from his enemies, he noticed that the Ark of the Covenant did not have a house to be placed in. God spoke to David through the prophet, Nathan and told David that He did not need David to build Him a house. Instead, He would build David's house and from that house, the Savior would come.

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.

FAMILY DEVOTION: GOD IS SATISFIED

We all need a Savior and God made a way for us to be saved. He is satisfied through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Jesus is our substitute.



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BIBLE VERSE: ACTS 17:25

nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

God has complete authority in Himself.

“nor is he served by human hands...”

- God cannot be served by humans, because He is fully complete in Himself. He is completely full and completely satisfied in Himself and who He is.
- There is nothing outside of God that can add to God.

God does not need or lack anything.

“...as though he needed anything...”

- Because God is satisfied in Himself, there is nothing that He needs or lacks. It is not simply that He already has all of His needs supplied or that He has an unlimited supply of the things that He needs. Instead, He does not ever need anything. He exists fully and completely within Himself.

God is the Author of all creation.

“...since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.”

- Since God is fully satisfied in Himself and there is nothing outside of Him that can add to Him, everything that is outside of God comes from Him.
- Everything that exists has been created from God and is also sustained by God.
- Everything that we see and experience in our world comes from God.

BIBLE STORY: 2 SAMUEL 7*God's Covenant With David*

Supporting Scripture: Acts 17:5; Matthew 6:30; John 3:16

Teacher Introduction:

After God allowed David to have rest from his enemies, David acknowledged that he had a house to live in, but the Ark of the Covenant did not. As he pondered these things, the Lord, through the prophet, Nathan¹ told David that He did not need David to build Him a house. God does not need anything from man, not even a man like King David. Instead, God made a covenant with David. God promised to build David's house and to make it great. He promised that David's house, or lineage, would last forever and from it would come the One who would save the world. In this covenant, God showed David and everyone else His power and completeness. It's easy for us to think that God needs us to serve Him. We may think He needs us to prepare a place for Him or to carry out His plans, but God does not need us. Just as God taught David through His covenant with him, God's plans are accomplished through God's power and by His purposes. God's plans for David were so much greater than any plan David could have come up with for God or even for himself. The same is true for us. God is completely satisfied in Himself and doesn't need us. He loves us and chooses to use us for His purposes.

Teaching Guide:

The guide below is provided to help you teach the story: God's Covenant With David. The three points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share from 2 Samuel 7 and teach the truth that God is Satisfied. Footnotes are provided for further study of the text and God's interaction with His people. Throughout the lesson questions are placed to help you guide the children to think about and process the truth that God is Satisfied.

Opening Illustration:

Gather a group of pictures of different snack foods. Ask the children to sit in a circle and show them the pictures of snack foods. Ask the children if the food is satisfying or not. Once you go through each of the foods, tell them that God is fully satisfied in Himself.

1. 2 Samuel 7: God used the prophet Nathan to instruct David not to build Him a temple. Nathan instructed David to not build a temple, but instead told David that God would build David's house into a mighty house that would yield the Messiah one day.

BIG IDEA: GOD IS COMPLETELY SATISFIED IN HIMSELF.²**God is complete in Himself.**

- When we are satisfied, we are content and do not need anything else. When something is complete, it is whole and not missing any part.
- God is complete. He is whole in Himself. He is not missing anything or anyone.
- We are not like Him. We are born with a broken relationship with Him. We are born needing Him and needing to be reconciled to Him.



Divide the children into groups and ask them to name some things that are really satisfying to them, such as their favorite snacks, beverages, or toys. Tell them that God is completely satisfied in Himself. He doesn't need outside things to be satisfied.

God is never dissatisfied in Himself.

- As people, we will feel dissatisfied with ourselves and with others. We will find dissatisfaction in life.
- God is not dissatisfied with Himself. He is completely satisfied in Himself because He is perfect and holy.
- To be perfect and holy and is to be without sin and to be set apart. God is the only Being who is perfect and set apart. There is no one like Him.
- He exists as one God in three persons and finds complete satisfaction in His three persons.

God created the heavens and earth because He chose to, not because He was dissatisfied.

