

OVERVIEW

FOUNDATION: GOD IS TRUTH - GOD GIVES HIS WORD

"God is" means that there is only one god in the universe. He alone is Lord over everything that exists, and He alone is worthy of our worship. This also means that every good thing that exists comes from God. All good things come from Him because goodness is a part of who He is as the one true God. It is a part of His nature and character to be good, and everything that comes from God is good. Thankfully God has not chosen to withhold His goodness from His creation, but instead gives it freely to us.

BIG TRUTH: THE BIBLE IS GOD'S WORD

BIBLE VERSE: 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

BIG IDEAS

- The Bible is a book that contains the words of God Himself.
- The Bible is the source of all truth.
- Every word in the Bible was given to us by God and was written for our good.
- The Bible is the story of God's rescue plan for the world.

BIG AIMS



KNOW

Every child should know that:

- God is truth. We should speak truth because God is truth.
- The Bible is the true Word of God that tells us who He is and who we are.



FEEL

Every child should feel:

- An excitement and purpose to search for truth.



DO

Every child should be able to:

- Tell truth.
- Hide God's Word in the heart by memorizing verses from the Bible.



WANT

Every child should want:

- To know the truth.

BIBLE STORY: NEHEMIAH 8

During the rebuilding of the wall around Jerusalem, Nehemiah brought the people together to hear the priest read God's Word to them.

The Family Devotion on the next page is a weekly tool for the home. It is designed for you as family to gather for a few minutes on a set night of the week to unpack the Big Truth together. Use the model below and customize it to fit your family. As you continue to learn, love, and live out the Big Truth, some additional Hooks (next page) are provided that correspond to the Big Aims (see above). Use them to keep the conversation going throughout the week with your family.

EVERY WORD IN THE BIBLE WAS GIVEN TO US BY GOD AND IS FOR OUR GOOD:

On some blank stationery or cards write a letter to your child. In the letter tell them several things that makes them special and then give them some instructions, such as what they should eat for dinner, how to play safely outside and when they should take a bath. Add pictures to your letter to your child to help make your point--pictures of good food, safe play, etc. Give the letter to your child and then read it to them if they aren't able to read. Tell them that the letter is to them from you and the words written on the letter are your words, but you are giving them to your child because it is helpful to them. Talk to your child about the Bible. Show them a copy of the Bible and tell them that the words in the Bible are God's words given to us for our good.

DISCOVER IT:

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17

THINK ABOUT IT:

Paul wrote in his letter to Timothy the importance of God's word. He wanted to encourage Timothy to read and study God's word because it is useful to him and to us. God's word is good for us because it teaches us about God and how to please God. Most importantly it tells us about God's plan to rescue us from our sins by sending Jesus to be our Savior.

TALK ABOUT IT:

- If all the words in the Bible are from God, how should we think about the Bible? (It is the most important book in the world and we should see it as God's Word.)
- What did Paul say the Bible would do for people who read it? (Help them grow in righteousness---help them look more like Jesus.)
- Who breathed out the words in the Bible? (God breathed them out.)

**KNOW**

Help your child memorize 2 Timothy 3:16 by repeating several times as you clap your hands to the syllables in the words. Do this several times to help your child memorize the verse.

**DO**

Gather together several books you have at home. They don't have to be children's books; they can be books for older people. Stack them together and place a two Bibles with them. Mix them together. Hold up a book and ask your child if it's the Bible? Talk with them about how you know the words inside of the book aren't from God. Then when you do hold up the Bible, explain how you know the words are from God. They tell the story of Jesus and give us instructions on how to live and tell us about God.

**FEEL**

Sing praise songs with your child, such as "Jesus Loves the Little Children" and "The Books of the Bible" Song. (This song can be found on Seed Family Worship CDs or Google "The Books of the Bible Song" for a version of this song. Discuss with your child how God's word is important to us and we need to read it to know about God and how He wants us to live.

**WANT**

Using a cotton swab dipped in lemon juice or milk, write the words God's Word on a blank piece of paper. Let it dry and then place a brown sandwich bag over it. Press a warm iron to it and show your child the "hidden message". Talk about how God breathed the words of the Bible to us and how He used men to give us His message.