

THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

SUMMER: FOUNDATIONS

BIG TRUTH: THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

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

BIBLE VERSE: DEUTERONOMY 6:4

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

BIG IDEAS

- God is one. There is only one God. There are no other gods.
- There is no being like God. He is the most powerful, smartest, controlling force in existence.
- Since there is only one God, He is the most important being—past, present, and future.

BIBLE STORY: EXODUS 32-33

God is the only God and He alone deserves and should be worshiped. The Israelites disobey God when they create a golden calf as an idol. God reminds them that He alone is the true God and the most important being in existence.

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 through creation and Word.
- 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 strive 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 about the God who is.



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: THERE IS NONE LIKE GOD

God is the most important being ever. He alone is God and He is unique in His power, control, and greatness. He alone deserves our worship and service.

BIBLE VERSE: DEUTERONOMY 6:4

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

There is only one God.

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

- There are many false gods in the world and there were many in the ancient world when Moses lived and led the Israelites. These false gods are fake and powerless. They can do nothing to help people who worship them because they aren't real. Even today there are false gods we call idols, like money, material things, and even other people, but they are useless to help anyone.
- God, the God of the Bible is the only true God. He alone is God. There are no other gods. He is true and real and He alone rules over all things. He doesn't even compare to the false idols that people create. The Israelites created a golden calf as a false idol when they create impatient waiting for Moses to return from Mt. Sinai, but this golden calf was useless to them.

God's people should only worship Him.

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

- Because God is one, this means He is exclusive. There is no one like Him and He alone is worthy of all of our worship. He was worthy of the Israelites' worship, but they rejected Him and chose a false god instead. He taught them that their created god was fake when Moses destroyed the golden calf and the people suffered the consequence of their rebellion.
- God is still the only one worthy of our worship and praise because He is the only God. Even though people create false gods, God alone deserves to be praised and to have our complete adoration. He is our only God.

No one is like God.

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”

- Because God alone is one, He is the only Lord and Savior of the world. No one else is like God. He is unique and He alone is Savior. There is no other Lord. Though people may create false gods and worship idols in their hearts, there really is only one Lord and that is the true God.
- God alone is the only one who can offer everlasting hope to anyone. He alone is the only hope of His people and the world. When Israel worshiped the golden calf, only God could save them from their own rebellion. He alone is the one true ruler of all.

BIBLE STORY: EXODUS 32-33*The Golden Calf*

Supporting Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:4; Jeremiah 10:6; 1 Chronicles 17:20

Teacher Introduction:

God is one God. He is the only God. He chose the Israelites to be His special people and He brought them out of Egypt and promised them a land flowing with milk and honey. God made a covenant with the Israelites and they promised to worship Him alone. When Moses went to the top of Mt. Sinai to speak with God, the people grew weary and impatient of waiting for Moses to return. Instead of remaining faithful and waiting for Moses to come back, they asked Aaron to create a god for them. Though there is only one God, Aaron agreed to make a god out of the gold jewelry they were wearing. He melted their gold earrings and bracelets and turned them into a golden calf. The people began to worship the golden calf as if it were their god. They sinned against the one true God and rejected Him in their hearts. They gave into their sinful, fleshly desires as they worshiped the inanimate object they were calling their god. God, who is sovereign over all, told Moses the people were sinning against Him and He sent Moses down the mountain to confront the people. Moses could hear the people dancing and singing around the golden calf and he grew very angry at them. Though he was angry, he asked God to save the people and to show them mercy. The Israelites have to face consequences for their sin against God, but God does not destroy them completely, nor does He forsake them. He reminds them that He is the one true God and there are no others. He alone is their God and He alone is worthy of their worship and praise.

Teaching Guide:

The guide below is provided to help you teach the story: The Golden Calf. The three points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share from Exodus 32-33 and teach the truth that there is one God. 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 preschoolers to think about and process the truth that there is only one God.

Opening Illustration:

Use jelly beans or some other candy that is colored. Place the candy in a bowl, remove all of one color of candy, except for one, leaving all the other colors. Ask the preschoolers to find the lone piece of candy. Once they find it, show it to them, and tell them that there is only one of its kind in the bowl. Remind them that there is only one God and there are no others.

BIG IDEA: GOD IS ONE. THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD. THERE ARE NO OTHER GODS.¹**There is only one true God.**

- God's people the Israelites rejected God as their true God. They chose to create a fake god instead of remaining true to God.
- The Israelites asked Aaron to make them a god while Moses was with God on the mountain top. Aaron took their gold jewelry and made a golden calf.
- Though Aaron had created the golden calf himself, the people treated it as if it were a true God. It was fake and not even alive.
- The people worshiped it and danced around it, sinning against the one true God.
- God is the only God. He alone is One and there are no others.



Help the preschoolers identify objects that are real from fake objects by bringing in a basket or bag full of plastic food mixed with real food. Use plastic bananas, apples, plates, etc. and then mix in real plates, fruits, etc. Ask the preschoolers to take turns drawing out an item from the bag or basket and telling the others if their object is real or fake. Once they've identified all of the objects, remind the preschoolers that there is only one real God and all of the others are fake.

