

Week Four – Only God is God - Overview

| Passage | Main Point |
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| SS) Genesis 11:1-9 | Only God is God |
| FBT1) Isaiah 29:16 | Only God is God – We are not |
| FBT2) Isaiah 46:8-10 | Only God is God – He is the only one in charge |
| FBT3) Isaiah 31:1-3 | Only God is God – He is the only one we can rely on |
| FBT4) 1 Corinthians 3:6-7 | Only God is God – He is the only one who can save |
| FTB5) Psalm 86:9-10 | Only God is God – He deserves our praise |

Family Bible Time (Day 1) – Isaiah 29:16

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| BIG IDEA | Only God is God – we are not |
| Bible Passage | Isaiah 29:16 |
| Getting Started | <i>If you have play dough available you may want to use it to illustrate the following. Talk about making things out of play dough. Ask what they have made in the past. If you have play dough available, you may want to make something. Imagine if you made something out of play dough, and the thing you made spoke to you! Imagine if it said to you “You know nothing!” Or “You did not make me!” (Maybe demonstrate with the play dough). That would be a bit crazy!</i> |
| <p>Finding Out</p> <p>1. God has the right to choose what is best for us</p> <p>2. We do not have the right to question God</p> | <p>But that is exactly what God says we do sometimes. Sometimes we are just like a piece of play dough talking back to the person who made it into something. Let’s read what God says to his people when they behave like that.</p> <p>Read Isaiah 29:16</p> <p>➤ If necessary, explain what a potter is and what he does</p> <p>God is saying that he is like a potter, and we are like clay (or play dough). God made us, and has the right to do with us whatever he likes. Just like the potter can make a lump of clay into anything he chooses. He can choose to make it onto a jar, or a pot, or a cup, or a vase. He owns the clay, and has the right to make it into anything he likes. God is the potter. He made us and owns us. He has the right to tell us what to do and how to live our lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What are described as being like?</i> <p>We are like the lump of clay. Just like it would be ridiculous for the clay to say to the potter “You did not make me” – it is also ridiculous for us to say to God “you did not make me”. It is like a piece of play dough arguing with the person who make it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What should we be saying to God instead?</i> <p>Maybe you could say “God – thank you for making me. Thank you for making me the way I am. Please help me to understand that you are God, and I am not”</p> |

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| So What? | Do you ever wish things were different in your life? Maybe you wish you had more toys or had different colour hair, or didn't have to go to school. But when are not content with the way things are, it is like we are a lump of clay saying to a potter, "you got it wrong when you made me". God is the potter and has the right to choose what is best for us. We are just clay. We are not God. We need to learn to trust that God knows what he is doing and not think that we know better. |
| Memory Verse | PSALM 145:2 <i>Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever</i> |

Family Bible Time (Day 2) – Isaiah 46:8-10

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| BIG IDEA | Only God is God – He is the one in charge |
| Bible Passage | Isaiah 46:8-10 |
| Getting Started | Imagine if you could do anything that you wanted to do. What sorts of things would you do if you could do anything? (<i>Talk about what they would do</i>). But we can't just do anything that we would like to do. There are lots of things we can't do. But God can do anything he wants to do. He is not like us. If he wants to do something, then he can do it. This was something that God's people had forgotten about him. |
| Finding Out 1. Only God is God (Isaiah 46:8-9) 2. He is the only one in charge (Isaiah 46:10) | <p>Read Isaiah 46:8-9</p> <p>God is speaking here and reminding his people about something that they had forgotten.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What had God's people forgotten?</i> <p>God's people had forgotten that God is the only God. And they had forgotten that there is no one like God. He is different to anyone else.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Can you think of some things about God that make him different to us?</i> <p>There is one thing in particular that makes God different from us or anyone else, which God wanted to remind his people about.</p> <p>Read Isaiah 46:10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What is God able to do?</i> <p>God can do anything he pleases. That's what he wanted to remind his people of. That he is the one in charge. And that he is the only one in charge. He is the only one who can say for sure what will happen in the future, because he is the only one in charge of the whole universe. So what he says will happen, always happens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Do you remember from Sunday school what happened to the people who tried to build the tower of Babel?</i> <p>They tried to be the ones in charge instead of God. But God showed them that they were not in charge. They were not even able to finish their tower. Instead, what God wanted to happen is exactly what happened in the end.</p> |
| So What? | God is the only one in charge of the whole universe, which means he can do anything. God is the only one who can do anything that he wants to. He is the best possible person to trust your life to. |

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| | <i>NB It may be that questions come up about things God cannot do – e.g. “Does that mean God can sin”. If you get questions like this, you could point out that God can do anything that pleases him (see verse 10). Sin does not please him.</i> |
| Memory Verse | PSALM 145:2 <i>Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever</i> |

