



## God Created People | Sept 19, 2021 | 3 year olds and 4 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**

### APPLICATION ACTIVITY: Care for Animals

**What You Need:** toy animals/stuffed animals, pet care items

#### What You Do:

- Place the animals and care items on the floor or a table.
- Guide preschoolers to help care for the animals.
- Encourage them to pretend to take care of the animals by brushing their fur, feeding them, and walking them.
- Listen to the kids talk about pets they may have at home and how they help care for them.
- Remind them God put Adam and Eve in charge of the animals.
- Talk about ways that people are different from animals. How do we take care of people?

**What You Say** "You are helping to care for the animals by feeding them. Do you have a pet at home you help take care of? In our Bible story, we heard God made Adam and Eve. Adam gave the animals names. If

you could name any animal, what name would you give the animal? God put Adam and Eve in charge of the animals. He gave them everything they needed to care for the animals. God made people, too. When I look at you, it reminds me that everything God made is good, including you. When we look to the heavens or the sky, we can see how great God is. “

### **TRANSITION ACTIVITY: Toss a Beanbag**

**What You Need:** beanbag

**What You Do:**

- Ask kids to gather in a circle.
- Give a beanbag to a child and say, “What is your name?”
- Instruct the child to toss the beanbag back to you as they say their name.
- Say, “God made (child’s name).”
- Repeat the game until everyone has been named.

**What You Say:** “In our Bible Story, we heard God made people on Day 6. Why do you think God made people after making water and animals? People are God’s most special creation. We are special because we are made to know and love God.”

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- **What does it mean to be created in the image of God?**
- **What are some ways you find yourself behaving like the people you look up to?**
- **Why do you think God created people in His image?** Remind kids that God created everything for His glory and our good. By creating people in His image, God ensured there was a special way that His glory could be shown in creation. By giving people intelligence, creativity, emotions, and authority, He created beings who can experience and understand God’s goodness and love.
- **Because everyone is created in God’s image, how should we treat others and ourselves?** Help kids see that our deep and lasting value comes from God, not from ourselves. When we understand that all people are valued by God, it helps us love one another and treat one another with kindness and care. We can rest in God’s love for us as our source of value. We can go out of our way to help and serve one another because we know that God has done so for us through Jesus. Just as we don’t need to earn God’s love, other people don’t need to earn our love—it is given freely.
- **What are some ways you can show God’s goodness and glory?** Allow volunteers to make suggestions. Guide kids to think about using the gifts and talents God has given us to glorify Him. Explain how showing love and kindness to others helps them see God’s love and kindness. Point out that God has given us responsibility to steward His creation wisely, so we honor and glorify God through treating His creation with respect.
- **How did God show He loved Adam and Eve? How does He show He loves us?** Prompt kids to recall the ways God provided for Adam and Eve. He gave them a beautiful garden to live in, work to do, and everything they needed. God shows His love for us by providing what we need. Look all around! He gives good gifts for us to enjoy. Best of all, He gives us Himself. God created us to have a close relationship with Him as His children. Read Philipians 4:19.

### **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.