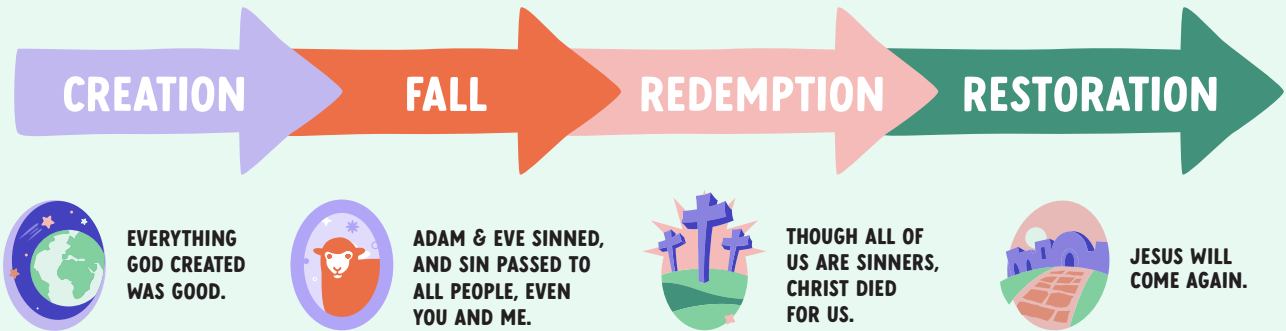


GOD'S BIG STORY



FIND IT IN THE BIBLE: MATTHEW

This week's story comes from the book of Matthew. Matthew is the first of four books known as the Gospels. The author of this book is likely Matthew, the tax collector who became a follower of Jesus.

The book of Matthew gives readers a perspective on the life of Jesus and confirms Him as the Messiah.

OT-NT CONNECTION

2 Chronicles 9:22 tells us King Solomon had more wealth than any other king. God also made Solomon the wisest man of his time. In the book of Ecclesiastes Solomon wrote that everything apart from God is meaningless. Money, things, achievement, pleasure — none of it matters unless God is in it. Solomon concluded the book writing, *Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.* (Ecclesiastes 12:13)

CAN'T I WAIT UNTIL I AM AN ADULT TO WORRY ABOUT WHAT I TREASURE?

Jesus doesn't want you to wait until you are grown to take what He said seriously. The two things that last forever are people and God's Word. You can treasure those no matter how old you are! You can be a child, but be rich in God! How can you treasure your friends and family more this week? Can you spend some time reading God's Word every day?

HOW DO I FIGURE OUT THE THINGS I TREASURE MOST?

Ask yourself these questions:

- What do I spend most of my time doing?
- What do I want to spend all of my money on?
- What do I worry about losing?
- What consumes my thoughts when I am daydreaming?

JOURNAL

Are there things in your life you value more than you should? Do you notice yourself caring more about your stuff than about people and the truth in God's Word? Write a prayer and ask God to help you treasure the things that last forever more than the stuff that may be gone tomorrow.

READ

Read **1 Timothy 6:6-11**. What does the author Paul warn us will happen if we choose to love money as our greatest treasure? What should we choose to pursue instead? How can you treasure and pursue those good things in your life this week?