

LESSON OVERVIEW

Big Idea: We can be adopted into God's family

Key Question: What do we have to do to be adopted by God?

Memory Verse: God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ **Ephesians 1:5**

Overview: We're starting a new series called "Get Rich". But it's not what you might think. We won't be talking about how to make lots of money so you can buy your parents a car or a new Xbox! We're talking about being rich because of God's love. God's riches are not just about money. God's riches are about love and forgiveness. And, he wants us to be rich in those things. The Bible says that we all have a sin problem that breaks our relationship with God. That's why Jesus came. He came to die for our sins so that we could be made right with God. And, when we put our trust in Jesus, the Bible says we gain a whole new family. This is what Paul explains in the book of Ephesians. Through Jesus, we are adopted into God's family! We are God's children and we get all the benefits that come from being in God's family. We get his protection, his love, his blessings, and we get heaven! Talk about getting rich! So, make sure you've put your trust in Jesus so you can be adopted into God's family and benefit from all of God's riches.

CLASSROOM AGENDA

5 min **PLAY:** Begin working on Activity Page #1.

5 min **WARM UP:** Describe your family: Who lives with you? What do you like to do together?

5 min **PREVIEW:** Write out the Big Idea and Memory Verse and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1. (if applicable)

20 min **LARGE GROUP:** Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to small group to finish this guide.

5 min **RECAP:** Read the **Lesson Overview** from the Teacher's Guide to the class and then **answer** the KEY QUESTION.

5 min **EXPLORE:** Read [John 14:1-4](#). Why don't we have to be afraid? Where was Jesus going to make a place for his followers? What do you think Heaven will be like?

10 min **PLAY:** Do the group activity from Activity Page #2.

5 min **CLOSE:**

- Share prayer requests and pray as a class.
- Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents.

TEACHER TIPS

Don't forget that you set the tone for your kids. Smile. Have fun. Pursue God together.

Family is important. We need people to love us, protect us, and to provide for us. But being a part of God's family is the most important.

Answer: We have to put our trust in Jesus.

The Bible says that in order to be a part of God's family, we have to put our trust in Jesus. We need to ask Jesus to forgive our sins and invite him into our hearts to help us to live a life that honors God. Because of Jesus, we get all the benefits of being a part of God's family.

Bonus Questions: What do we need to do to trust in Jesus? What are some benefits of being a part of God's family?

4-5th: Why is family important? What does it mean to you that you can be adopted by God?

When we're a part of God's family, that means we have God on our side. He's the best Dad ever! He will protect us, love us and provide for us. That's why we don't have to be afraid. And, the best part of being in God's family is looking forward to heaven where we get to live with him some day. Heaven will be the coolest, prettiest, and the most fun place we can ever imagine.

Make sure kids bring their Family guide home or tell them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week's lesson.

ACTIVITY PAGE #2

Classroom Activities K-1st

Option #1

God's Family Tree Craft

- Give each kid a Tree template (**page 5**).
- Using the stamp pads, have kids go around and stamp their thumbprint on everyone else's tree. (thumbprints will be like leaves). Explain that by doing this activity, they are showing how big God's family tree is.
- Give each kid a wet wipe to clean their thumb.
- Let kids color the tree trunk and branches brown. Have them draw in leaves with green crayons to branches that don't have thumbprints.

Supplies needed

- Tree template (pg. 5), 1 per kid
- Stamp pads (2 per class)
- Wet Wipes
- Crayons

Bonus Activity:

Play **Bible Hangman**.

Words or phrases: adopted, Ephesians, Paul

Option #2

Benefits of God's Love Matching Game

- Have kids get into groups of 3 or 4.
- Give each group a set of matching cards (**pages 6-7**).
- Have groups compete to see who can find the most matches.

Supplies needed

- Matching game template (pg 6-7), 1 set for every group.

Bonus Activity:

Play **Find the Book in the Bible**.

Have class get into pairs. Give each pair a Bible. Have them race to find the books below. First to find has to say if it's in the OT or NT.

Books: Mark, Ruth, Hebrews

We Have Been Adopted | Get Rich #1 (Kids)

 www.pursuegod.org/we-have-been-adopted-get-rich-1-kids/

Hey kids, today we're starting a brand new series on the book of Ephesians. That's in the Bible. It was a letter that the Apostle Paul wrote to the churches in a city called Ephesus.

We have been _____!

That's what we learn right away in the book of Ephesians. God loved us so much that he adopted us into his family.

And God's family is _____ than you think

Do you know who else is a part of God's family? Abraham. Moses. David. Peter and Paul. Joseph and Mary. And every single person in history who asked Jesus into their heart.

There's only _____ to get into God's family

Being adopted into God's family was a big deal in Paul's day and it's a big deal for us, too. Make sure you've trusted in Jesus so you can be in God's big family.

