



The
SOVEREIGNTY
of God

SESSION 3



Prep

Plan on spending 10 minutes without your kids to familiarize yourself with this session.

Begin with prayer, asking God for His wisdom and guidance. Read through the session to:

- Be sure to understand the Big Idea and the Key Verse
- Preview the video
- Select the best questions in the **TALK** section and activities in the **DO** section for your family

Understanding the Sovereignty of God

Background information from the Bible about God's character.

God's sovereignty is the attribute by which He rules His entire creation, and to be sovereign, God must be all-knowing, all-powerful, and absolutely free.

1. God created all things, both in heaven and on earth, both visible and invisible. He sustains all things, holding them together.

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. (Colossians 1:16-17 NIV)

2. God is all-powerful, and He can do all things. Nothing is too difficult for Him. Nothing—not anything—is impossible for Him.

I am the LORD, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me? (Jeremiah 32:27 NIV)

With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible. (Matthew 19:26 NIV)

3. God knows all things. He isn't limited. God knows everything completely before it happens.

Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely. (Psalm 139:4 NIV)

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. (Hebrews 4:13 NIV)

4. God is absolutely free. He doesn't owe anyone anything. No one has any power over God. It's impossible to give something to God He doesn't already possess because everything belongs to Him.

This is what the LORD says— Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God. (Isaiah 44:6 NIV)

Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. (1 Chronicles 29:11 NIV)

For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. (Deuteronomy 10:17)



Big Idea:

GOD KNOWS EVERYTHING AND
IS IN COMPLETE CONTROL

As the Creator of the universe, nothing escapes God's attention or is beyond His power. God is never surprised or out of control because He is the King of the universe.



Key Verse:

COLOSSIANS 1:17 (NLT)

He (God) existed before anything else, and
He holds all creation together.

Watch

Set up the video for your family:

"We're going to watch a video that tells a story to teach us something about God. Let's pay attention and see if we can discover what the story says about God."



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Choose a few questions to best help your family talk about the video.

- What did you like most about the video?
- What was the point of the video? What did it teach about God?
- Read the Big Idea and Key Verse.
- "Sovereign" means holding a position of power and authority, like a king or president of a country. Can you name other examples of "sovereignty"? How do these positions impact and control your life?
- When it comes to "human sovereignty" (for example, a teacher at school or a boss at work), what are some healthy ways to respond to authority? What are some poor or unhealthy ways to respond to authority?
- How is human sovereignty different from God's sovereignty? How is human control and leadership different from God's control and leadership?
- How do you typically respond when things are out of your control, when stuff happens you don't like but can't do anything about?
- God knows everything about our lives. He knows about the good things and the bad things like worry, fear, and doubt. On a practical level, how can the sovereignty of God help us through the bad things?
- Since God is both good (Session 2) and sovereign, why does God allow bad things to happen? (Parents: this is a HUGE question, but an important one to explore as a family. For more information on this topic, check out *The Real God* by Chip Ingram.)



Ideas to help your family understand God's character for the rest of the week.

Print the **"TAKEAWAY"** sheet (included in this guide) and put up a few around your house (refrigerator, bathroom mirror, etc.). Encourage your kids to read the verse every morning and every night. One option is to memorize the verse as a family.

Morning Questions (at breakfast or on the ride to school)
(pick one for each morning):

- The Bible says God is sovereign. What does that mean?
- What's happening today that is out of your control? What could it look like for you to trust God as King of the universe?

Questions for the evening in the car on the way home from school or dinner time (pick one for each evening):

- What were some things that happened to you today that were out of your control? How did you respond?
- What does it mean to worry or be anxious? How can the truth about God's sovereignty help us with worry?

Stories are powerful! Think through a few stories of God's sovereignty in your life and share a couple this week. Be vulnerable, as this will encourage your kids. Here are a few prompts to get you thinking: Describe a time when a series of events were confusing/overwhelming/out of control until you were able to look back and see God at work.



If your kids have a mobile phone, text them a few times this week. Here are a few suggestions:

- Take comfort in the truth that God knows everything and is in complete control.
- “He (God) existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.” (Colossians 1:17 NLT)
- God is in control over everything that happens today. He loves you and so do I!
- Take a moment and give thanks to God for being in control of everything. We worship the King of the universe!
- If something stressed you out today, take a moment and say, “God help me to trust you more. Thank you for being in control and loving me.”



As a family, take 10 minutes and each person hunt for something in your home that best describes for you the sovereignty of God. Bring it back to the family and share why you chose that particular item.



Takeaway

Print this out, put it in a place where your family can read it once or twice a day.



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