

# GOD CREATED THE WORLD

GENESIS 1-2



**CHRIST CONNECTION:** Jesus is Lord over all of creation. Everything was created by Him and for Him. He rules over everything.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Who is God? God is our Creator and King.

**KEY PASSAGE:** The earth is full of God's creatures. Psalm 104:24

**STORY POINT:** God made all things good.



PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

# LEADER Bible Study

In Genesis 1–2, we encounter one of Scripture’s most well-known passages: the creation story. This account is foundational to recognizing God as Creator and King over everything. Yet, as foundational as this account may be, faith is still a necessary component of understanding this biblical account and in trusting the goodness of the triune God—Father, Son, and Spirit—whose good creation makes known His glory and His purposes.

So, how do we find Jesus within the creation account?

To understand Jesus within the context of Genesis 1–2, we must focus on how God chose to create the heavens and the earth. He did not simply point at the formless void and silently fashion it into existence; rather, He used His voice to speak. Hebrews 11:3 declares, “By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.” As God spoke, everything was created out of nothing (ex nihilo).

In the New Testament, Jesus is referred to as “the Word” to specifically demonstrate that God has revealed Himself to us through Jesus. Just as God spoke creation into existence, making His glory and will known through His words, so did He also make Himself known by the Word of God coming to earth. In fact, John 1:1 teaches us that “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” Jesus is God in flesh who came to dwell in the very creation He created. Within the first three verses of Genesis 1, we read that all three Persons of the Trinity were present and involved in the creation of the world. (Genesis 1:1-3)

The apostle Paul later wrote in Colossians 1:16-17 that everything was created by Jesus, through Jesus, and for Jesus. He was before creation, and by Him all things are held together; the Word has been present since the beginning.

As you prepare to teach this session, pray that God reveals His glory in the person of Jesus Christ to the kids’ hearts and minds. Ask for clarity in your words as you proclaim His truths. May God grant faith to the hearers of this story, helping them trust the truth of His Word.



**PREPARE**  
THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



**WELCOME**

10-15 MINUTES

Greet preschoolers and open the session



**LEARN**

25-30 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers the story of the gospel



**LOVE**

Lead preschoolers to love the God of the gospel

30-40 MINUTES



**LIVE**

Lead preschoolers to live the mission of the gospel



**BONUS**

60-65 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers for an additional hour



## PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

### GATHER Supplies

Keep a supply of the following items available during all teaching sessions: Allergy Alert, Bibles, washable markers, crayons, scissors (adult use), blunt-tipped scissors, construction paper, copy paper, glue sticks, glue, tape, baby dolls, blocks, play dough, and a beanbag.



#### WELCOME

##### Find toy people

- Big Picture Question Poster
- Bible Story Picture Poster
- toy people figures



#### LEARN

##### Review the Bible story

- Bible Story Picture Poster

##### Learn and practice the key passage phrase

- Key Passage Phrase Marker



#### LOVE

##### Play with toy animals and blocks

- toy animals
- rocks, trees, and other habitat props

##### Make creation collages

- various art materials (pom-poms, different-colored pasta, patterned paper, chenille stems, etc.)
- permanent marker



#### LIVE

##### Match stars

- masking tape or painter's tape

##### Missions activity

- World map



#### BONUS

##### Scoop toy fish

- shallow pan or sensory bin
- water
- toy fish
- clean aquarium dip nets
- towels



## WELCOME Preschoolers

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Provide as many learning activities as possible from the Love and Live sections to give preschoolers choices to learn. Incorporate the Bible story, the Christ connection, story point, and key passage phrase in your conversations as the preschoolers engage in learning activities throughout the session.

Use the following activity to greet children as they enter the classroom. Talk about the big picture question and answer. After each child completes the welcome activity, encourage him to participate in the activities provided from the Love and Live sections of the leader guide.

### FIND TOY PEOPLE

Hide toy people figures around the room in plain sight. Post the big picture question poster and the Bible story picture poster in an open area of the room. Invite children to look around the room to find a people figure to bring to you. Read the big picture question poster to the child and look together at the Bible story picture poster.

**SAY** “ I am so glad you came to class today! What person did you find hidden in the room? I wonder what the people figures have to do with our big picture question and our Bible story? Do you have any ideas? What do you think? **[Allow children time to answer.]** Our big picture question reminds us **God is our Creator and King**. We will learn about things God made today. One of the most important things God made was people! God made you and me! ”





## LEARN the Bible Story

### 1 NAME THINGS GOD CREATED

Call out random things God created such as light, shadows, platypus, hippos, stars, the sun, and so on as you call children by name to the Bible story area.