Questions:

1. *What was your favorite part of the video? What is one thing you learned from the video?*
2. *Describe your family: Who lives with you? What do you like to do together?*
3. *What does adopted mean? What are some benefits of being in God's family?*
4. *What character from the Bible are you excited to meet in Heaven?*
5. *Who do we have to put our trust in to be a part of God's family?*
6. *Read [John 14:1-4](#). Why don't we have to be afraid? Where was Jesus going to make a place for his followers? What do you think Heaven will be like?*
7. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Bonus Questions:

1. *Read [1 Peter 5:6-7](#). Why should we give all of our worries to God?*
2. *Read [Psalm 86:15](#). List all the things this verse says about God. Why is he worthy of our worship?*
3. *Read [Jeremiah 29:11](#). God created you with unique talents and abilities. How can you use your abilities to honor God?*

Answers: adopted, bigger, one way

ACTIVITY PAGE #1

K-1st Grade

Kids

BIG IDEA

We can be adopted into
God's family

KEY QUESTION

What do we have to do
to be adopted by God?

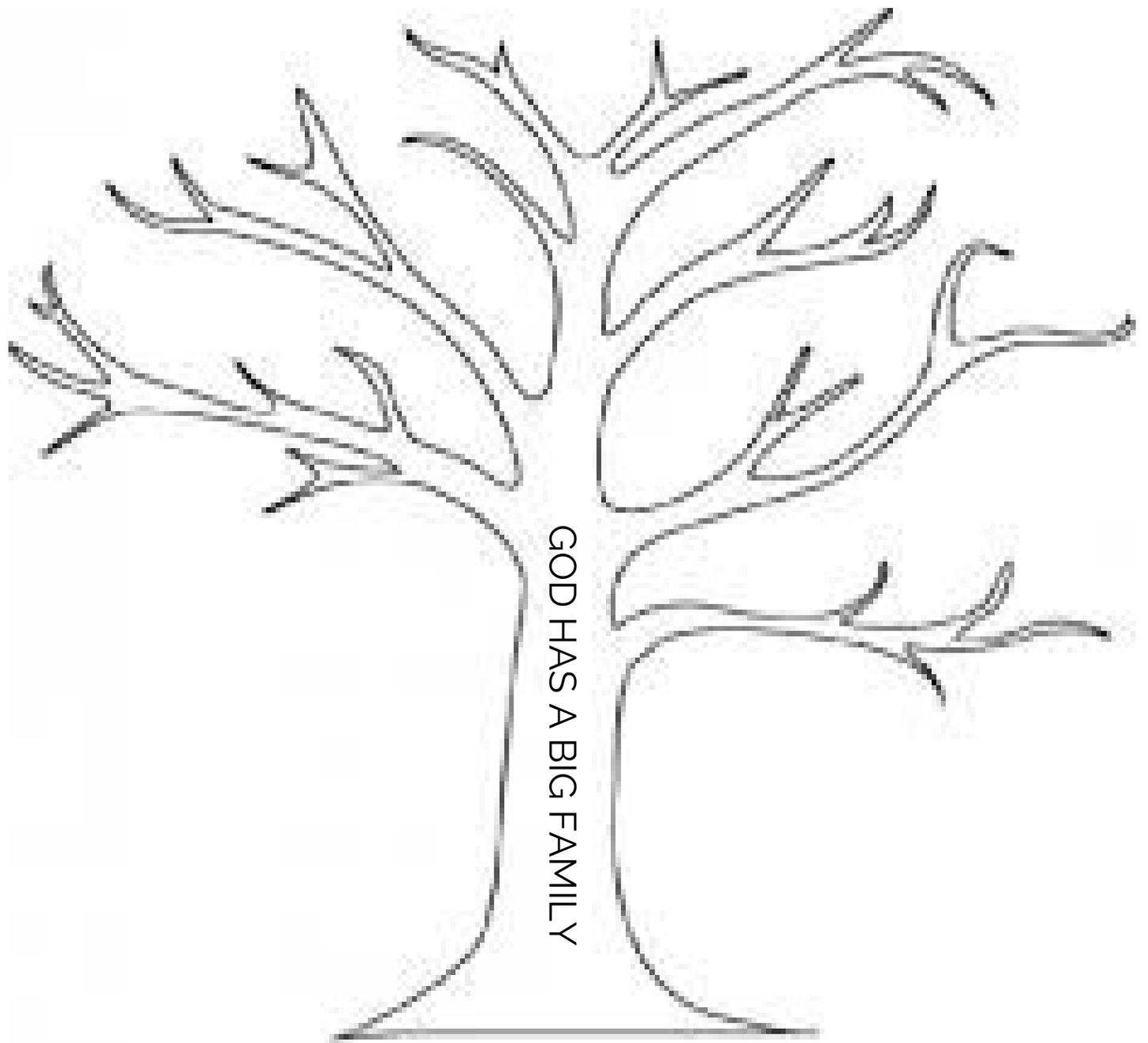
MEMORY VERSE

"God decided in advance
to adopt us into his own family
by bringing us to himself
through Jesus Christ"

Ephesians 1:5

Color the picture





God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family
by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ

Ephesians 1:5

