

BIG TRUTH: THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

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

BIBLE VERSE: DEUTERONOMY 6:4-7

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart."

BIG IDEAS

- There is one God, and there are no other gods.
- God is over all things.
- Every good gift comes from the Father.

BIBLE STORY: EXODUS 32

God revealed Himself as the one true God after the Israelites turned away from Him and built a golden calf. The Israelites forgot that God was the one true God and had to be reminded of this truth. There are no other gods.

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.

HEAR! THE LORD IS ONE

Gather together dry beans or macaroni and glue. Write the word “one” on a blank piece of paper and help your child glue the beans or macaroni to the letters in the word “one”. As you work, talk with them about how God is one. He is the only God and there are no others.

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

Exodus 32.

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

When God had something to say to His special people, the Israelites, He would tell them to “Hear!”. He wanted them to really listen to what He was saying. He told the Israelites that He alone was their God. Not only was He alone their God, but He was the only God. When He called Moses, their leader to Mt. Sinai to talk with him, the Israelites forgot this truth about God. Moses had been gone for forty days and the Israelites were tired of waiting for him to return to them. They didn’t want to wait any longer, so they asked Aaron, Moses’ brother, to make a god for them. Aaron knew that he shouldn’t do this, but he did it anyway. He took their gold jewelry, melted it, and formed it into a golden calf statue. He presented it to the Israelites and told them it was their god. They began worshiping the golden calf and even claiming that the calf had rescued them from Egypt and done the things that God had done for them. In their hearts, they had rejected the true God and turned away from Him. When Moses returned from the mountain, he could hear them worshiping the golden calf. He grew very angry with them and destroyed the golden calf. He crushed it into a powder and made the Israelites drink it. He then called out to them, asking for anyone who would stand for the one true God. Every man in the tribe of Levi gathered around Moses, standing for the Lord. Moses instructed them to take their swords and to strike down brother and friend in the camp of the Israelites. Three thousand men died that day because of their disobedience. The Israelites were sorry for making the golden calf, but they had to bear their punishment. God is the only true God. He is the one and only real God. All other gods are fake. The golden calf couldn’t save itself or the Israelites. Only God is truly God.

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

- How did the Israelites disobey God? (They created a fake god and worshiped it as if it were the true God.)
- What was Moses’ response to their disobedience? (He was angry and destroyed the fake god.)

**KNOW**

As a family, memorize Deuteronomy 6:4-7 by writing the verses on a large piece of paper and hanging it up somewhere it can be easily seen in your house. Review the verses each day this week.

**DO**

Use playdoh to create a golden calf. Help your child create the golden calf and then show your child how creating a false god is useless. Talk with them about how fake gods have no power because they are not the true God. Only God is the true God.

**FEEL**

Help your child understand that God is the one true God by drawing a picture or writing down attributes of God, such as all-knowing, all-powerful, eternal, etc. Remind your child that false, or fake gods, cannot do the things that God can do. Remind them that the golden calf could not save even itself from destruction.

**WANT**

As a family spend time singing praise songs about God being the one true God.