



God Created People | Sept 19, 2021 | 1 year olds and 2 year olds

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 1-2

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: God created people in His own image and provides for everything He made. People are special because God made people to live forever in a relationship with Him. Through His Son, Jesus, we can have eternal life with God just as He planned.

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

Humans are at the center of everything God created. Only God Himself is more important. That is why the creation of the first man and woman- Adam and Eve- deserved its own session.

As you prepare for this week's session, there are two words that might be unclear or even confusing. The first is in Genesis 1:26. "Let us make men in our image." This can be confusing because the Bible is clear that there is only one God (see Deut 6:4 and 1 Timothy 2:5) Why then does God say our image and not my image?

Bible scholars have long debated what is meant by this word, but here are two of the most common explanations. The first is that this word is affirming the doctrine known as the Trinity- that God is one in three Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Our image in this verse is drawing from that important aspect of who God is. This would make sense here because a common, but wrong, belief of why God created people was because He was lonely. But God as three Persons in one is never alone. He has always enjoyed a perfect relationship of love within who He is. It would make sense that God wants to make that clear here.

A second explanation for our image is that it is the use of what is called the "plural of majesty." In this case, God is establishing from very early on how glorious He is, even in how He refers to Himself.

The second word that deserves a note is image. Once again, scholars have debated for ages about what this word means. But we can know what it does not mean: physical form. God is spirit (see John 4:24), so we are not made with a body like God's body; He has no body. Instead, being made in God's image includes attributes of people that separate us from the rest of creation (such as our ability to reason, our morality, our will, and our emotions) and our unique role in creation as ruling over it under God's greater rule.

While we might not know what these two words mean exactly, we do know this for sure: our glorious God has made people to be special in all of His creation and designed us to be in relationship with Him.

Terms to Know:

Image Bearers- Every person bears God's image. We are like God in ways that the rest of creation is not. God gives us the ability to reason, feel emotions, and understand right and wrong. Jesus is the perfect image of the invisible God. (Colossians 1:15)

TAKEAWAYS

- Studying God's Word is important because it is the main way we can learn what is true about God and about ourselves.
- Each and every part of God's creation—from the largest galaxies in the universe all the way down to the tiniest bits that make up everything—is made to show how wonderful God is and to be a blessing to us.
- God created us in His image so that we could know Him and be like Him.
- God created all of us with all of our differences, and He loves each of us perfectly. He knows that He is best for us. He wants a relationship with us because of His great love.
- **Bottom Line:** All people matter to God.

Small Group Prayer: "Father, You are good. Your love for us is perfect and we cannot understand it completely. We know that our value and dignity and purpose come from Your love for us. Help us to see the value and dignity of every person. Help us to remember that everyone is created in Your image. We want to show Your glory and love as we reflect You to the world. Amen."

SOCIAL ACTIVITY: Bean Bag Toss

What You Need: Toss Fold Up, Bean Bags, painter's tape for floor

What You Do:

Set up the Toss game. Put a taped line on the floor to mark where kids will stand to toss. Younger kids might need to stand closer. Give each kid 3 tries to toss a bean bag in the holes. Celebrate any victory.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's pray and listen to our story today."

Introduce the Story

"God made the world in six days. On the sixth day, God said, "Let us make man." God made a man out of dust of the ground. The man's name was Adam. God gave Adam a garden where he could live, work, and care for the animals. But Adam was alone. God did not think this was good. God made Adam fall asleep. God made woman. Adam was so happy! The woman became Adam's wife. Adam named his wife Eve. Everything God had made was very good! Then, God rested on the seventh day."

Play a Worship Song or 2 from DVD or Roku
Play the Teaching Video on DVD or Roku

Check diapers

APPLICATION ACTIVITY: Compare People and Animals

What You Need: toy animals and people figures, Day 6 Creation Card

What You Do:

- Spread out the toy animals and people figures for kids to play with. Spend some time talking about how animals are different from people.
- Show them the Day 6 Creation Card.
- Tell the Bible Story, making sure to emphasize that God created people in a unique way

What You Say "God said "Let animals appear" on the sixth day, and they did! God had a special plan when God made people. God made people and put His breath in them. God loves and cares for people."

TRANSITION ACTIVITY: Look in a Mirror

What You Need: handheld mirrors

What You Do:

- Sit with a baby on your lap.
- Look in the mirror at baby's face. Talk about parts of their face and have them touch them.
- Cheer and say, "God made [baby's name]."
- Repeat with each child.
- Talk about the Bible story.

What You Say "God made people to love Him and others, and God made you! God loves and cares for people, and God loves and cares for you too. Jesus helps [baby's name] know and love God. "

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.
- **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.

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.