

LITTLE VILLAGE

PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM

OLD TESTAMENT

Ages 3–Kindergarten



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OLD TESTAMENT

Ages 3–Kindergarten

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LITTLE VILLAGE PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM PHILOSOPHY

The most joyful thing in all the world is knowing God; that's why our kids need to hear who God is and what He has done in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

In fact, God's big story (see the God's Big Story Timeline in the Appendix)—from creation to redemption to glory—displays Him as Hero. **The Bible is God's true Word. It is from God and about God.** Sadly, we sometimes miss that point and make everything about ourselves. Our kids need a different vantage point: God, in His wonder, shows us His love while we are yet still sinners.

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Even though our hearts are by nature opposed to God in every way, Jesus died on the cross for us so that our sick hearts (see Sick Heart/Healthy Heart visuals in the Appendix) could be made healthy, and now everyone who loves and trusts Jesus will get to live with God forever!

A STRONG FOUNDATION

The lessons throughout this curriculum highlight one of these Six Foundational Truths: **God Made Everything, God Is Good, God Is in Charge of Everything, The Church Is God's Family, God Wants to Talk With Us, and Jesus Came to Save Sinners.** This helps us keep the focus of

every lesson on the main point of the story: God! And what do we do in response? Worship!

Worship is how we show that God is most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We use our voices, minds, and bodies to worship God.

OUR PRAYER

We pray that God would show the next generation the reason for the hope that we have. May we faithfully tell God's big story, laying kindling in the hearts of children that the Lord might ignite for the praise of His beautiful Name.



FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS

Lesson numbers are color coded in the table of contents to correspond with one of the six foundational truths below. For example, yellow lessons go with "God Is in Charge of Everything."



HOW TO USE THIS CURRICULUM

Each year, we teach chronologically through the Bible, starting in June. The lessons from the Old Testament volume conclude just before the season of Advent. Reiterating the story of the Fall in “Advent Begins: God Promises a Savior” serves to prepare the way for the long-expected Messiah, kicking off the work of Christ in the New Testament volume. Please note that this book includes more lessons than there are weeks in the year. We've included all of our available lessons to allow for choice. You should plan out which lessons to teach before beginning the curriculum year.

Lessons can be taught in a large group setting, with kids later dispersing into smaller classrooms or groups for review and activities such as crafts and coloring. While the review questions at the end of each lesson are meant for the smaller classroom setting, it may

be helpful for you to view them as goals for comprehension during the large group teaching. For take-home papers, see the accompanying activity book, which includes family discussion guides and coloring sheets.

LESSON KEY

This key will help you navigate the curriculum. Each lesson is tied to one of Six Foundational Truths. Supplies needed are located in the upper right corner of the lesson page. The ➡ symbol indicates where to begin teaching. *Blue italics* indicate actions to be performed during the teaching. The ✈ symbol represents “landing the plane.”

This section will reiterate the foundational truth of the lesson and provide a link to the gospel. The Bible 📖 indicates when the key text from the Bible is supposed to be read aloud. Be sure to teach value and honor of the Word of God by

reading from a physical copy of the Bible itself. The ✝ symbol shows you when to lead the kids in the Gospel Fingerplay rhyme in the Appendix. The **bold text** indicates key points and definitions that should be said word-for-word. For a complete list of terms and definitions, see the Glossary at the end of this book.



Deuteronomy 6:4–5; Exodus 3:14; Genesis 1:1

Who Is God?

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

KEY TEXT “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.”
Deuteronomy 6:4–5

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

Our story today is from the Bible. *(Show the Bible.)* **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning about how God sends His people, the Church, to tell others how **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!** The Holy Spirit helps those who love and trust Jesus know God and tell others about Him. The Church worships God because He is the one, true God. There is no one else like Him.

Look at the person sitting next to you. What color hair do they have? What color are their eyes and skin? Are they smiling or frowning? We can know some things about our friends by looking at them. **Now close your eyes and think about someone you**

live with. What is their name? What are some things you love about that person? Are they kind or smart or funny? We can see things about a person and we can learn things about a person that help us know what they’re like.

Now think about God. How can we know what God is like when we can’t see Him? God doesn’t have a body! **God Is Good**, and He tells us who He is and what He is like in the Bible.

Have you ever wondered what it means for God to be God? It can be hard to think about God because He is not like you and me. **The Bible tells us there are some things about God that are ONLY true about Him and ONLY belong to Him**, like...

📖 God is holy! There has never been and will never be anyone else like Him! He is so big and so wonderful that we could talk about Him FOREVER and never run out of things to say about Him. The Bible tells us that when Moses asked God for His name, this is what He said—*(Read Exodus 3:14 from the Bible.)*

📖 God is one God in three persons! He is God the Father, God the Son (that’s Jesus!), and

God the Holy Spirit. That is very different than you and me! I am one woman (or man) and one person. God is one God in three persons. We call that the Trinity. **Can you say, “Trinity”?** *(Read Deuteronomy 6:4 from the Bible.)*

📖 **God has no start and no end!** Did you know that no one made God? He has always been and will always be. That means before **God Made Everything** like animals, stars, grass, and people, there was God. God in three persons has no start and no end. **Close your eyes and think about no start and no end.** It’s really hard! That’s because God is not like us! We all have a start, and we all were made. *(Read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible.)*

📖 **God is Creator.** Out of His great love, **God Made Everything.** He didn’t have to make anything and He doesn’t need anything. **God Made Everything** to show that He is good and we can enjoy Him forever. We worship God because He made everything! *(Read Deuteronomy 6:5 from the Bible.)*

➔ **God Is Good** to tell us about Himself in the Bible. **God Is Good** to make Himself known to His children, the Church. We worship God with our heads, hearts, and bodies because

only He is most valuable. There is no one else like Him.

We are all sinners, and sin separates us from God. God's Word tells us that **Jesus Came to Save Sinners** like us. **God Is Good!** On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "God Is Good." 1—2—3! God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to say, "God Is Good" to our neighbor. 1—2—3! God Is Good. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "God Is Good!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is Good! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being good!

Review Questions

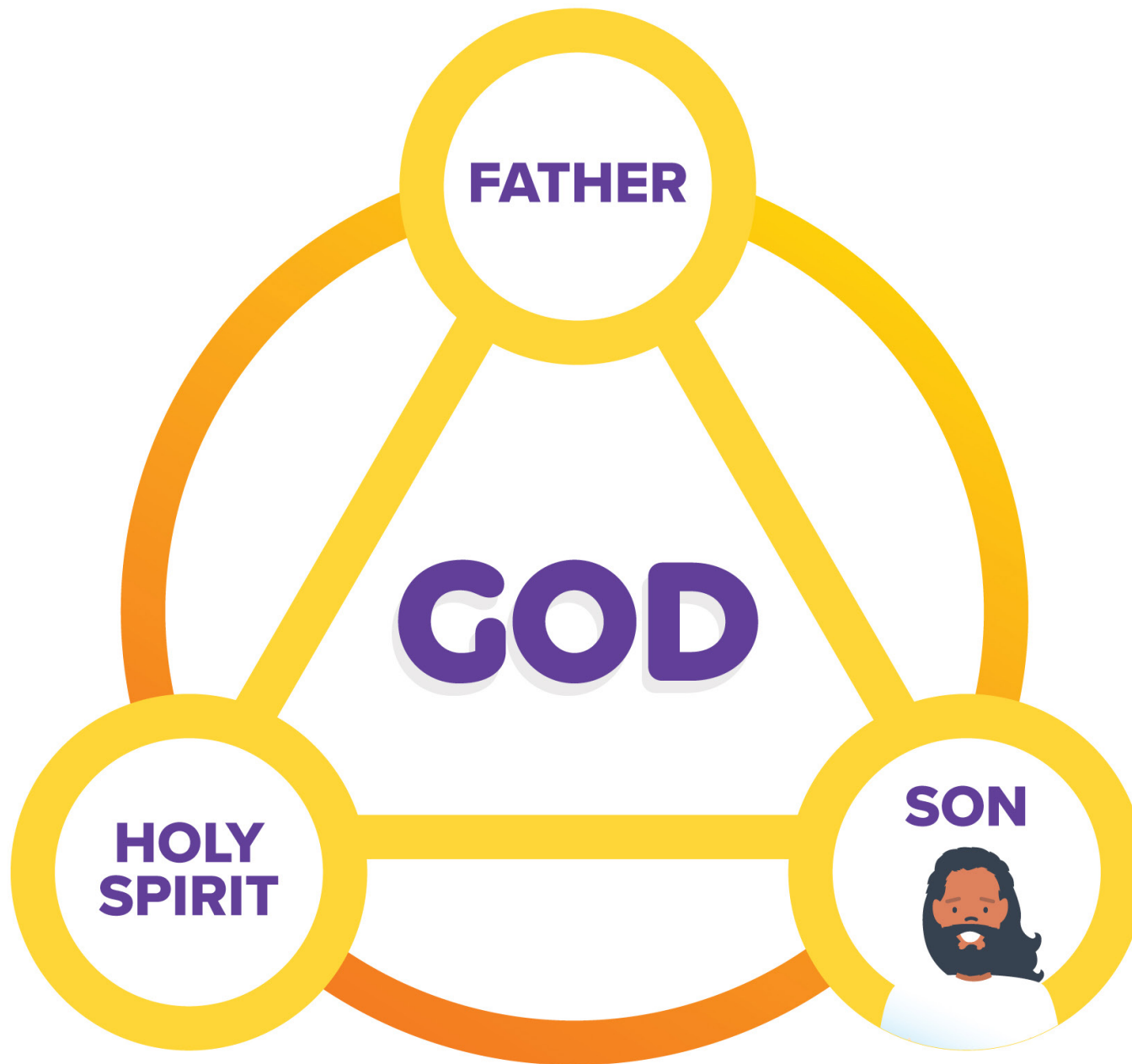
- ☐ This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to before "God creates the world" on the timeline.)*
- ☐ Who is God? *(God is one God in three persons.)*
- ☐ What do we call God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit? *(The Trinity)*
- ☐ Who is Creator? *(God)*
- ☐ Does God have a start? *(No!)*
- ☐ Does God have an end? *(No!)*
- ☐ How do we worship God? *(Head, Heart, Body)*
- ☐ Let's say our foundational truth together: *"God Is Good!"*



The Trinity



God Is Good





GOD IS
GOOD



Genesis 1–2

God Creates the World

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD MADE EVERYTHING

Supplies: printed picture or example of what God created each day

KEY TEXT In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. **Genesis 1:1**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Today, we are going to learn about the very first thing that happened in the Bible!

(Show the Bible and open to Genesis 1.)

In the very beginning, before there were people or animals or plants or sunshine, there was God. God has always existed. He was never created or made. He has always been here.

 **Read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible.**

God Made Everything! And He made everything simply by speaking. *(Point to your mouth.)* God did not have to work hard or build anything to make creation. He did not have to gather together materials and make things with His hands. *(Hold out your hands.)* God just said, “Let there be...” and there was. He

just had to say the words, and it appeared! You and I don’t have the power to do that; only God does! Can I just say, “Let there be ice cream,” and ice cream will appear? Or, “Let there be puppies,” and puppies will appear? No! But God can say that, and it will appear.

On the first day *(hold up one finger)*, God said, “Let there be **LIGHT**,” and there was light!

(Show picture of light and darkness.) God said that the light was good. Everything God made was good.

On the second day *(hold up two fingers)*, God said, “Let there be **SKY**,” and there was sky! *(Show the picture of the sky.)* God said that the sky was good. Everything God made was good.

On the third day *(hold up three fingers)*, God said, “Let there be **LAND** and **TREES** and **PLANTS**,” and there were land and trees and plants! There were big, strong trees that reached high in the sky and beautiful, colorful flowers that smelled sweet. *(Show the picture of the land and plants.)* God said that the land and trees and plants were good. Everything God made was good.

On the fourth day *(hold up four fingers)*, God said, “Let there be a **SUN**, **STARS**, and a **MOON**,” and there were a big, bright sun, a moon, and so many sparkly stars! *(Show the picture of the sun, moon and stars.)* God said that the sun, moon, and stars were good. Everything God made was good.

On the fifth day *(hold up five fingers)*, God said, “Let there be **FISH** and **BIRDS**,” and there were fish and birds! God filled the waters with tiny little guppies, dolphins that jump, and giant blue whales. He filled the skies with majestic eagles and tiny little hummingbirds who can flap their wings faster than you can imagine. *(Show the picture of the fish and birds.)* God said that the fish and birds were good. Everything God made was good.

On the sixth day *(hold up six fingers)*, God said, “Let there be **ANIMALS**,” and all the animals appeared: giant elephants, fluffy panda bears, jumping frogs, and tiny little ants. God said the animals were good. Everything God made was good. But God wasn’t done yet!

On the sixth day, God still had something very precious to make—**MAN**. When God

made man, He didn't just speak *(point to your mouth)* to make him. God used His hands *(hold out your hands)* to gather together dust. And He formed the dust into the body of the man. Then, God breathed life into the man. Remember, everything God made was good. God said that the man was very good. God made man precious because God made him in His own likeness; we call this the **imago dei**. *(Show the picture of the animals and people.)*

The animals and plants and stars were all created good, but they are different than people. People are precious to God.

On the seventh day *(hold up seven fingers)*, God **RESTED**. He had finished making everything.

→ **God Made Everything** from nothing! **God Made Everything** we can see and even things we cannot see. Everything God made was good. God is so good and big and strong and made everything in the whole world. **God Made Everything!**

On the count of three, we're going to whisper, "God Made Everything." 1—2—3. God Made Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, "God Made Everything," with a squeaky mouse voice. 1—2—3. God Made Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "God Made Everything!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Made Everything! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for making everything!

Review Questions

- ☐ How many days did it take God to create the world? *(Seven)*
- ☐ What did God make? *(God Made Everything.)*
- ☐ What did God do on the seventh day, the last day we learned about? *(God rested.)*
- ☐ When God made light, did He say that it was good or bad? *(Good; everything God made was good.)*
- ☐ When God made man, did He say man was good or very good? *(Very good; man is precious to God.)*
- ☐ What is one thing that God made? *(Let the kids answer.)*
- ☐ Let's say our foundational truth together: *"God Made Everything!"*



Light and Dark



Heavens and Waters



Land and Plants



Sun, Moon and Stars



Birds and Fish



Animals



People



It Was Good, and God Rested



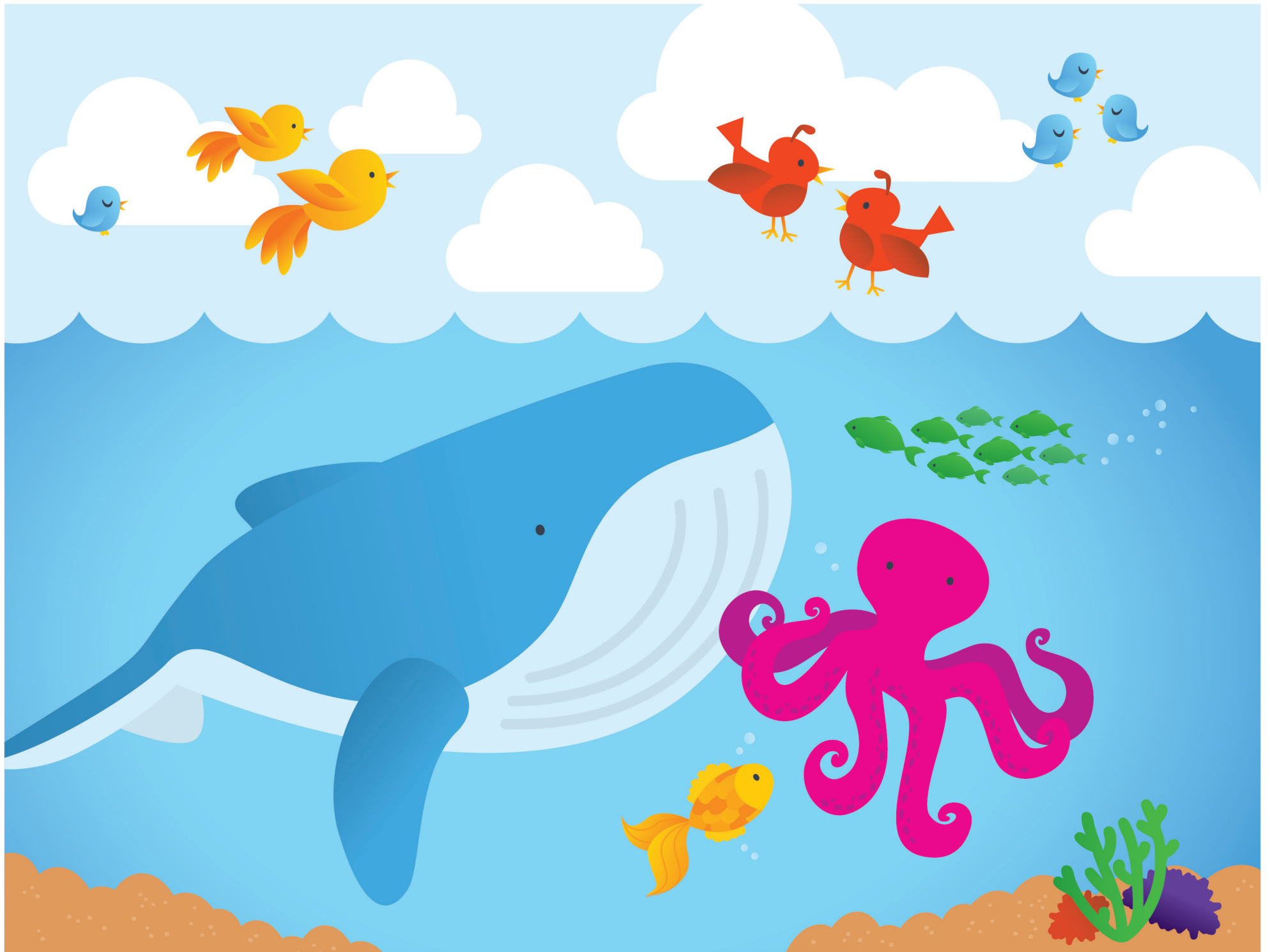
God Made Everything



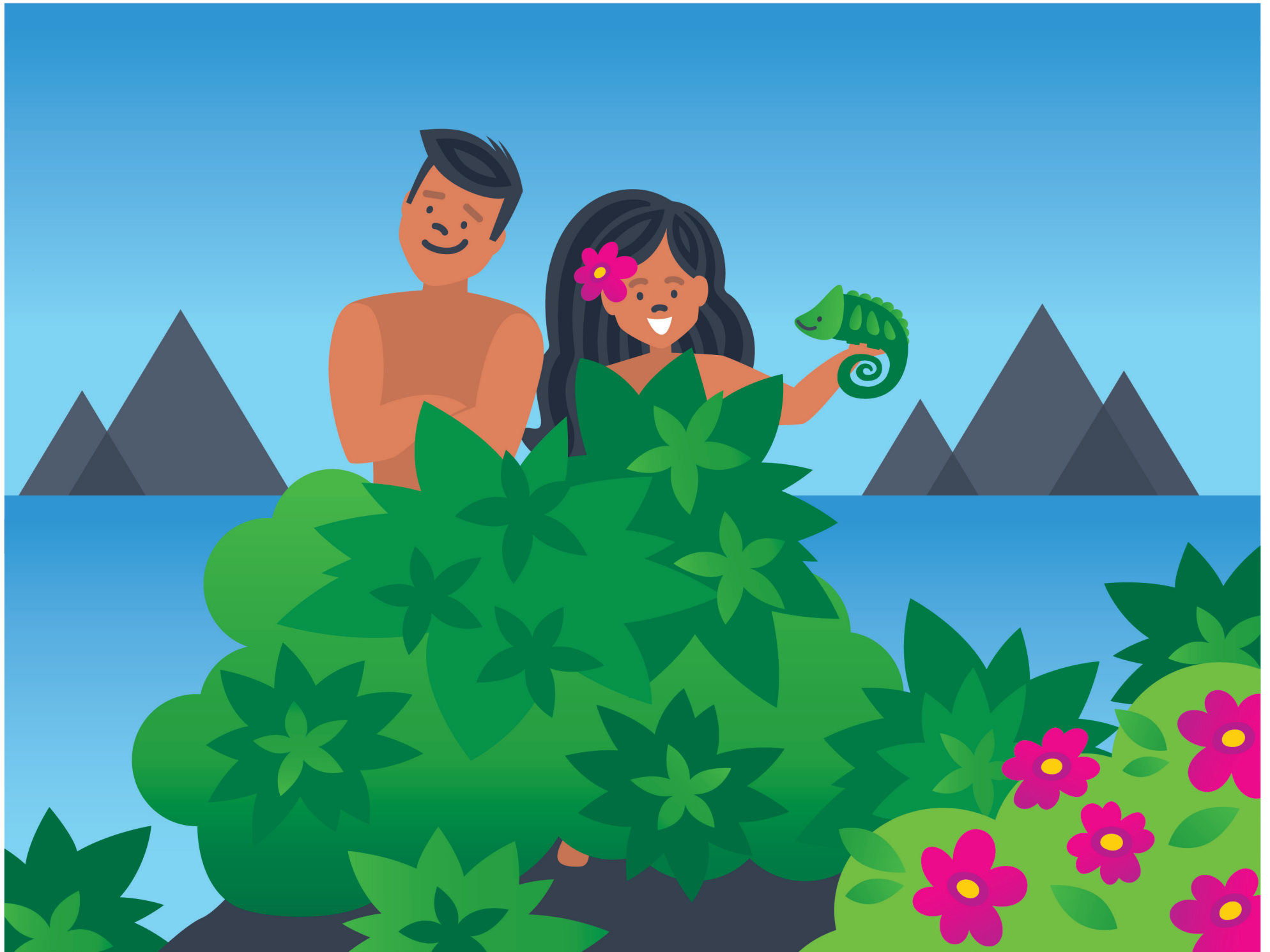


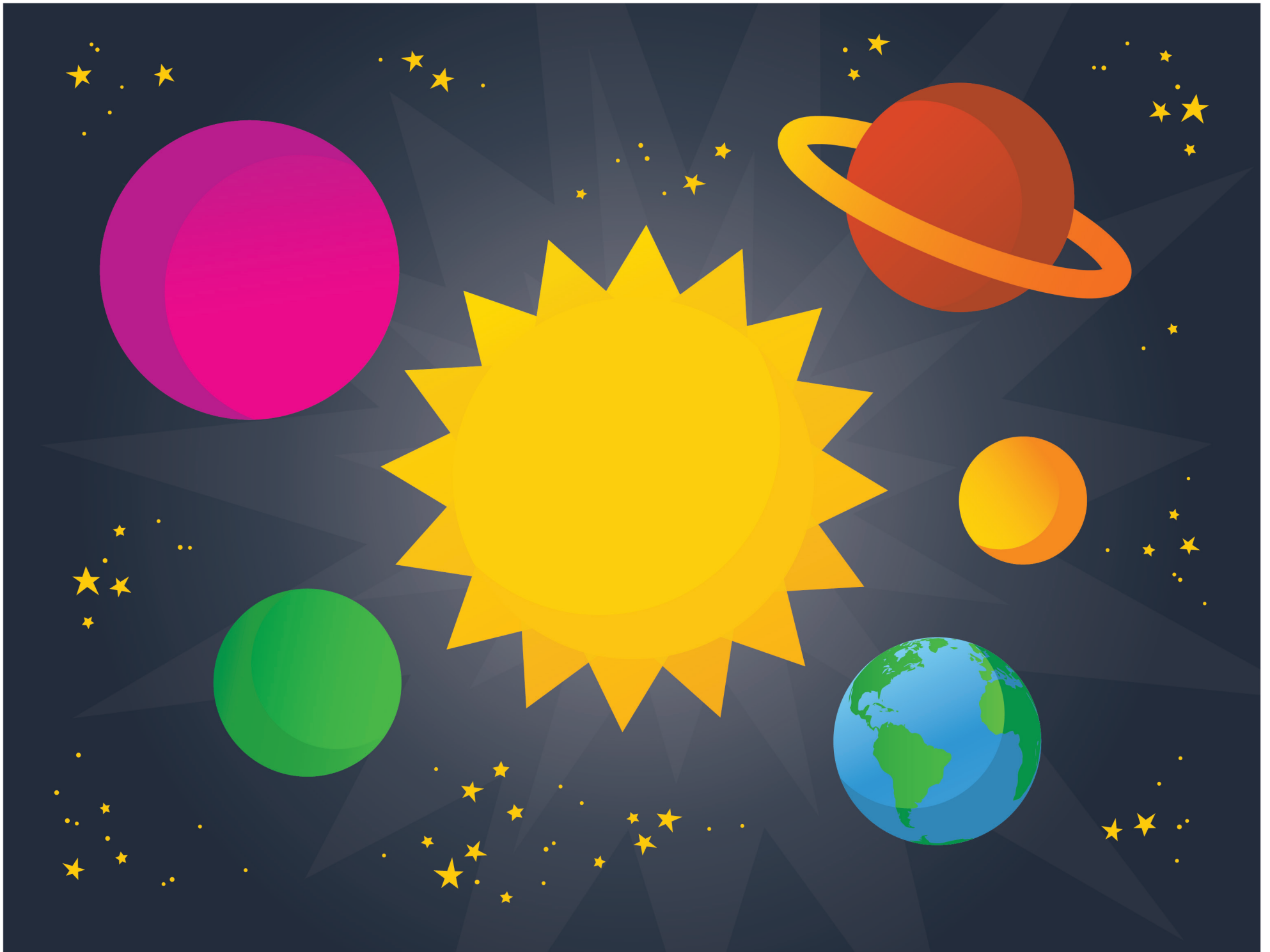














GOD
MADE
EVERYTHING



Genesis 1–2

God Creates Adam and Eve

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

Supplies: pictures of Adam and Eve,
a handful of dirt, a bone, glass

KEY TEXT Then the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.
Genesis 2:7, NIV

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

Who is God? God is one: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

What has God said? Everything God wants us to know about Him is in the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning how God is not like us. There is no one like God! Last week, we learned that **God Made Everything** with the sound of His voice! When God made trees and animals and the stars, He spoke, and there they were. And with His voice He said all He had made was good. **Can you say, "good"?**

God doesn't just make everything; **God Is in Charge of Everything**, too! That means He keeps everything He made going, just by the sound of His voice. God loves and cares for His creation. **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

📖 Today we're going to talk more about when God made the first family, Adam and Eve. *(Read Genesis 2:7 from the Bible.)* The Bible says when God made the man, *(use the dirt to demonstrate)* He reached down, scooped up some dust from the ground He made, and breathed life into Adam. Later, He made Adam fall asleep and He took one of Adam's ribs *(show the bone)* out of His body and made woman, Eve.

