



Theology for Kids

It is important to be able to clearly and simply explain complex theological concepts to children in a way that lays a foundation for deeper learning as they grow. Below are specific explanations for a few concepts as they are explained to children in classes at Gateway Heights. Using the same explanation and phrasing at home when discussing these concepts with children will best help them understand and apply these concepts in their lives.

Faith – Faith is trusting that Jesus’s life, death, and resurrection (or raising from the dead) is enough to reunite us with God. (Jesus’s life, death, and resurrection is sufficient for our redemption.)

God – God is the creator of everyone and everything. (Psalm 86:8-10, Isaiah 40:28-29)

Grace – Grace is receiving a gift we don’t deserve.

For God’s people, instead of looking upon their sin, God looks upon Jesus and his perfect sacrifice so we can be reunited with Him instead of separated from Him; this is grace.

Holy – separate; set apart; different; distinct

God is holy because unlike humans, He is without sin.

Holy Spirit – God is three persons, and the Holy Spirit is one of them. The Holy Spirit connects us to what Jesus accomplished on the cross. It is the Holy Spirit who changes our hearts so we can have faith in Jesus.

Jesus – Jesus is the Son of God. He was fully God and fully man. Jesus was the fulfillment of God’s promise to Abraham. God sent him as a perfect sacrifice to save God’s people from their sin and reunite them with God.

Make Jesus Famous – to make Jesus famous is to tell other about Jesus, to show them His true nature through our actions, and to explain how Jesus reunites us with God.

Trinity – Trinity is the word we use to explain that God is three distinct persons (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit) but just one God. Humans can’t understand very well how this works, but we know it is true because this is how the Bible explains God.

Righteousness – To be righteous is to be perfect before God. We can never be righteous because we are sinful. Jesus lived a perfect life and died for God’s people so that when God looks at them, He sees Jesus’s righteousness and adopts them into His family.

Redemption – Redemption is when God rescues us from sin and its consequences

Sin – Sin is ignoring God in the world He created. It is not being or doing what He requires in His law. (1 John 3:4)
Sin separates us from God and each other.