



# GOD CREATED THE WORLD: GENESIS 1

## UNIT 1: SESSION 2

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### KEY PASSAGE:

The heavens show God is great! Psalm 19:1



### BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why did God create everything?



### CHRIST CONNECTION:

- **Toddlers:** Jesus makes everything work.
- **Ages 3-5:** The Bible says everything was created by God and for God and that Jesus makes it all work. Everything shows how good God is!
- **Pre-Primary:** Jesus is Lord over everything. The Bible says everything was created by Him and for Him. Jesus holds everything together and everything brings God glory.
- **Primary:** 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.

### LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Humans are at the center of everything God created. 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 our in Genesis 1:26. “Let us make man in our image.” This can be confusing because the Bible is clear that there is only one God (see Deuteronomy 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 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. 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.**

# 1. WELCOME KIDS



**SAY:** I am so happy to see you. Today, in our Bible story we will learn **God made people**. Do you know why God created or made everything, including people? He created everything to show He is great. Everything God made, including you, shows He is great.

## OPTIONAL GAMES

### OPTION 1: PEOPLE PERSONS

Give each kid two pipecleaners. Help the kids loop and twist the first pipecleaner so that it forms the head, torso, and two legs of a stick figure. Kids can use the other pipecleaner 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.

**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 will learn about God's creating people in His image. Do you have any guesses about what that means? We'll learn that soon!

### OPTION 2: SCULPTED FACES

Provide each kid with a bit of play dough. Encourage the kids to fashion their play dough into busts—statues including the head, neck, and shoulders—of someone famous, such as an actor or their favorite fictional character. You may provide plastic utensils or craft sticks to use as sculpting tools. Consider setting aside time for kids to present their sculptures to the rest of the group.

**SAY:** Today, we will learn more about God's creation of people. One thing we will talk about is the difference between people and the rest of God's creation. Only people are described as being made in God's image. We'll discuss what that means and why it makes us special to God.

# 2. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

## INTRODUCE THE SESSION

Invite children to stand up. Call out a characteristic. If the characteristic describes a child, he must sit down. Continue calling out different characteristics until all the children are sitting down. Characteristics may include boy, girl, brown eyes, blue eyes, likes to look at books, or likes to play on the playground. Add humor by calling out characteristics that children likely do not have such as gray hair, twenty toes, or likes to eat Brussels sprouts.



**SAY:** None of us are exactly alike, but some of us do have characteristics in common. In today's Bible story, we will learn how God made people in His image. That means that God made people with some of the characteristics He has. But like none of us are exactly alike, people are not exactly like God. Yet God made us to be like Him in many ways.



## BIG PICTURE QUESTION

- **Toddlers:** Why did God create everything? God created everything to show He is great.
- **Ages 3-5:** Why did God create everything? God created everything for His glory.
- **PrePrimary:** Why did God create everything? God created everything for His glory and our good.

## REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY



**SAY:** God made people, and out of everything He created, He loves us most of all. God created us special. **He made us in His image.** We are the only creation God made in His image. God loves, creates, thinks, and rules, and He made us to love, create, think, and rule too. There are lots of other ways God made us like Him, but **there are many ways God is different from us too.** We are not in charge of everything. We do not know all things. We do not have power over all things. **But we can love and trust this good God who made us!**

## 3. GROUP DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions. Lead the kids to discuss their answers.



**SAY:** 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.



**SAY:** 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.



**SAY:** 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 can honour and glorify God through treating His creation with respect.



## MISSIONS MOMENT

Provide each kid with a sheet of cardboard. Show the kids how to use strips of reflective foil tape to make a mirrored surface on the cardboard, leaving a border of about 5 centimeters on all sides. Encourage the kids to decorate the borders of their mirrors with other craft supplies. Help kids write “I Can Reflect God to the World” on the backs of their mirrors.



**SAY:** God made people in His image. That doesn’t mean we look just like God or that we have all the same attributes of God, but it does mean that we can show the world a little bit about God. When we love others, use God’s creation wisely, and glorify God with our talents and abilities, we reflect God’s goodness and beauty to the world. Apart from Jesus, no one can have a relationship with God; through Jesus, believers can help people see how wonderful it is to know God personally.

## REFLECTION AND PRAYER

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids.

If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. **Pray for your group.**

## NOTES:

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# 4. ACTIVITIES

the GOSPEL PROJECT

**God Created People**

**BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:**

- God created people on the sixth day.
- Adam needed a perfect helper, so God created Eve.
- People are made in God's image, and we are like God in some ways.
- People show God's glory in ways nothing else in creation can.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:**

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

**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 104

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why did God create everything? God created everything for His glory and our good.

Younger Kids Activity Pages  
Unit 1 • Session 2

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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Fill It In | Use the words in the answer to fill in the puzzle.

**Why did God create everything?**

**God created everything for His glory and our good.**

**Creation Match | Find and read with reference to your Bible. Draw a line to what God created on each day of creation.**

DAY 1 Genesis 1:3-5	DAY 2 Genesis 1:6-8	DAY 3 Genesis 1:9-13	DAY 4 Genesis 1:14-19	DAY 5 Genesis 1:20-23
DAY 6 Genesis 1:24-31				

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**Thorns and Thistles**

Complete the maze for God's glory and the good of His children of Eden.

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**On the Sixth Day | The grid contains words and phrases from the Bible story. When you've found them all, read the leftover letters (from left to right, top to bottom) to discover a special message.**

break	garden	rib
creation	helper	slouchy dog
desk	live	tree
Eden	rocks	very good
fossil	roas	woman
forever	people	

Message: **GOD CREATED PEOPLE IN HIS OWN IMAGE.**

**Portrait Time | Use the shapes above to create a picture of yourself or a friend.**

Answers will vary.

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# 5. INTRO GAME



## Make a Stickman by Mark Ewbie

