

## leader's guide

### BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE'



#### *Big Picture:*

GOD AND HIS WORD

#### *Big Idea:*

WHAT I BELIEVE

#### *Big Point:*

I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT

#### *Big Word:*

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD. HE WAS WITH GOD IN THE BEGINNING. THROUGH HIM ALL THINGS WERE MADE; WITHOUT HIM NOTHING WAS MADE THAT HAS BEEN MADE. JOHN 1:1-3 (NIV)

### DOCUMENT PURPOSE

This document is the Leader's Guide for BIG Picture 'God and His Word'. It contains a summary of the BIG Message 'LIVE'. The BIG JR 'Can You Believe It!?' User Guide document contains all the service element information, including the large group segment of your service.

Make sure you read through and prayerfully study this material prior to your service to be fully prepared to minister to your children.

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# Big Message 'Live' Outline

**BIG IDEA:** WHAT I BELIEVE

**BIG POINT:** I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT

**BIG WORD:** IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD. HE WAS WITH GOD IN THE BEGINNING. THROUGH HIM ALL THINGS WERE MADE; WITHOUT HIM NOTHING WAS MADE THAT HAS BEEN MADE. JOHN 1:1-3 (NIV)

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Discover that God exists in three persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
- Know that God is totally loving and completely holy.
- Learn that it's important to know what we believe.

## BUILD YOUR MESSAGE

Use the outline in the following pages to construct a message that works for you and your children's ministry. Pray, read the scripture references and choose which elements best suit your audience. Then prepare by gathering any supplies needed.

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:** Deuteronomy 6:4, Matthew 27:24, John 14:6, 1 John 4:16

**MY MESSAGE PLAN:**

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**SUPPLIES NEEDED:**



## BIG IDEA: WHAT I BELIEVE

### BIG POINT: I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT

## TRANSITION

If you can hear me, spin around.

If you can see me, sit right down.

Hands in laps, you're doing great.

It's Big Message time so sit up straight!

## INTRO STRONG FOUNDATIONS

**SUPPLIES NEEDED:** Two clear plastic tubs, water and large jug, sand, two lego men, lego base and lego blocks.

What we believe is really important for us as people who follow Jesus. Let's look at a cool experiment so you can see what I mean.

*(Set up the two plastic tubs next to each other on a table. Put sand in both tubs, we will be placing the lego 'tower' on top of the sand.)*

Invite two volunteers to build a lego tower on a solid foundation using a lego base. When they are done, they can place their tower into a clear plastic tub.

Next invite two more volunteers to build a sandcastle in the other clear tub, making it as solid as they can.

Now we have two towers with two different types of foundations. One is a solid foundation; firm and true. The other is a soft foundation, made with only sand. Let's place a lego man on each foundation and when we pour in some water we will see which one will stay standing. Here we go!

*(Pour the water gently into the tubs. The man on the lego will stay standing, but the sand in the other tub will collapse, toppling the lego man.)*

Jesus told a story just like this experiment to His disciples to illustrate this exact point - it starts in Matthew 27:24 (NLT), "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won't collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and doesn't obey it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash."

What we believe is important, it makes a big difference. We want to build our lives on solid foundations, knowing the truth of what we believe. If we don't build on solid foundations, when storms come, we may not stay standing.

## STORYTELLING

### FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT

**SUPPLIES NEEDED:** Screen images supplied with print material files.

There was once a man named John the Baptist. John was Jesus' cousin. He was an unusual man, in fact John was one of the most unusual people in the Bible. John lived a very simple life, living in the desert, wearing clothes made of camel skin and a leather belt. He had wild hair, a big beard and ate...wait for it...insects and honey!

*(Show screen image 1 - John the Baptist.)*

John had an important mission; he was sent by God to prepare the way for the coming Messiah, Jesus. He invited people who wanted to give their lives to God to be baptised in the River Jordan.

*(Show screen image 2 - John preaching.)*

John pointed the way to Jesus saying, "But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am, so much greater that I'm not worthy even to be His slave and carry His sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

One day Jesus himself, now a fully grown man, lined up with the other followers of John, waiting to be baptised. As Jesus appeared at the front of the line John looked up and saw Jesus, knew He was the promised Messiah, and tried talking Jesus out of it! John said that he should be baptised by Jesus instead. Jesus insisted that John do it, and so, heading into the river, John baptised Jesus.

*(Show screen image 3 - Jesus in the water.)*

Then, breaking through the clouds above them, a loud voice was heard from heaven saying, "This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy." Then descending from the skies came the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove.

*(Show screen image 4 - Three in one.)*

This amazing story is an incredible picture of who God is; God the Father - the voice from heaven, God the Son - Jesus in the river, and God the Holy Spirit - descending like a dove. This eternal relationship is who God is: three in one, different yet the same, separate yet whole.



**BIG IDEA:** WHAT I BELIEVE

**BIG POINT:** I BELIEVE IN GOD THE FATHER,  
SON AND HOLY SPIRIT

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## MY FAVOURITE VERSE

I have a favourite verse about God being three persons in one. It reminds me God is amazing! Would you like me to share this very amazing Bible verse with you?

This is from Deuteronomy 6:4 (NIV), it says, "The Lord our God, the Lord is one." God is three persons in one: The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit. Can you believe it!? That is my favourite verse about God being three in one, I think it might become one of your favourites as well.

## SUMMARY

Today's Big Point is all about God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. God is three persons in one, which we call the Trinity.

There are many ways to try and describe the Trinity. You could think of three in one like water. Water can exist in three different forms - steam, running water and ice. They are all water, the same substance but in three distinct forms. You could also think of an apple which has seeds, the flesh and the skin, which all make up one piece of fruit. None of these examples are perfect, but they do help our minds get an idea of God being three in one.

We believe that the Lord our God is One God who is the Creator of all things. He exists in three Persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, each person is fully God and united together as One God.

## PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank You that You give us a strong foundation to build our lives on. Help us to learn more about You and grow closer to You every day.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.