



3rd & 4th

Unit 1: Creation and the Fall

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

Lesson Focus: God in three persons 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 strangest or 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. Make two columns one with the first three days and then write in the last three days as you read the verses today. Your reading will be focused on God filling His creation with life and how these days correlate with the first three days. As you read, help kids to see that 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 1:26-28 & 2:7

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.

What did God make man out of? (wet dust)

We call wet dust 'clay', so God sculpted man out of clay just like we would make a sculpture. After that, what did God do to make Adam alive? (He breathed the breath of life into him)

Why did God say, “Let **us** make human beings so they are like **us**.” Why didn’t He say “me” instead? (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)

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

Was God tired after making the world? (No, he didn’t need to rest. He did it as an example for us)

The day of rest is called the Sabbath. Even though it is good to rest, people still have a hard time observing it. Why do you think that might be? (group discussion- accept all reasonable answers)

What are some steps you can take to make sure you are setting aside time to rest and worship Jesus? (group discussion- accept all reasonable answers)

What tools did God use to make the world? (Go 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.)

Even though we can’t create with a word, people are made in God’s image, so we are creative too. What limits do we have on what we can create? (We are made in God’s image, and similarly we can only create images ourselves. We can make things that look like living beings, but we can’t create life like God can. For example: we can make a picture or a sculpture of a dog, but we cannot create a living, breathing, thinking dog.)

*** Optional Extension: Read Colossians 1:15-17 (consider re-reading John 1:1 from last week)**

We are made in the image of God, but what does Paul tell us about Jesus? (He is the exact likeness of God - who cannot be seen.)

How is an image different from an ‘exact likeness’? (An image is a reflection of the original, it may look like the thing it reflects, but isn’t that exact thing.) Imagine the difference between an image in a mirror and a real person.)

What does this mean about how we can get to know God better? (We can’t see God, but we can see Jesus as a man in the flesh and know the character of God)

What does Paul say that Jesus created? (accept all answers - everything)

Last week we learned that God created the world by speaking. What does John 1:1 call Jesus? (The Word)

Colossians 1:16 in the ESV Bible says, “all things were created through him and for him.” How does this connect with John 1:1? (God created everything with a word. Jesus is known as The Word and through him all things were created.)

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: EARTH - Give each kid an earth sheet. Have them put glue on the earth and then show them how to use the end of a pencil to fold the tissue squares. They can then stick the tissues into the glue using the end of the pencil. An example will be 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 community games from the list.