Family Bible Time (Day 3) – Isaiah 31:1-3

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| BIG IDEA | Only God is God – He is the only one we can rely on |
| Bible Passage | Isaiah 31:1-3 |
| Getting Started | If possible, get some rope or a strong stick and a piece of cotton wool (or something else that breaks easily). Act out a situation where you are all in a boat. One person (child) falls out into the water. You hold out a piece of cotton wool for them to grab onto to rescue them. When this doesn't work, hold out the rope or a stick instead. Ask them which object they would want to be held out to them if they needed rescuing. |
| Finding Out 1. Trusting others (Isaiah 31:1) | <p>In the part of the bible we are reading from today, God is speaking to his people. God's people, Israel, had been threatened by an enemy army. The enemy army was going to attack them and God's people were afraid. They needed help. So they sent off messengers to another country, to Egypt, to ask for help. This is what God has to say to his people after they had asked Egypt for help.</p> <p>Read Isaiah 31:1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What does the Egyptian army have?</i> <p>The Egyptian army has horses, lots and lots of chariots, and big strong men.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Does that sound like a strong army?</i> <p>It sounds like Egypt has a big, strong army, so will definitely be able to help God's people defeat their enemy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: But what does God say will happen to those trusting in Egypt?</i> <p>➤ Explain that “woe” means trouble, or difficulty</p> <p>God tells his people that trusting Egypt is a bad decision. Does that sound surprising? Egypt has a big strong army – surely they can help! The reason it was a bad decision is because they trusted Egypt instead of trusting God.</p> |
| 2. Trusting God (Isaiah 31:1, 30:19) | <p>Read Isaiah 31:1b again</p> <p>God's people forgot to ask God for help. This was a very foolish thing to do. God can do anything. He is far stronger than the whole of the Egyptian army!</p> <p>➤ Refer back to the “Getting Started” activity. Compare the Egyptian army to the cotton wool, and God to the rope/ strong stick.</p> <p>God is the best person to turn to for help. And he wants us to do this</p> <p>Read Isaiah 30:19b</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What does God say he will do if we cry to him for help?</i> <p>God always answers us when we come to him for help. He is like the strong rope (stick). If we need help and turn to him, he will definitely be able to help us.</p> |

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| So What? | God loves us coming to him and asking for his help. He is the only one we can completely rely on. He will always hear us, and always do what is best for us. |
| Memory Verse | PSALM 145:2 <i>Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever</i> |

Family Bible Time (Day 4) – 1 Corinthians 3:6-7

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| BIG IDEA | Only God is God – He is the only one who can save us |
| Bible Passage | 1 Corinthians 3:6-7 |
| Getting Started | Get a pot plant or flower. Talk about what it needs to grow (soil, water, air). Talk about the plant you are holding – it has all those things (soil, water and air) – so ask the children to now make it grow. Can they do it? Talk about the fact that we can provide things that are needed, but we cannot make the plant grow. |
| Finding Out 1. Planting and watering | <p>Paul was a missionary. He was sent by God to bring the message about Jesus to people who had never heard of him. Paul went to lots of different places, telling people about Jesus. Lots of people heard about Jesus for the first time when Paul came to visit them. Apollos was another missionary. He also went around telling people about Jesus. Sometimes, Apollos went to the same places that Paul had been. He went there after Paul had left, and continued to help people understand more about Jesus. This is how Paul described the jobs that he and Apollos were doing.</p> <p>Read 1 Corinthians 3:6-7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What did Paul say he was doing? What did he say Apollos was doing?</i> <p>Paul said that his job was like planting seed. When he came and told people about Jesus for the first time, it was like he was planting seeds in the ground. Then when Apollos came along. Apollos' job was to water the seed that Paul had planted, by explaining more about Jesus.</p> |
| 2. Making it grow | <p>But God had a job to do as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What did Paul say that God's job was?</i> <p>God's job is to make the seed grow, by changing people's hearts. Only God can do that. Just like we cannot make an actual seed turn into a plant and grow, we cannot change anyone's heart. We can tell them about Jesus, but only God can change them. Only God can make them understand and believe what they hear. There is no human being who can save anyone else, or make them into a Christian.</p> |
| So What? | God is the only one who can save you. Others can tell you about him, and show you the way to be saved, but only God can change your heart. He is the one you need to turn to. If you already believe in God and have trusted him to save you, then you can thank God that he is the one who changed your heart. No one else could save you, only God. |
| Memory Verse | PSALM 145:2 <i>Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever</i> |

Family Bible Time (Day 5) – Psalm 86:9-10

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| BIG IDEA | Only God is God – He alone deserves our praise |
| Bible Passage | Psalm 86:9-10 |
| Getting Started | <p>Remember in Sunday school we were learning about some people who built a big tower</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Do you remember the name of the tower?</i> <p>Read Genesis 11:4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Why did they want to build this tower?</i> <p>Remember that God had given the people an instruction. They were told to spread out over the whole earth, and look after it. Instead, they disobeyed God, and started to build a huge tower. They didn't want to do what God wanted, instead they wanted to "make a name for themselves". They wanted people to praise them and remember them for the great thing they had done. But we are going to learn that this was wrong, because instead they should have been "making a name for God" and praising him.</p> |
| <p>Finding Out</p> <p>1. Gathering to worship....</p> <p>2. The only one who deserves worship</p> | <p>Read Psalm 86:9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: What are all the nations on the earth coming together to do?</i> <p>They are coming to worship God. One day, all people everywhere, from all different nations will come to know that there is only true God. He is the only one who is God, so he is the only one who deserves worship. We do not deserve worship, only God does.</p> <p>Read Psalm 86:10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Why are all the nations worshipping God?</i> <p>They are all worshipping God because he has done great things.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Q: Can you think of some great things that God has done?</i> <p>We have learnt in previous weeks that God made the whole world. He also is the only one who could save us. He is the one who is our ruler, and the one in charge of our lives. All these great things that God has done show that he is the true God. We can't do any of those things. Only God can do all those things, so only he can be God.</p> |
| So What? | All the nations will one day worship God because they will all know that he is the only true God. God has done lots of great things to show us that he is God. What should our response to the one true God be? |
| Memory Verse | <p>PSALM 145:2</p> <p><i>Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever</i></p> |

Recap Week 4

There is only one true God. He has shown that he is the true God through all the things he has done. What things has God done to show that he is the only true God? God is the only one we can completely rely on, because he is the only one who is completely in control of everything. Do you sometimes trust in other things? What do you think can make you happy? God is also the only one who can save us. Trust in him.