📖 Did you notice God made people different from everything else He made? When God made man He didn't use His voice, but His very breath! That's because the Bible tells us God made people in His own image. That means God made His family to look like Him. *(Read Genesis 1:27 from the Bible.)* People are not God but people are made to reflect God.

We learned that **there are some things about God that are ONLY true about God and ONLY belong to God**. When God made

people, He made them able to show others some things that are true about God. Only people can do that because they are made in God's image!

Being made in God's image means God made people special and precious from the rest of creation. God also gave Adam and Eve special jobs to do together, and special jobs to do as man and woman. Together, God told Adam and Eve to rule over all that He made and to build God's family by having children to fill the earth. *(Show image of Adam and Eve Made to Love and Serve Each Other.)* God made Adam and Eve to have bodies. Man and woman look a little different, and that's on purpose! God also made the way man and woman think and feel different from each other. He did this so they would work together, serving one another. The same is true of us! God made each of us, boys and girls, to love and serve one another. God never makes a mistake! **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

➔ **God Is in Charge of Everything!** He made man and woman in His own image! When man and woman work together the way God has made them, this shows others that God is most valuable and brings us the most joy.

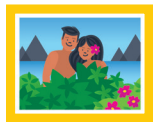
We can thank God for making us each as boys and girls, made in the image of God.

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to turn to the person next to you and say, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down.

Pray and thank God that He is in charge of everything!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story.
(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)
- ☐ What are the names of the first man and woman? *(Adam, Eve)*
- ☐ Were man and woman made the same way everything else was? *(No!)*
- ☐ How did God make Adam? *(He breathed into dust.)*
- ☐ Are man and woman made in God’s image? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ Are animals and plants and stars made in God’s image? *(No!)*
- ☐ Do people have special jobs given to them by God? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together:
“God Is in Charge of Everything!”

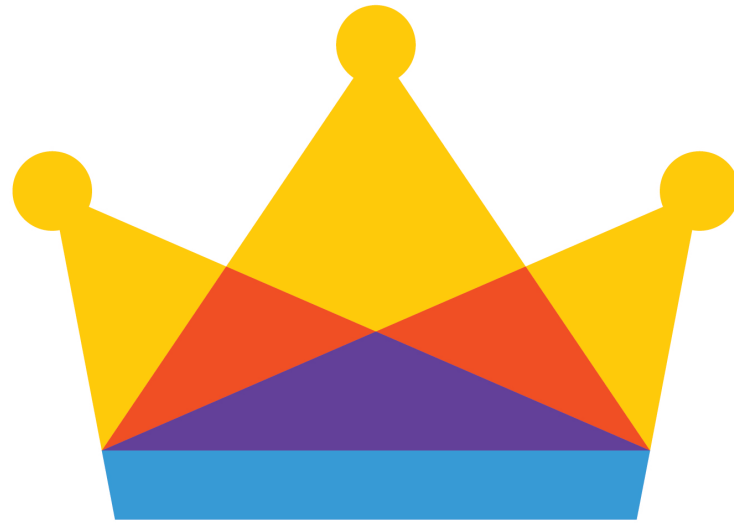


Adam and Eve
Made to Love and
Serve Each Other



God Is in Charge
of Everything





**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



Genesis 3

Adam and Eve Disobey God

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

KEY TEXT She took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. **Genesis 3:6b**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Hold up the God's Big Story "God Made Everything" circle. Last week, we learned that **God Made Everything!** Can you tell me some of the things that God made? **God Made Everything** by speaking! *(Point to your mouth.)* He is so powerful! And everything God made was good. *(Give two thumbs-up.)* God made something **very good**, too. Do you remember what that was? Man!

Today, we are going to learn about the first people God made who were named Adam and Eve. **On the count of three, say, "Adam and Eve!" 1—2—3! "Adam and Eve!"**

Adam and Eve lived in a beautiful garden. It was perfect. There was no sickness or

death or sadness or anything bad. And Adam and Eve got to be with God! They got to walk with God and talk with God face-to-face. There is nothing better than getting to be with God! God gave Adam and Eve the **imago dei**—His likeness—when He created them. They were precious to God. Adam and Eve had hearts that loved and trusted God. *(Point to the Healthy Heart poster.)*

God gave Adam and Eve everything they needed in the garden. *(Show the picture of the trees.)* He gave them every tree in the garden to eat from except one. God is so generous! God gave Adam and Eve one rule. He told Adam and Eve they could not eat the fruit from one tree. *(Hold up the fruit.)* God was protecting His precious Adam and Eve by telling them not to eat the fruit from the one tree. God knew that if they ate the fruit, they would be separated *(hold arms far apart)* from Him and die. God's rule would keep Adam and Eve safe and help them have the happiest life possible.

One day, a beautiful snake came into the garden and spoke to Eve. *(Pick up the snake and pet the snake's head while you talk about it.)*

Supplies: Bible, picture of trees, a unique fruit, stuffed snake, Healthy Heart poster, Sick Heart poster, and God's Big Story Timeline Circles: God Made Everything, Adam and Eve Sinned, God Promised a Savior and Clock/God's People Wait

The snake lied to Eve. The snake told Eve that if she ate the fruit from the one tree she would not die, but she would be like God. What a terrible lie!

📖 Sadly, Eve listened to the snake instead of listening to God. The Bible tells us Eve looked at the tree she was told not to eat from and—*(read Genesis 3:6b from the Bible. Show the God's Big Story "Adam and Eve Sinned" circle.)* Adam and Eve sinned when they disobeyed God and ate the fruit. **Sin is anything we do or think that is different from what God wants.** God knows what is best.

As soon as Adam and Eve disobeyed God and ate the fruit, everything in God's perfect world broke. Sin entered the world, and the world was no longer perfect. Now there was sickness and death and sadness and bad things. When Adam and Eve sinned, their hearts became sick with sin. *(Point to the Sick Heart poster.)*

Adam and Eve knew they had done something terrible, so they tried to hide from God. *(Crouch down and pretend to hide.)* Can we hide from God? No! God knows everything and sees everything.

God had told Adam and Eve what would happen if they ate the fruit—they would die. And they would be separated from God. There is nothing worse than being separated from God!

God punished Adam and Eve for disobeying Him. He sent them out of the garden. *(Point away from the group.)* But before God sent them out, He made them a promise. *(Show the God's Big Story "Promise of a Savior" circle.)*

It was a very important promise. God promised Adam and Eve that one day He would send a Savior to rescue God's precious people from sin. That Savior would fix everything that sin had broken and defeat the snake that had lied to Adam and Eve.

Do you know who that Savior was? Jesus! **On the count of three, say, "Jesus!"** **1—2—3! Jesus!** In one of the most terrible moments ever, when everything broke, God told Adam and Eve that Jesus would come to save sinners. Adam and Eve could not fix their hearts that were sick with sin *(point to the Sick Heart poster)*, but Jesus could. *(Show the God's Big Story "God's people wait" clock.)* So God's people began to wait for Jesus to come to save sinners.

✈ All of us *(point to everyone in the room)* are born with hearts like Adam and Eve's. Our hearts are sick with sin. We cannot fix our sinful hearts, only God can. That's why **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!**

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "Jesus Came to Save Sinners." 1—2—3. Jesus Came to Save Sinners.

On the count of three, we are going to close our eyes and say, "Jesus Came to Save Sinners." 1—2—3. Jesus Came to Save Sinners. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "Jesus Came to Save Sinners!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! Jesus Came to Save Sinners! Everyone, sit down.

✝ *Have the class say the Gospel Fingerplay.*

Review Questions

- ☐ Where did Adam and Eve live? *(A beautiful garden)*
- ☐ What was God's one rule for the garden? *(God told Adam and Eve not to eat the fruit from one of the trees in the garden.)*

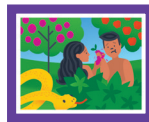
- ☐ Why did God make the rule? *(To protect Adam and Eve; all of God's rules are good.)*
- ☐ Did Adam and Eve obey God's rule? *(No!)*
- ☐ What happened? *(A snake lied to Eve and told her not to obey God, so Adam and Eve ate the fruit from the tree that God told them not to.)*
- ☐ Why did Adam and Eve hide from God after they broke His rule? *(They were scared and knew that they had done something wrong.)*
- ☐ What happened to Adam and Eve's heart after they disobeyed? *(It became sick with sin.)*
- ☐ Could Adam and Eve fix their hearts? *(No!)*
- ☐ What did God do to Adam and Eve after they disobeyed? *(God told them to leave the garden.)*
- ☐ Who could fix Adam and Eve's hearts? *(God)*
- ☐ Who did God send to heal sick, sinful hearts? *(Jesus)*
- ☐ Let's say our foundational truth together: **"Jesus Came to Save Sinners!"**



The Garden of Eden



Serpent Lying



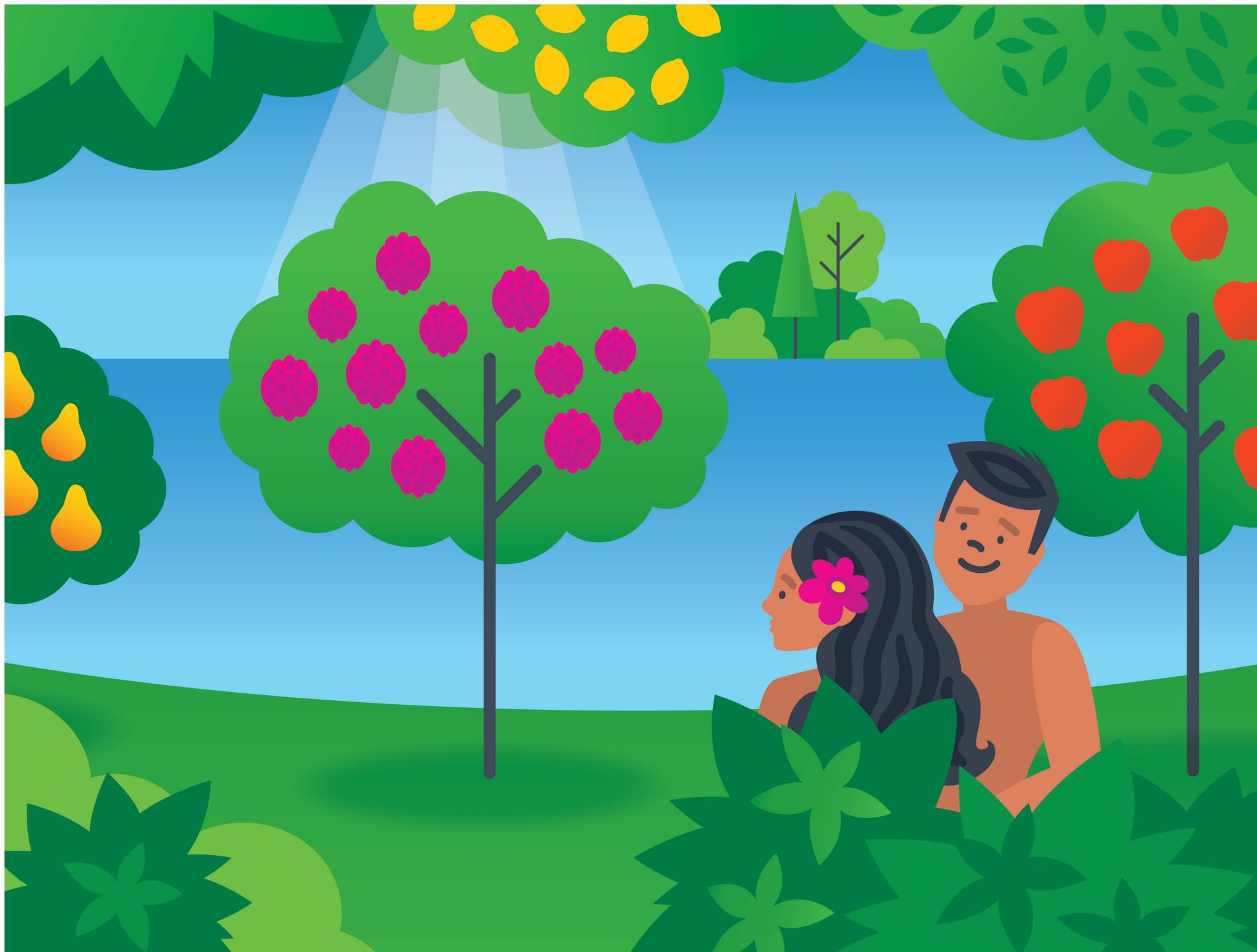
Adam and Eve Disobey

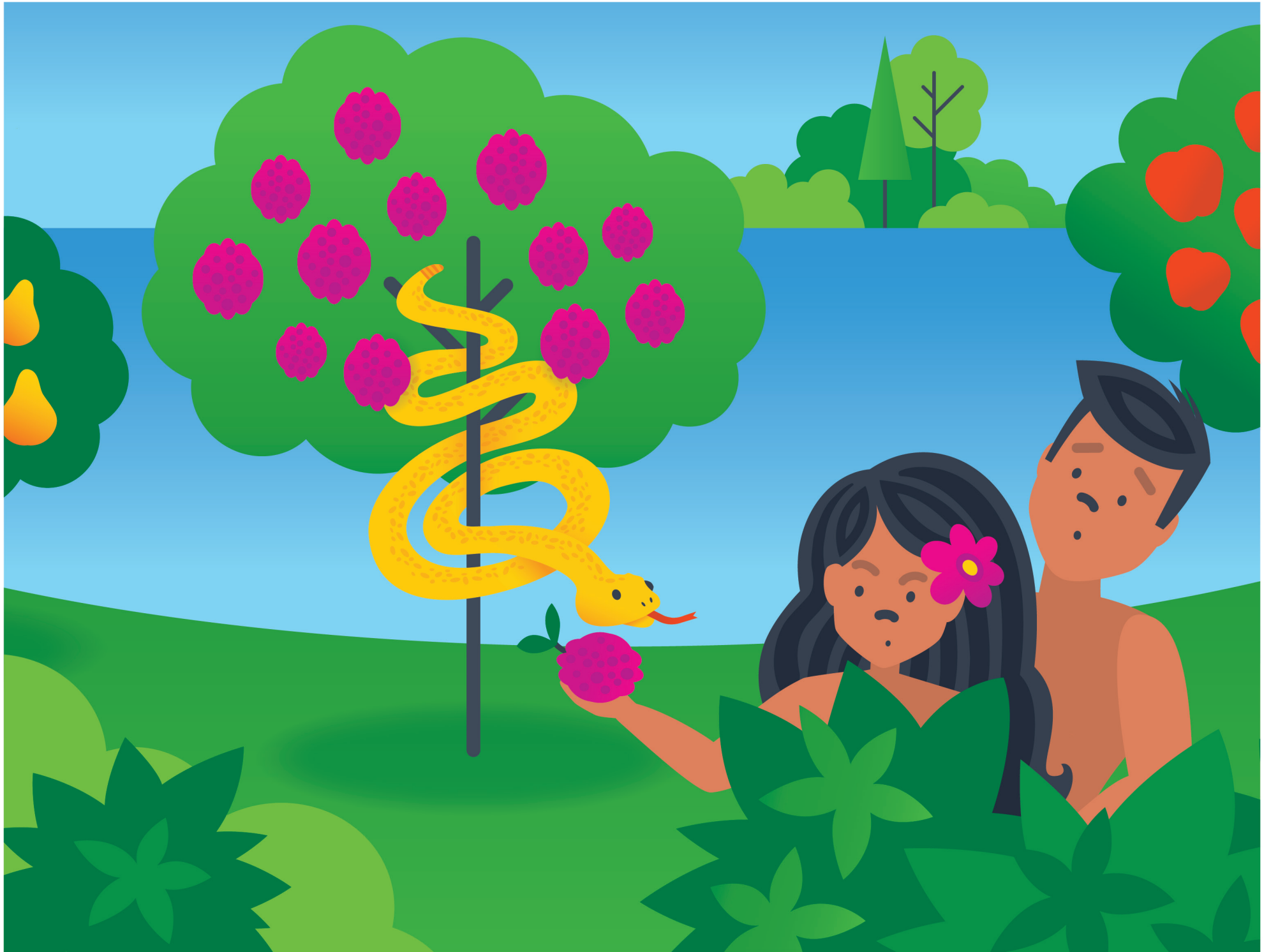


Sick World

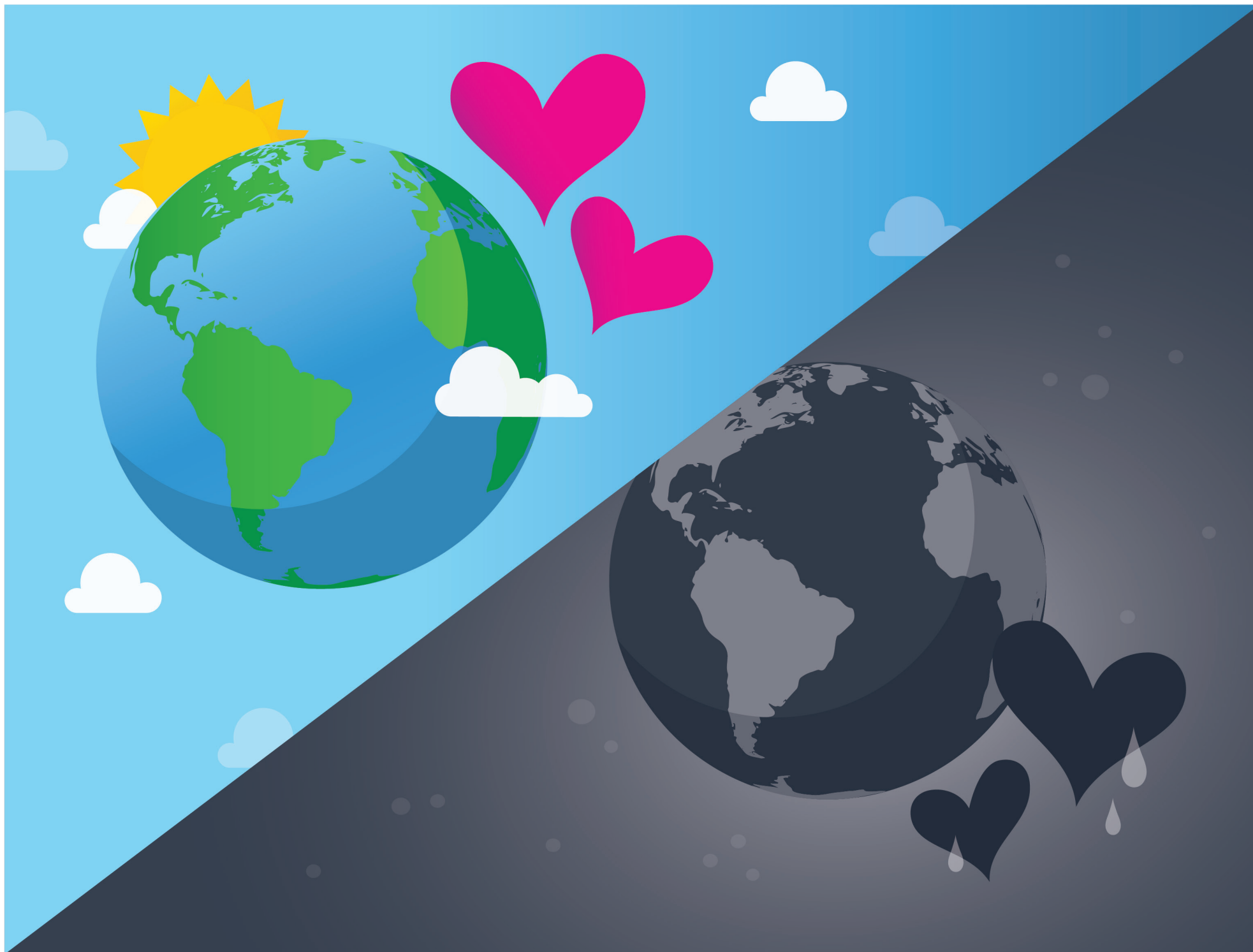


Jesus Came to Save Sinners











JESUS
CAME
TO SAVE
SINNERS



Genesis 4

Adam and Eve's Children Disobey God

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

Supplies: two gift boxes (one neat and one sloppy), visuals

KEY TEXT In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. **Genesis 4:3–5**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning that Adam and Eve disobeyed God. They sinned by eating the fruit God told them not to eat, and sin separates us from God, so they had to leave the garden where they were living with God. It was a very sad day. After they left the garden, they had two sons, Cain and Abel. **On the count of 3, say, "Cain and Abel!" 1–2–3!**

Today, we'll learn about these two brothers and the very different sacrifices they gave

to God. What is a sacrifice? **A sacrifice is something special and valuable that is given to God to show that He is better—like a gift.**

Have you ever given someone a gift? I have two gifts here *(Show the two gift boxes.)* This gift *(show the neatly wrapped gift)* looks so nice! You can tell it took a lot of time to wrap and was taken care of. This other gift *(show the sloppy gift)* is a mess! The wrapping was done really fast and not very carefully. This one may have been forgotten in the trunk of a car or the back of a closet. If I gave this gift to a friend, what would they think? They may think I didn't really care about this gift or even about their friendship! They would not feel very important.

Well, one day when Cain and Abel grew up, they offered sacrifices to God of what they had. Cain's job was to take care of trees and plants so Cain offered God some of the food he had grown from different trees and plants. Abel's job was to take care of sheep so Abel offered God a sheep, his best sheep to show how important and special God was to him.

📖 Let's read from the Bible what God thought about their sacrifices and what happened next. *(Read Genesis 4:3–5 from the Bible.)*

God accepted Abel's sacrifice because Abel loved God and wanted to show God that He was better than even his best sheep. God was more important and valuable to Abel than anything else! Cain hadn't thought about it that much. Like this messy-looking gift *(show the messy gift)*, Cain's sacrifice did not show God that he loved God or thought that God was most important and valuable to him. God did not accept Cain's gift which made Cain angry.

Can you show me an angry face? Cain was so angry, he didn't even want to talk to God about his anger. **Have you ever been so angry that you didn't want to talk to anyone, even God?**

No matter what we're feeling, **God Wants to Talk With Us!** God knew Cain was angry and He wanted to talk with him about it, but Cain did not talk to God. Instead, he decided to do something very wrong and very sad. In his anger, Cain went with his brother Abel out into a field, and he killed him.