All other gods are false.

- The Israelites created false gods. They made a calf out of gold. They called it a god and worshiped it as if it were a god, but it was just a calf made from gold.
- We create fake gods too. We worship, or praise a material thing instead of worshiping the true God.
- There is only one God. He is the true God. There are no other gods.

God alone is Lord and Savior.

- Even though the Israelites had placed their trust in a fake god, that god could not help them. They just danced around it and sinned even more against the true God.
- God is the only Lord of His people. He is the only Savior. There is no one else who can help His people or rule over them.
- Only the God of the Bible is real and lasts forever. Only He can give us real hope that lasts forever.

Who is the only true God? (The only true God is the God of the Bible. All other things we call god are fake and not real.)

1. Deuteronomy 6:4: God is the only true God. There are no other gods.

BIG IDEA: THERE IS NO BEING LIKE GOD. HE IS THE MOST POWERFUL, SMARTEST, CONTROLLING FORCE IN EXISTENCE.²

God is unique.

- To be unique means to be one of a kind and not like anything or anyone else. To be unique means to be special and set apart from all other things and people.
- God is one of a kind. He is not like anything or anyone else.
- He is the only God and He alone has all the power and greatness of God.
- The Israelites forgot this truth when they decided to create their own god out of gold.
- They forgot that there isn't anyone like God. Only He can move mountains, cause the sea to stop raging, calm the storm, and offer salvation.



Instruct the preschoolers sit in a circle. Pass a small mirror or pocket mirror around the circle and ask the preschoolers to look at themselves in the mirror. Next, talk with the preschoolers about each one of them is unique and there is no one like them in the class. Next, remind them that God is unique and there is no being like Him.

God is the most powerful being.

- In their sinful impatience, the Israelites forgot how truly powerful God is.
- They traded the most powerful being for a powerless created object that couldn't help them at all.
- Instead of worshiping the one being with all of the power, they worshiped a fake cow that wasn't even alive.
- God is more powerful than anything or anything.
- He is the one true God who created all things and holds all things together with His power.

God alone knows all and controls all.

- Not only does God have all of the power, He knows all things because He is sovereign over all. This means that He knows everything and controls everything.
- There is nothing outside of God's control or power. No one or thing is more powerful than God.
- The Israelites learned this truth when Moses destroyed the fake god they had created. The one true God can never be defeated or destroyed because He controls all things.

Who is like the one true God? (No one is as powerful or like the one true God.)

2. Jeremiah 10:6: *There is none like God. He is the only one in existence because He is one.*

BIG IDEA: SINCE THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD, HE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT BEING—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.³

Because God is the only God, He is the most important.

- God is one, which means He is the only one. He is one of a kind and there is no one like Him.
- No one or thing is as important as God.
- God is majestic and wonderful. He is unlike anything else we know.
- He is so grand, we cannot really ever fully understand His greatness because we have nothing to compare it to.
- He is so wonderful, we can only know in a little way how wonderful He is.



Lead the preschoolers to sing about God's greatness by singing praise songs that talk about how great God is. Remind them that God is the most important being of all because He is the one true God.

God's eternal nature makes Him important.

- God has no beginning and no end. He alone is uniquely eternal.
- Though His people will experience eternity, they are not like God because they all have a beginning.
- God has always been and He will always be. This is His majesty. This is His greatness.
- He is too lofty for us to really comprehend and that makes Him the most important being ever.

God alone is the greatest of all time and all beings.

- God is Creator. All things begin with Him and come from Him.
- He sustains all life and is the Author of every story. He is God, the Ruler and Lord of all things.
- The world and people are His creations and they therefore belong to Him.
- When we create something, it belongs to us and we are greater than it because we are the ones who made it.
- The same is true with God. He is the greatest because He is the beginning of everything.

What makes God the greatest being of all? (All things come from Him because He is the beginning of all things.)

3. 1 Chronicles 17:20: *There is no one like God. He alone is unique and is the only true God.*

HOOKS

**Who Is The Greatest?**

Read the following verses to the preschoolers: Psalm 145:3 and Zephaniah 3:17. After you read the verses, show the preschoolers pictures of different great things, such as dinosaurs, lions, elephants. Talk with the preschoolers about how the world is full of many great things, but God is the greatest because is the one true God.

**None Like God**

Use a large piece of paper or poster board to have the preschoolers create a class portrait. Give the preschoolers crayons or markers and ask them to draw a picture of themselves. Help them draw their pictures until every preschooler has a “self-portrait” on the piece of paper. Talk with the preschoolers about the similarities and differences between each child in the room. Talk with them about how we’re each unique, but we’re all human. Next, talk with them about how God is really unique because there is only one of Him. He is different from every other being. There is no one or thing like God.

**Praise Him For His Greatness**

Lead the preschoolers in a prayer of praise to God for His greatness. Gather them together in a circle and have them close their eyes and bow their heads as you praise God in prayer for His greatness.

