



## **Relational – Lesson I**

### **4K and 5K**

**Divine Attribute:** God is Relational

**Heart Response:** Follow him

**Memory Verse:** Genesis 1:27

“God created man in his own image.”

### **Points of Emphasis:**

1. God created us to have a relationship with him.
2. God created us to have relationships with others.
3. Sin breaks our relationship with God.
4. Jesus restores our relationship with God.

### **CENTER TIME**

*10-20 minutes as the kids begin to arrive*

To help the children transition into class, please use a center format at the beginning of each service. Set up three centers in your classroom to allow children options of activities. Ideas include, but are not limited to:

1. Read books on the floor.
2. Color at the table.
3. Play with blocks on the floor.
4. Play with puzzles at the table.
5. Play with Play-Doh at the table.

### **OPENING ACTIVITY**

*10 minutes at the start of service*

The following activity is provided to begin engaging the children for the upcoming lesson. As the teacher of your class, you have an important opportunity to come alongside the parents of these children to teach them about God.

### **Memory Verse Poster**

#### **Supplies:**

Memory verse poster (one per bin)

Piece of paper – already in room (one per child)

Hang the verse poster on the board. You can give

each child a piece of paper to color as you go over the memory verse with them a few times. You may want to give them some direction on what to draw, based on the attribute/lesson. For example, you could say something like “Draw a picture of someone you know and love” and talk to them about people and relationships in our lives.

### **BIG GROUP TIME**

*please check your classroom schedule*

Please talk to your class about the purpose of this time—to have fun worshiping God together. Give your class practical ideas of what this means (obey the teachers up on the stage, sing and praise God with a happy heart, keep your hands to yourself, etc.). Teachers, you are crucial in helping create a peaceful, orderly environment to worship God during this time. Thank you for your help!

### **SMALL GROUP TIME**

*25-30 minutes*

#### **Mirror Color**

##### **Supplies:**

Hand mirrors (ten per bin)

Portrait outline on half sheet of cardstock (one per child)

Crayons

Children will use a hand mirror to see their reflections and draw/color a self-portrait on the portrait outlines. As they work, talk with them about how they have noses, eyes, mouths, etc. They will use the back of this later in the lesson.

### **Bible Story**

Open your Bible to the book of Genesis so that the children will see that the lesson is from the Bible.

**Supplies:**

Bible

Hand mirror (from earlier)

Set of pictures: lion, duck, giraffe (one set per bin)

**Did you like making the pictures of yourselves earlier? How did you know what you looked like?** (Pick up the hand mirror.) The mirror helped you, right? You looked at what is called your reflection. You saw what is called an image of yourself. Today we are going to learn about how God created people to reflect what he is like. Let's sit quietly and listen to this story in the Bible.

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness." (Genesis 1:26)

**Did you know that God is his own family? God is only ONE God, but he is three people at the same time. He is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**God made us to reflect his love and his family. God is relational. He wants to be our best friend—to talk to him and get to know him. God wants us to love him like he loves us.**

**Remember when we learned about creation and how God created the first man? His name was Adam. His job was to take care of the whole earth and all of creation. He was created in God's image to show the whole world, the animals, and even the angels what God is like. One of Adam's jobs was to name all of the animals.**

**He named the lions.** (Show the picture of a lion.) They didn't look like him or act like him. **He named the ducks.** (Hold up the duck picture.) They didn't look like him or act like him. **He named the giraffes.** (Hold up the giraffe picture.) They didn't look like him or act like him.

**None of the animals looked like Adam or could understand him. Adam was different from all of the animals. He was the only one like him. He was created to need relationships. Adam needed a friend to be with him and take care of creation with him.**

Adam realized what God already knew. Adam could not fully enjoy taking care of God's good creation all by himself. Adam could not show the world what God is like without a friend who was like him. He needed a helper—someone he could share life with.

God said, "It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." Genesis 2:18.

So God did something amazing! He put Adam into a deep sleep. He took one of Adam's ribs out, and made a new kind of person—a woman. Adam named her Eve.

"So God created man in his own image, male (boys) and female (girls) he created them." Genesis 1:27.

God created both Adam and Eve to reflect his image. God created Adam and Eve to be a family, and together, Adam and Eve reflected God's love to all of creation.

Does anyone know the name of another man who showed the world perfectly what God is like? (Jesus.) That's right! Jesus did. Do you know who else was created to reflect God's image? YOU! All of us were made in God's image to love God and each other and show the world what God is like.

Remember our mirror? It reflected an image of you so you could see what you are like. In the same way, we reflect the image of God and show the world what he is like. God loves. He created us to love. God works. He created us to work. God rested. He created us to rest. God creates. He created us to create.

We were made to have a relationship with him and with each other and to love God and follow him with all of our hearts.

Let's pray and thank God for loving us and creating us in his likeness and wanting a relationship with us.

## **Prayer**

Prayer time may not be appropriate immediately following story time. If this is the case, we ask that you be intentional about praying spontaneously or formally with the children at other times during class.

**Dear God, thank you for making all of us in your likeness. Help us to reflect who you are to all of your creation. We are amazed at how much you love us. Help us to love you and follow you with all of our hearts every day. Amen.**

## **In His Image Mirror**

### **Supplies:**

“God made me in His image!” on half sheet of cardstock (one per child)

Piece of mirrored paper - approximately 4x6” (one per child)

Craft stick (one per child)

Assorted stickers (four per child)

Have children glue the mirrored paper to the half sheet with “God made me in His image!” Then, decorate the edges of the cardstock with stickers (help them put stickers only on the cardstock, not on the mirrored paper). Give each child a craft stick to glue to the bottom of the half sheet to use as a handle.

\*\*\*Have fun and let them do the crafts themselves, as much as possible. This is a hands-on way for them to learn who God is and remember what they learn. It doesn't matter if they place the label or stickers in the wrong spot. What matters is teaching them who God is. \*\*\*

## **SNACK & ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES**

*last 30 minutes*

Please wash the children's hands before snack time and say a prayer thanking God for the food. As they are eating their snack, please take time to go over the review questions.

## **Review Questions**

- 1. Who named all the animals? (Adam.)**
- 2. Who was God's family (community) even before he created the heavens and the earth? (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.)**
- 3. Who was the first man God created? (Adam.)**
- 4. What did God say about man being alone? (It is not good.)**
- 5. Whose image are we created in? (God's.)**

## **Mirror Me**

Have the kids stand in a line shoulder to shoulder. The leader should stand facing the children. Tell the kids to pretend that you are a mirror. When they see you move, they should move their body the same way. Lift your arms above your head. Children should move the same way. Try lifting one leg; bending down; touching your nose, ears, and eyes; jumping and hopping in place; etc.

## **Boys and Girls What Can You Do (Action Poem)**

**Boys and girls what can you do**

**With the feet God made for you?**

**I can skip and hop and run, (do these in place)**

**I can jump! It's lots of fun.**

**Boys and girls what can you do**

**With the arms God made for you?**

**I can catch a big round ball (pretend to grab onto a ball on front of you)**

**I can reach and stand up tall.**