Do you think God still wanted to talk to Cain? Yes! God Wants to Talk With Us even when we sin. So God came to Cain again and asked, “Where is your brother Abel?” But Cain still would not talk to God. Cain lied to God and pretended like he did not even know where Abel was, but God knew what had happened, and God punished Cain for his sin.

God said Cain’s job of growing trees and plants would become harder, much harder than ever before. God also said that Cain would become a **wanderer, someone who had to travel all over the world with no real home.**

➔ Like Adam and Eve sinned and had to leave their perfect home with God in the garden, their son, Cain, sinned and had to leave his home too. God wanted to talk with Cain when he was angry. **God Wants to Talk with Us** no matter what we’re feeling but Cain would not listen because his heart was sick with sin.

Remember, Adam and Eve’s sin broke everything God made, even our hearts. Like Cain, we are all born with hearts that are sick with sin and separate us from God. That’s why God promised to send a Savior! Many years later, God sent His Son, Jesus, to live

a perfect life, and Jesus never sinned. He died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins and came back to life three days later so that everyone who loves and trusts Jesus can get a new, healthy heart and be with God forever! **God Wants to Talk with Us** about Jesus. That’s what the Bible is all about and **God Wants to Talk with Us** about our sin.

On the count of 3, let’s whisper God Wants to Talk With Us. 1—2—3! On the count of 3, let’s say God Wants to Talk With Us while we put out our hands like we’re giving a gift. 1—2—3! Now everyone stand up! On the count of 3, we are going to yell God Wants to Talk With Us! If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! Everyone, sit down!

Let’s pray and thank God that He Wants to Talk With Us.

Review Questions

- ☐ Adam and Eve had two sons. What were their names? *(Cain and Abel)*
- ☐ What were their jobs? *(Cain took care of plants and trees; Abel took care of sheep.)*

- ☐ Why didn’t God accept Cain’s sacrifice? *(It did not show that Cain loved God or that God was very special or important to him.)*
- ☐ When God did not accept Cain’s gift, how did Cain feel? *(Angry)*
- ☐ Cain decided not to talk to God about his anger. Instead, he did something very wrong and very sad. What did Cain do? *(Cain killed his brother, Abel.)*
- ☐ Did God still want to talk to Cain after he sinned? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ What was Cain’s punishment for killing his brother? *(He would have trouble growing plants and trees from the ground and had to wander the earth with no real home.)*
- ☐ We are all born with sick hearts because of which two people? *(Adam and Eve)*
- ☐ Who is the Savior God promised to send Adam and Eve? *(Jesus!)*
- ☐ Does God want to talk with us even though we sin? *(Yes! God Wants to Talk With Us!)*



Cain



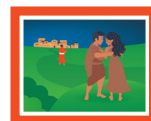
Abel



Shepherding and Farming



Offerings



Cain Leaves



God Wants to Talk With Us

Cain



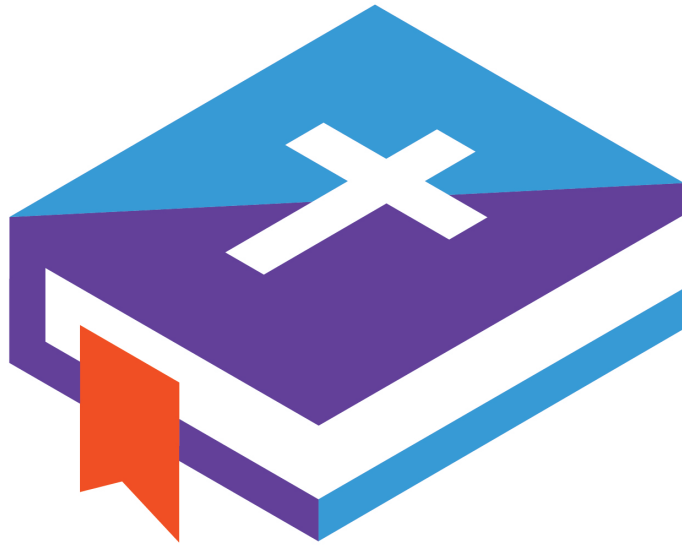
Abel











GOD
WANTS TO
TALK
WITH US



Genesis 6–9

God Saves Noah

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

KEY TEXT “For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives with you.”

Genesis 6:17–18

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning about the very beginning of the world, when **God Made Everything**, and it was good. But then, Adam and Eve disobeyed God. They listened to the lie of the snake, and they wanted to be like God. But no one can be like God. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, their hearts became sick with sin. Now every person is born with a heart sick with sin. *(Point to the Sick Heart poster.)*

Today we are going to hear a story about a lot of people whose hearts were sick with sin

and one man and his family—just one! *(hold up one finger)*—who loved God.

(Put on the rain gear. Open the umbrella.)


When would you wear a coat like this or use an umbrella? Our story from the Bible is about a time it rained so much and for so long that the whole earth was covered by nothing but water.

Many years after Adam and Eve, the world began to fill up with people. Sadly, God saw that almost everyone in the world had hearts sick with sin and did not love Him. *(Point to the Sick Heart poster.)* Their hearts were so sinful they did very bad things all the time. This made God sad, and He decided to flood the whole world and destroy every person and animal. **On the count of three, say, “Flood!” 1–2–3! Flood!** A flood is when it rains so much that water covers everything.

As God looked around, He saw that ALL the people did not love Him—except for ONE man and his family. *(Have everyone hold up one finger.)* His name was Noah. **On the count of three, say, “Noah!” 1–2–3! Noah!** God saw that Noah was a man who loved God and obeyed Him. Noah still sinned but he had a healthy heart that loved God. God was going

Supplies: rain gear, umbrella, pictures of ark/animal pairs, photograph of rain/rainbows

to save Noah and his family and two of each animal on earth. God told Noah to build a giant boat called an ark. *(Show the picture of the ark.)* **On the count of three, let’s all say, “Ark!” 1–2–3! Ark!** He even told Noah exactly what size to make it! Noah obeyed God even though his neighbors told Noah he was crazy for building a huge boat!

 God said to Noah—*(read Genesis 6:17–18 from the Bible.)* **A covenant is a special promise.**

When Noah was finished building his boat, God told him to get his family and two of every kind of animal—one boy and one girl—and send them into the ark. *(Show the picture of animal pairs.)* Then God sent rain for 40 days and 40 nights without stopping. *(Show the photograph of rain.)* That’s a long time for it to rain! Every person and every animal on earth that was not on the ark died. It rained so much that the whole earth was covered with water!

After the rain stopped and the water went away, Noah and his family and all the animals were able to get off the ark and live on the dry land again. As soon as Noah got onto dry land, the first thing he did was worship God. God made a promise to Noah never to flood

the whole earth again. He put a rainbow in the sky to help us remember that promise.

(Show the photograph of the rainbow.)

→ **God Is Good**, even when we do not understand what He is doing! God was so good to save Noah and his family. God saved Noah from the flood, and **Jesus Came to Save Sinners** like us from an even bigger problem: our sick hearts. **God Is Good!** God was also good to make a promise to Noah and everyone who would live on the earth after him, including us! God always keeps the promises He makes. **God Is Good!**

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is Good.” 1—2—3! God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is Good” to our neighbor. 1—2—3! God Is Good. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is Good!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is Good! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being good!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ Why did God tell Noah to build an ark? *(God was going to flood the earth.)*
- ☐ Why of all the people in the world did God save Noah and his family? *(God Is Good and saw that Noah loved him. Noah wasn’t perfect but Noah loved God and did his best to be obedient to God.)*
- ☐ Did Noah build the ark just like God said? *(Yes, Noah was obedient and did everything God told him to.)*
- ☐ Who was in the ark? *(Noah, his family, and two of each kind of animal)*
- ☐ What happened to the people who were not on the ark? *(They died in the flood; they were sinful and didn’t want to turn away from their sin.)*
- ☐ What did God promise Noah after the flood? *(God promised that He would never destroy the earth again with a flood.)*
- ☐ What did God give us to remind us of this promise? *(God gave us a rainbow. God Is Good; He keeps all of His promises.)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is Good!”*



Animals Brought
to the Ark

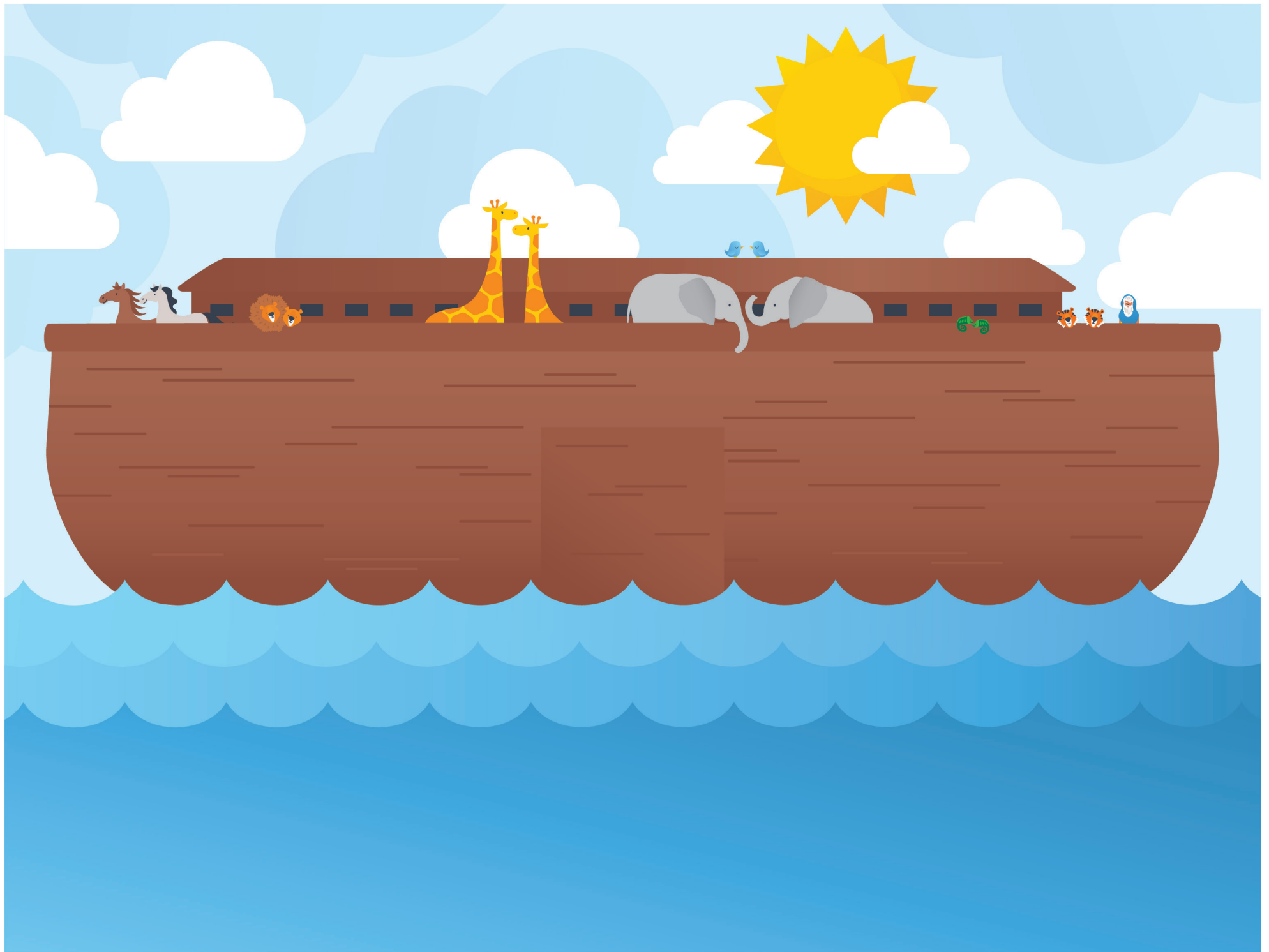


Ark at Sea



God Is Good







GOD IS
GOOD



Genesis 11:1–9

God Scatters the Nations

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

Supplies: Large toy bricks

KEY TEXT “Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech.’ So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city.” **Genesis 11:7–8**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Last week, we learned that after Adam and Eve sinned, the whole earth started filling up with people who only wanted to sin all of the time. Remember, sin separates us from God and we die but **God is Good**. God chose to save a man named Noah and his family from a flood that covered the whole earth, and He did.

God told Noah to build a big boat called an ark that kept him, his family, and two of every animal safe. God saved them from the flood and promised never to flood the whole earth ever again because God is Good.

Today, we're going to talk about what happened to everyone who came from Noah's family when they tried to build a tower so tall it would reach all the way up to heaven. Do you think they did it? Do you think they built a tower reaching all the way up to heaven? Let's find out, and remember that only **God Is in Charge of Everything**.

After Noah and his family got off of the ark, God told them to spread out and fill the earth with people again so Noah's sons started having families of their own and looking for different places to live. One of Noah's sons—named Ham—and his family settled in a land called Shinar. **On the count of three, say “Shinar!” 1–2–3. Shinar!**

In Shinar, people built homes and other buildings. They raised animals and gathered what they needed to live there. They even learned how to make bricks *(show the large toy bricks)* and stack them together which gave them an idea.

The people of Shinar didn't want to obey God or spread out all over the earth so they decided to use bricks to build a city for everyone to stay in. *Use the bricks to build a wall around you.* They also decided that,

in this city, they would build a tower so tall it would reach all the way up to God in heaven. *Use the bricks to start building a tower.* That way people would see how tall their tower was and be amazed at how important they were *(add a few more bricks for good measure)* and how powerful they were for making themselves so high and close to God.

Can we reach God or make ourselves closer to God just by building a tower? No. Were we made to tell other people how great and powerful we are, or how great and powerful God is? God! **God Is in Charge of Everything**, and only He deserves all of our worship.

📖 Well, God saw how the people were trying to make themselves seem important and powerful. He saw how they were disobeying Him and trying to be great like Him so God did something to spread them out and remind them that only He is in charge of everything, even the languages we speak. Let's read from the Bible what God did. *(Read Genesis 11:7–8 from the Bible.)*

In those days, there was only one language that everyone spoke all over the earth but that was about to change because, right as the people of Shinar were building their tall,

important tower, God made everyone speak in different languages. They tried and tried to talk with one another, but no one could understand what anyone else was saying. They were all so confused! **Can you show me what it looks like to be confused?**

The people were so confused, they had to stop building their tower and the place was called Babel or “confuse.” They left Shinar and spread out all over the earth—like God wanted—to find new places where they could live and work together. That’s why there are different countries and different languages all over the world today!

God Is in Charge of Everything, even the languages we speak. He stopped the people of Shinar from trying to make themselves look powerful and important because **God Is in Charge of Everything**. Only He deserves all of our worship.

Like everyone born after Adam and Eve, the people of Shinar had hearts that were sick with sin. They disobeyed God just like you and me, and sin separates us from God. We can’t reach up to God or be close to Him on

our own. That’s why, many years later, God sent His Son, Jesus to live a perfect life. Even though Jesus never sinned, He died on the cross for our sin and came back to life so that everyone who loves and trusts Him can have a new healthy heart and be with God forever! **God Is in Charge of Everything**, even our hearts. He makes a way for us to be with Him, not the other way around.

Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ When Noah and his family got off the ark, what did Noah’s sons do? *(They spread out all over the world and settled in different places.)*
- ☐ One of Noah’s sons settled in a place called Shinar. When they got there, what did they learn how to make? *(Bricks)*
- ☐ They decided to build a big city with a tall tower. Why? *(To stay in one place and make themselves look important and powerful; to be special and close to God)*
- ☐ When God saw how the people were building the tower to make themselves look important and powerful, what did He do? *(He made them all speak in different languages so that they could not understand each other.)*
- ☐ Did they continue building the tower? *(No)*
- ☐ After God confused their languages there, what was Shinar called? *(Babel)*
- ☐ Where did the people go next? *(All over the world like God wanted)*
- ☐ Who is in charge of everything, us or God? *(God! God is in charge of everything!)*



Building the Tower



Confusion



The People Scatter



God Is in Charge of Everything



More
bricks!

What
did you
call me?

That
ladder is
broken!

Whose
bricks are
these?

What
did
he say?

CRACK







**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



Genesis 15, 17–18, 21

God's Promise to Abraham

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH THE CHURCH IS GOD'S FAMILY

KEY TEXT And [Abraham] believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness. **Genesis 15:6**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Last week, we learned that Noah and his family were the only people who loved and trusted God on the whole earth! God sent a flood to fill the earth and destroy every person and animal, but God saved Noah, his family, and two of every kind of animal. When the flood was over and Noah and his family left the ark, people began to fill the earth again.

After many, many years, a man named Abraham was born. **On the count of three, say, "Abraham!" 1–2–3! Abraham!**

Today, we are going to talk about Abraham and a promise God made to him. When God kept this promise, it was the very beginning

of something we know today. God has a family! Today, we will learn that **The Church Is God's Family!**

Abraham listened to God *(point to your ears)* and wanted to obey all the things that God said to do. God gave Abraham a wife named Sarah. **On the count of three, say, "Sarah!" 1–2–3! Sarah!**

One night, when Abraham was praying to God *(make praying hands)* and asking God to give him children, God took Abraham outside to look at the night sky and the millions of stars. *(Show the star or photograph of the starry sky.)* Then God told Abraham to try and count the stars. *(Look up and point like you are trying to count the stars.)* Of course there were way too many stars for Abraham to ever count!

God promised Abraham that he would have even more children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren than there are stars in the sky! God told Abraham that all of his children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren would be God's special and chosen people.

Supplies: star or photograph of a starry sky, baby doll, picture of Abraham, Sarah, and baby Isaac

All of these people who loved and trusted God would become part of God's family. God promised to love them, be with them, and to give them a new home with Him forever because he had a plan. God would fix everything broken by sin through Abraham's family and the Savior God promised to send.

📖 The Bible tells us that Abraham believed what God said. *(Read Genesis 15:6 from the Bible.)*

Even though God had given Abraham and Sarah new healthy hearts that trusted Him, Abraham and Sarah still had to wait 10 more years to have a baby. That's a long time!

Finally, God told Abraham that very soon his wife, Sarah, would have a baby. The Bible tells us that when Abraham heard this, he laughed! **On the count of three, let's all laugh. 1–2–3! (Laugh!)** Abraham was so surprised that his wife would have a baby because she was very, very old! But God kept His promise to Abraham and Sarah, and soon, Sarah had a baby boy! *(Show the baby doll.)* This baby was named Isaac. **On the count of three, say, "Isaac!" 1–2–3! Isaac!** Abraham and Sarah were so happy for this precious baby that God gave them!

(Show the picture of Abraham, Sarah, and Isaac.) Even though Abraham and Sarah were very old and did not think they would be able to have a baby, **God Is in Charge of Everything** and gave Abraham and Sarah a baby.

- ✈ Abraham and Sarah wanted to have a baby, and God promised them that they would. God promised Abraham that he would have more people in his family than there are stars in the sky. God kept his promise. Abraham's family grew and grew and got very big! Many years later, Jesus would come from Abraham's family to make God's family even bigger. Now, God wants people from all over the world to be a part of His family, the Church. Everyone who loves and trusts Jesus is part of this family. **The Church Is God's family!**

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "The Church Is God's Family." **1—2—3. The Church Is God's Family. On the count of three, we are going to say, "The Church Is God's Family," while we point to all the stars in the sky. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Point to the stars in the sky. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "The Church Is God's Family!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! The Church Is God's Family! Everyone, sit down!**

Pray and thank God that He is in charge of everything!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)*
- ☐ Did God give Abraham and Sarah a son? *(Yes, because God always keeps His promises.)*
- ☐ What was their son's name? *(Isaac)*
- ☐ Today everyone who loves and trusts Jesus is a part of God's family. What is this family called? *(The Church!)*
- ☐ Let's say our foundational truth together: *"The Church Is God's Family!"*



Offspring
as the Stars
of Heaven



God Gives Isaac



The Church Is
God's Family







**THE CHURCH
IS GOD'S
FAMILY**



Genesis 21–22

God Rescues Isaac

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

Supplies: picture of Abraham and Isaac, photograph of a ram

KEY TEXT “Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom you love, and ... offer him [to Me].” **Genesis 22:2**

He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him.” **Genesis 22:12a**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Last week, we talked about a man named Abraham and his wife, Sarah. **On the count of three, say, “Abraham and Sarah!” 1—2—3! Abraham and Sarah!** They loved God very much and believed that **God Is in Charge of Everything**. Abraham and Sarah lived for a very long time and never had any children. God promised Abraham and Sarah that they would have a baby and that they would have more children than there are stars in the sky *(pretend to point to the stars in the sky)*. After a long time, God kept His promise and gave Abraham and Sarah a baby boy whose name was

Isaac. **On the count of three, say, “Isaac!” 1—2—3! Isaac!**

Abraham loved his son, Isaac, very, very much. When Isaac was a boy, God told Abraham to do something very, very hard and sad. **Can you show me a sad face?** Today, we are going to learn about what God told Abraham to do.

📖 *(Read Genesis 22:2 from the Bible.)* In the time that Abraham was alive, when you offered something to God, you had to kill it. It was called a sacrifice. **When you made a sacrifice, you were giving something special and valuable to God to show that He is better.** Abraham knew that what God was asking him to do was very, very hard. Abraham wanted to obey God and believed that **God Is in Charge of Everything**. God gave Abraham instructions on what to do to sacrifice Isaac to Him.

Abraham and Isaac traveled for three days *(hold up three fingers)* to a mountain. *(Show the picture of Abraham and Isaac traveling to the mountain.)* They took with them wood, fire, and a knife. Abraham built a large pile of rocks *(pretend to pile rocks)*, called an altar, where people would sacrifice things to God to

show their love to God. Abraham placed the wood on the altar *(pretend to place sticks of wood on your altar)*. Then, he placed his only son, Isaac, on the altar.

When Abraham was about to kill Isaac to show his love and obedience to God, Abraham heard a voice *(hold your hand to your ear like you are listening, and make a surprised face)* that told him not to kill his son, Isaac!

📖 *Read Genesis 22:12a from the Bible.* God said not to hurt or kill Isaac because God saw that Abraham truly loved God more than he loved anything else, including his son, Isaac.

God gave Abraham a ram *(show the photograph of the ram)* to offer as a sacrifice on the altar instead of Isaac. Abraham and Isaac showed their love and obedience to God by sacrificing the ram.

Abraham **almost** had to give his son, Isaac, back to God! But he didn’t have to because God saw how much Abraham wanted to obey Him. He trusted God and knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything**. He knew he could trust God to do what was best and protect Isaac.

✈ One day, many years later, God Himself would sacrifice His own son, Jesus, on the cross. Jesus would die to take the punishment for our sins so we could have a relationship with God. **God Is in Charge of Everything** and does what is best for His children.

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything,” while we point to all the stars in the sky. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God that He is in charge of everything!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ Did God give Abraham and Sarah a son? *(Yes, because God always keeps His promises.)*
- ☐ What was their son’s name? *(Isaac)*
- ☐ What did God ask Abraham to do with Isaac? *(God asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac and give Isaac back to God.)*
- ☐ Did Abraham obey? *(Yes, Abraham did obey because he loved and trusted God.)*
- ☐ What happened right before Abraham was about to kill Isaac? *(Abraham heard a voice that told him not to kill his son, Isaac.)*
- ☐ How do we know that God can keep His promises? *(Because God Is in Charge of Everything)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is in Charge of Everything!”*



Abraham and
Isaac Walking



God Is in Charge
of Everything





**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



Genesis 15, 17–18, 21–22

God's Promise To Abraham & God Rescues Isaac

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH THE CHURCH IS GOD'S FAMILY

Supplies: pictures, photos of a stars and ram, a baby doll

KEY TEXT And he [the LORD] brought him [Abraham] outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” And he [Abraham] believed the LORD. **Genesis 15:5–6a**

He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.” **Genesis 22:2**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We've learned that God made a beautiful world for Adam and Eve where they could walk and talk with God everyday. But Adam and Eve broke God's one rule to not eat the fruit of 1 tree in the garden of Eden. After Adam and Eve sinned, the earth filled up with people who only wanted to sin all the time, so God sent a flood to destroy every person and

animal, but God saved a man named Noah, his family, and two of every kind of animal by showing Noah how to build a big boat called an ark. God kept them safe on the ark and the earth began to fill up with people again.

One of those people's names was Abraham. **On the count of 3, say Abraham! 1–2–3! Abraham!** Abraham listened to God and wanted to obey everything God said. Abraham had a wife named Sarah. **On the count of 3, say Sarah! 1–2–3! Sarah!**

Today, we are going to learn about a promise God made to Abraham. When God kept this promise to Abraham, it was the very beginning of something we know today. God has a family! Today, **The Church Is God's Family!**

One night, Abraham was praying *(make praying hands)* and asking God to give him and Sarah children because they didn't have any and God answered. God told Abraham to go outside *(show the star or photograph of the starry sky)*, look up, and try to count the stars if he can. Try to count the stars. Of course, there were way too many to count!