**SAY** “ When you were coming to Bible story time today, you heard me name things like hippos and stars. You also heard me call your name. What do you think these things have in common with you? There is something very important that all things have in common with people. God made people. God made all the things in nature. God made everything. **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD.** Let’s learn more together now. ”

### 2 TELL THE BIBLE STORY

Open your Bible to Genesis 1-2 and tell the following Bible story:

#### GOD CREATED THE WORLD

**SAY** “ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God called the light “day,” and He called the darkness “night.” That was the first day.

On the second day, God made the sky. On the third day, He gathered the water on earth into oceans. Now there was dry land. God made all kinds of plants and trees.

On the fourth day, God made the sun for daytime and the moon and stars for night. On the fifth day, God made animals that swim in the water. He made birds in the sky.

On the sixth day, God made wild animals and animals that crawl and animals that can help people. God saw that everything He had made was good.

The last thing God created was the most special of all. God made people. The people would take care of the earth God made. God made a man named Adam. He made a woman named Eve to be his wife. God loved Adam and Eve. He gave them a beautiful garden to live in and took care of them.

God saw all He had made, and it was very good. On the seventh day, God rested.

Christ Connection: Jesus is Lord over all of creation. Everything was created by Him and for Him. He rules over everything.



### 3 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

Look together at the Bible story picture poster. Point out some of the things God made that are shown in the picture. Ask boys and girls to name some other things God made that are not in the picture.

**SAY** “ God made the world and everything in it. **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD.** Jesus is Lord over all of creation. Everything was created by Him and for Him. He holds everything together. ”

### 4 SING A SONG

Sing the song to the familiar tune of “The Bear Went Over the Mountain”:

The earth is full of God’s creatures,  
The earth is full of God’s creatures,  
The earth is full of God’s creatures,  
Psalm 104:24.

### 5 LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE

Place the key passage phrase marker at Psalm 104:24. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Help preschoolers learn the key passage phrase. Lead children to say the key passage phrase in a soft, medium, and loud voice.

**SAY** “ The earth is full of so many amazing things that God has made. Lions, hippos, ants, parrots, and so much more. More than I can count! This verse in Psalms is an example of praise to God for all the wonderful things He has made in our world. **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD.** ”

### 6 PRAY

Pray, thanking God for all the things He has made. Consider praying for each child by name as a reminder they are part of His marvelous work.



LOVE

THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

## LOVE God because of what we learned

### 1 DRAW A COLOR AND NAME CREATION



Gather a handful of crayons in assorted colors or tear some colored paper into squares. Place them in any container you have available. Have a child close her eyes and choose a color. Instruct her to name something God made that is the color she chose. Repeat with each child in the group.

**SAY** “ God made so many colorful things! God made the universe out of nothing. He is our Creator and our King. His works are countless, and they are good. **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD.** ”

### 2 PLAY WITH TOY ANIMALS AND BLOCKS

Place blocks and toy animal figures out for children to play and interact. Retell key points from the Bible story as children play, allowing them to offer feedback about all the variety of things God created. Guide conversation around the key passage phrase, the Christ connection, and the story point. Encourage children to build habitats and feeding areas for the animals as time allows.

**SAY** “ You were being creative in your building with the blocks and playing with the animals. But you did not make the blocks or the toy animals, did you? No, they came from a store after being made in a factory by machines and people who work there. God did not create like that. He made all the things in the world out of nothing. There was nothing there. Nothing. God spoke and things were made. This reminds me of the Christ connection: Jesus is Lord over all of creation. Everything was created by Him and for Him. He holds everything together. ”

### 3 MAKE CREATION COLLAGES

Before the session, write the key passage phrase on construction paper for each child. Place a wide variety of collage materials on a table for children to use. Give each child a prepared paper and a glue stick. Invite children to use the supplies to make a collage of things God made when He created the world. Guide conversation as children work back to the Bible story as well as the ideas that **God is our Creator and King** and **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD.**

**SAY** “ You made beautiful collages. I see [name things children made] on [name child]’s picture. You are very creative to use the supplies that way. Making these collages remind me that **God is our Creator and King.** God made so many unique things. He did not forget to make anything we might need like food or clothes or a place to live. **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD.** ”

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LIVE for God out of love

#### 1 MATCH STARS

Cut two sets of paper stars. Write the key passage phrase, one word per star, on each set. Tape one set on the wall at child's eye level. Scatter the other set around the room. Read the key passage phrase on the wall aloud. Invite children to find the hidden stars. As children bring the stars back, read the words. Once all the stars are found, help the children match the stars and read the key passage phrase aloud again when they match all the stars in proper order.

