

# THE **BIG** STORY

(JOHN 3:16)



**GOD LOVED.** God created you in His image and He loves you! He wants a friendship with you, but sin (anything that is less than God's best) keeps us from having a friendship with God.



**GOD GAVE.** The consequence of sin is eternal separation from God. No matter how hard we try, we can't fix it! We need someone to rescue us. God knew our sin would keep us apart from Him forever. Because He loved us, He gave us Jesus. Jesus gave up His life on the cross to pay for our sin. Three days later, Jesus rose from the dead, making a friendship with God possible again!



**WE BELIEVE.** God gave us the gift of a friendship with Him again. It's not something that we can earn by doing good things. God gives it to us because He loves us. To begin a friendship with God, all you have to do is believe that only Jesus can rescue you from sin!



**WE RECEIVE.** When you receive a gift, what do you do? You open it! When you trust what God has done for you, you open the gift He's given you. Nothing will ever separate you from God again from now to the rest of eternity. You can't keep that good news to yourself! Now you get to go and tell others about the awesome thing that God has done for you!

**WHAT NOW?** If you believe in your heart that only Jesus can save you from the consequence of sin, you can pray and ask Him to be your Lord and Savior. There aren't any magical words that you need to say. You just need to believe that Jesus is who He says that He is and then promise you will follow Him with your life.

If you trust Jesus and have prayed to tell Him, that's awesome! This is just the start of your journey in getting to know Him better. Now, it's time to talk to someone you trust about baptism. Baptism is a first BIG step in following Jesus. You're going to have lots of questions, and that's ok! To help, be sure to spend time with others who know God and practice HEAR, TALK, PRAY, LIVE.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

HEAR

Listen to God by spending time reading the Bible.

TALK

Ask questions and talk about God with others around you.

PRAY

Practice talking to God every day—at meals, before school, at bedtime, or driving in the car.

LIVE

Live your life in a way that shows others that you love God and want to obey Him. Find ways to love and serve others.

Memorize Bible verses to remind you who God is and how He wants you to live. The Bible verses below will help you to get started!

**John 3:16 | Philippians 4:13 | Psalm 119:11**