Then God made a promise. God told Abraham that he and Sarah would have


more children and grandchildren and great grandchildren than there were stars in the sky. That's a lot of children!

All of the children in their family would be God's special, chosen people. All of these people who loved and trusted God would become part of God's family. God promised to love them, to be with them, and to give them a new home with Him forever because He had a plan. God would fix everything broken by sin through Abraham's family and the Savior God promised to send.

But there was only one problem. Abraham and Sarah were old, way too old to be having children. Still, the Bible tells us that Abraham believed God. He could keep His promise to give them a baby and God did. Ten years later, Abraham and Sarah had a baby boy. They named him Isaac, and they loved him very much.

Even though God had given them new, healthy hearts that loved and trusted Him, Abraham and Sarah still sinned. While they were waiting for God to give them a baby, they were impatient and mean. Sometimes, they wanted a son more than they wanted

to obey God which is a sin. Loving anything more than God, even our family, is a sin. So, when Isaac was a boy, God told Abraham to do something very hard and very sad. **Can you show me a sad face?**

 God said to Abraham, *(Read Genesis 22:2 from the Bible.)*

In that time, when you offered something to God, you had to kill it. It was called making a sacrifice. When you made a **sacrifice, you gave something special and valuable to God to show that He is better.** Abraham knew that God was asking him to do something very hard but Abraham wanted to obey God. Plus, he knew that God would keep His promise. God had promised to give him a big family that would be God's special, chosen people. Even if Isaac died, Abraham believed that God would bring him back to life because God keeps His promises.

So Abraham and Isaac traveled for three days *(hold up three fingers)* to the mountain God showed him *(show the picture of Abraham and Isaac traveling to the mountain)*, and Abraham built a large pile of rocks *(pretend to pile rocks)* there called an

altar where people would make sacrifices to God. He put the wood on the altar *(pretend to place sticks of wood on your altar.)* Then, he placed Isaac on the altar to sacrifice him like God said.

But just as Abraham was about to show his love and obedience to God by sacrificing Isaac, Abraham heard a voice *(hold your hand to your ear like you are listening and make a surprised face)* telling him to stop! God told Abraham not to sacrifice Isaac because God saw how Abraham loved Him more than anything else, even more than his only son Isaac. Finally, Abraham loved God most.

Then God gave Abraham a ram *(show the photograph of the ram)* to offer as a sacrifice instead, and Abraham and Isaac showed their love and thankfulness to God by sacrificing it on the altar.

✈ Phew! Abraham almost had to give his only son Isaac back to God, but Abraham loved God more. He knew that God would keep His promise to give him and Sarah a big family even if Isaac died. God could even bring Isaac back to life.

God kept His promise. Abraham's family grew and grew and got very big! Many years later, Jesus would come from Abraham's family to make God's family even bigger. God would even sacrifice His own son, Jesus, on that same mountain for sinners. Abraham's family, all of the people who trusted God and loved Him most, were part of God's family. Now, God wants people from all over the world to be a part of His family, the Church. Everyone who loves and trusts Jesus is part of this family. **The Church Is God's Family!**

On the count of 3, let's whisper The Church Is God's Family. 1—2—3! On the count of 3, say The Church Is God's Family while we point to all the stars in the sky. 1—2—3! Now everyone stand up! On the count of 3, we are going to yell The Church Is God's Family. If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. Everyone sit down!

Pray and thank God for making everyone who has ever loved and trusted Jesus a family.

Review Questions

- ☐ Where are we in God's Big Story? *(Point to God's People Wait on the timeline.)*
- ☐ What did Abraham and Sarah want? *(They wanted a baby, but they were too old to be having babies.)*
- ☐ What unbreakable promise or covenant did God make to Abraham? *(To give him a son, a big family, a new home, a great name, and to bless or make the world right again through his big family)*
- ☐ Did God keep His promise to give Abraham and Sarah a baby? *(Yes!)* What was his name? *(Isaac)*
- ☐ Who did God send from Abraham's family to bless the whole world and make it right again? *(Jesus!)*
- ☐ What did God ask Abraham to do with Isaac? *(God asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac and give him back.)*
- ☐ Did Abraham obey? *(Yes; Abraham loved and trusted God.)*
- ☐ What happened right before Abraham was about to kill Isaac? *(Abraham heard a voice that told him not to.)*
- ☐ Who came from Abraham's family many years later to save sinners and bring people from all over the world into God's family? *(Jesus!)*
- ☐ Everyone who has ever loved and trusted Jesus is called the what? *(The Church! The Church Is God's Family)*



Offspring
as the Stars
of Heaven



God Gives Isaac



Abraham and
Isaac Walking



The Church Is
God's Family









**THE CHURCH
IS GOD'S
FAMILY**



Genesis 37; 41–46; 50

God Uses Joseph

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

Supplies: picture of Joseph and his brothers, a colorful coat, a crown

KEY TEXT “As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.” **Genesis 50:20**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

God Is Good to keep His promises. In the Bible, we have been learning about God making a promise to Abraham to give him a big family and make them God’s special and chosen people. God kept that promise to Abraham, and one of Abraham’s great-grandsons was named Joseph. *(Show the picture of Joseph with his brothers.)* **On the count of three, say, “Joseph!” 1–2–3! Joseph!**

Joseph’s father was named Jacob, and Jacob loved Joseph with a special kind of love. Jacob did special things for Joseph, which made Joseph’s brothers angry. **Can you show me an angry face?** One special

thing Jacob did was give Joseph a beautiful, colorful coat. *(Show the colorful coat.)*

The brothers were angry that Joseph was given special things like the colorful coat. **Can you show an angry face again?** This made their brothers so angry, they decided they wanted to get rid of Joseph. They sold Joseph to the Egyptians to be enslaved.

Enslaved people have to do all of the hard work but not make any money. Enslaved people are not in charge of their own lives and have to do whatever their enslaver tells them to do. Enslaved people are treated very, very badly, and their enslavers are mean to them. It is terrible to be enslaved. God never wants us to treat people the way those who are enslaved are treated. After they sold Joseph into enslavement in Egypt, the brothers lied to their father, Jacob, and told him that Joseph had died.

While Joseph was in Egypt, God used him to help Pharaoh. The pharaoh was like the king of Egypt. **On the count of three, say, “Pharaoh!” 1–2–3! Pharaoh!** *(Show the crown.)* Pharaoh had a terrible dream, and God helped Joseph tell Pharaoh what

his dream meant. Joseph said the dream meant that bad weather was coming and that everyone was going to run out of food for a long, long time. Pharaoh put Joseph in charge of all of the food in Egypt. Joseph was like a prince. *(Put the crown on your head.)* Joseph made sure to save a lot of food so everyone would have enough to eat once the bad weather came. God was good to use Joseph to tell Pharaoh what his dream meant because it saved a lot of people.

God Is Good to save people. People came from all over the world to get food from Joseph in Egypt. One day, Joseph’s brothers came to Egypt to get food. Joseph was able to give food to his family. Joseph forgave his brothers for selling him into enslavement.

📖 Joseph said this to his brothers—*(Read Genesis 50:20 from the Bible.)*

Joseph invited his family to move to Egypt so they could have food and be taken care of. Joseph knew that **God Is Good!** No matter what happened to Joseph, God was good.

➔ **God Is Good** to us, too! God knows that we have hearts sick with sin and need to be

saved from sin. That's why God sent Jesus to save sinners. **God Is Good!**

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "God Is Good." 1—2—3! God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to say, "God Is Good," to our neighbor. 1—2—3! God Is Good. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "God Is Good!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is Good! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being good!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)*
- ☐ Who was the man in our story today? *(Joseph)*
- ☐ Why were Joseph's brothers angry at him? *(They had sin in their hearts and were jealous that Jacob did special things for Joseph.)*
- ☐ What did Joseph's brothers do to Joseph? *(They wanted to get rid of him so they sold him to be enslaved in Egypt.)*
- ☐ Where did Joseph go to become enslaved? *(Joseph was enslaved in Egypt.)*
- ☐ Pharaoh had a terrible dream. Who told Pharaoh what the dream meant? *(Joseph)*
- ☐ What did the dream mean? *(The people would be out of food for a long time because of bad weather.)*
- ☐ Who came to Egypt in search of food? *(Joseph's brothers)*
- ☐ How did Joseph treat his brothers? *(He forgave them, gave them food, and brought his whole family to Egypt to take care of them.)*
- ☐ Let's say our foundational truth together: *"God Is Good!"*



Joseph Brags
About His Coat



God Is Good





GOD IS
GOOD



Exodus 1–2

God Rescues Moses

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

Supplies: picture of Pharaoh,
a basket, a baby doll

KEY TEXT And God heard their groaning ...
God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.
Exodus 2:24–25

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning that Joseph forgave his brothers and invited his family to come live with him in Egypt. Joseph and his family were called the Israelites.
On the count of three, say, “Israelites!” 1–2–3! Israelites! The Israelites were God’s special and chosen people. God was taking care of the Israelites by bringing them to Egypt where there was food for them.

Today, we are going to learn about what happened to the Israelites while they were in Egypt.

While in Egypt, the Israelite families grew bigger and bigger *(have everyone stretch out their arms)* and stronger and stronger

(have everyone flex their arms). This made the king of Egypt really scared. **Can you show me a scared face?**

The king of Egypt was called Pharaoh *(show the picture of Pharaoh)*. **On the count of three, say, “Pharaoh!” 1–2–3! Pharaoh!** Pharaoh decided to do mean things to the Israelites to try and keep them from getting too strong. Pharaoh made the Israelites become enslaved people.

Enslaved people have to do all of the hard work but not make any money. Enslaved people are not in charge of their own lives and have to do whatever their enslaver tells them to do. Enslaved people are treated very, very badly, and their enslavers are mean to them. It is terrible to be enslaved. People are precious to God, and He never wants us to treat people the way those who are enslaved are treated.

Pharaoh’s plan wasn’t working! The more Pharaoh tried to hurt the Israelites, the stronger God made them! The Israelites continued to grow and grow *(have everyone stretch out their arms)*. So, Pharaoh came up with another plan. The Israelites were

not only going to be enslaved, but Pharaoh wanted every Israelite baby boy who was born to be thrown into the river to be killed.

During this time, an Israelite woman gave birth to a baby boy. *(Hold the baby doll.)* She knew that if Pharaoh found out she had a baby boy, he would want to kill him. So she put him in a basket and placed him in a river. *(Place the baby doll in the basket.)* When Pharaoh’s daughter came to the river, she saw the basket with the baby boy and felt sorry for him.

She took the baby from the river and called for an Israelite woman to take care of him. The Israelite woman that she chose was the baby’s mom! Once the boy grew up, his mother gave him to Pharaoh’s daughter to raise. She named him Moses. **On the count of three, say, “Moses!” 1–2–3! Moses!**

📖 Moses was an Israelite who grew up in Pharaoh’s house and saw how terribly Pharaoh treated the Israelites. Moses saw that the Israelites were hurting and chose to run away *(point away)*. God also saw and knew that His people were hurting. The Bible tells us—*(Read Exodus 2:24–25 from the Bible.)*

✈ Just like God heard the cries of the Israelites, He hears us, too! On good days and bad days, **God Wants to Talk With Us**. He hears every cry and knows every hurt. That's why when the world was broken because of sin, He promised to send a Savior. Jesus would come to save sinners.

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Wants to Talk With Us.” 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Wants to Talk With Us,” while making big muscles. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us (flex your arms). Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Wants to Talk With Us.” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for wanting to talk with us!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ Who were God’s special and chosen people? *(The Israelites)*
- ☐ How did Pharaoh feel when there were a lot of Israelites in Egypt? *(He was scared.)*
- ☐ What did Pharaoh do to the Israelites? *(He made them become enslaved and made sure every Israelite baby boy was killed.)*
- ☐ Who found the baby in the river and raised him as her son? *(Pharaoh’s daughter)*
- ☐ What did Pharaoh’s daughter name the baby? *(Moses)*
- ☐ Did God hear the cries of His people? *(Yes, He always does! God hears and God Wants to Talk With Us!)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Wants to Talk With Us!”*



Pharaoh and
Enslaved
People



Baby Moses



Adolescent
Moses

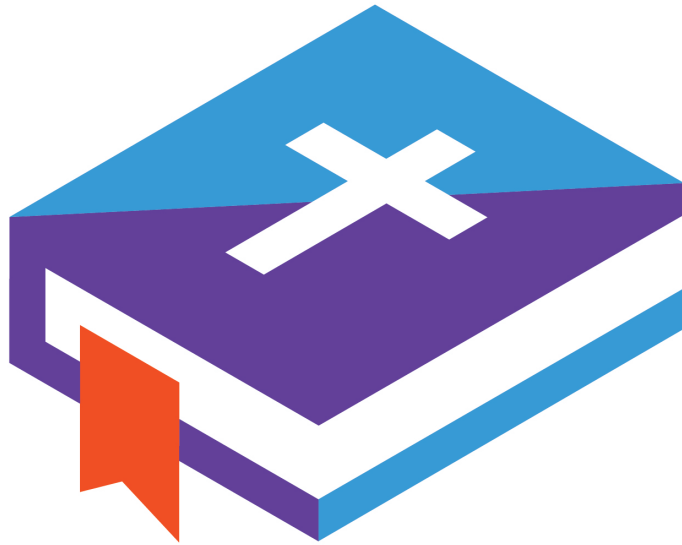


God Wants to
Talk With Us









GOD
WANTS TO
TALK
WITH US



Exodus 3

God Calls Moses

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

Supplies: bush, sandals (wear the sandals during the lesson), picture of the burning bush

KEY TEXT “I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians...”

Exodus 3:8a

“But I will be with you...” **Exodus 3:12a**

⇒ *(Show the Bible.)* The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.

Last week, we learned about **the Israelites, God’s special and chosen people**. We learned that Pharaoh made a plan to keep the Israelites from getting too big and too strong. He enslaved the Israelites and tried to kill every Israelite baby boy. But God heard the cries of the Israelites and kept baby Moses safe.

Today, we are going to learn about how God called Moses to save His special and chosen people. **On the count of three, say, “Moses!” 1—2—3! Moses!**

When Moses grew up, he ran away from Egypt and was working as a shepherd. As he was taking care of the sheep, he saw a bush *(show the bush)* that was on fire, but it wasn’t burning up! *(Show the picture of the burning bush.)* Moses turned to look at the bush, and

he heard a voice. **Everyone, point to your ears.** It was the voice of God! Because God was talking to Moses, and God is so special, God told Moses to take off his sandals. *(Take off the sandals by the bush.)*

God told Moses that He had heard the cries of the Israelites and had a rescue plan to save them from being enslaved in Egypt.

📖 God said to Moses—*(Read Exodus 3:8a from the Bible.)*

God Is in Charge of Everything! He had a plan to rescue His special and chosen people, but it meant that Moses had to go back to Egypt! *(Point back.)* Moses didn’t want to go back. He was scared. **Everyone, show me a scared face.** Moses didn’t think he was the right person to do the job because he forgot who was in charge. God reminded Moses that **God Is in Charge of Everything** and that He would be with Moses the whole time. Moses would not be alone.

📖 God said to Moses—*(Read Exodus 3:12a from the Bible.)*

Moses obeyed God and he traveled back to Egypt *(point back)* to be a part of God’s

rescue plan to save the Israelites from being enslaved.

➔ Moses was scared and knew that he could not save the Israelites on his own. Just like Moses could not save the Israelites from being enslaved without God, we cannot save ourselves from sin. Everyone is born with a heart that is sick with sin. *(Point to the Sick Heart poster.)* Only God can give a new, healthy heart that loves and trusts Jesus. *(Point to the Healthy Heart poster.)* **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything,” while acting like a big bush. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)*
- ☐ What kind of job did Moses have? *(He was a shepherd; he took care of sheep.)*
- ☐ One day Moses was caring for his sheep and he saw something amazing. What was it? *(He saw a bush that was on fire but not burning up.)*
- ☐ After Moses saw the bush, he heard a voice. Whose voice was it? *(God's voice)*
- ☐ Where did God tell Moses to go? *(Back to Egypt)*
- ☐ Who was God going to save in Egypt? *(God's special and chosen people, the Israelites, who were enslaved in Egypt)*
- ☐ Was Moses excited or scared about what God told him to do? *(Very scared)*
- ☐ Moses could not save the Israelites by himself. Who would be with Moses? *(God)*
- ☐ In the end, did Moses obey what God told him to do? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ Moses knew that he could not save the Israelites on his own. We know that we cannot save our own sick hearts from sin. Who is in charge of everything? *(God is!)*
- ☐ Let's say our foundational truth together: *"God Is in Charge of Everything!"*

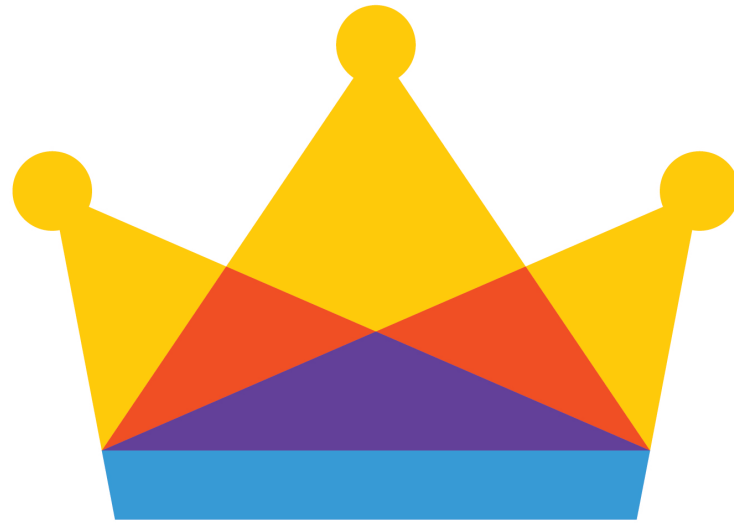


Moses at the
Burning Bush



God Is in Charge
of Everything





**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



Exodus 1–3

God Rescues & Calls Moses

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

KEY TEXT And God heard their groaning ...
God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.
Exodus 2:24–25

I have come down to deliver them out of
the hand of the Egyptians...Come, I will
send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my
people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.
Exodus 3:8a–10

...I will be with you. **Exodus 3:12a**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you
and the children what is good and true about
Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true
Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about
Joseph. Even though his brothers were
mean to him and he became enslaved in the
land of Egypt, God was good to Joseph and
made him like a prince in Egypt. Then Joseph
forgave his brothers and invited them to
live with him in Egypt so they would have
plenty of food to eat. God always has plans
to take care of His people because **God**

Is Good! Joseph and his family were called
the Israelites.

On the count of 3, say Israelites!

1–2–3! Israelites! They were the great-
grandchildren of Abraham, **God's special
and chosen people** who God loved. Today,
we are going to learn about what happened
to the Israelites while they were in Egypt and
how God heard their prayers because **God
Wants to Talk With Us!**

In Egypt, Israelite families got bigger and bigger
(stretch out your arms) and stronger and
stronger *(flex your arms)*. This made the king of
Egypt really scared. **Show me a scared face.**
He was called Pharaoh *(show the picture of
Pharaoh)*. **On the count of 3, say Pharaoh!
1–2–3! Pharaoh!**

So, Pharaoh tried to keep the Israelites from
getting any bigger or stronger by enslaving
them. **Enslaving someone means making
them work hard without giving them
money. Enslaved people are not in charge
but have to do whatever their enslaver tells
them. Enslaved people are treated very
badly and their enslaver can be mean to
them. God never wants us to treat people
like enslaved people are treated.**

Supplies: pictures (4), a basket, a
baby doll, a bush, sandals

But Pharaoh's plan didn't work! The more he
hurt the Israelites, the stronger God made
them and the more they grew *(stretch out your
arms)* so Pharaoh came up with another plan, a
terrible plan.

Pharaoh made the Egyptians take every baby
boy that was born to the Israelites and throw
them in the river to die. It was a very sad
and very scary time for the Israelites, so they
prayed and prayed to God for help, and God
heard their cries because **God Wants to Talk
With Us!**

📖 God saw that His people were hurting. *(Read
Exodus 2:24–25 from the Bible.)* God heard
their prayers and God had a plan to rescue
them. An Israelite woman gave birth to a
baby boy. *(Hold the baby doll.)* She loved her
son, but she knew that if Pharaoh found him,
he would die. So she hid him and protected
him by sending him down the river in a
basket. *(Place the doll in the basket.)*

That same day, Pharaoh's daughter, the
princess of Egypt, was taking a bath in the
river when she saw the basket with the
baby boy in it. She felt sorry for him, so she
called for an Israelite to come take care of
him. While he grew up, she raised him like

her own son. She named him Moses. **On the count of 3, say Moses! 1—2—3! Moses!**

Moses was an Israelite that grew up like a prince in Pharaoh's house. He saw how terribly Pharaoh was treating the Israelites, and he was angry. He was so angry that one day, Moses killed someone who was hurting the Israelites, and he ran away. *(Point away.)* Moses left Egypt and spent most of his life working as a shepherd, where he grew old. **A shepherd is someone who takes care of sheep.**

One day, while Moses was taking care of his sheep, he saw a bush *(walk toward the bush)* that was on fire, but it wasn't burning up. He went to take a closer look, and when he did, a voice called out to him from the bush. **Do you know who it was?** It was God! God wanted to talk with Moses, so Moses took off his sandals *(take off your sandals)* to show God honor, and he bowed low to listen.

God told Moses that He heard the cries of His people in Egypt. He heard their prayers and had a plan to rescue them from being enslaved

in Egypt. God said... *(Read Exodus 3:8a from the Bible.)*

But Moses didn't want to go back *(point back)* to Egypt! He was scared. **Show me a scared face.** Moses didn't think he was the right person for the job, but God said to Moses... *(Read Exodus 3:12a from the Bible.)* God spoke with him and reminded Moses that He would be with him the whole time. Moses would never be alone. So Moses obeyed God and traveled back to Egypt *(point back)* to be a part of God's plan to save His people from Pharaoh and from being enslaved in Egypt.

✈ Just like God heard the prayers of the Israelites, He hears our prayers too. **God Wants to Talk With Us** about what we are thinking and feeling. He wants to remind us who He is and tell us the plans He has made to rescue us from sin.

Like slaves, we are all born with hearts so sick with sin that we have to do what they say. *(Point to the Sick Heart poster.)* It's like they are our enslavers, and that's bad news because sin separates us from God

forever. But the good news is that God made a rescue plan to save His people! God sent His Son, Jesus, to live a perfect life, and He never sinned! Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins and came back to life so that everyone who loves and trusts Him can have a new, healthy heart and be with God forever! *(Point to the Healthy Heart poster.)* **God Wants to Talk With Us** about our sin and how He can save us through Jesus!

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "God Wants to Talk With Us." 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. On the count of three, we are going to say, "God Wants to Talk With Us," while making big muscles. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us (flex your arms). Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "God Wants to Talk With Us." If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for wanting to talk with us!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)*
- ☐ Who were God's special and chosen people? *(Abraham's family, the Israelites)*
- ☐ What did Pharaoh do to the Israelites in Egypt? *(He made them slaves and made sure every baby Israelite boy was killed.)*
- ☐ What did the Israelites do? *(They cried and prayed for help.)* Did God hear them? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ Who found and raised Moses? *(Pharaoh's daughter)*
- ☐ Did Moses stay in Egypt? *(No, he killed an Egyptian, ran away, and became a shepherd.)*
- ☐ Moses saw something while he was taking care of his sheep. What was it? *(A bush that was on fire but not burning up)*
- ☐ Who called out to him from the bush? *(God)*
- ☐ What did God tell Moses to do? *(Go back to Egypt to be a part of His rescue plan)*
- ☐ Was Moses excited or scared? *(He was very scared, but God said He would be with him.)*
- ☐ God hears our prayers and **God Wants to Talk With Us** about His plan to save us!



