



## God Created People | Sept 19, 2021| Kindergarten - 2nd 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 1-2

**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: 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: "Have you ever been told you look like someone else, like a famous person or maybe someone in your family? Who do people say you look like? Do you agree? Why or why not?"

**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: People Persons**

**What You Need:** chenille stems (1 full size and 1 half size per kid)

#### **What You Do:**

- Give each kid one and a half chenille stems.
- Help the kids loop and twist the first chenille stem so that it forms the head, torso, and two legs of a stick figure.
- Kids can use the half stem to form arms by twisting it around the torso near the head.
- If time and supplies remain, you may allow kids to create additional people to form groups or families.

**What You Say** "Those little stick people are a fun and easy way to make figures to play with, but it would be nearly impossible to make them look like you or another real person. Today we learned about God creating people in His image. Do you have any guesses about what that means? Let's look at our discussion questions to talk about this more."

## 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 Philippians 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.