HEY, FAMILIES!

ELEMENTARY

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,
and His greatness is unsearchable.

(Psalm 145:3)





DEVOTIONAL: GOD IS GREATER THAN ANYTHING

I was never good at math. I still am not good at math. But in math, there are three ways to measure something: less than, equal to and greater than. The largest number was always greater than all the others. I am rarely tempted to think that God is less than me, but I am often tempted to believe He is equal to me. As a parent, it's easy to move through life thinking, I've got this with God's help. But that's not the truth. God has us. He holds us, loves our kids more than we do and fights for us in ways we can't always see.

Israel often forgot the mercy and justice of our perfect God. With Elijah and the prophets of Baal, we see God as greater than every false hope. In Jonah's story, we see God's mercy far greater than Jonah's desire for judgment.

Our comfort and confidence begin with His greatness. What a kind reminder this month of how great our God is.

-Sam Luce childdiscipleship.com

ELIJAH AND MT. CARMEL *(1 Kings 18:16-45)* — Week 1



Elijah told King Ahab to gather the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. The prophets of the fake god prayed and danced, but nothing happened. Elijah built an altar, drenched it with water, and prayed. God sent fire that burned up the sacrifice and everything around it, showing He is the one true God.

Brite Idea: The Lord is the one true God.

JONAH *(Jonah 1-4)* — Week 2



God called the prophet Jonah to warn Nineveh, but Jonah ran the other way. A storm came, and he was thrown into the sea, where a big fish swallowed him. Jonah prayed and admitted he was wrong, and the fish spit him out. He went to Nineveh, warned the people, and they believed God. Jonah was upset about God's grace, so God used a vine to teach him to care for others.

Brite Idea: God gives grace.

ISAIAH'S CALL *(Isaiah 6)* — Week 3



God gave Isaiah a vision of His heavenly temple. He saw God on His throne while angels cried, "Holy, holy, holy!" The temple shook, and smoke filled the room. Isaiah confessed his sin, and a seraph touched his lips with a coal to show he was forgiven. When God asked who He could send, Isaiah said, "Here I am! Send me!"

Brite Idea: God is holy.

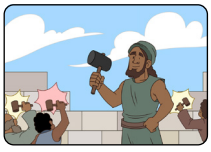
THE FIERY FURNACE *(Daniel 3)* — Week 4



When Babylon captured Israel, young men like Daniel and his friends were taken to serve the king. Nebuchadnezzar built a gold statue and commanded everyone to worship it or face a fiery furnace. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused and stood firm. They were thrown into the fire, but a fourth figure was with them, protecting them from harm.

Brite Idea: Only God is worthy of worship.

THE EXILES RETURN *(Ezra 1–3; 7; Nehemiah 1–2)* — Week 5



After 70 years in exile, King Cyrus allowed the Israelites to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple. Ezra led more people back and called them to turn from sin. Nehemiah returned to lead the rebuilding of the city walls. God used His people to restore the city.

Brite Idea: God works through His people.

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