Pharaoh and
Enslaved
People



Baby Moses



Adolescent
Moses



Moses at the
Burning Bush



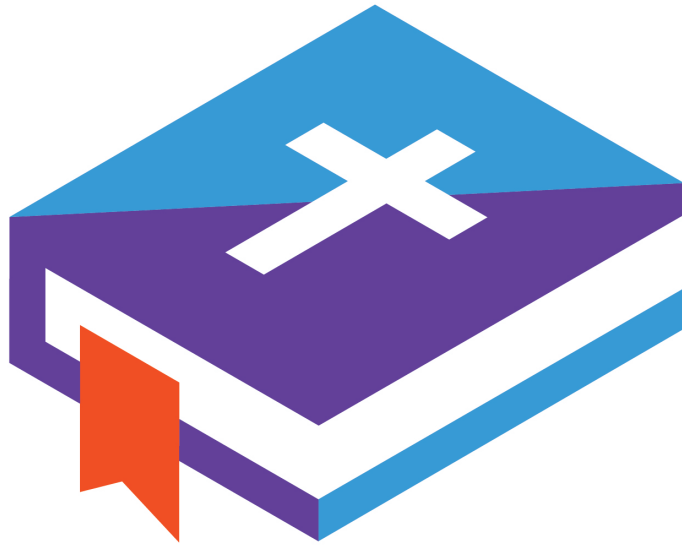
God Wants to
Talk With Us











GOD
WANTS TO
TALK
WITH US



Exodus 7–12

God Sends the Plagues

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

KEY TEXT “The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring out the people of Israel from among them.” **Exodus 7:5**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning about God’s special and chosen people, the Israelites, who were slaves in Egypt. God would use Moses to save them. Moses was scared and didn’t think he could do it, but God reminded him that **God Is in Charge of Everything!** God would be with Moses as he went back to Egypt. *(Point back.)*

Today, we are going to learn from our Bible about how God saved the Israelites from enslavement. God told Moses that He was going to send plagues, which are powerful and bad to show everyone that only **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

 *Read Exodus 7:5 from the Bible.*

God knew that Pharaoh would not listen to Moses because Pharaoh had a heart that was sick with sin *(point to the Sick Heart poster)*, and he did not love and trust God. Pharaoh may have been the king of Egypt, but only **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and say, “Let my people go,” and every time Pharaoh would say, “No,” God would send a plague.

The first plague *(show the #1 side of the plague picture)* that God sent turned all of the water into blood. *(Show the picture of water turned to blood.)* All of the rivers, ponds, pools, and even buckets of water were turned into blood! No one could drink the water, and all of the fish died, which made the water smell terrible! **Everyone, make a stinky face.** Still, Pharaoh’s heart did not change, and he did not let the Israelites go.

The second plague *(show the #2 side of the plague picture)* that God sent made the whole land full of frogs. *(Show the picture of frogs.)* There were frogs in all of the houses, bedrooms, kitchens, and even on the people!

Supplies: pictures of each of the plagues

Still, Pharaoh’s heart did not change, and he did not let the Israelites go.

The third plague *(show the #3 side of the plague picture)* that God sent made all of the dust turn into little bugs called gnats. *(Show the picture of gnats.)* There were gnats on every person and all of the animals! Still, Pharaoh’s heart did not change, and he did not let the Israelites go.

The fourth plague *(show the #4 side of the plague picture)* that God sent filled all of the Egyptian homes with flies. *(Show the picture of flies.)* Flies were on the people and everywhere in their homes! Still, Pharaoh’s heart did not change, and he did not let the Israelites go.

The fifth plague *(show the #5 side of the plague picture)* that God sent made all of the Egyptian livestock die. *(Show the picture of animals.)* So all of the horses, donkeys, camels, and birds of the Egyptian people died! Still, Pharaoh’s heart did not change, and he did not let the Israelites go.

The sixth plague *(show the #6 side of the plague picture)* that God sent made all of the Egyptian people and animals have sores

all over their bodies that were called boils. *(Show the picture of boils.)* Still, Pharaoh's heart did not change, and he did not let the Israelites go.

The seventh plague *(show the #7 side of the plague picture)* that God sent made hail from the sky rain down on the Egyptian people, plants and animals. *(Show the picture of hail.)* But before God sent the hail, He warned everyone to go inside their homes. Some people did not listen, so many people, plants, and animals died! Still, Pharaoh's heart did not change, and he did not let the Israelites go.

The eighth plague *(show the #8 side of the plague picture)* that God sent made bugs called locusts fill the land and eat all of the plants that were left. *(Show the picture of locusts.)* There were so many locusts that the people could not even see the ground! Still, Pharaoh's heart did not change, and he did not let the Israelites go.

The ninth plague *(show the #9 side of the plague picture)* that God sent made all of Egypt completely dark. *(Show the picture of darkness. Have the kids close their eyes and imagine it being so dark that they could not see anything around them.)* Still, Pharaoh's heart did not change, and he did not let the Israelites go.

The tenth and final plague *(show the #10 side of the plague picture)* was the worst of them all. God said the oldest boy in every Egyptian home was going to die. God told the Israelites to take their best lamb, kill it, and put some of its blood on their front doors. *(Show the picture of the blood on the doorposts.)* If the home did not have blood on the door, then the oldest boy would die. So that night, all of the oldest sons in the Egyptian homes died, including Pharaoh's son. Finally, Pharaoh told all of the Israelites to go *(point away)*.

God saved the Israelites just like He said He would! *(Have everyone cheer!)* **God Is in Charge of Everything!** Now, He would take the Israelites to the land that He promised them.

✈ Just like Pharaoh, we are all born with hearts that are sick with sin *(point to the Sick Heart poster)*. But like God sent Moses to save the Israelites, God would send Jesus to save sinners.

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "God Is in Charge of Everything." 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, "God Is in Charge of Everything," with a frog voice. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to yell, "God Is in Charge of Everything!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!

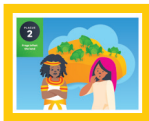
Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything.

Review Questions

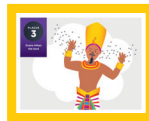
- ☐ This is where we are in God's Big Story.
(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)
- ☐ Why did God send Moses to Egypt?
(He used Moses to save the Israelites from enslavement.)
- ☐ Who was the king of Egypt? *(Pharaoh)*
- ☐ Moses told Pharaoh to let God's people go free from being enslaved. Would Pharaoh listen to Moses and do what God said? *(No!)*
- ☐ God sent many things to Egypt to show His power and save the Israelites. What were these things? *(Water turned to blood, frogs, flies, gnats, animals died, skin hurt, darkness, and all the firstborn boys died)*
- ☐ Finally, after all of these things that God sent to show how powerful he was, did Pharaoh listen to Moses and do what God said? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ How do we know that God is powerful enough to save His people? *(Because God Is in Charge of Everything)*
- ☐ Let's say our foundational truth together:
"God Is in Charge of Everything!"



Plague 1: Water Sources Are Turned to Blood



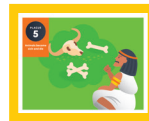
Plague 2: Frogs Infest the Land



Plague 3: Gnats Infest the Land



Plague 4: Flies Infest the Land



Plague 5: Animals Become Sick and Die



Plague 6: People and Livestock Come Down With Boils



Plague 7: Thunderstorm of Hail



Plague 8: Locusts Eat the Plants



Plague 9: Darkness Over the Land of Egypt



Plague 10: Passover; Firstborn Sons Die in Homes Without the Mark



Pharaoh Tells the People to Go



God is in Charge of Everything

PLAGUE

1

Water sources
are turned
to blood



PLAGUE

2

Frogs infest
the land



PLAGUE

3

Gnats infest
the land



PLAGUE

4

**Flies infest
the land**



PLAGUE

5

Animals become
sick and die



PLAGUE

6

**People and
livestock come
down with boils**



PLAGUE

7

Thunderstorm
of hail



PLAGUE

8

Locusts eat
the plants



PLAGUE

9

**Darkness
over the land
of Egypt**



PLAGUE 10

The Passover;
firstborn sons
die in homes
without
the mark





**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**





Exodus 14

God Rescues the Israelites at the Red Sea

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

Supplies: pictures of the Israelites walking through the Red Sea, photographs of clouds and fire

KEY TEXT Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians.
Exodus 14:30a

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning that God is powerful and saved the Israelites from enslavement in Egypt. God showed Pharaoh that **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

Today, we are going to learn about how God brought the Israelites out of Egypt.

The Israelites did not have to be enslaved in Egypt anymore! **Everyone, cheer!** Moses led them out of Egypt and toward a land that God promised to them. God promised that He would lead them to live in a beautiful and wonderful land. This land would be their new home. God told the Israelites that this land would be full of good things. It was so special that they called this new home the Promised

Land. **On the count of three, let's all say, "Promised Land!" 1—2—3! Promised Land!**

God was with the Israelites every day. Moses led the people by following God. God led them with a huge cloud in the sky during the day and with a column of fire in the sky at night *(show the photographs of clouds and fire).*

Back in Egypt *(point back)*, Pharaoh started to think that he made a mistake! Pharaoh liked that the Israelites did all the work and the Egyptians didn't have to. When the Israelites went away, there was no one to do the hard work! Pharaoh told his army to go *(point away)* and find the Israelites and bring them back to Egypt *(point back)* to enslave them again. The Egyptian army went out *(point away)* and started to look for the Israelites.

God told the Israelites to stop and camp by the Red Sea. **On the count of three, let's all say, "Red Sea!" 1—2—3! Red Sea!**

All of a sudden, they saw the Egyptian army coming for them. They were so scared!
Show me a scared face.

Moses told the people not to be scared. He knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything.** God told Moses that He would fight for the Israelites. Moses trusted God, so he knew God would take care of them! The Israelites needed to get across the Red Sea to get away from Pharaoh and his army. The Red Sea was a really big body of water *(stretch out your arms)*. They could not swim across it and they did not have a boat. Only God could help them get across the Red Sea!

God told Moses to stretch his hand out over the Red Sea. **Everyone, stretch out your hand in front of you.** God sent a big wind to make the waters separate on the left and the right. **Everyone push your hands to the left and the right.**

The waters separated, and the Israelites walked across the Red Sea on dry land.
(Show the picture of the Israelites walking through the Red Sea.)

 *Read Exodus 14:30a from the Bible.*

God Is in Charge of Everything! The Egyptian army tried to follow the Israelites, but God made the water come back together, killing the Egyptian army. **Everyone, stretch**

your arms out and clap them together.

God protected the Israelites! **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

✈️ God promised to be with the Israelites, and He was. God always keeps His promises! God promised that He would send a Savior to save sinners, and He did! God sent Jesus to save sinners.

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.”

1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything.

On the count of three, we are going to say,

“God Is in Charge of Everything,” with a deep voice. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up!

On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ God sent Moses to save the Israelites. What were the Israelites doing in Egypt? *(They were enslaved people who worked for the Egyptians.)*
- ☐ What did God put in the sky to lead the Israelites? *(A cloud in the day and a fire at night)*
- ☐ While the Israelites were leaving, what was happening with Pharaoh back in Egypt? *(Pharaoh wanted the Israelites to come back and be enslaved in Egypt again.)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is in Charge of Everything!”*



The Pillar and
the Parting of
the Red Sea



Miriam Dancing



God Is in Charge
of Everything







**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



Exodus 16

God Provides Manna

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH THE CHURCH IS GOD'S FAMILY

Supplies: coriander seeds,
honey, photograph of quail

KEY TEXT When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.” **Exodus 16:15**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

Show the Bible. The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.

We have been learning about God's special and chosen people, the Israelites, and how God saved them from being enslaved in Egypt! He sent the plagues to show Pharaoh that God is in charge, and then God separated the Red Sea so that the Israelites could walk across on dry land.

Today, we are going to learn about how God took care of the Israelites as they walked to the Promised Land. The Promised Land was a beautiful and wonderful land. God told the Israelites that this land would be full of good things and that it would be their new home.

It was going to take a long time to get there and was not going to be easy, but the Bible tells us that God was always with them.

Have you ever traveled somewhere that has taken a long time? Have you been really tired? Have you started whining to your family?

Well, the Israelites walked through a desert which is a really hot, dry place that has almost no food or water. They whined to Moses! *(Pretend to whine about having no food or water.)* The Israelites completely forgot what God had just rescued them from! They forgot that God always takes care of His people.

God heard their whining. God wanted the Israelites to remember they were part of His family and He would take care of them. God told Moses that He would send down bread from heaven, and for six days *(count to six)*, they were to go out and collect enough food for their family. This bread was called manna. **On the count of three, say, “Manna!” 1—2—3! Manna!** The Bible tells us that manna was white and shaped like coriander seed *(show the coriander seed)*.

The Bible also says manna tasted like honey *(show the honey)*, which means it was sweet. When God first sent manna to the Israelites, they did not know what it was. *(Look around with a confused expression.)*

📖 **Read Exodus 16:15 from the Bible.**

God also provided quail for them to eat *(show the photograph of quail)*. God provided the quail in the evening each day before bedtime and the manna each morning.

God Is Good and made sure the Israelites had the perfect amount of food *(give two thumbs-up)* so no one would be hungry.

God gave the Israelites rules. These rules were for the Israelites' good because God knows what is best.

Some of God's rules were to collect enough food for your family to eat that day and gather twice as much bread on the sixth day. God told His people what was best for them!

➔ Even after God told the Israelites what was best, some of them still disobeyed Him! God is so patient and continued to provide

for His people out of His own goodness. God continued to provide manna and take care of His people for 40 years! Today, God takes care of the Church. The Church is all of the people who love and trust Jesus.

The Church Is God's Family!

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “The Church Is God’s Family.” 1—2—3! The Church Is God’s Family. On the count of three, we are going to say, “The Church Is God’s Family” while flapping our arms like a bird. 1—2—3! The Church Is God’s Family. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “The Church Is God’s Family!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! The Church Is God’s Family! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being good!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ What did the Israelites walk through on their way to the Promised Land? *(The desert)*
- ☐ How were the Israelites acting as they were walking through the desert? *(They were whining.)*
- ☐ What were the two things God provided for the Israelites to eat? *(Manna and quail)*
- ☐ Why did God give the Israelites good rules for collecting the manna? *(God knows what is best.)*
- ☐ Did the Israelites follow all of God’s good rules? *(No, they didn’t.)*
- ☐ Why did God continue to provide for them? *(God takes care of His people!)*
- ☐ How long did God provide manna for the Israelites? *(40 years)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“The Church Is God’s Family!”*



God's People in the Wilderness



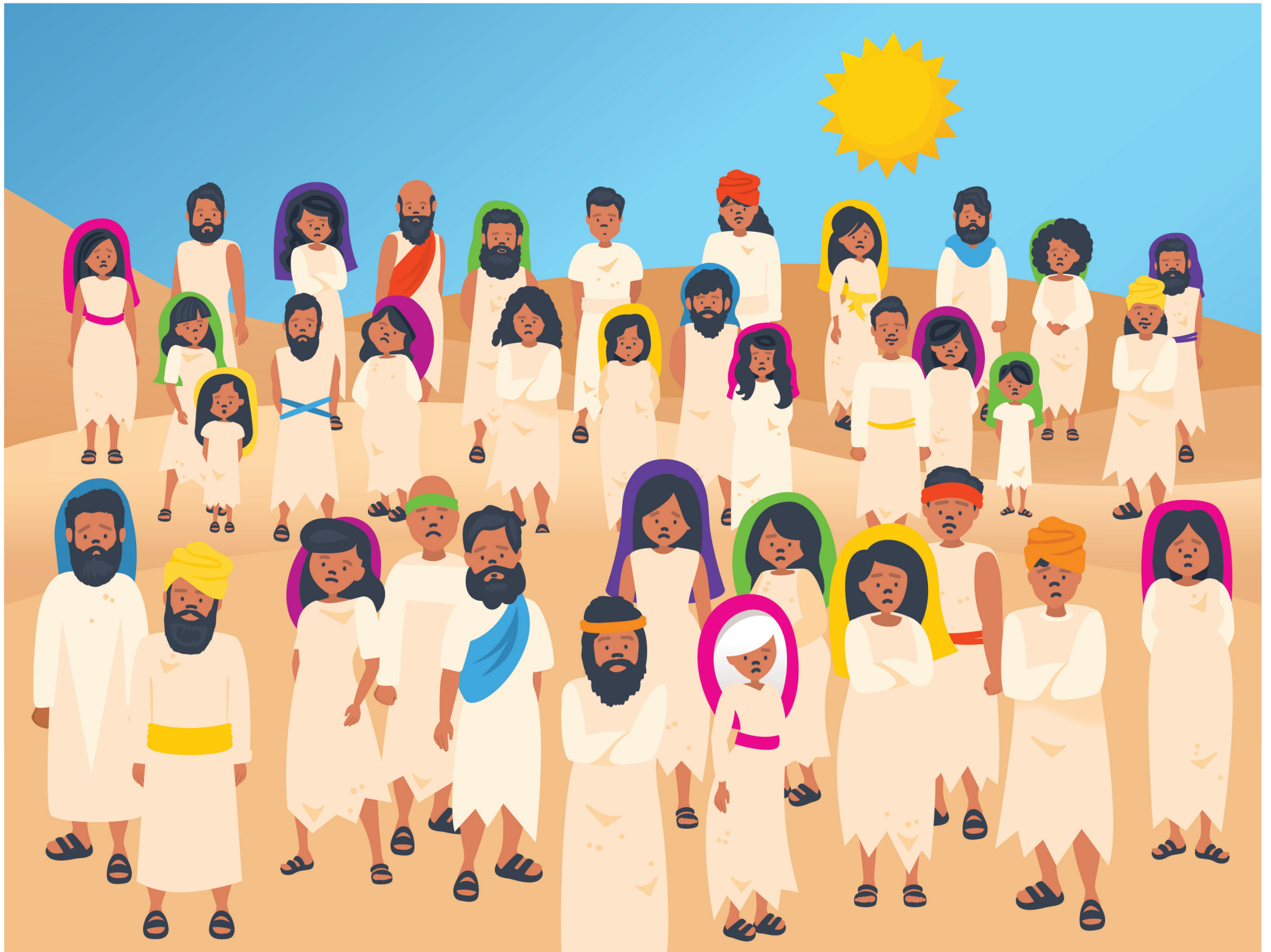
Collecting Manna



Collecting Quail



The Church Is God's Family









**THE CHURCH
IS GOD'S
FAMILY**



Exodus 20, 24

God Gives the Ten Commandments

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

Supplies: pictures of manna and quail, picture of two tablets with the Ten Commandments, Healthy Heart and Sick Heart posters, photograph of Mount Sinai

KEY TEXT “All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do.” **Exodus 24:3b**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning that **God Is Good** and He provides for the needs of His people. God is provider, and He cares for people because they are precious in His sight. God provided manna and quail for the Israelites to eat while they were walking through the desert. *(Show the pictures of manna and quail.)*

Today, we will learn from the Bible about what else God provided for His people as they continued to walk through the desert to the Promised Land.

The Israelites were walking through the hot, dry desert *(walk in place)* and needed to stop by a mountain to rest. Moses left them and

climbed up onto the mountain to spend time with God. *(Show the photograph of Mt. Sinai.)*

God told Moses some very special rules called the Ten Commandments. **On the count of three, say, “Ten Commandments!” 1—2—3! Ten Commandments!**

The Ten Commandments were 10 rules that God gave for the Israelites to obey. These rules were for the Israelites’ good. They were rules that would teach the Israelites what was best and protect them.

God spoke with Moses and wrote the Ten Commandments on two stone tablets. *(Show the picture of the tablets.)* Let’s read a few of them to see what God said.

- 1.** You shall have no other gods before me.
- 2.** You shall not make for yourself a carved image... You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I am the Lord your God. Don’t make a statue of God or anything else—just worship Him!
- 3.** You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain. Don’t use God’s name to say anything God hasn’t said.

4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work. Rest with God one day a week!

5. Honor your father and mother.

6. You shall not murder.

7. You shall not commit adultery.

8. You shall not steal.

9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. Don’t lie.

10. You shall not covet—or want—anything that is your neighbor’s. Be content with what you have.

After God gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments, He gave them hundreds of other laws too—laws about how to treat other people, laws about how to be close to Him even though they were sinners, laws about how to build a big tent called the tabernacle *(show the picture of the tabernacle)* so that He could live with them

and be their God. God gave His people lots and lots of laws!



After Moses told the Israelites what the Ten Commandments were, the people said—*(Read Exodus 24:3b from the Bible.)* It was good that the Israelites wanted to obey God! **Do you think the Israelites obeyed every rule perfectly?** No! *(Shake your head.)* They were sinners. They loved and trusted God, but they still sinned. No matter what they tried to do, they would never be able to keep God's rules perfectly. God was not surprised by this! He knew that the rules would show them that they needed a Savior to save them from their sin.

Obeying God's rules cannot save us from our sin, and it is impossible to obey God's rules without God's help. Every day, we break God's rules because we have hearts that are sick with sin. *(Point to the Sick Heart poster.)* **Sin is anything we do or think that is different from what God wants.** All of us sin. Even after you have a new, healthy heart *(point to the Healthy Heart poster)* that loves

and trusts Jesus, you will still sin. We will never be good enough, but that's why **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!**



God knows what is best and told His people what was best. He knew His people would not keep His rules perfectly but sent a Savior who would! **Jesus Came to Save Sinners! On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "Jesus Came to Save Sinners." 1—2—3. Jesus Came to Save Sinners. On the count of three, we are going to say, "Jesus Came to Save Sinners," in a tiny mouse voice. 1—2—3. Jesus Came to Save Sinners. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "Jesus Came to Save Sinners!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! Jesus Came to Save Sinners! Everyone, sit down.**



Have the class say the Gospel Fingerplay.

Pray and thank God for sending Jesus to save sinners.

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)*
- ☐ Why did Moses go up on the mountain? *(To spend time with God)*
- ☐ What did God give to Moses on the mountain? *(The Ten Commandments)*
- ☐ Why did God give the Ten Commandments? *(To teach what was best and show a need for the Savior)*
- ☐ Who did God send to save sinners? *(Jesus)*
- ☐ Can we obey God perfectly? *(No, only Jesus can.)*
- ☐ Let's say our foundational truth together: *"Jesus Came to Save Sinners!"*



God's People in the Wilderness



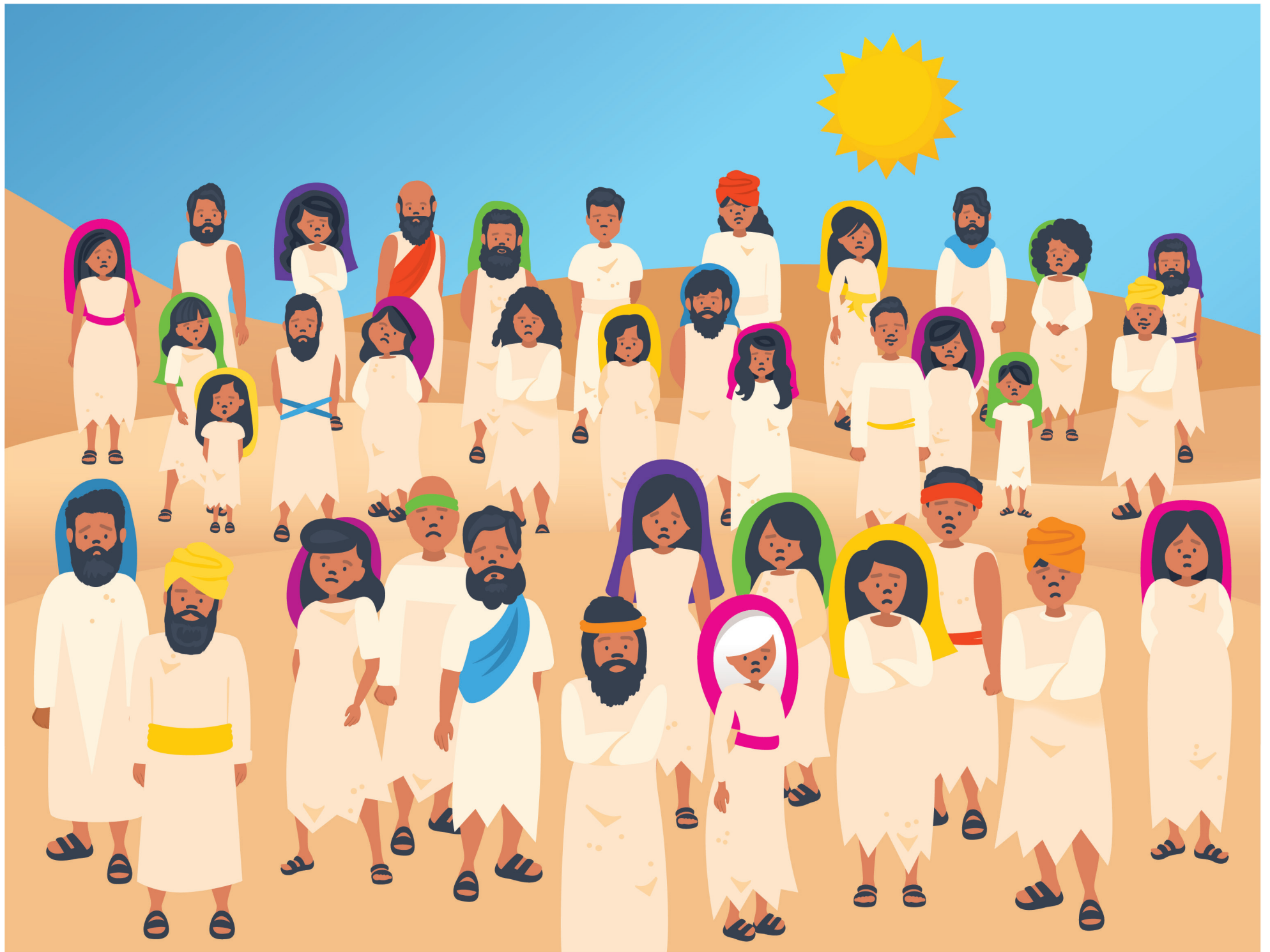
The Tabernacle



Stone Tablets by Mt. Sinai



Jesus Came to Save Sinners









JESUS
CAME
TO SAVE
SINNERS



Joshua 6

God Knocks Down the Wall

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

Supplies: trumpet/stadium horn/
noisemaker, cardboard boxes

KEY TEXTS And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, “Shout, for the LORD has given you the city.” **Joshua 6:16**

So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they captured the city. **Joshua 6:20**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning about God’s special and chosen people, the Israelites. God took care of the Israelites over and over again. He saved them from enslavement in Egypt. He gave them food called manna to eat. He gave them rules to live by called the Ten Commandments.

