

# SMALL GROUP

TODAY'S WONDER TRUTH: THE FALL



## WORD OF WONDER:

When anyone lives in Christ, the new creation has come. The old is gone! The new is here!  
- 2 Corinthians 5:17

## GOD'S BIG STORY:

God Never Gives  
Up on Us  
(Genesis 3)

## GOD'S BIG STORY QUESTIONS:

- What did God tell Adam that he and Eve could do in the garden? What did He tell them not to do? *(God told them to care for the garden and gave them the freedom to eat and enjoy almost all the fruits. God told them not to eat fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.)*
- Instead of listening to God, who did Eve listen to while Adam also stood by? *(Eve listened to the serpent, which was being used by the enemy, Satan, to deceive Eve and Adam.)*
- Adam and Eve disobeyed God. This is called sin. What were the consequences for Adam and Eve's sin? *(The relationship between the man and the woman became worse—the woman would experience more pain when she gave birth, the man would have to work hard for his food, and they had to leave Eden forever!)*
- What did God do to take care of Adam and Eve after they sinned? What did God promise them? *(God called to them and replaced their fig leaf clothes with leather clothes. He also promised that one of their descendants would defeat Satan and crush the head of the serpent once and for all!)*
- What do God's actions toward Adam and Eve and His promise show us about what God is like?
- God never gives up on you! What can you do to remember this?

## Welcome Question

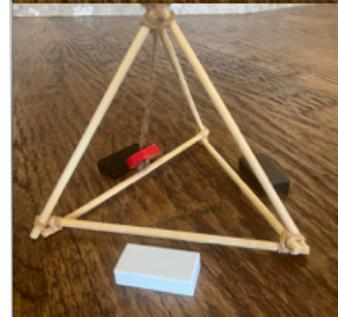
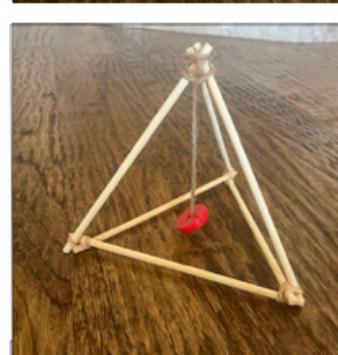
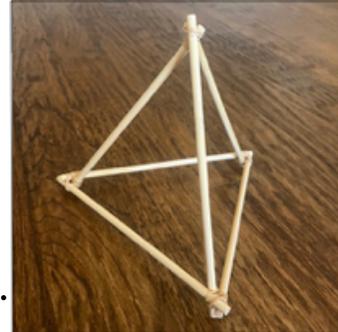
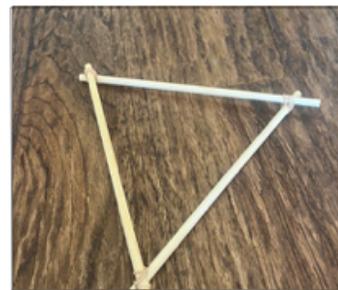
- If you could do one thing forever and never stop, what would it be?
- Today we're going to hear in God's big story about how God's love for the first humans never ended and never stopped, even when they turned away from Him. But first, it's time to be curious!

## Curiosity Questions

- Do you know what the world record is for the longest race completed on foot? Longest hug? Longest time on a swing?
- Can you think of anything that goes on forever?

## Curiosity Activity: Forever Swing

- STEP 1: Create a triangle by overlapping three dowel rods and securing a rubber band around each overlapping corner end.
- STEP 2: Connect three more dowels to the existing triangle to form a 3D pyramid. Secure each dowel end to the corners of the base first. Then secure the three dowels together at the top to create a pyramid shape.
- **Today, we're going to do a STEM activity and use the force of magnets to create a forever swing.**
- **Scientists call the force that keeps the swing moving without ever stopping the Lorentz force. Let's watch it work! Gather the kids around the forever swing. If you've set up multiple stations, assign kids to each station and have leaders complete the steps at each station. Complete steps 3–4, inviting one or more kid to help you with each one.**
- STEP 3: Tie one end of the string around the circular magnet and the other end to the top of the pyramid. Secure both ends of the string with clear tape. (Note that the tape will simply wrap around the magnet, to keep it from loosening.)
- STEP 4: Place three rectangular magnets at the center of each dowel in the base. Gently lift and release the circular magnet to watch it go! It will bounce back and forth between the three magnetic fields.
- **Because of the powerful force of the magnets, the swing never stops! It just doesn't give up.**
- **God's love for us is a little like this forever swing—it never stops!**
- **Our Wonder Truth today is **GOD NEVER GIVES UP ON US.****



