

Creator – Lesson 2

Divine Attribute: God is Creator **Heart Response:** Praise him **Memory Verse:** Genesis 1:1

"In the beginning God made the heavens and the earth"

Points of Emphasis:

- 1. God created everything.
- 2. Everything God made was good.
- 3. God created us in his image.

PERSONAL PREPARATION

Genesis begins, "In the beginning God made the heavens and the earth." There was nothing apart from God; creation began with God. He spoke light and named day and morning. He created the heavens and the earth. God is at work with Jesus and the Holy Spirit to continue to create the universe, to carry out his plan. First, Genesis says, "In the beginning, God created the heavens and earth" and later, John 1:1 says, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God." We see God at work and we see Jesus in the Old Testament. He was an active and vital part of the story from the beginning.

We learn this week that God separated the water and the land, and God gave lights to both the day and night—the sun and the moon. It was good. The Creator continues to create, and it is good. Jesus continues to create today. He is creating new lives through his blood and his sacrifice. We see that Genesis is the beginning, but it points us to Christ himself.

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.

Creation Sensory Book Page for Day 3

Supplies:

Days three and four half sheet of cardstock with a tree printed on one side (one per child)
Bag of green paper scraps (one per bin)
Sand or dirt (one per bin)
Pan for the sand or dirt (one per bin)
Glue sticks

Have the kids color the trees and then glue a few small pieces of green paper to the top of the tree for leaves. Next, help them spread glue along the bottom of the picture, where the ground and roots are. Then, put the page into the pan and let the children pour sand through their fingers onto the glue so it looks like the tree is growing in dirt. Shake off the excess sand into the pan. As you work, remind the children that on day three, God created dry land, seas, and plants. Have them say that with you a few times.

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

Bible Story

Today we are going to learn more about God our Creator. But first, let's say our verse.

(Open your Bible to the book of Genesis so that the children will see that the lesson is from the Bible.) "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1 (have the children repeat the bible verse with you one-two times before beginning the story).

What did we learn last week? (On day one, God created light and made day and night. On day two, he made the sky and separated the waters. Everything God made was good. God deserves praise for being our Creator.)

Let's read some more to find out what he made on day three. (Read Genesis 1: 9-10) Then God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear." And that is what happened. God called the dry ground "land" and the waters "seas." And God saw that it was good.

What does the Bible say God made on day three? (Allow children to answer.) He made dry land appear. Land is the ground we walk on. He also put the water together in one place. This is called the sea or ocean. He separated the land and the water.

Did the verse say that God got out his shovel and wheelbarrow? (Allow children to answer.) No, it says he spoke and it happened. Can we do that? (No.) No, we can't. But, God our amazing Creator can and He did!

Verse 10 says, "And God saw that it was _____." (See if children can fill in the blank.) It was what? (GOOD!)

So on day three, God made land and formed the seas. But, that's not all he made. (Read Genesis 1: 11-12) Then God said, "Let the land sprout with vegetation—every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came." And that is what happened. The land produced all different kinds of plants, trees, and flowers. And God saw that it was good.

So, on day three God created dry land, trees, plants, and flowers. And God saw that it was _____? (GOOD!)

(Read Genesis 1:14-18) Then God said, "Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them mark off the seasons, days, and years. Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth." And that is what happened. God made two great lights. The larger one, we call the sun, to govern the day. And the smaller, we call the moon, to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set these lights in the sky to light the earth, to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

So, on day four, God created the sun, moon, and stars (show pictures). How did he make them? (He spoke.) And God saw that it was _____. (GOOD!)

Over the next few weeks, we will continue to learn about all the other good things God made. God deserves praise for who he is! Let's pray and give praise to God our Creator.

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 all you made. Thank you for the sun and the moon. Thank you for the plants and trees and land and seas. We praise you and thank you for who you are. You are Creator. Amen.

Creation Sensory Book Page for Day 4

Supplies:

Days three and four half sheet from the opening activity (one per child)

Quarter sheet of black paper (one per child) Moon sticker or white pom pom (one per child) Yellow circle/sun sticker or yellow pom pom (one per child)

Star stickers (three-four per child) Glue sticks (unless stickers are being used) Yellow crayons

Give each child their cardstock from the opening activity. Have them turn to the "Day Four" side and glue the black piece of cardstock to the top of the paper to represent the night. Then, have them place star stickers and the moon on the black part. Next, have them place the foam sun or yellow pom pom on the white part. To create the sun's rays, have them draw the sun's rays with a yellow crayon. Talk to them again about what God created on both day three and day four.

Let the children and parents know they will work on their creation booklet throughout this fourweek unit. Each week, the child will take a new page home to add to the binder ring.

***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. What did God create on day three? (Dry land, trees, flowers.)
- 2. Who made the sky? (God.)
- 3. What light did God make to rule over the day? (The sun.)
- 4. What lights did God make to rule the night? (The moon and the stars.)

Creation Review

Supplies:

Creation Nesting Boxes and/or Creation Sensory Bin (one per bin)

Use the nesting boxes and/or the creation sensory bin to talk about the days of creation and how God created all things.

Pin the Apple on the Tree

Supplies:

Large picture of a tree to hang on the wall (11x17) Set of 15 laminated apple cutouts (one set per bin) Roll of painter's tape (one per bin) Blindfold (one per bin)

Each child gets an apple with tape rolled on the back. Children take turns being blindfolded and given a twirl or two by an adult. Child then tries to find the tree and puts his/her apple on the tree. (Please remove the tape after the game so the apples can be reused during the next class and/or stored for next year.)

Explain there is no "winner" in this game; sometimes it's fun to play games to just play. 4s and 5s tend to be competitive or shy away from games they may lose. This game takes out the competitive aspect and helps them concentrate on other skills such as taking turns and cheering for each other.

Teachers—please remove the tape from the apples and binder clip the set of 15 back together for the next class/storage.

Star Toss

Supplies:

Box lid with sun taped on inside (one per bin)

Bag of three-five glow-in-the-dark plastic stars (one per bin)

Roll of painter's tape (one per bin)

Use the tape to make a line on the floor for children to stand behind. Place the box lid on the floor about three feet away from line. Have children take turns throwing the stars to see how close they can get the stars to the sun. Move the lid closer or further back to change the difficulty level. Remind children who may be overly competitive that it is not about who wins; it's about having fun and cheering/being happy for their friends.