God made a special promise to the Israelites. He promised that He would lead them to

live in a beautiful and wonderful land. This land would be their new home. God told the Israelites that this land would be full of good things. It was so special that they called this new home the Promised Land. **On the count of three, let’s all say, “Promised Land!” 1—2—3! Promised Land!**

Moses led the Israelites through the desert for 40 years, but Moses died before they got to the Promised Land. The Israelites needed a new leader. This new leader was named Joshua. **On the count of three, say, “Joshua!” 1—2—3! Joshua!** Joshua was going to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land.

God always keeps His promises! The Israelites were so excited to get to the Promised Land. They were so tired of walking in the desert for 40 years! They were so close, but there was one thing in their way—Jericho. **On the count of three, say, “Jericho!” 1—2—3! Jericho!**

Jericho was a big city. *(Spread your arms wide.)* A huge wall was built around the city to keep the people inside safe. *(Build a “wall” with the cardboard boxes.)* The wall was built all the way around Jericho, and it couldn’t be knocked down by the Israelites.

The Israelites could not enter the Promised Land until the city of Jericho was defeated. They needed God’s help. The Israelites knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything** and could knock the wall down. God gave Joshua a battle plan to defeat Jericho. But it was a very strange battle plan!

God told the Israelites to march around the city of Jericho once a day for six days. *(March around the box wall.)* While they marched, the Israelites were supposed to blow a trumpet. *(Continue marching while you blow the trumpet/stadium horn/noisemaker.)*

This battle plan sounded crazy to the Israelites! Big, giant walls don’t fall down just because you walk around them blowing horns. **Do you think I can make this wall of boxes fall down just by walking around it and blowing my trumpet/stadium horn/noisemaker?** No! That’s silly!

But God wanted the Israelites to know that God was in charge of the walls of Jericho and God was in charge of getting the Israelites to the Promised Land. All the Israelites had to do was trust and obey what God told them to do, and He would do the rest.

📖 On the seventh day, God told the Israelites to march around Jericho seven times (*count to seven*) while they blew trumpets. Then Joshua said—(*Read Joshua 6:16 and Joshua 6:20 from the Bible.*)

As the Israelites shouted, the huge walls of Jericho came crashing down to the ground! (*Knock down the box wall.*) God had destroyed the walls of Jericho, and the Israelites could now enter the Promised Land! **Everyone, cheer!**

✈️ **God Is in Charge of Everything!** God was in charge of the Israelites. God was in charge of the walls of Jericho. The Israelites did not knock down the walls—God did! God did what He had promised He would do! God had brought the Israelites to the Promised Land. God always keeps His promises.

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything.

On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything,” with a deep voice. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. (*Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.*)
- ☐ Who was the new leader God gave to the Israelites? (*Joshua*)
- ☐ God promised to lead His people into a very wonderful land, but there was a city in the way! What was the name of the city? (*Jericho*)

- ☐ What was around the city of Jericho? (*A giant wall*)
- ☐ Could the Israelites knock down the giant wall by themselves? (*No!*)
- ☐ How many days did the people march around the giant walls of the city? (*Seven*)
- ☐ On the seventh day, what did God tell the Israelites to do? (*March around the wall seven times, then make lots of noise with trumpets and yelling.*)
- ☐ What happened next? (*The wall fell down.*)
- ☐ Who was in charge of the wall falling down? (*God; God Is in Charge of Everything!*)
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is in Charge of Everything!”*



Jericho
Defeated
by God



God Is in Charge
of Everything





**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



Ruth 1–4

God Cares for Naomi and Ruth

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

KEY TEXT “For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.”
Ruth 1:16b

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about God knocking down the wall of Jericho. God made a way for the Israelites to move into the Promised Land.

Today, we’re going to learn about a family who lived in the Promised Land.

This family moved away from the Promised Land to another place where the people did not love and trust God. The family had a really hard time in this new place. The dad and sons died, and the mom missed her home in the Promised Land.

Naomi, the mom, wanted to go back home

to the Promised Land. And Ruth, one of her daughters-in-law, wanted to go with her.
On the count of three, say, “Naomi and Ruth!” 1–2–3! Naomi and Ruth!

📖 Ruth knew that it was good to go with Naomi. The Bible tells us what Ruth said to Naomi when they were getting ready to leave. *(Read Ruth 1:16b from the Bible.)* Ruth loved Naomi and trusted that **God Is Good!** *(Show the picture of Naomi and Ruth.)*

Naomi and Ruth went back home, but Naomi had a hard time believing that God was good and would take care of them. Naomi was sad because she missed her husband and sons. Ruth trusted that **God Is Good** and would take care of them. She went to work in a barley field to get food. *(Show the barley.)*

Ruth gathered leftover barley from the field and took it home to eat! God took care of Naomi and Ruth and helped them get enough food. The field where Ruth worked was owned by a man named Boaz. **On the count of three, say, “Boaz!” 1–2–3! Boaz! Boaz was a very important man.**

Boaz had heard how Ruth had come back to the Promised Land with Naomi. He told his

Supplies: barley prop, picture of Ruth and Naomi, picture of Ruth, Naomi, Boaz and baby

workers to be kind to Ruth and let her take all the barley she wanted! God used Boaz to take care of Naomi and Ruth because **God Is Good!**

Naomi knew who Boaz was and thought he might be able to help them more. Naomi sent Ruth to ask Boaz to help take care of her and Naomi. Boaz agreed to help them. He married Ruth, and they had a baby and started a new family! God took care of Naomi and Ruth and gave them a new family. *(Show the family picture.)*

Naomi thanked God for her family. She trusted that **God Is Good!**

➔ God takes care of His people because He is good! He gave Naomi and Ruth food, a home, and a new family all because He is good. He wants His people to trust that He is good even when things are hard or sad. Being with God is the best thing for us. **God Is Good!**

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is Good.” 1–2–3! God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is Good,” in a robot voice. 1–2–3! God Is Good. Now,

everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is Good!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is Good! Everyone, sit down!

(Pray and thank God for being good.)

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story.
(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)
- ☐ Who moved back home to the Promised Land? *(Naomi and Ruth)*
- ☐ What kind of food did Ruth gather in the field? *(Barley)*
- ☐ Who did God use to provide for Naomi and Ruth? *(Boaz)*
- ☐ What did Boaz do for Naomi and Ruth?
(Boaz made sure they had all the food they needed, and he married Ruth.)
- ☐ What did God show Naomi and Ruth? *(God Is Good! He is what is best.)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together:
“God Is Good!”



Naomi
and Ruth



A New Family



God Is Good







GOD IS
GOOD



1 Samuel 1:1–2:11

God Answers Hannah's Prayer

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

KEY TEXT “I have been pouring out my soul before the LORD.” **1 Samuel 1:15b**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Last week, we learned that **God Is Good** and that He took care of Naomi and Ruth. God saw their need and provided for them.

Today, we're going to learn about a woman named Hannah. **On the count of three, say, “Hannah!” 1–2–3! Hannah!** Hannah was a married woman who didn't have children. She wanted children and was very sad that God had not given her a child. **Can you show me a sad face?**


Think about a time when you asked for something but didn't get it. Maybe you asked your parents for a new toy or you prayed to God and asked for something. Did it feel easy when you didn't get the thing you asked for? Or did it feel hard and sad?

Hannah was sad that she did not have a child. Every year, her family would go to the temple. The temple was where all the people came together to worship God, kind of like we do in the church building. Hannah's family would go to the temple to tell and show God that they loved Him most!

Hannah knew that **God Wants to Talk With Us!** One year when her family went to the temple, Hannah went inside to talk to God. *(Show the picture of Hannah praying.)*

Hannah prayed and asked God to give her a son. She promised that the child would be a helper in the temple.

The priest in the temple, Eli, saw Hannah praying, but he did not understand that she was praying. Eli was going to get her in trouble!

 The Bible tells us what Hannah was doing—*(Read 1 Samuel 1:15b from the Bible.)* Hannah was praying and telling all of her hurt and sadness to God because she knew **God Wants to Talk With Us!** She was doing exactly what God wants His people to do!

Once the priest understood, he blessed Hannah and told her that God had heard her

Supplies: pictures of Hannah praying and walking Samuel to the temple, baby doll

prayer. God always hears us when we pray. God did hear Hannah's prayer for a son, and He said “Yes!” God gave Hannah the child she had prayed for! *(Hold the baby doll and have everyone celebrate!)* Hannah named her son Samuel. **On the count of three, say, “Samuel!” 1–2–3! Samuel!**

Hannah raised Samuel while he was very young, and then she took him to the temple to learn from the priest and to serve God. *(Show the picture of Hannah walking Samuel to the temple.)* Samuel grew up to be a priest and a prophet for Israel. **A prophet is a messenger of God, someone who speaks for God.**

→ **God Wants to Talk With Us!** We can talk to Him through prayer, and God talks to us through the Bible and the Holy Spirit. When we pray, we can tell God how good He is, we can thank Him for the things and people we love, we can tell Him that our hearts are sick with sin, and we can ask for things just like Hannah did. **God Wants to Talk With Us!**

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Wants to Talk With Us.” 1–2–3. God Wants to Talk With Us. On the count of three, we are going to

say, “God Wants to Talk With Us” with praying hands. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Wants to Talk With Us!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for wanting to talk with us!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ Why was Hannah sad? *(She wanted a child.)*
- ☐ Where did her family go to worship God? *(The temple)*
- ☐ Who saw Hannah praying? *(Eli, the priest)*
- ☐ What was Hannah asking God to do? *(Give her a child)*

- ☐ Did God respond to Hannah’s prayer? *(Yes! God heard and responded to her prayer. He gave her a son.)*
- ☐ What did Hannah name her son? *(Samuel)*
- ☐ **God Wants to Talk With Us!** He wants us to pray to Him and trust that He hears us, so let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Wants to Talk With Us!”*



Hannah Pours
Out Her
Heart to God



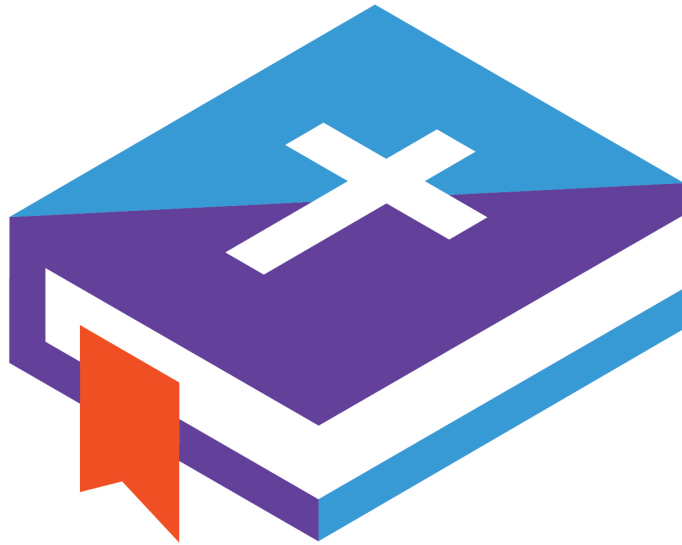
Samuel
Brought to Eli



God Wants to
Talk With Us







GOD
WANTS TO
TALK
WITH US



1 Samuel 16:1–13

God Chooses David

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH JESUS CAME TO SAVE SINNERS

Supplies: a horn, a crown, God's Big Story
Timeline Circle: God Promises a Savior

KEY TEXT Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. **1 Samuel 16:13**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Last week, we learned about Hannah's prayer. Hannah talked to God and asked Him to give her a child, and He did! His name was Samuel. **On the count of three, say, "Samuel!" 1—2—3! Samuel!** Hannah sent Samuel to live with the priest and learn about God. God gave him a healthy heart that loved and trusted God, and Samuel became a prophet. **A prophet is a messenger of God, someone who speaks for God.**

Samuel led the Israelites, God's special and chosen people, and helped them follow God. The Israelites had a king. **Everyone, pretend to put a crown on your head.** But he was

not a good king. His heart was sick with sin. God told Samuel that there would be a new king, one who loved and trusted God.

God sent Samuel to the house of a man named Jesse and told him that one of Jesse's sons would be the next king! Jesse brought his sons out to meet Samuel, but each time one of his seven sons stood, God told Samuel that he wasn't the next king. *(Act out Samuel saying "no" to Jesse's oldest sons.)*

Samuel asked Jesse if these were all of his sons. Jesse said, "No, I have David, but he's just a small boy—he's watching the sheep."
On the count of three, say, "David!" 1—2—3! David!

📖 Jesse brought David to Samuel. David was a young boy who didn't look like a king. But God told Samuel, "This is the one I have chosen."
(Read 1 Samuel 16:13 from the Bible.)

(Use the horn to pretend to pour oil.)
Samuel anointed David by pouring oil on David's head to show that he was the one God had chosen. David would be the next king! *(Put on the crown as you say this.)*
God knew that David loved Him and wanted to obey Him.

The Bible calls David a man after God's own heart. God gave David a healthy heart, but David didn't always obey God. Remember all the way back to when we learned about Adam and Eve? They disobeyed God, and every person since has been born with a heart that is sick with sin, except one!

God promised Adam and Eve that a Savior would come. *(Hold up God's Big Story "Promise of a Savior" circle.)* This Savior, Jesus, is the only one born with a healthy heart because He is the Son of God. God promised that He would give all people who love and trust Jesus a healthy heart, too!
Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

David wasn't a perfect man or a perfect king, but he believed God's promises. God loved David, too, and gave him a healthy heart that loved and wanted to obey God. God also blessed him in a special way. Jesus, the promised Savior, would be born from David's family!

➔ The Israelites needed a good king who would love and obey God. That was not their biggest need, though! The people of Israel and all of us need a Savior even more! **Jesus Came to Save Sinners!** Everyone who loves

and trusts Jesus are given healthy hearts that can obey God.

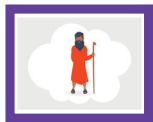
On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “Jesus Came to Save Sinners.” 1—2—3. Jesus Came to Save Sinners. On the count of three, we are going to say, “Jesus Came to Save Sinners,” with a very slow voice. 1—2—3. Jesus Came to Save Sinners. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “Jesus Came to Save Sinners!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! Jesus Came to Save Sinners! Everyone, sit down.

✝ *Have the class say the Gospel Fingerplay.*

Pray and thank God that Jesus Came to Save Sinners.

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ Who did God send to find the next king? *(Samuel)*
- ☐ What was the name of the son who would be king? *(David)*
- ☐ Why did God choose David to be the next king? *(David loved God. He was a man after God’s own heart, and he believed in God’s promises.)*
- ☐ How did God bless David? *(Jesus, the Savior, was born into David’s family!)*
- ☐ What do people need more than a good king like David? *(Jesus)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“Jesus Came to Save Sinners!”*



God's Prophet,
Samuel



Samuel Meets
Jesse's Sons



David, the
Shepherd



Samuel
Anoints David



Jesus Came to
Save Sinners











JESUS
CAME
TO SAVE
SINNERS



1 Samuel 17

God Uses David

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

KEY TEXT “For the battle is the LORD’s, and he will give you into our hand.”
1 Samuel 17:47b

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about how God told Samuel that David was going to be the king. **On the count of three, say, “David!” 1–2–3! David!** We also learned that the Savior God had promised would be born from David’s family! David would be the king of Israel but he wasn’t the king yet.

Today, we are going to learn about how God used David to protect the Israelites, God’s special and chosen people.

David was still a boy when the Israelites were fighting with a big, strong enemy. **Strike a muscle pose.** Their enemy, the Philistines, did not love God. The Philistines had a great warrior on their side; his name was Goliath. **On**

the count of three, say, “Goliath!” 1–2–3! Goliath!

Goliath was a very, very big man! *(Point to the Goliath felt on the wall and have a child stand next to it.)* He was huge! The Israelites were going to war with the Philistines and they were scared of this very big man named Goliath. The Israelites did not know who would fight against this huge and scary man.
Can you show me a scared face?

Every day, Goliath would yell to the Israelites, “Send your best soldier to fight me, and if your soldier wins, we will be your slaves. But if I win, you will be our slaves.” **Being enslaved means that someone has to do all of the hard work but not make any money. Enslaved people are not in charge of their own lives and have to do whatever their enslaver tells them to do. Enslaved people are treated very, very badly, and their enslavers are mean to them. It is terrible to be enslaved. God never wants us to treat people the way enslaved people are treated.**

The Israelites were very scared. They needed someone to fight for them. God would use David.

Supplies: stones, slingshot, felt warrior, poms for each child

David was a young boy and not old enough to fight with the other Israelites, so he stayed home while his older brothers went to fight. One day, David’s father asked him to take some food to his brothers and make sure that they were all okay. David went to where his brothers and the Israelites were fighting. When he got there, David saw Goliath and saw that all the people were afraid of him. **Show me a scared face.**


David knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything!** David said, “Don’t be afraid! I will fight Goliath.” David didn’t have a scared face. He had a brave face! **Show me a brave face.**

People were surprised that a boy would want to fight such a large, scary man. The king said, “You are only a shepherd boy, and Goliath is a great soldier! How will you fight him?” David said, “God will help me.”

David found five smooth stones. **Can you count with me? 1–2–3–4–5.** They might have looked something like these stones. *(Show the stones.)* David took the stones and his slingshot. *(Show the slingshot.)*

David walked toward Goliath. David knew that this was God’s battle, and God always

wins His battles! Goliath was angry that a young boy was coming to fight him and made fun of David. David was not afraid because he knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

 David told Goliath that he was going to win because the battle was God's! *(Read 1 Samuel 17:47b from the Bible.)* David threw one of the stones at Goliath, and he won the battle! *(Have everyone throw their pom at the felt Goliath.)* Goliath died, and the Philistines were very afraid and ran away from the Israelites! The Israelites celebrated because God saved them! **Everyone, cheer!**

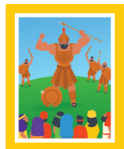
➔ **God Is in Charge of Everything!** God used a young boy with a stone and a slingshot to defeat a strong enemy. God did not need strong men to fight the battle. **God Is in Charge of Everything,** and we can trust that He is strong enough to help His people!

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything,” with a big, deep voice. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything.

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ Was David a grownup or a young boy? *(A young boy)*
- ☐ Was Goliath big or small? *(He was very, very big!)*
- ☐ Why were the Israelites so afraid of Goliath? *(He was a big man who was very scary and mean.)*
- ☐ Who did David say would help him win the fight? *(God!)*
- ☐ Was David able to take down Goliath? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ Who used David to save the Israelites? *(God did!)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is in Charge of Everything!”*



**Goliath
Provokes the
Living God**



**David
Collecting
Stones**



**David Stands
Up to Goliath**



**God Gives
Victory**



**God Is in Charge
of Everything**











**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



1 Samuel 3–2 Samuel 7

God Chooses and Uses David

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

Supplies: a horn, stones, slingshot, a crown,
God's Big Story "Promise of a Savior" circle

KEY TEXT Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward. **1 Samuel 16:13**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about an Israelite, one of God's special, chosen people, who lived a long time ago. Her name was Hannah. **On the count of three, say "Hannah!" 1—2—3! Hannah!** Hannah wanted a child so she prayed and prayed to God, and what happened? God gave her a child, a baby boy named Samuel. **On the count of three, say "Samuel!" 1—2—3! Samuel!**

Hannah loved Samuel, but Hannah loved God even more, so she kept her promise to God and gave her son, Samuel, back to God. She sent him to live with a man named Eli, a priest in God's temple. God gave Samuel

a healthy heart that loved and trusted Him, and when Samuel grew up, God made Samuel a prophet! **A prophet is someone who speaks for God and delivers God's messages.**

Samuel helped the Israelites love and follow God. He reminded them that **God Is in Charge of Everything**. He even gave them their first two kings. That's what we're going to talk about today!

The Israelites didn't want God to be the only one in charge of them. They wanted a king like all of the other nations around them, so God told Samuel to give them what they wanted. Samuel gave them a tall, handsome king named Saul. **Can you pretend to put a big, important crown on your head?** But Saul was not a very good king. Even though he was tall and handsome on the outside, on the inside Saul's heart was sick with sin. Saul disobeyed God and didn't listen to Samuel, so God told Samuel to go and find a new king, a good king who would love and trust God.

So God sent Samuel to a man named Jesse and told him that one of Jesse's sons would be the new king. Since Jesse thought God probably wanted someone tall and

handsome like Saul, he brought seven of his oldest, tallest, strongest sons out to Samuel. But each time one of them stood in front of Samuel, God said, "I have not chosen him." *(Act out Samuel saying "no" to all seven of Jesse's oldest sons.)* "Are these all the sons you have?" asked Samuel. "There's still my youngest son, David, but he's taking care of the sheep." "Tell him to come here," Samuel said. "We'll stand right here and wait," and they brought David to Samuel. **On the count of three, say "David!" 1—2—3! David!**

📖 David was Jesse's youngest son. He was a shepherd who took care of sheep. He didn't look like a king, but God told Samuel, "This is the one I have chosen." *(Read 1 Samuel 16:7 from the Bible.)*

Samuel anointed David *(use the horn to pour out some pretend oil)* by pouring oil on his head which was God's way of showing that He had chosen someone for a special job. God chose David to be the next king of Israel, though David would not be king for almost 20 years. That's a long time! Still, God gave David a new, healthy heart that loved and trusted Him, and God used David to do some pretty amazing things.

One time, God used David to defeat a HUGE warrior named Goliath and save God's people from their enemies, the Philistines, who wanted their land. **Raise your hand if you have heard the story of David and Goliath before.** When King Saul and the rest of the Israelite army were too scared to fight the HUGE and scary Goliath, David said he would fight him. David remembered God's covenant with Abraham to give the Israelites that land, not the Philistines, and David trusted God. He knew it was God's battle and God always wins His battles. **God Is in Charge of Everything** and way bigger and stronger than any giant!

So David picked up his sling and threw a stone right at Goliath's giant head and hit him hard. The giant fell down dead in front of everyone, and the Israelites cheered, chasing away their enemies. God used David to save His people and remind them that **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

God was with David and helped him everywhere he went. This made King Saul mad. **Can you make a mad face?** Saul was

jealous of David. He didn't want David to be the next king so Saul tried to kill him! But **God Is in Charge of Everything**, not Saul, and God chose David to be the next king. God protected David from Saul until the day Saul died. Then the Israelites made David their new king, and King David helped the Israelites love and trust God all his days... Well, most days.

David wasn't a perfect king. He was still a sinner like you and me, but He loved and trusted God most and was so sorry when he sinned. David even wrote songs and poems about God for His people to sing so they could love and trust God more. We'll talk more about those next week.

God was so good to David, He even made a covenant with David. **A covenant is an unbreakable promise from God to His people.** God promised David that there would be a king in his family forever! **Do you think God kept that promise?** Yes! David's son was king, and his son was king, and his son was king, all the way down until the time Jesus was born. Wait a

minute... **Is Jesus a king?** Yes! Jesus is the Forever King from David's family. God kept His promise to David because Jesus will always be King! Jesus is God, and **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

✈ The Israelites wanted a king like all the other nations that would keep them safe and happy, but what they really needed was a king like David who would help them love and trust God. They loved something else more than they loved God, and we do, too.

