



1st & 2nd

Unit 1: Creation and the Fall

Story 1.B - Creation (Genesis 1-2)

Lesson Focus: God created the heavens and the earth in 6 days. On the 7th day, He rested.

INTRODUCTIONS & WARM UP - Have students introduce themselves. Fill out the top of the Roster and take attendance.

Question of the Day: What is the most surprising thing that God created?

MEMORY VERSE - "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." ~ Genesis 1:1

- Practice the verse together - Consider using one of the activities on the Memory Game List.

BIBLE TIME - Have kids open their bookmarked Bibles (**Genesis 1**). Use the white board to list the days of creation as you read them. Start with the first three days of creation on the left. Put days 4-6 on the right as you read them. Today you will focus on the last three days where God filled His creation and how they correlate with the first three days. Hint: First He created the environment that can sustain life before filling it.

Read Genesis 1:14-15

What did God do on the fourth day? (put the sun, moon, and stars in the sky)

How are the first and the fourth day similar? (first He separated the light from the darkness and then He filled the expanse with stars, the moon, and the sun)

Read Genesis 1:20-21

What did God do on the fifth day? (filled the sky and the waters with birds and fish)

How are the second and the fifth day similar? (first He separated the waters from the sky and then on the fifth day He filled them with creatures)

Read Genesis 1:24-25

What did God do first on the sixth day? (made all of the creatures of the land)

What did God do on the third day? (separated the water from the land and filled it with plants)

Did God continue the pattern of separating and filling? (Yes! He first separated the land from the water on day 3 and then on day 6 He filled the land with animals.)

Read Genesis 1:26-27

How were human beings different from the other animals? (we were made in God's image)

What does the word image mean? Is it exactly like the original? (No, an image looks like something, but it is not the thing it looks like.) Think of an image in a mirror. Does the image in the mirror think or feel? It is important to remember that although we are made in the image of God, we are not God.

Why did God say, "Let us make human beings so they are like us." Why didn't He say "me" instead? (This is referring to the Trinity. God is 3 in 1: God, The Holy Spirit, and Jesus were all there right at the beginning.) *If you have time and interest of the group consider rereading Genesis 1:2 and reading John 1:1 at this time to help them see that both The Holy Spirit and Jesus were there)

Read Genesis 1:31 - 2:3

What did God think about the creation He had made? (It was very good)

What did God do on the 7th day? (rested)

How did He treat the 7th day differently from the others? (He blessed it and made it holy)

Was He tired? (No, he didn't need to rest. He did it as an example for us.)

What tools did God use to make the world? A hammer and nails? (God spoke the world into existence. He simply said it and it was.)

Have you ever built anything? Did you do it by simply saying a word? (We cannot create in that same way even though we are made in God's image. Only God can use words to bring something into existence.)

Preview Next Week: We just learned how God created the world and it was very good. Next week, we'll learn about how that changed when sin entered the world.

CRAFT: SALT DOUGH CREATIONS - Talk to kids about how in **Genesis 2:7** God formed Adam out of dust. This is like making something out of clay, which is wet dust. He then breathed life into Adam. Explain to them that although we can make things out of clay in the image of most things, we cannot breathe life into them. Show them the pictures of sculptures that have been made of clay. Ask them questions about the sculptures like: "Can this sculpture think? Can it move on it's own? Can it have baby sculptures? Does it breathe, eat, grow?" Since we were made in God's image, we are also creative, but we cannot create life like God can.

Give each child a piece of salt dough, along with ideas of things to create with their playdough like a dog, or a flower. Let them spend some time playing and creating with the dough, but be sure to help them see that although we can make something in the image of the real thing, it isn't the same as how God creates living things. Send the dough home in the ziplock bags provided.

PRAYER

Ask the group if they have any prayer requests before leading the kids in prayer.

COMMUNITY & SNACK TIME

Hand out snacks, and water. This is an intentional time to create a sense of community within the group. Sit at the table with the kids and encourage conversation as they eat. If you have extra time, consider playing one of the games from the list.