## Word of Wonder Activity

- Invite kids to read 2 Corinthians 5:17 several times together.
- Distribute Word of Wonder Infinity Sheets and colored pencils or crayons.
- **In math, this symbol—which looks like an 8 taking a nap—represents infinity, or a number or line that doesn't end.**
- **God's love for us is infinite. It goes on forever! And there's nothing you can do that would cause His love for you to stop. God never gives up on us ... ever!**
- Invite kids to trace the verse inside the infinity symbol with a colored pencil or crayon, using a different color each time.
- Challenge kids to say the verse out loud as they trace. Repeat the entire verse together at the end.

# Responding in Worship: Reflecting God Mural

- We heard in God's big story today about the difficult moment when sin entered the world. Sins are the wrong things we say and do that separate us from God. The Bible tells us that all of us have disobeyed God and done wrong things (see Romans 3:23). **The hard truth is that our sin hurts us and others, and it hurts our relationship with God.**
- Give a sticky note and a writing utensil to each kid.
- **Let's spend a few moments thinking quietly about something we've said or done that was wrong. As you think of that sin, I invite you to draw either a large "X" or a sad face on your sticky note.**
- Pause as kids think quietly and write/draw on their sticky notes. Consider modeling a quiet, humble attitude of confession by participating in the activity alongside the kids.
- **God, who always loves us no matter what, invites us to confess our sins to Him. Confession means simply that we admit that what we did was wrong and ask for forgiveness. Let's hold our sticky notes in front of us as we pray a prayer of confession. You can repeat each line after me:**
  - **God, (Kids repeat.)**
  - **I confess that I have sinned against You (Kids repeat.)**
  - **in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. (Kids repeat.)**
  - **I have not loved You with all my heart. (Kids repeat.)**
  - **I have not loved other people as I love myself. (Kids repeat.)**
  - **I am truly sorry. (Kids repeat.)**
  - **Please forgive me. (Kids repeat.)**
- **Let's pause in our prayer to imagine that our sticky notes represent the wrong things we've done, our sins. Let's stick them to the wall (or whiteboard) as a symbol of releasing our sins to God and asking Him to forgive us.**
- Invite kids to stick their notes to the wall or whiteboard. All the notes should be clustered pretty close together.
- As kids write on their sticky notes and place them on the wall or whiteboard, play songs from the [Created New Elementary Spotify playlist](#).
- **The good news is that God didn't give up on Adam and Eve when they sinned, and He doesn't give up on us!**
- Hold up the giant paper heart.
- **God created us and loves us. He sent Jesus so that our sins could be forgiven and we could be in relationship with Him forever. God's love is bigger and greater than all our sin!**
- Invite kids to help you tape the giant heart directly over all the sticky notes, so the notes are no longer showing. If it feels natural, lead kids in a round of clapping and cheering because the heart—God's love—is bigger than our sins!
- **Let's finish our prayer now. Invite kids to repeat after you:**
  - **God, (Kids repeat.)**
  - **Because of Your Son Jesus, I am forgiven! (Kids repeat.) Thank you for never ever giving up on me! (Kids repeat.) I accept Your big, amazing love! (Kids repeat.)**
  - **Help me to walk with You in Your ways (Kids repeat.)**
  - **all the days of my life! (Kids repeat.)**
  - **Amen. (Kids repeat.)**
- Keep the heart up (and the sticky notes covered) for the remainder of the lesson.

## SMALL GROUP PRAYER

When we sin, God still loves us and desires to be with us. He never gives up on us! Jesus is the One God promised who would defeat Satan once and for all. Through Jesus, our sins can be forgiven, and we can be with God forever! Let's talk with God now in prayer!

Invite kids to join you in a circle to spend time talking to Jesus. Ask whether anyone has a question, something they would like to share with Jesus, or a prayer request. Give each kid a chance to participate, then close in prayer, remembering to thank Jesus for loving us!