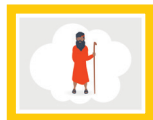
We all love other things more than we love God which is a sin. We all say, think, and do things that are different than what God wants, and that sin separates us from God forever. But the good news about Jesus is that He beat sin by living a perfect life. Then Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for sin and came back to life so that everyone who loves and trusts Him can get a new, healthy heart and be with God forever! Jesus is the Forever King from David's family, and **God Is in Charge of Everything**, even our hearts.

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything,” with a big, deep voice. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything.

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ Which prophet did God use to anoint the Israelites’ first two kings? *(Samuel)*
- ☐ Did their first king, Saul, love and trust God? *(No, Saul disobeyed God.)*
- ☐ Who did God choose to be Israel’s next king? *(David, the son of Jesse, a shepherd boy)*
- ☐ Was David a good king? *(Yes! David loved and trusted God, but he wasn’t perfect.)*
- ☐ As a boy, what BIG thing did God use David to do? *(Defeat Goliath and save His people)*
- ☐ Saul was jealous and tried to kill David. Did God protect him and make him king? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ What covenant did God make to David? *(A king would be in his family forever)*
- ☐ Who is the Forever King and Savior that came from David’s family? *(Jesus!)*
- ☐ What covenant did God make to David? *(A king would be in his family forever)*



God’s Prophet,
Samuel



Samuel meets
Jesse’s Sons



David, the
Shepherd



Samuel
Anoints David



David Stands
Up to Goliath



God Gives
Victory



God Is in
Charge of
Everything















**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



Psalm 150

God Gives His People Songs

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

Supplies: Harp, lyre, tambourine

KEY TEXT Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! **Psalm 150:1–6**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about David, who God chose to be king over His special, chosen people, the Israelites. God made a covenant with David. **A covenant is an unbreakable promise from God to His people.** God promised David that there would be a king in his family forever! We know God kept his promise because David's

son, Solomon was king, and his son was king, and his son was king, all the way down until the time Jesus was born. Jesus is the Forever King from David's family.

King David loved God more than anything or anyone. Because David loved God, he worshiped Him. What is worship? **Worship is telling and showing someone or something that they are most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We can worship God by singing songs, praying, telling others about Him, and reading God's Word. When we love and trust God, our hearts want to worship Him.**


King David worshiped God through writing and singing many different songs, prayers, and poems. **Have you ever sang a song to God before?** Yes! We can sing songs to God in our cars, bedrooms, backyards, and we almost always sing songs to God when we go to church! A song can be like a prayer that we sing—a way for us to talk with God and tell Him how much we love Him. We can use voices or instruments *(show the instruments)* to make music to God. God loves to hear his children sing and make music to Him. **God Wants to Talk With Us!** That's why he gave us the Bible.

Did you know there is a whole book of the Bible filled with songs? It's true! God gave King David and a few other people songs, prayers, and poems to write and sing called the Psalms. **On the count of three, let's say "Psalms". 1–2–3! Psalms.** The word "psalm" means song, so the book of Psalms is really just a big book of songs *(show the Bible opened to Psalms)*!

There are 150 chapters in Psalms, which is way more than any other book in the Bible. **Can you count to 150? Should we try it together?** No way! Counting to 150 would take a long time because 150 is a big, big number. Most of the psalms ask God to do something about the sin and sadness in the world or praise God for His goodness.

When we are sad, angry, or confused, we often lament. **Can you say "lament"?** Lament is a way to express our sadness, anger, or confusion. King David was often sad, angry, and confused because he knew that sin had broken God's good creation. Even though David was the king and in charge of God's people, he was not in charge of everything, and he could not fix what sin had broken. He wrote songs of lament to talk with God about his sadness and confusion and to ask for God's help—and we can too.

When we are joyful or thankful, we offer praise. **Can you say “praise”?** Praise is a way to express our joy and thankfulness. King David could praise God because he trusted God to keep His covenant promise to one day send a Savior from David’s own family who would beat sin, make all things new, and be king forever.

 Let’s read a psalm of praise from the Bible. Psalm 150, the last psalm, says this. *(Read Psalm 150 from the Bible.)*

King David worshiped God and talked to God in both lament and praise because David loved God. He wanted God’s people to worship and talk to God too, so David put large choirs of people outside the temple to sing and play instruments as the people came to worship God. Singing to God helped the Israelites talk to God and reminded them that God always keeps His promises no matter how we feel—just like singing does today!

✈ **God Wants to Talk With Us** so He gave us songs, prayers, and poems that teach us how to talk with Him. God wants to hear our lament and praise. When we are sad because of sin or glad because God is good, **God Wants to Talk With Us!**



God Gives His People Songs



God Wants to Talk With Us

King David knew that he was a sinner whose heart was sick with sin, but he also knew that one day, God would send a Savior, King Jesus, to save sinners like him—and he was right! God sent Jesus to be born as a baby, live a perfect life, die on the cross for sins, and rise from the dead so that everyone who loves and trusts Him can have a new, healthy heart and be with God forever! One day, King Jesus will return and fix everything that has been broken by sin and be our king forever! Now that’s something to sing about.

God Wants to Talk With Us about Jesus!

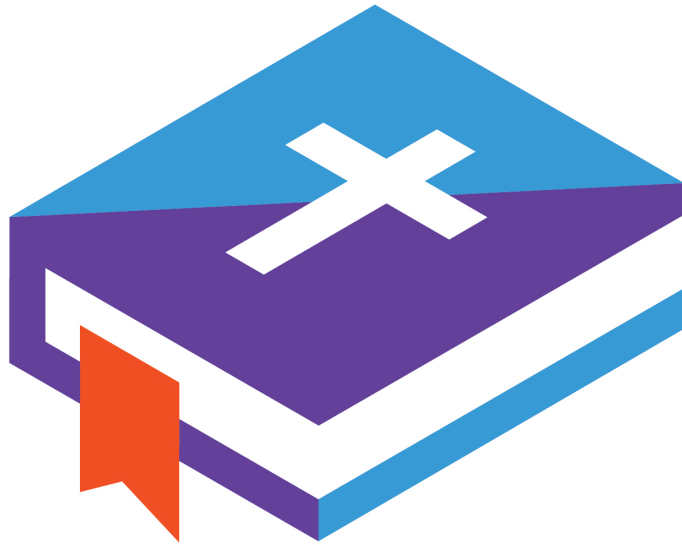
On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Wants to Talk With Us.” 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. On the count of three, we are going to turn to the person next to you and say, “God Wants to Talk With Us.” 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Wants to Talk With Us!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Wants to Talk With Us! Everyone, sit down.

Pray and thank God for wanting to talk with us!

Review Questions

- ☐ What does the word “psalm” mean? *(Song)*
- ☐ How many Psalms are there? *(150)*
- ☐ We can express our sadness, anger, and confusion to God through what? *(Lament)*
- ☐ We can express our joy and thankfulness to God through what? *(Praise)*
- ☐ Which king of Israel wrote many of the Psalms? *(King David)*
- ☐ Did King David believe that God would keep His covenant promise to him? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ Who is the Savior and King from David’s family who came to save sinners? *(Jesus!)*
- ☐ Does God want to hear the lament and praise of His people? *(Yes! God Wants to Talk With Us!)*





GOD
WANTS TO
TALK
WITH US



1 Kings 18:20–40

God Is Better Than Baal

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

Supplies: pictures of altars and fire

KEY TEXT “Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.” **1 Kings 18:37**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about David defeating Goliath with only one stone! David was brave because he trusted God. Many years after David was no longer king, the Israelites had a king who did not love and trust God. Today, we are going to learn about how God reminded the Israelites that He is the one, true God!

The king and a lot of the people had forgotten what they knew about God. They forgot that they should love and trust God most. They started worshiping a false idol called Baal. **An idol is anything we love and trust more than God.**

The king wanted to worship both Baal and God, and he got all of the prophets of Israel to worship Baal, too. **A prophet is a messenger of God, someone who speaks for God.** The prophets did not love and trust God most anymore.

But there was one prophet who still loved and trusted God most. His name was Elijah. **On the count of three, say, “Elijah!” 1–2–3! Elijah!** Elijah knew that only God should be loved and trusted, and he told the king and everyone else that they should stop trying to worship both God and Baal.

Elijah remembered the truth about God. God is strong and powerful and **God Wants to Talk With Us!** *(Strike muscle poses with the kids.)*

Back when Elijah was alive, people would make sacrifices to God. **A sacrifice is giving something special and valuable to God to show that He is better.** People would use stones and build a big altar and then put an animal on that altar and kill it. Elijah told the prophets of Baal to get a sacrifice ready and ask Baal to send down fire to see if he was a real god. *(Show the picture of the altars.)*


Elijah knew that Baal was NOT real! **Can a fake god hear people talking to him?** Can he do anything? No way! *(Have the kids make a “no way!” motion with you.)* He knew that the prophets could talk to Baal all day long and ask him to send down fire, but nothing would happen! Baal couldn’t answer the prayers of the prophets because Baal was not real.

So the prophets asked Baal to send down fire over and over again. They danced, they jumped up and down, and they asked Baal to send fire down on the altar. **Do you think anything happened? No!**

Elijah knew that God was real! He knew that God could easily send fire down. He knew that **God Wants to Talk With Us!** God hears and responds to the prayers of His people.

Elijah had his own altar for a sacrifice to God, and he told people to dump lots and lots of water all over the altar. Elijah told them to pour water on the altar not just one time or two times but three times! **What happens to fire when you put water on it? The fire goes out!**

Elijah knew only God was strong enough to send fire down onto a soaking wet altar. That was not too hard for God! Elijah also knew that **God Wants to Talk With Us**, so Elijah prayed and asked God to send down a fire.

 *(Read 1 Kings 18:37 from the Bible.)* Elijah prayed and asked God to send down a fire because it would show that God is the one, true God. God alone should be loved and trusted most. God heard Elijah's prayer and He sent down a fire! *(Add the fire to the picture of Elijah's altar.)*

➔ **God Wants to Talk With Us!** Elijah knew that God should be loved and trusted most, and he knew that **God Wants to Talk With Us**. Elijah prayed and asked God to show all the people that He was more powerful than anyone or anything else. God heard Elijah's prayer and answered him.

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "God Wants to Talk With Us." 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. On the count of three, we are going to say, "God Wants to Talk With Us," with a squeaky mouse voice. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "God Wants to Talk With Us!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for wanting to talk with us!

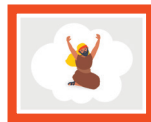
Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God's Big Story. *(Point to the "God's people wait" clock.)*
- ☐ What is an idol? *(An idol is anything we love or trust more than God.)*

- ☐ Elijah told the people who loved and trusted Baal to ask Baal to do something. What did they ask Baal to do? *(They asked Baal to set the altar on fire.)*
- ☐ Did Baal answer the people? *(No!)*
- ☐ Why didn't Baal answer the people when they called to him? *(Baal wasn't real.)*
- ☐ What did Elijah do? *(Elijah talked to God and asked Him to send fire.)*
- ☐ Did God answer Elijah? *(Yes, the altar caught fire.)*
- ☐ Why did God answer Elijah? *(God Wants to Talk With Us, and He hears and responds to the prayers of His children.)*
- ☐ Let's say our foundational truth together: **"God Wants to Talk With Us!"**



Two Altars



Elijah
Distressed
in Prayer



Elijah's Altar



God Sent Fire



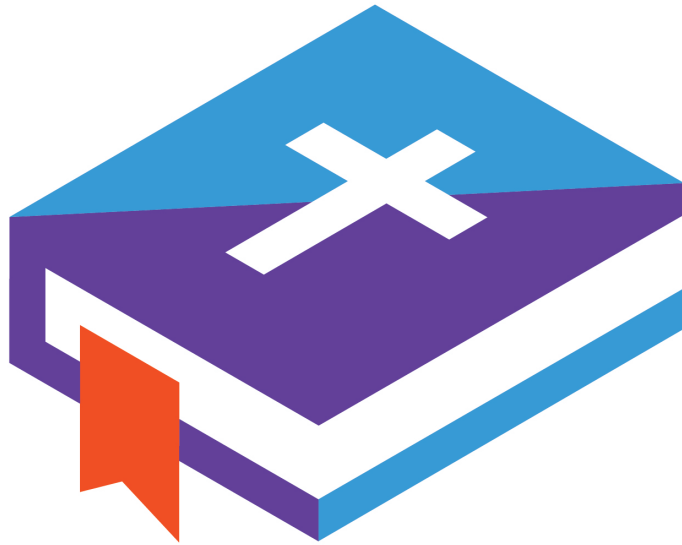
God Wants to
Talk With Us











GOD
WANTS TO
TALK
WITH US



Esther 1–10

God Uses Esther

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

Supplies: picture of Esther

KEY TEXT “...let an order be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman ... which he wrote to destroy the Jews...” **Esther 8:5**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

Last week, we learned that God heard and responded to Elijah’s prayer and sent fire down to show the people that He is the one, true God. God alone should be loved and trusted most. **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

The Israelites were God’s special and chosen people, but they disobeyed God over and over again. They loved and trusted idols instead of God. **An idol is anything we love and trust more than God.** God punished them for disobeying Him. They were no longer in the Promised Land. They were living in places with people who did not love God and who hated them. Today, we are going to learn what happened to the Israelites.

Haman was one of the people who hated the Israelites, and he was a very powerful man. **On the count of three, say, “Haman!” 1–2–3! Haman!** Haman did not love God, and he was trying to find a way to kill the Israelites because he hated them! **It is sin when we hate people. God does not want us to hate anyone. Haman had a heart sick with sin.**

The king gave Haman permission to hurt the Israelites! The people in charge would not punish anyone who hurt the Israelites.

How would you feel if you were the Israelites? Would you be scared? Would you feel all alone? Would you wonder if God had a plan to keep you safe? The Israelites did feel scared. **Show me a scared face.**

But they did not need to worry because God had a plan! **God Is in Charge of Everything!** He is in charge of people who obey Him, and He is in charge of people who do not obey Him. He is in charge of all people, kings, and rules. **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

Esther, the queen, was an Israelite! *(Show the picture of Esther.)* **On the count of three, say, “Esther!” 1–2–3! Esther!** God

had made Esther the queen so she would be able to help the Israelites when Haman came up with his plan to hurt them.

Esther told the king that she and her people were in danger and that it was Haman who wanted to hurt them! The king punished Haman, and he had a new rule written that the Israelites could protect themselves against anyone who tried to hurt them!

📖 *(Read Esther 8:5 from the Bible.)* Esther and the Israelites were saved! **Everyone cheer!**

➔ **God Is in Charge of Everything!** Even when things seem scary, God’s people can trust that He knows what’s happening. He is good, and He takes care of His people. God sent Esther to save her people, and God sent Jesus to save His people from sin. **God Is in Charge of Everything!** God always has a plan to help His people.

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1–2–3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything,” with a big, deep voice. 1–2–3. God Is in Charge of Everything. Now, everyone, stand up!

On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything.

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story.
(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)
- ☐ Who hated the Israelites and wanted to hurt them? *(Haman)*
- ☐ Who approved Haman’s law? *(The king)*
- ☐ Who had a plan to protect the Israelites?
(God! God Is in Charge of Everything!)
- ☐ Who was Esther? *(An Israelite and the queen)*
- ☐ Did Haman’s plan to hurt the Israelites work?
(No! God protects His people!)
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together:
“God Is in Charge of Everything!”



**God Makes
Esther Queen**



**Esther
Approaches
the King**



**God Is in Charge
of Everything**







**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



Daniel 3

God Saves Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

Supplies:
noisemaker,
pictures of the
fiery furnace
and four men
in the furnace

KEY TEXT “Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace... But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.” **Daniel 3:17–18**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning about how God is the one, true God and that He should be loved and trusted most. We learned that God saved the Israelites, His special and chosen people. God used Esther to save the Israelites from Haman, a man who wanted to kill them. **God Is Good!**

Today, we’re going to learn a story from the Bible about three men who knew that **God Is Good**. They knew that God is what is best and that they could always trust Him.

There was a king named Nebuchadnezzar. **On the count of three,**

say, “Nebuchadnezzar!” 1–2–3!
Nebuchadnezzar! This king did not love God or believe that **God Is Good**. King Nebuchadnezzar made a huge, golden idol. **An idol is anything we love and trust more than God.** Nebuchadnezzar wanted all the people to love and trust this golden idol most.

Nebuchadnezzar told the people that every time instruments were played *(blow the noisemaker)*, the people were supposed to fall on their knees and worship the golden idol. So when people heard the instruments play *(blow noisemaker)*, they would get on their knees and worship the idol *(get down on knees and worship)*.

King Nebuchadnezzar made a rule that said if anyone does not bow down and worship his idol, then that person would be thrown into a furnace of fire. The furnace was like a big room with a really big, hot fire in it. Whoa! **Does being thrown in a furnace of fire sound like a good thing? No!**

There were three men who loved and worshiped God. These three men were named Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. **On the count of three, say, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego!” 1–2–3!**

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego!
These three men knew that God should be loved and trusted most. They knew that worshiping the idol that the king made would be a sin. Only God should be worshiped.

When the instruments were played *(blow the horn)*, the three men would not bow down and worship the golden idol. *(Make a “no way!” motion.)*

Some men saw this and went to King Nebuchadnezzar and told him that these three men were not bowing down to the idol when the instruments were played. King Nebuchadnezzar was very angry, and he made Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego come to him right away.

The three men went to the king. He asked them why they would not bow down to the golden idol. The three men told the king that only God should be worshiped. **God Is Good.**

📖 They would not worship an idol even if it meant they would be thrown into the fiery furnace. *(Read Daniel 3:17–18 from the Bible.)* They trusted that **God Is Good**. He is what is best.

The king was very angry with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and had the furnace heated up hotter than it had ever been before. The king ordered the three men to be tied up and thrown into the fire! *(Show the picture of the fiery furnace.)*

When the king looked into the furnace, he saw not three, but **FOUR** men! None of them were burning up, and they were walking around! *(Show the picture of the men in the furnace.)* God was with the men in the fire! The king called them out of the furnace. God saved them from the fire!

➔ **God Is Good!** God is better than anything and anyone! Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego had healthy hearts that loved God. They would not love and trust the idol even if that meant that they might die. They knew that **God Is Good!** He should have all of our love and all of our trust!

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is Good.” 1—2—3. God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to stand up and say, “God Is Good.” 1—2—3. God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is Good!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Is Good! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being good!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ What do we call anything that we love or trust more than God? *(An idol)*
- ☐ What did King Nebuchadnezzar make for the people to worship? *(A golden idol)*
- ☐ Did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego bow down and worship the idol? *(No!)*
- ☐ What happened to the three men because they would not bow down and worship the idol? *(They were thrown into the fiery furnace.)*
- ☐ Who was with the men when they were thrown in the fire? *(God; God Is Good!)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is Good!”*



Shadrach,
Meshach and
Abednego
Would Not Bow



Fiery Furnace



God Is Good







GOD IS
GOOD



Daniel 6

God Saves Daniel

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING

Supplies: pictures of Daniel praying and the king signing the law

KEY TEXT "...people are to tremble and fear before the God of Daniel, for he is the living God, enduring forever...He delivers and rescues..." **Daniel 6:26–27**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God's true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning about three men who would not worship anyone or anything but God. God saved these men from dying in a fiery furnace.

Today, we will learn about another man who loved and obeyed God.

Daniel knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything**. **On the count of three, say, "Daniel!" 1–2–3! Daniel!** Daniel prayed every single day because God wants to talk to His people, and Daniel wanted to show that he loved God. *(Show the picture of Daniel praying.)* Daniel knew that only God should be loved and trusted most, so he

obeyed God. Daniel worked for the king. The king liked Daniel very much. There were some other men Daniel worked with who did not like Daniel at all.

These men all came together and planned to trick the king into making a rule that would be very bad for Daniel. These men made a rule that said no one in all the land could pray to God for a whole month! If someone broke the rule, then they would be thrown into the lions' den. *(Show the picture of the king signing the rule.)*

The king thought the rule was a great idea, so Daniel had to make a choice. He could disobey God and not pray **OR** he could disobey the king and keep praying. **Do you think Daniel stopped praying? No!** Daniel knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything** and obeying God is what's best.

One day, the men who did not like Daniel found Daniel praying and talking with God. The men went to the king and told him what they had seen. The king did not want Daniel to get in trouble, but he knew that Daniel had to be punished because Daniel broke the rule.

The king was powerful, but he wasn't powerful enough to save Daniel. He was not in charge of everything, and he couldn't change the rule to save Daniel.

Soldiers came for Daniel and took him to the lions' den. The lions had great, big teeth and claws! **What sound does a lion make?** Daniel was thrown into the lions' den, and the doors were shut. Daniel spent the whole night with the lions!

Daniel knew **God Is in Charge of Everything!** The king wasn't strong enough to save Daniel, but God was!

The next morning, the king went to the lions' den to find out what happened to Daniel. He called into the lions' den and asked Daniel if he was safe. Daniel told the king that God had sent an angel to shut the mouths of the lions! God saved Daniel from the lions!

📖 The king brought Daniel out of the lions' den and praised God for saving Daniel. *(Read Daniel 6:26–27 from the Bible.)*

➔ Daniel knew that **God Is in Charge of Everything!** Obeying God is what's best. Daniel obeyed God because he loved God.

We can trust that **God Is in Charge of Everything**, too! It is better to obey God and put our trust in Him because **God Is in Charge of Everything!**

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is in Charge of Everything.” 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is in Charge of Everything” with a roar. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything. On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is in Charge of Everything!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3. God Is in Charge of Everything! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being in charge of everything.

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ What did Daniel do every day? *(He prayed and talked with God.)*
- ☐ There were some men who did not like Daniel and wanted to make him get in trouble. What did they trick the king into doing? *(They told the king he should make a rule that no one can pray to God.)*
- ☐ Did Daniel continue to pray to God? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ When the men and the king found out that Daniel was praying to God, where did they put him? *(In the lions’ den)*
- ☐ What did Daniel do while he was in the lions’ den? *(He talked with God all night.)*
- ☐ The next morning, who came to see if Daniel was okay? *(The king)*
- ☐ Was Daniel saved from the lions? *(Yes!)*
- ☐ Who saved Daniel from being eaten by the lions? *(God; God shut the lions’ mouths.)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is in Charge of Everything!”*



Daniel Prays



Men See
Daniel Pray



The King Signs
the First Law



The King Signs
the Second Law



God Saves
Daniel



God Is in Charge
of Everything





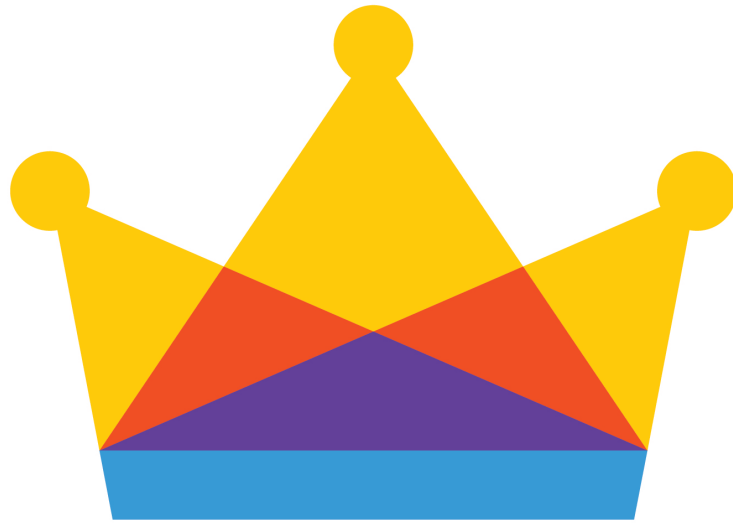




God delivers
and rescues!

DANIEL 6:27





**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



Jonah 1–4

God Uses Jonah

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD IS GOOD

KEY TEXT “Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands.” **Jonah 3:8b**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

We have been learning about some pretty amazing things that God did in the Bible. God saved three men from the fiery furnace and He protected Daniel while he was in the lions’ den. **God Is Good, God Is in Charge of Everything**, and He showed us that through both of those stories.

Today, we’re going to learn a story from the Bible about God using a man named Jonah. **On the count of three, say, “Jonah!” 1–2–3! Jonah!** Jonah was a prophet of God. **A prophet is someone who speaks for God.**

God spoke to Jonah and told Jonah to go to a city far away called Nineveh. **On the count of three, say, “Nineveh!” 1–2–3!**

Nineveh! The people in Nineveh did not love or obey God. God told Jonah to tell the people in Nineveh that they were disobeying God. God was going to punish them for disobeying Him.

