

# GOD'S BIG STORY



**BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

*A FEW MOMENTS TO PREPARE.*



**AS A CHILD OF GOD, WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?** What do you think you'll be when you grow up? Where will you live? Thinking about the future is exciting. If you are a follower of Jesus, God's Big Story is a story that goes on forever!

*USE THESE ICONS TO HELP YOU NAVIGATE THIS WEEK'S LESSON*



**TALK TOGETHER**

Family conversations with God's Word.



**MORE TO EXPLORE**

Answers to kids' questions.



**THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET**

Post it on the fridge. Use it all week.



**COLORING PAGE**

Keep little hands busy before, during and after your family conversation.



When God created the world, it was very good. He gave the world light and beauty and filled it with people, plants and animals. When Adam and Eve lived in the garden of Eden, everything was perfect. They were with God. There were no tears, no pain, no sickness, not even death.

When Adam and Eve sinned, their perfect relationship with God was broken. Sin changed everything. Soon tears, pain, sickness and death changed God's perfect creation. But God still loved and cared for His people. He didn't want them to be separated from Him, so He sent Jesus, our Redeemer, who gave His life to pay the penalty of our sin.



**WHEN JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS, HE MADE THE COMPLETE PAYMENT FOR OUR SIN.** When you trust that Jesus died on the cross for you, you are **saved\*** from the penalty of death and are no longer separated from God. Even though we don't live with God in heaven now, we know our future is secure. One day we will be with Him forever.



After Jesus resurrected from the dead and came back to life, He returned to heaven to be with God. The Bible tells us Jesus is in heaven with God right now. One thing Jesus is doing is preparing a home for His followers. A new home in heaven sounds exciting; but the most wonderful thing about heaven is everything will be right again, just like it was before sin changed everything. God will be with His people. And nothing will ever separate us from Him again. **The Bible tells us about this in the book of Revelation chapter 21, verse 3.** Revelation is the very last book of the Bible.

***“BEHOLD, THE DWELLING PLACE OF GOD IS WITH MAN. HE WILL DWELL WITH THEM, AND THEY WILL BE HIS PEOPLE, AND GOD HIMSELF WILL BE WITH THEM AS THEIR GOD.”***

### REVELATION 21:3

God will dwell with us! That means He will be right there with His people! It's hard to imagine what it will be like to live with God, but the next two verses in Revelation 21 give us a better understanding. **Let's read Revelation chapter 21, verses 4-5.** 

***“HE WILL WIPE AWAY EVERY TEAR FROM THEIR EYES, AND DEATH SHALL BE NO MORE, NEITHER SHALL THERE BE MOURNING, NOR CRYING, NOR PAIN ANYMORE, FOR THE FORMER THINGS HAVE PASSED AWAY.” AND HE WHO WAS SEATED ON THE THRONE SAID, “BEHOLD, I AM MAKING ALL THINGS NEW.”***

## REVELATION 21:4-5

Can you believe it? There will be no more sadness, mourning or death. We will get to live with God for all eternity. His plan for eternity is good. And when we trust in God’s forgiveness through Jesus, we get to experience this eternity. It will be better than anything we can imagine because we will be with God who loves us so much.

We look forward to the time we are with God for **eternity\***. But we also need to live wisely now, while we wait. As followers of Christ, we can spend our time doing the things God has told us to do. Before Jesus returned to heaven, He gave His followers instructions about how to follow God’s ways while they lived on Earth. **Let’s read about it in Matthew chapter 22, verses 37-39.**

***AND HE SAID TO HIM, “YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. THIS IS THE GREAT AND FIRST COMMANDMENT. AND A SECOND IS LIKE IT: YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.”***

## MATTHEW 22:37-39

While we live on Earth, we can show God we love Him by the way we worship, pray and obey His word. We can also love our neighbors. As we spend time with those around us, we can love them and share the **Gospel\*** with them!

One day, God will **restore all things\***, and everything will once again be very good — exactly the way it was when God created the world. **Until then, our job is to share God’s Big Story with everyone we know!**

END OF TALK TOGETHER

# ★ THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

WEEK OF MAY 22, 2022

## ♥ MEMORIZE

*GOD HIMSELF WILL  
BE WITH THEM AS  
THEIR GOD.*

### REVELATION 21:3

**Q:** AS A CHILD OF GOD,  
WHAT DOES THE  
FUTURE HOLD?

**A:** GOD WILL BE WITH ME.

## SHARE

We look forward to eternity with God for many different reasons. Share with your family why you are looking forward to eternity with God.



## PRAY

DEAR FATHER, WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE DAY THAT WE SPEND ETERNITY WITH YOU. HELP US LOVE YOU AND SERVE OTHERS UNTIL THEN. AMEN.

## SPARKLE

Read the description of eternity given in Revelation 21:15-22. Show your kids pictures of emerald, topaz, amethyst and other beautiful stones you read about. Then, give your kids glitter, sparkly gemstones or shiny beads to create a piece of art.

## WITNESS

Ask your big kids to create their own handout, tract, presentation or piece of artwork to share the Gospel with people in your community.

