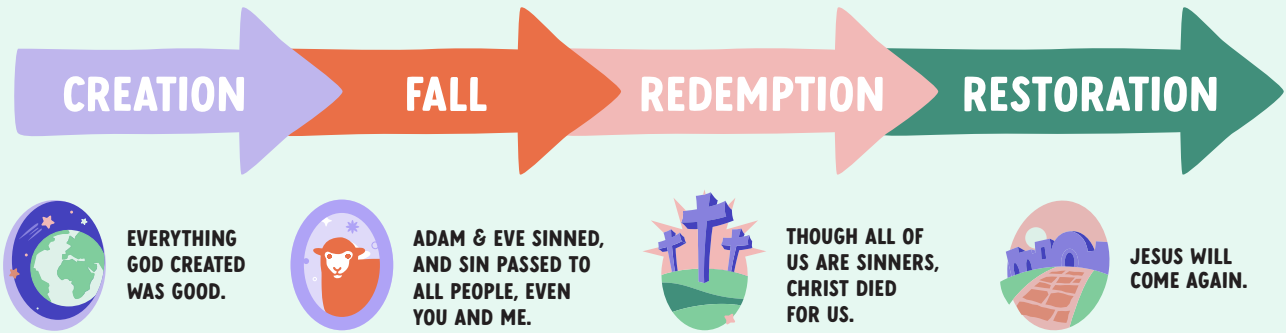


GOD'S BIG STORY



FIND IT IN THE BIBLE: 2 CORINTHIANS

This week's story comes from the book of 2 Corinthians. 2 Corinthians is an epistle, or letter. The book was written by the apostle Paul.

This is the second letter in the Bible Paul wrote to the Corinthian church. This letter reminds the Corinthian church of the truth behind the Gospel, defends Paul's ministry and warns against false prophets.

READ



Read Acts 16:25-34. What did the jailer ask Paul and Silas? What did Paul and Silas say he needed to do to be saved? There is nothing we can do to save ourselves. Salvation is based solely on what Jesus did for us. Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior?

OT-NT CONNECTION

Sin entered the world when Adam and Eve chose to disobey God. Every person born since then is separated from God. There are many prophecies in the Old Testament promising a Savior who would die for our sins so that we could have a relationship with God. Isaiah 53:4-6 and 53:10 is one of those prophecies. The New Testament then tells us about the true story of Jesus, our Savior who did in fact die on the cross, fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT I AM THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD?

Because of our sin we cannot keep God's law perfectly and are, therefore, guilty. Once you accept Jesus as your Savior you are forgiven. Romans 8:1 says, *There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. We take on Jesus' righteousness and are no longer condemned to hell.*

AM I NOT SAVED IF I STILL STRUGGLE WITH SIN?

Being saved does not mean you will never sin again. Before we get to heaven, being perfect is impossible. However, that doesn't give us a license to sin. God is faithful and just to forgive us when we confess our sins. At the same time, we are also called to be diligent about becoming more and more like Jesus and not be a slave to our sin.

JOURNAL



Read Ephesians 2:8-9. We are not saved by anything we do. Salvation is a free gift from God. Write a prayer thanking God that He made a way for you to have a relationship with Him.