But there was a problem: Jonah did not want to go to Nineveh! He decided to run away instead of doing what God said. Jonah knew that **God Is Good** and that if the people of Nineveh loved and trusted God, then God would forgive them. Jonah didn’t want that! Jonah forgot that God made all people precious in His sight. He forgot God wants all people to love and trust Him.

Jonah got on a boat with some other men and started sailing to a city far, far away from where God was sending Jonah. Whoa! That is not good. Jonah disobeyed God.

Not long after they set sail, Jonah went down into the bottom of the ship and took a nap. **Everyone, take a two-second nap!** While Jonah was asleep, a HUGE storm came, and the boat started rocking back and forth on the waves. **Everyone, sway back and forth!**

Supplies: plush fish with Jonah or classroom fish toy with figurine

The men on the boat were trying to keep the boat from sinking under the water! Jonah knew that the only way for the big storm to stop was for the men on the boat to throw Jonah off the boat and into the water.


So that’s what the men did! They threw Jonah off the boat, and Jonah went into the water with a big splash. The storm stopped right away, and the water was calm.

After Jonah was thrown into the water, a HUGE fish came and swallowed Jonah. *(Show the fish and figurine.)* Jonah went all the way into the belly of the great big fish. Jonah stayed in the belly of the great big fish for **1–2–3** whole days! **Everyone, count to three with your fingers.**

After **1–2–3** days in the belly of the great big fish, Jonah prayed *(make praying hands)* and asked God to save him. God heard Jonah’s prayers. After those **1–2–3** days in the belly of the big fish, God made the big fish spit Jonah out onto the dry land. Jonah was safe!

For the second time, God spoke to Jonah and told him to go to Nineveh and tell the people they were disobeying God. This time,

Jonah obeyed God! Jonah went to Nineveh and told the people there about God.

 *(Read Jonah 3:8b from the Bible.)* The people of Nineveh were sorry they had disobeyed God. They loved God and started obeying Him. They believed that **God Is Good**, and God forgave them!

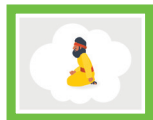
➔ **God Is Good!** He is what is best, and He sent Jonah to tell the people of Nineveh that only God should be worshiped. Jonah did not want to go because he did not want God to forgive them. But **God Is Good!** He used a big fish to get Jonah to Nineveh because He wanted the people to know that He is what is best. God wants all people to know that **God Is Good!**

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, “God Is Good.” 1—2—3. God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to say, “God Is Good,” with a fish face. 1—2—3. God Is Good. On the count of three, we are going to yell, “God Is Good!” If you don’t like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Is Good! Everyone, sit down!

Pray and thank God for being good!

Review Questions

- ☐ This is where we are in God’s Big Story. *(Point to the “God’s people wait” clock.)*
- ☐ Where did God tell Jonah to go? *(Nineveh)*
- ☐ What was Jonah supposed to do when he got to Nineveh? *(Tell the people there that they should love and obey God)*
- ☐ Did Jonah want to obey God and go to Nineveh? *(No, he disobeyed God.)*
- ☐ Did Jonah finally obey God and go to Nineveh? *(Yes, he went and told the people to obey God.)*
- ☐ Were the people of Nineveh sorry they disobeyed God? *(Yes. The people in Nineveh believed God Is Good!)*
- ☐ Let’s say our foundational truth together: *“God Is Good!”*



Jonah
Receives Word
from the Lord



Jonah Rebels
and Goes
to Tarshish



A Big Fish
Swallows
Jonah



Jonah Changes
Course



Ninevites
Repent



God Is Good













GOD IS
GOOD



Ezekiel 36:26–27

God Sends the Prophets

FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH GOD WANTS TO TALK WITH US

Supplies: a rock in the shape of a heart

KEY TEXT “Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back.” **1 Kings 18:37**

⇒ Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to show you and the children what is good and true about Jesus through this story from the Bible.

(Show the Bible.) **The Bible is God’s true Word. The Bible is from God and about God.**

In the Bible, we have been learning how God saved a man named Daniel who worked for a king. Some people who worked with Daniel were so jealous of him that they tried to get him killed by tricking the king into making a law that would be very bad for Daniel. But God heard Daniel’s prayers and saved him from the men who were trying to hurt him and from a den of lions!

God didn’t just save Daniel though. God also made Daniel a prophet! What is a prophet? **A prophet is someone who speaks for God and delivers His messages.** Today, we’re going to talk about how God sent prophets, like Daniel, to speak to His

people—and to us today—because **God Wants to Talk With Us.**

God sent prophets to His special, chosen people, the Israelites, because God wanted to talk with them. Through the prophets, God warned the Israelites what would happen if they kept on sinning, but God also gave them hope by reminding them of His unbreakable promises. **What is an unbreakable promise from God to His people called again? A covenant!** That’s right.

Let’s review the five covenants that God made with His people in the Old Testament of the Bible by counting to five. Ready? *(Use your fingers to count as you teach.)*

1. God’s Covenant with Adam. Let’s say “Adam”! Adam! God promised Adam and Eve that He would send them a Savior, a child who would be born after them who would save the world from sin.

2. God’s Covenant with Noah. Let’s say “Noah”! Noah! God promised Noah that He would never flood the whole earth with water ever again. He even stamped that promise with a rainbow.

3. God’s Covenant to Abraham. Let’s say “Abraham”! Abraham! Even though Abraham and his wife, Sarah, were too old to be having babies, God promised to give Abraham a HUGE family that would be God’s special, chosen people. He promised to give them a beautiful land to be their new home and to make everything wrong in the world right again through their big family.

4. God’s Covenant with Moses. Say “Moses”! Moses! God gave Moses and the Israelites many different laws about how to love God most and love other people. If they obeyed these laws, God promised that they would be able to live with Him in their beautiful new land. But, if they did not obey, God said He would punish them by sending stronger, more powerful nations that did not love or trust God to take their land away and send them into exile. They would have to live far away from home and could not come back for a long time because sin separates us from God.

5. God’s Covenant with David. Say “David”! David! Because David had a heart that loved and trusted God, God promised David that there would be a king in his family forever.

Phew! Those are some BIG promises. Do you think God really kept all of His promises? Yes! That's why, many years later, God sent His Son, Jesus! *(Use your fingers to count as you teach.)*

Jesus is the Promised Savior who came to save the world from sin *(hold up one finger)*, not to wash it away in a flood *(hold up two fingers)*. Jesus is the Israelite from Abraham's family *(hold up three fingers)* who is making God's family, the Church, very big and making everything wrong in the world right through them. Jesus obeyed God's laws *(hold up four fingers)* to love God and love other people perfectly AND Jesus is the king *(hold up five fingers)* from David's family who rules forever and ever as God. **God Is Good** so He always keeps His promises!

What about the Israelites? Do you think they kept their promise to God to love Him most and love other people? No. They worshiped other gods who weren't real and treated other people, even each other, very badly. Even still, God wanted to talk with them so God sent them a prophet to warn them what would happen if they kept on sinning. Do you think they obeyed then? No. So, God sent them another prophet. Do you think they obeyed then? No? Well, God sent them another prophet. Do you think they obeyed then? No!

Why?! Why would the Israelites ignore the prophets and disobey God even though God had been so good to them? Because their hearts were sick with sin, just like ours, and they would not listen. So God sent other nations that were bigger and stronger than they were to take away their land, and God sent them into exile just like He said He would because sin separates us from God.

God knew that His people needed new hearts if they were ever going to love and trust Him. That's why God sent a prophet named Ezekiel. **On the count of three, let's say "Ezekiel"! 1—2—3! Ezekiel!** Ezekiel told the Israelites about a sixth covenant *(show six fingers)*, a new covenant that was coming that would be better than the five that came before.



Let's read what Ezekiel said about this new covenant from the Bible. *(Read Ezekiel 36:26–27 from the Bible.)*

God promised His people that one day, He would send the Holy Spirit, who is God, to live inside them and be with them. God Himself would take away their sick, sinful hearts and give them new, healthy hearts that could finally love and trust Him. God would have to do something to save His people and, after 400 years of silence without any prophets, He did. Jesus finally came.

✈ God sent many different prophets to His people, the Israelites because God wanted to talk with them, and **God Wants to Talk With Us** too! That's what this Bible is. *(Show the Bible.)* The Bible is God's true Word to us, His message to us so we can know, love, trust, and obey Him because **God Wants to Talk With Us** even though we're sinners. That's why He sent Jesus!

Just like the Israelites, we are all born with hearts that are sick with sin, and sin separates us from God forever, BUT God sent His Son, Jesus, to live a perfect life, and Jesus never sinned. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for our sin and came back to life three days later so that everyone who loves and trusts Him can get a new, healthy heart and be with God forever! **God Wants to Talk with Us** about Jesus and save us from our sin!

On the count of three, we are going to whisper, "God Wants to Talk With Us." 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. On the count of three, we are going to say, "God Wants to Talk With Us," with praying hands. 1—2—3. God Wants to Talk With Us. Now, everyone, stand up! On the count of three, we are going to yell, "God Wants to Talk With Us!" If you don't like loud noises, you can cover your ears. 1—2—3! God Wants to Talk With Us! Everyone, sit down.

Pray and thank God for wanting to talk with us!

Review Questions

- ☐ What is someone who speaks for God and delivers His messages called? *(A prophet)*
- ☐ What's an unbreakable promise from God to His people called? *(A covenant)*
- ☐ How many covenants did God make in the Old Testament of the Bible? *(Five)*
- ☐ Which five people were they given to? *(Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David)*
- ☐ Did God keep all of His promises to them? *(Yes! Jesus kept all of God's promises.)*
- ☐ Did the Israelites listen to the prophets warnings and obey God's laws? *(No)*
- ☐ Why not? *(Their hearts were sick with sin.)*
- ☐ What does God promise to give His people in the new covenant? *(The Holy Spirit to live inside them and new, healthy hearts that love and trust God)*
- ☐ How many years of silence were there without any prophets before Jesus came? *(400)*
- ☐ Why did God send the prophets to Israel? Why did God send His Son, Jesus, and give the Bible to us? *(God Wants to Talk With Us!)*



Covenants
of God



Message of
Judgment



Message
of Hope



God Wants to
Talk With Us

Covenants of God

GIVEN TO...



Adam



Noah



Abraham



Moses



David



The Prophets

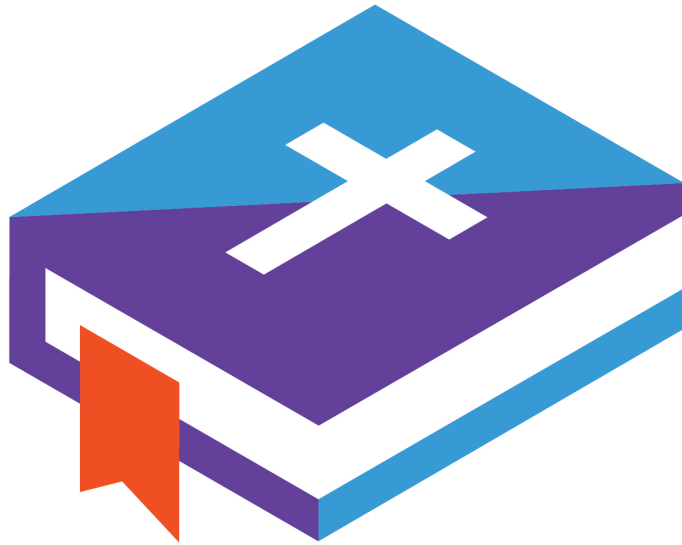
A MESSAGE OF

Judgement



A MESSAGE OF
Hope





GOD
WANTS TO
TALK
WITH US

Appendix

Class Rules

Six Foundational Truths

Sick Heart/Healthy Heart

God's Big Story Timeline

Gospel Fingerplay

"Have You Heard About Jesus?" Map

Glossary

Classroom Rules

1

with
our



(mouth)

We can talk
after we...



(raise our hands)

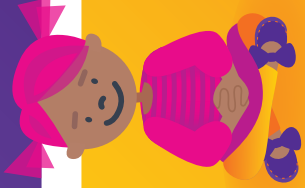
2

with
our



(hands)

We...
...during
storytime.



(clap-and-lap)

3

with
our



(ears)

We listen
to our...



(teachers and friends)

4

with
our



(face)

We...



(smile)

as we
obey...



(our teachers)

5

with
our



(feet)

We...

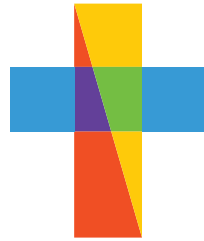


(walk)

...from place
to place.



**GOD
MADE
EVERYTHING**



**JESUS
CAME
TO SAVE
SINNERS**



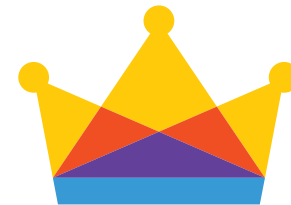
**GOD
WANTS TO
TALK
WITH US**



**GOD IS
GOOD**



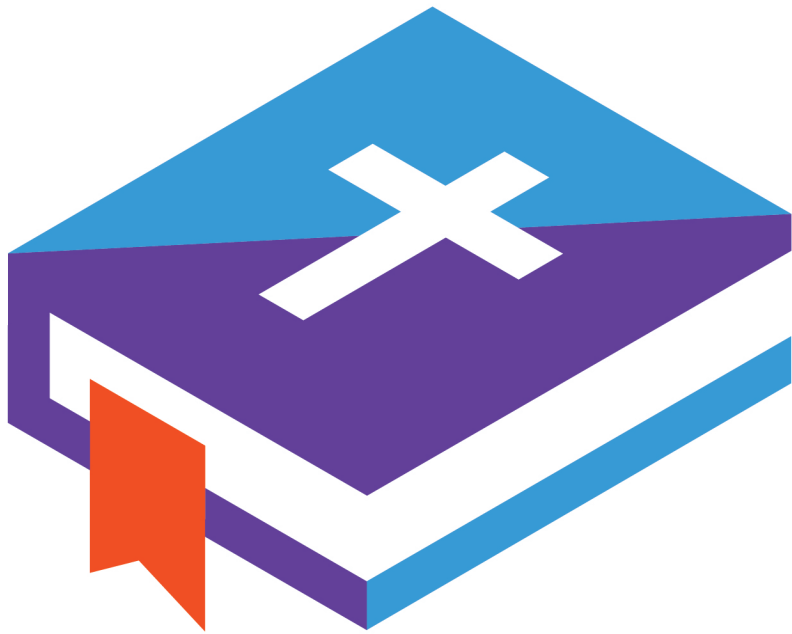
**THE CHURCH
IS GOD'S
FAMILY**



**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



GOD IS
GOOD



GOD
WANTS TO
TALK
WITH US



**THE CHURCH
IS GOD'S
FAMILY**



**GOD IS IN
CHARGE OF
EVERYTHING**



GOD
MADE
EVERYTHING



JESUS
CAME
TO SAVE
SINNERS

Sick Heart



Healthy Heart





Gospel Fingerplay

Jesus came down

Hold both hands up high above your head.

Lower hands while wiggling fingers.

to be born as a little baby.

Hold arms like you are cradling a baby.

He lived a perfect life.

Give two thumbs-up.

He died on the cross for our sins.

Cross one arm over the other to make a cross.

He was buried in a tomb.

Put one hand on top of the other to make a tomb.

On the third day,

Hold up three fingers.

He rose from the dead.

Make three fingers rise into the air.

And that's the gospel truth!

Pound fist on open hand as you say each word.

A Biblical Timeline

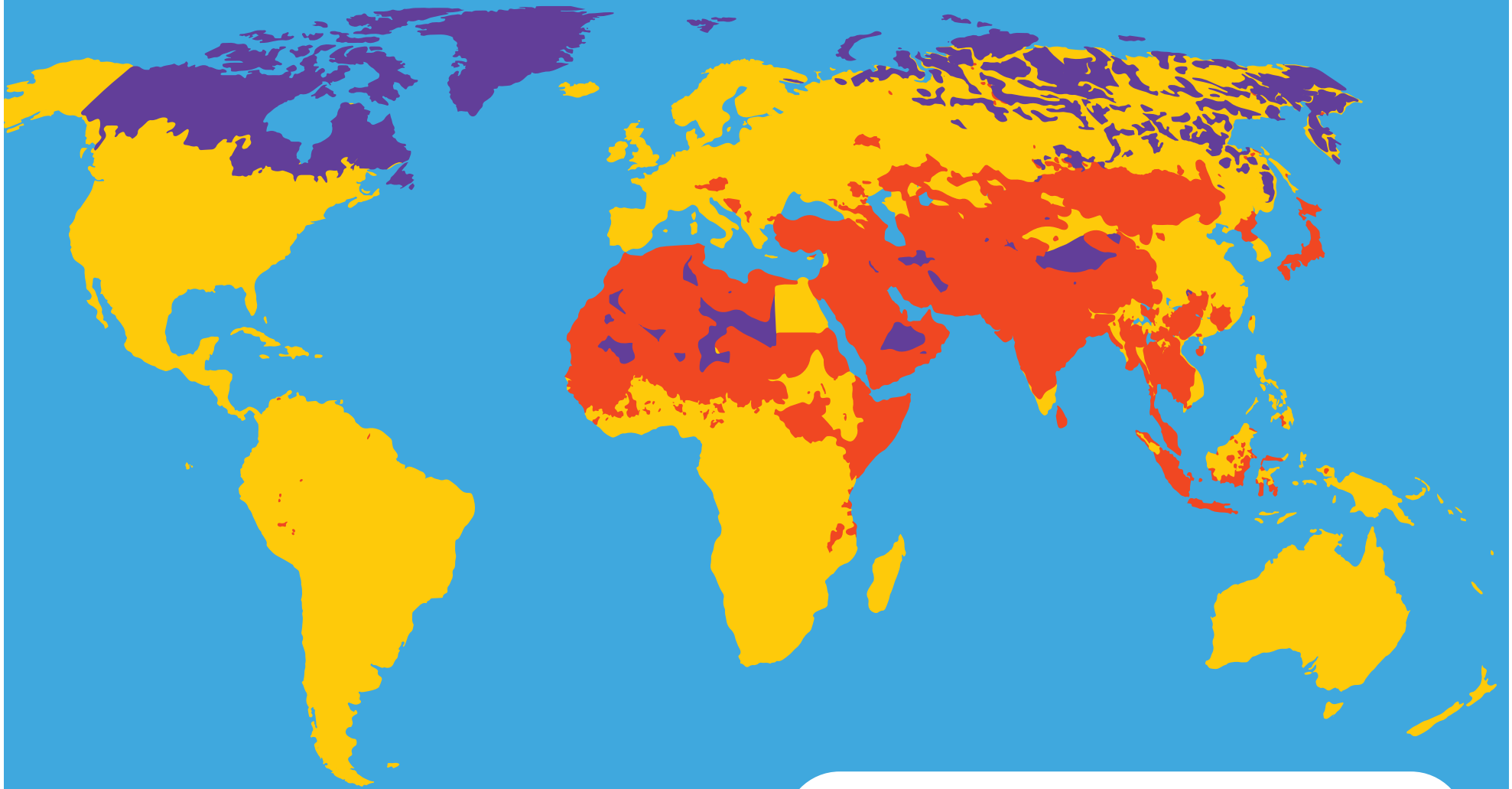
OLD TESTAMENT

GOD'S BIG STORY

NEW TESTAMENT



Have you heard about Jesus?



GLOSSARY

TERMS FOR TEACHING

ANGEL – a mighty messenger and warrior from God

BAPTISM – to dip someone under some water and bring them back up—like Jesus died and was raised to back to life—to show everyone that God has given them a new, healthy heart like Jesus

BIBLE – God’s true Word. It is from God and about God.

A CHURCH – a group of people who love and trust Jesus

THE CHURCH – everyone who loves and trusts Jesus

COMMUNION – when people who love and trust Jesus eat and drink together to remember His death on the cross, how Jesus’ body was broken like bread and His blood was poured out like wine for sin

CRUCIFY – to die on a cross

DESERT – a really hot, dry place with almost no food or water

DISCIPLE – a friend and follower of Jesus

GOD – God the Father is God. Jesus, the Son, is God. The Holy Spirit is God. There is only one God who is three different persons. **God Made Everything. God Is in Charge of Everything. God Is Good!**

GOSPEL – the good news that **Jesus Came to Save Sinners** and the whole world from sin

HEAVEN – the place where God lives

IDOL – anything we love and trust more than God

ISRAELITES – God’s special, chosen people

MIRACLE – something amazing and special that shows God’s power

PROMISED LAND – the place God promised to give to the Israelites that was full of good things

PROPHET – someone who speaks for God

SACRIFICE – giving something special and valuable to God to show Him that He is better

SAVES – rescues

SIN (SICK HEART) – anything we do or think that is different from what God wants. Sin starts in our hearts and comes out in our actions. Everyone sins. Sin separates us from God, and we die.

TAX COLLECTOR – someone who collects money and gives it to the people in charge of a city as a job

TEMPLE – the place where God’s people worshiped God together a long time ago

TEMPTATION – when our hearts or other people tell us that sinning is better than obeying God

WORSHIP – how we show that God is most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We use our voices, minds, and bodies to worship God.

GLOSSARY

DEFINITIONS FOR TEACHERS

THE BIBLE

The Bible is God's true Word. It is from God and about God. God the Holy Spirit helped many different men at many different times write all the different books of the Bible, but it's all one, true story about God. **God Wants to Talk With Us** through the Bible.

THE CHURCH

The Church is not a building. The Church is every person who loves and trusts Jesus. There are many people around the world that gather together in buildings to spend time learning about God, worshiping God, and remembering the good news that **Jesus Came to Save Sinners** together.

ENSLAVED PEOPLE

Enslaved people are not in charge of their own lives and have to do whatever their enslaver tells them to do. Most of the time, enslaved people are treated very, very badly, and their enslavers are mean to them. They do all the hard work but don't make any money. It is terrible to be enslaved. God never wants us to treat people the way those who are enslaved are treated.

FORGIVENESS

God does not give His children the punishment they deserve for sin. Jesus took the punishment for sin by dying on the cross. God forgives sinners because God is love. God loves His children! We can never be good enough to make God forgive us. We have to love and trust Jesus to be forgiven.

GOD'S BIG STORY TIMELINE

Throughout the Bible, we see an overarching timeline of God's work, sometimes referred to as the metanarrative. Over the course of this curriculum, you can refer back to this timeline to help children gain an understanding of how each narrative fits into God's Big Story. It is our hope that they grow in their understanding of not only when things happened, but also how we are still waiting with hope for the promise of Christ's return to come true.

HATE

It is sin to hate people. God does not want us to sin or hate anyone, even if they aren't easy to love.

LAWS

God's laws and rules are always good. Obeying them is always good for us! We can never obey God's laws perfectly. We all need a Savior to save us from our sin. Laws given to us by God are always good because **God Is Good**, but laws given to us by people are not always good because we are all sinners. We should never obey laws given to us by people more than laws given to us by God.

PRAYER

We can talk to God through prayer anywhere, anytime, about anything. When we pray, we can tell God how great He is or thank God for everything He does and gives. We can ask God to do something or give something, and we can tell God the truth about our sin. God already knows everything about us, but **God Wants to Talk With Us** because He loves us and wants us to love Him!

SALVATION (HEALTHY HEART)

God rescues and saves people from their sin. Sin separates us from God and we die, but God takes our sick, sinful hearts and gives us a new, healthy

heart when we love and trust Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life. He never sinned. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for our sins, but Jesus didn't stay dead. Jesus came back to life three days later so that everyone who loves and trust Him can have a healthy heart and live with God forever.

Jesus Came to Save Sinners!

SICK HEART/HEALTHY HEART

Because Adam and Eve sinned and disobeyed God, everyone who is born

after them (that's us!) is born with a heart that is sick with sin. Our hearts are sick because they love other things more than they love God, but Jesus was born with a perfectly healthy heart that loves God because Jesus is God's Son, not Adam's. Jesus lived a perfect life. He never sinned. Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for sins. Then, He came back to life three days later so that everyone who loves and trusts Jesus can have a new, healthy heart like His that loves God most! **Jesus Came to Save Sinners.**

WORSHIP

Worship is telling and showing someone or something that they are most valuable. Only God deserves our worship. We can worship God by singing songs, praying, telling others about Him and reading God's Word. When we love and trust God, our hearts want to worship Him.



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