## SERVE

While we wait to spend eternity with God, we can love God and love others. As a family, create care packages to pass out to your neighbors. Include your kid's artwork, a favorite treat and encouragement from Scripture.

## RESTORE

Help your big kids restore something. Paint an old piece of furniture, mend something that has torn or scrub a dirty item until it looks new. Remind your kids that one day God will restore all things. For followers of Jesus, everything will be new and good again.



SCAN HERE TO LISTEN  
WHEREVER YOU ARE!

## SING

Listen to this playlist throughout this series to sing about God's Big Story.

  
**Talk About**



## **MORE TO EXPLORE**

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### **WHAT WILL THE FUTURE WITH GOD BE LIKE?**

Maybe you have faced something difficult, like the death of a loved one or a divorce in your family. These situations are so sad, and you will still feel sad here on this earth. But because Jesus overcame death and paid the penalty of our sin, we can look forward to **eternity** with God, where He will make **all things new** and perfect once again. God will finally live together with His people as He did with Adam and Eve before sin entered the world. The Bible describes heaven as amazing! There will be no more sadness, pain or death. Our earthly minds don't fully understand what forever with God will be like, but we do know it will be wonderful! Revelation chapters 21 and 22 give stunning descriptions of how eternity will look when God makes all things new.

### **WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?**

You may have heard the word Gospel in church. The Gospel is the good news. God wants everyone to know this good news and to not miss out on this invitation!

### **HERE'S THE GOSPEL IN FOUR MAIN WORDS:**

**GOD, US, JESUS, TRUST.**

#### **GOD:**

God is a loving God who is all-powerful and holy. He knows and sees everything and rules over everything. God created all people in His image, and we are valuable to Him.

#### **US:**

But we have sinned, and our sin separates us from God. What is sin? Sin is anything we think, say or do that disobeys God. The penalty for sin is death and separation from God forever.

#### **JESUS:**

But because God loves us so much, He sent His one and only Son, Jesus, to pay the penalty for our sin. Jesus died in our place. But He did not stay dead; He rose again three days later. Because of Jesus, we no longer have to be separated from God, and we are offered the free gift of eternal life!

#### **TRUST:**

God gives salvation, rescuing us from our sin, to everyone who places their trust in Jesus as their Savior. What is trust? It means that we rely on what Jesus did. You cannot be saved from sin by doing good things, but only through what Jesus did for you.



TALK TOGETHER



MORE TO EXPLORE

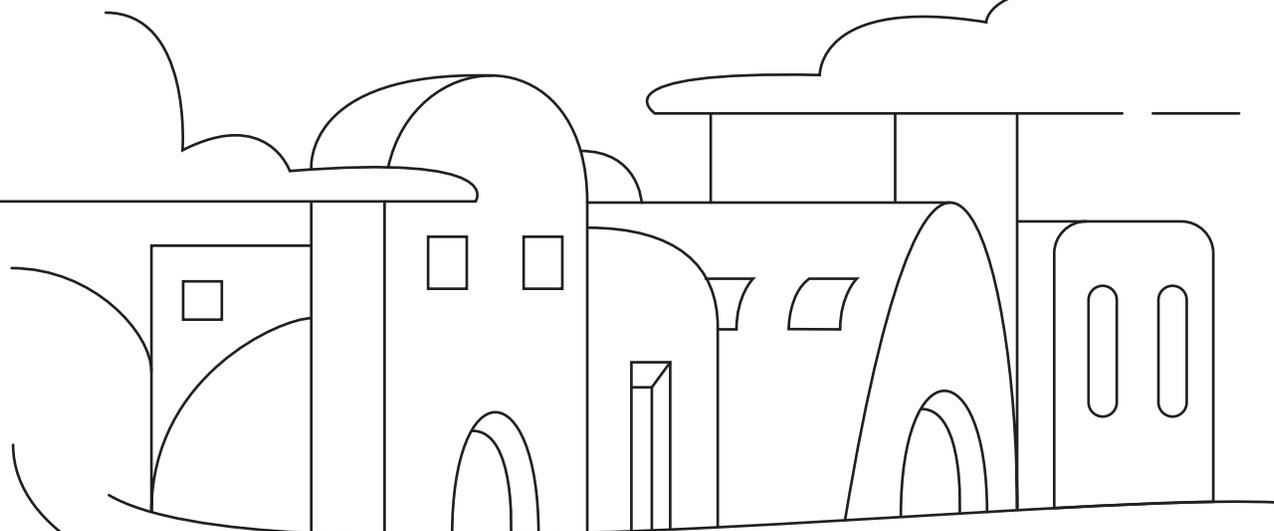


THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET



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# Talk About



REVELATION 21:3

*"BEHOLD, THE DWELLING PLACE OF GOD IS WITH MAN. HE WILL DWELL WITH THEM, AND THEY WILL BE HIS PEOPLE, AND GOD HIMSELF WILL BE WITH THEM AS THEIR GOD."*

**AS A CHILD OF GOD, WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?  
GOD WILL BE WITH ME.**

