

BIG IDEA

God is the only One worth trusting. Everything else will let you down.

Lesson	The Golden Calf
Passage	Exodus 32:1-35
Date	May 31, 2026

MEMORY VERSE
Exodus 20:3
<i>You shall have no other gods before me.</i>

WHAT YOUR CHILD LEARNED

While Moses was on Mount Sinai for forty days, the Israelites grew afraid and pressured Aaron into making a golden calf to worship. God was grieved. Moses came down, destroyed the calf, and confronted Aaron, who made excuses. Moses then did something breathtaking: he stood before God and offered to give up his own place with God to save his people. He could not complete that offer because he was a sinner himself. But it points straight to Jesus, who actually stood in our place at the cross.

MEMORY VERSE PRACTICE

Practice at home:

- Say it at breakfast or bedtime each day.
- Parent says the first half, child finishes it.

Ask: What is an idol?

Answer: Anything we trust more than God.

TALK ABOUT IT AT HOME

Question	Answer
What did the people ask Aaron to make, and why?	A golden calf. They were afraid and wanted a visible god like those from Egypt.
What does our memory verse say we must never do?	Put another god before the LORD. He alone is God.
Who is the greater Moses who actually stood in our place?	Jesus. He took our penalty at the cross so we could be forgiven.
What is something you sometimes go to first when you are scared?	Let your child answer honestly, then say: Jesus wants to be our first place.

TRY THIS AS A FAMILY

The Golden Calf Check

At dinner this week, each person answers two questions:

- What is one thing I ran to when I felt worried?
- Did I bring it to God first?

Close by saying the memory verse together.

PRAYER TO PRAY TOGETHER

Lord, we confess that we reach for things other than You when we are afraid. Thank You for not walking away when we do. Thank You for sending Jesus to stand in our place. Help our family run to You first this week. In Jesus' name, Amen.

A note for parents: You do not have to be a Bible scholar to disciple your child through this lesson. The most powerful thing you can do this week is name one of your own golden calves honestly in front of them. Small, faithful, honest conversations are more than enough. God is at work in your home.