



God Created the World |Sept 12, 2021 | 3rd - 5th grade

God created everything and everything He created was good. Sin entered the world through Adam and Eve and spread to impact everyone. God shows His goodness that despite our sin He desires a relationship with us.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 1

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why do we need a rescuer? God created everything and it was good, but sin wrecked the world and separated us from God.

CHRIST'S CONNECTION: Jesus is Lord over all of creation. The Son has always existed. The Bible says everything was created by Him and for Him, and He holds everything together. All of creation exists to bring God glory.

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

BIBLE PASSAGE CONTEXT

The Bible begins where we would expect it to: with the beginning of all of creation. But the beginning that Genesis 1:1 speaks of is not the beginning of everything. It was not the beginning of God. God is eternal- He has no beginning and no end. He has always existed. So the beginning in this session's Bible story is the beginning from our perspective. It is humanity's beginning.

You might notice that the Bible story stops a little earlier than you might be used to: before God created Adam and Eve. That happened on Day 6, along with the animals of the earth, but that is not included here because that will be covered in the next session in much more detail.

Instead, for this session, take your time to emphasize three things:

First, that God created everything from nothing. God did not create like we do- by taking some raw materials like clay and making a beautiful sculpture. Instead, God made everything that exists- everything we see and even that we don't see- simply by speaking it into existence from nothing. That's important because it teaches us that everything belongs to God because He made it all and also how powerful He is to be able to create the universe by speaking it into being.

Second, that God created everything with order. Not only do we see that God created the different kinds of plants and trees as well as animals according to their different kinds, but we also see an orderly pattern in the days of creation. God created by separating things on days 1-3 (light from darkness; sky from water; and then land from oceans) and then He filled what He had created on days 4-6 (the stars, sun, moon in the heavens; birds and fish in the sky and waters; animals on the land).

Third, that God created everything for a reason- to bring Himself glory. We will talk a lot more about this during this unit, and all of our study through scripture. But for now help your kids see that everything exists to show how good God is- to show His glory for all to see.

Days of Creation

Separated

Day 1: Light from darkness

Day 2: Sky from water

Day 3: Land from oceans

Filled

Day 4: Sun, Moon, Stars

Day 5: Birds and Fish

Day 6: Animals

TAKEAWAYS

- Today we are starting a wonderful journey through the Bible. The Bible is God's Word. He gave people exactly the right words to write so we could know everything we need to know about Him and everything we need to know about ourselves.
- God created everything from nothing.
- God declared that everything was good after He created it.
- God created everything on purpose. God made every single part of creation for a reason. God did nothing by accident or mistake.
- **Bottom Line:** Creation shows that God is good.

Small Group Prayer: "Father, You are good and Your creation helps us see how much You love us. WE ask You to move in our lives so that every moment is spent loving You and worshiping You. Help us be a part of bringing glory to Your Name. Amen.."

SOCIAL ACTIVITY: Lego Challenge

What You Need: Lego sets and Lego Challenge Cards

What You Do

Lay out the legos and pull a challenge card.

Ask kids to work together or independently to create the best thing they can create to represent the challenge on the card you shared with them.

Read the card.

Ask this question: "When you draw, build or paint something, does it always turn out exactly as you imagine it in your mind? How does it feel when your creation doesn't match your imagination?" Give kids time to answer and remind them to use The Code as we listen to others and learn about them like we are learning about you.

What You Say: As kids are coming in, set up the game and ask kids to join you as you play the game. Games are a great way for kids to engage with each other and you as you get to know each other. Use this time to ask them questions about their week and any other important follow up questions to things you have talked about in the past.

Play a Worship Song or 2 from your Worship DVD/Roku

Play the Bible teaching DVD/Roku

APPLICATION ACTIVITY: Quick Creations

What You Need: building blocks or play dough, timer

What You Do:

- Choose 2 volunteers to compete in a creation contest.
- Give them blocks or play dough and explain that they will have 30 seconds to form something you name.
- Announce something volunteers can create with their supplies (Ex: clouds, earth, ocean, flower, tree, sun, moon, stars, bird, fish, cow, snake, giraffe)
- Start a timer.
- After 30 seconds, call for volunteers to stop. Instruct them to display their creations for the group.
- Kids may clap for the creation they like better.
- Play additional rounds, choosing two new volunteers to form a different creation each time.

What You Say “Great job everyone! How do your creations compare to the real thing? [Pause for kids to respond.] When God created the world, He didn’t use clay or sticks or anything. He created everything out of nothing- just by speaking! Let’s spend some time thinking about God’s creation together in our discussion questions.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- **What are some ways creation can teach us about God?** Guide kids to see that creation is filled with evidence of God’s goodness. Help them consider the order we see in nature, such as complex food webs and ecosystems that balance themselves, or the motions of the planets and stars. Guide them to consider some of the amazing ways our bodies work, like converting the plants and animals we eat into energy or receiving sensory input like light or sound to interpret as color and language. Remind them that the goodness and beauty in nature is a reflection of God’s goodness and beauty.
- **Why does God deserve all our worship?** Help kids to think about the ways God is more excellent than anything in the world. Help them understand that all the wonderful things the world has to offer are the result of God’s goodness to create a good world. Help them understand that we owe God everything we have because God not only created everything we see, but He created us. Our ability to enjoy creation is a result of His grace and love toward us.
- **Do you think God wants us to explore and understand His creation?** Help kids to consider the effects of learning about creation. Encourage them to consider the ways understanding God’s creation has helped people invent new technology. Remind them that God created us and gave us the ability to think logically and examine the world He created. Help them see that studying and understanding the world can be a wonderful way to worship God when we remember that He is the Creator behind everything we can study.
- **How do we know there is a God?** Invite kids to share their thoughts. Lead them to discuss how all creation points to its Creator. Encourage kids to think about God when they see a colorful sunset or the intricate details of a leaf. Read Romans 1:20.
- **If you were to create a new world, what would it look like? How would you create it?** Encourage kids to describe an ideal world. Remind them that when God created the world, it was perfect. Explain that the world is not perfect now because of sin. But one day Jesus will come and make all things new. Read Revelation 21:5.
- **In what ways are we like God the Creator? How are we different from Him?** Allow kids to discuss their ideas. Encourage them to think about what they learned about God from the Bible story. Point out how God created; He also gives us skills, intelligence, and knowledge to create and bring beauty into the world through things like art and music. Remind kids that unlike God, people are limited to create with existing things. God is the ultimate creator, and everything- including people- depends on Him for life and purpose. Read Exodus 35:31-32

TRANSITION TO HOME: Prepare kids to talk with their family about what they learned today.

- As family members arrive to pick up their kid, greet them and tell them one thing you noticed about their kid that day or something you talked to each kid about remembering this week.
- If there is time to chat with the family, ask how you can pray for them this week.
- Say bye to the kid and call them by name.