**SAY** “ God made all the stars in the sky. He made the sun and moon and all the planets in the solar system. They are truly countless and beautiful. This verse reminds us **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD**. This verse also reminds us **God is our Creator and King**. ”

#### 2 MISSIONS ACTIVITY

Point to Brazil on a world map. Explain to preschoolers that Brazil is the fifth largest country in the world. Tell preschoolers that Eric and Ramona Reese have been missionaries in Brazil for 24 years.

**SAY** “ Eric and Ramona Reese love the people of Brazil, and the people know it and love them back. Pastor Eric prays for God to help him and the other missionaries tell the people in Brazil that God loves them. ”

#### 3 SNACK AND TRANSITION

Post an allergy alert. Serve the snack. As children eat, review and talk about the Bible story. When children finish their snack, lead them to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

**SAY** “ Jesus is Lord over all of creation. Everything was created by Him and for Him. He holds everything together. ”

Remember to communicate helpful information to the bonus teaching hour leaders. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something their child did well during the session. Distribute big picture cards for families. Encourage parents to engage with the family discussion starters and family activities during the week.





## **BONUS** Teaching Hour Group Time

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### **1 PLAY OUT ANIMALS**

Write the names of various animals on slips of paper and put them in a shallow container. Allow children to draw one slip of paper each. Invite a child to the front of the group, whisper the name of their animal to them, allow her to play it out. Lead children to guess the animal. Repeat as time allows. Talk about other things God created such as flowers and trees. Everything God made was good.

### **2 TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY**

Open the Bible to Genesis 1-2. Use the summarized points below to talk about the Bible story.

#### **GOD CREATED THE WORLD**

- In the beginning, God made the world. He said, “Let there be light,” and there was light! He called the light “day” and the darkness “night.”
- God spoke and made the sky. He made the land, the trees, and the plants. God made the sun, moon, and stars.
- God made fish to swim in the water and birds to fly in the sky. God made all the animals that live on land, from the biggest elephant to the smallest bug. God saw that everything He made was good.
- Finally, God made people. He made a man named Adam and a woman named Eve. They lived in a beautiful garden. God loved them and took care of them.

### **3 SING A SONG**

Sing the song below to the tune of “The Bear Went Over the Mountain”:

The earth is full of God’s creatures,  
The earth is full of God’s creatures,  
The earth is full of God’s creatures,  
Psalm 104:24

### **4 SAY THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE**

Place the key passage phrase marker at Psalm 104:24. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Lead children to say the key passage phrase while swinging their arms like an elephant trunk and again standing on one leg like a flamingo: “The earth is full of God’s creatures. Psalm 104:24.”

### **5 PRAY**

Pray, praising God for His good creation. Thank Him for showing His creativity in all that He made.



## BONUS Teaching Hour Activities

### 6 DRAW PICTURES OF THINGS GOD MADE



Divide a sheet of construction paper for each child into 6 boxes. Write a number in the corner, 1-6, in each box. Help each child locate the number 1 and remind her God made light and darkness/day and night. Ask her to color the box a dark or light color using the crayons or markers provided. Continue to the second box and ask her to make the sky. Repeat with each box until each day of creation has something to represent it on the child's paper.

**SAY** “ In the Bible we read how God made the world and everything in it. These pictures will help us remember all He did in those six days. Everything God made was good. I am glad we know that **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD.** ”

### 7 GUESS AND NAME THE PERSON GOD LOVES

Instruct children to sit in a circle. Describe what someone in the circle is wearing and allow the other children to guess who you are describing. Keep describing and allowing children to guess until the person is identified correctly. Say after each child is named, “God loves (child's name). God made people. **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD.**” Repeat until each child is guessed.

**SAY** “ We have learned about all the things God made. **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD.** But of all the things God created, He said people are the most special. Each of you is special because God made you. God loves each of you very much. ”

### 8 SCOOP TOY FISH

Pour a small amount of water in a shallow bin or sensory tub. Set the tub of water on top of a towel. Add some small toy fish and unused fish dip nets. Allow children to scoop the fish with the nets. Talk about all the water creatures God made.

**SAY** “ God made the land and gathered the water into oceans and seas. God made the fish and all the other animals that live in the water. Our Bible phrase says, ‘The earth is full of God's creatures. Psalm 104:24.’ That includes the water. **GOD MADE ALL THINGS GOOD.** ”

Release preschoolers to parents according to your church's security procedure. Tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.