- When God created the heavens and the earth, He did so because He wanted to do so. He was not in need or dissatisfied with His current situation. He was not unhappy.
- He did not feel like He was lacking anything. It was part of His plan to create the heavens and earth, so He did.
- We cannot wrongly assume that God made the earth because He was unhappy or dissatisfied.

Why is God completely satisfied in Himself? (He is perfect and holy and has all that He needs.)

2. Acts 17:5: God is not served by us; He is completely satisfied in Himself.

BIG IDEA: GOD DOES NOT NEED US, YET HE CARES FOR US.³**God does not need anything from mankind.**

- We always need something. We are humans and we are always in need of something, such as air, food, water, and clothes.
- God is not like us. He never needs anything from us. He doesn't need us to provide anything for Him.
- There is nothing that man can give to God because God is complete in Himself.
- Because of this, God has all that He needs in Himself.



Ask the children to stand in one spot. Next, ask them to stand on one leg. Once they are on one leg, tell them to walk on their one leg to the opposite side of the room. After they try to do this, tell them that we need both of our legs to walk smoothly and without falling. Remind them that God doesn't need us. Tell them He cares very much for us.

God is not dependent upon mankind.

- Not only does God not need anything from man, but He is not dependent upon him either.
- God does not depend upon us to serve Him.
- God can accomplish His purposes with or without us. God does not need man to make His name famous in the world, but He chooses to use man to do so.

God cares for His people and chooses to use them.

- Even though God does not need people, He still cares for them.
- He uses people because of His love for them. He cares for them and uses them to fulfill His purposes because it is what is best for them.
- When we serve God, it is what is best for us, not what is best for God.
- God's work in our lives is what helps us. Our service and sacrifice for God is about us becoming more like Him. It's not about us helping God or enabling His purpose or mission to go forth. God can carry out His mission without us.

Why does God use His people for His purposes? (He uses His people for His purposes because He cares about them and it is what is best for them.)

3. Matthew 6:30: God cares for us, but He does not need us.

BIG IDEA: GOD IS SATISFIED THROUGH HIS SUBSTITUTE.⁴**God provides a substitute for the world.**

- Every person is born with a sin nature that leads them to sin against God. We all are in need of salvation.
- The wages of our sin is death. In 2 Samuel 7, God makes a covenant with King David to build David's house and from that house there would come the One who would save the world.
- From David's lineage, Jesus is born and He is the Messiah, or Savior of the world. He is the One who paid the sin debt that we all owe.
- God provided a sacrifice for the sin of the world when He sent Jesus to die on the cross.



Give the children a blank piece of paper and ask them to write a prayer to God thanking Him for being satisfied through Jesus' substitution for us

Jesus' death on the cross paid our sin debt.

- Jesus came to earth and lived a sinless life. He took on human flesh and lived the life that we could not. He was perfect and sinless.
- Because of this, He could go to the cross and die the death that we all deserve to die.
- God looked on Jesus' death and was satisfied with it as payment for our sin.
- Jesus' death was enough to pay our sin debt and set us free to have forgiveness.

God is satisfied with our sin debt through Jesus.

- When we have saving faith in Jesus, we repent of our sin and believe in Jesus as our Savior. This sets us free from our sin nature and reconciles us to God.
- God enables this to happen because of the death of Jesus on the cross. Because of our substitute, we are free to live for God.

Why is God satisfied through Jesus? (Jesus lived a perfect and holy life on earth and paid our sin debt.)

4. John 3:16: God satisfied our sin debt through the death of Jesus on the cross.

HOOKS

**A Satisfying Answer**

Hide several crayons or markers behind your back. Give the children an opportunity to guess which crayon or marker is in your hand. If a child guesses correctly, tell them that they have given a “satisfying answer”. Play this game several times. Tell the children that we are always wanting things and feeling dissatisfied, but God is completely satisfied in Himself.

**An Acceptable Substitute**

Gather the children in a circle and ask them to name some of their favorite foods. Once they each name a favorite food, ask them if they would substitute their favorite food for another food, such as broccoli, onions, green beans, etc. Talk with them about what substitutes are and tell them that Jesus is our substitute. God is satisfied through Jesus’ death on the cross.

**Completely Whole**

Lead the children in a time of praise and worship. Sing songs that praise God for being complete and holy. Tell them that God is perfect and holy.

