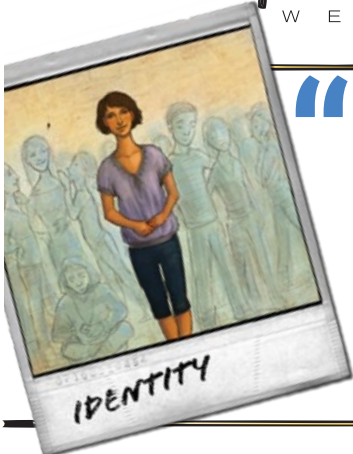




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IT WAS THEN I REALIZED
I WAS PLAYING MY MOST
IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE
BIG GOD STORY!



Inspire (for parents)

I recently embarked on a four-hour road trip with my three-year-old granddaughter, Ruby. About an hour into the trip, she asked me, "Mimi, do you know about Adam and Eve?" I answered, "Why of course I do." She then proceeded to tell me, "They disobeyed God!" Smiling, I agreed, "They did disobey God, and He was saddened by this because it broke their perfect relationship!"

I then shared with her that because of their choice to sin, God made a promise to send a Savior. He wanted to restore that relationship with us. "Hmm," she said quietly. I could actually see her thinking. "Mimi, do you know more Bible stories?" She quietly listened as I shared about Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Moses. Ruby asked me to tell her more, so we talked about Queen Esther, John the Baptist, and, finally, about the Savior's birth in Bethlehem.

"Is that it Mimi? Is that it?" Ruby asked.

What a thrill it was to be able to tell her, "No! That is not it! You have a part in The God Big Story until Jesus comes back!" It was then I

realized I was playing my most important role in The Big God Story! I was passing His story down to my grandchild. It happened naturally as we were driving along the road.

Parents and grandparents have the honor of talking to their children when they sit in their house, when they walk along the way, when they put their children to bed, and when they wake them up in the morning. God asks us to incorporate His story into the daily rhythm of our family life. What a privilege!

by Debbie Guinn

Getting Started

Main Point: Remember & Celebrate
(Festival of Jubilee)

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **before your children attend church**. Because God's plan is for parents to be the spiritual nurturers of their children's faith, we know that as you grow spiritually, your children will grow spiritually as well.

Equip (for parents)

This week we are highlighting the festival of Jubilee. The Year of Jubilee was a festival that occurred every 50 years, after seven Sabbatical years. It was a consecrated year set aside to proclaim liberty and restoration for all of the inhabitants of the land. Debts were forgiven, and those who had sold themselves to settle a debt were set free. God reminds His people that He is their Provider, and in fact holds the deeds to all of their possessions. Therefore, He commands His people to provide for the redemption of land and housing that was lost due to poverty or other circumstances such as these.

Several times a year, the Israelites gathered together for a festival. In Leviticus 23:2, the Lord said to Moses, "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'These are my appointed feasts ... which you are to proclaim as sacred assemblies.'" These seven festivals are: Passover, Feast of Unleavened Bread, Festival of First Fruits, Feast of Harvest, Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles (or Booths). During the feasts and festivals, the Israelites ate, danced, sang, played instruments, prayed, and offered sacrifices to God.

The Feast of Passover was fulfilled by the death of the Messiah, the Feast of Unleavened Bread was fulfilled by His sinless sacrifice, and the Festival of First Fruits was fulfilled by the resurrection of the Messiah. The Feast of Harvest began with a great harvest of three thousand souls by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Feast of Trumpets will announce Christ's return, the Day of Atonement will usher in His judgment of the nations, and finally, the Feast of Tabernacles begins the journey to our new home in a new heaven and new earth.



Support

(for parents & kids)

> JUST FOR FUN, tell your children that for their bedtime story this week, you are going to share the best story of all time—The Big God Story.

Read through **Psalm 111** with your children. This Psalm is a great picture of all the things that God does throughout His big story. As you read the Psalm, explain that this highlights some of the amazing things God does as He redeems His people throughout His story.

After you have read the Psalm, think of some questions to ask your children that reflect on what you just read, such as, "What does this tell us about God?," or "What kinds of things is God praised for in this passage?," or "What does this Psalm say that God provides for His people?"

Share with your children that what they just heard is a glimpse of The Big God Story, and they will hear the whole story in church this week. Close your time by sharing together some stories of times when you have seen God use your family as a part of His story.

