

LESSON 2

God Creates Man

GENESIS 1:26 – 2:25



— BIBLE TRUTH —

GOD CREATED MAN WITHOUT SIN AND PLACED HIM IN A GARDEN

LESSON SNAPSHOT

1. **OPENING REVIEW** **5 MIN**
Use last week’s lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.
2. **BIBLE STORY** **10 MIN**
Read Genesis 1:26—2:25 from the Scriptures or read story 2, “God Creates Man,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.
3. **OBJECT LESSON 1** **10 MIN**
Life from Dust
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ a cupful of dirt
 - ✓ a spoon
 - ✓ some water
 - ✓ a place mat to work on
4. **TEACHING/DISCUSSION** **10 MIN**
5. **OBJECT LESSON 2** **10 MIN**
A Helper Suitable
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ twelve-inch length of a two-by-four board
 - ✓ one Phillips #8 wood screw
 - ✓ a large selection of tools; e.g., tape measure, hammer, pliers, scraper, sandpaper, ruler, pipe wrench, and one Phillips screwdriver
6. **SWORD BIBLE MEMORY** **5 MIN**
7. **ACTIVITY TIME** **15 MIN**
My Favorite Part of Creation
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ crayons, colored pencils, and paper
8. **CLOSING PRAYER** **5 MIN**
9. **BONUS OBJECT LESSON** **15 MIN**
Handmade by God
SUPPLIES:
 - ✓ washable black marker
 - ✓ moist hand wipes
 - ✓ paper or small card with the words “Handmade by God” across the top
 - ✓ crayons

TOTAL 85 MIN

PREPARING TO TEACH

TEACHING POINTS

God creates all things for his purposes—God created all things to fulfill his own plan. Everything happened by the controlling hand of God (“the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground,” “the Lord God planted,” “the Lord God made,” etc.). Everything that did *not* happen was God’s doing as well (“God had not caused it to rain”).

God was in charge of everything. He even created things that keep going like flowing rivers, growing trees, and (as we saw in Genesis 1) the sun and orbiting planets. He had no help from nature and no help from man because he didn’t need any.

God reaches out to man—God created man in his image and immediately reached out to man. God began to build a relationship with man by caring for him and talking with him. God didn’t do this for plants or animals or anything else because only man is made in God’s image. Here in Genesis 2, God shows his tender love and care for man, first to Adam and then to Eve.

God prescribes order and authority in creation—Beginning with creation, we see throughout the Bible that God is master of all he creates. He makes all the rules, and does everything with order, boundaries, and purpose. He didn’t ask Adam’s permission to use one of his ribs to create Eve.

God gave man authority and responsibility to work the garden and to name the animals. Woman was created to be a helper suitable for the man. Though both are made in the image of God and have equal worth, they have different roles. It was this way *before* the fall; ... and it was very good.

God is the one who gets to make these decisions because he has created everything and is Lord and Ruler of all.

WHERE IS JESUS? _____

How does today’s Bible story fit into God’s greater plan of redemption?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:45–49.

God created the first man and called him Adam. In the Bible, Jesus is called the second Adam, or the last Adam. As we will see in next week’s lesson, the first Adam brought sin into the world by disobeying God. Because of him, now all people have sin.

Jesus, the second Adam, brought righteousness into the world by obeying God perfectly. Because of him, all people can have his righteousness (holiness in God’s sight) by believing in him. When we read about the first Adam—whom we meet in the first book of the Old Testament—we remember the second Adam—whom we meet in the first book of the New Testament.

The Bible contains many different books by many different authors, but it is all one story—the gospel story—from beginning to end. How do we see that in today’s passage? In Jesus and Adam, we see how parts of the Bible that might seem unrelated actually come together to paint a much more complete and wonderful picture.

THE LESSON

OPENING REVIEW 5 MIN

Use last week’s lesson outline to review with the children what they learned.

BIBLE STORY 10 MIN

Read Genesis 1:26—2:25 from the Scriptures or read story 2, “God Creates Man,” from *The Gospel Story Bible*.

OBJECT LESSON 1 10 MIN

Life from Dust

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ a cupful of dirt
- ✓ a spoon
- ✓ some water
- ✓ a place mat to work on

The following should be done with an air of confidence.

Explain to the children that you are going to follow the recipe to make a man.

Read Genesis 2:7 out loud as you act out the forming of man from the dust of the ground. At first, your soil or dirt should be dry. Try to form something out of the soil only to have it sift through your fingers and fall back down onto the table you are working on.

In frustration say aloud, “I must be missing something!” Then realize that the ground in Genesis must have been wet. Add a little water to create a mud-molding, claylike texture and then get excited. Start molding a figure as best as you can. At some point, say: “Okay, on to the next step.” Read out loud, “Breathe into his nostrils?” Realize that you forgot to make nostrils. Ask one of the children for a pencil and make two nostril holes. Then blow into them and jump back, dropping your creation onto the table.

When nothing happens, reread the directions to see what you missed. Ask for volunteers to come up and try breathing in the nostrils. Try saying some magic words like “abracadabra.”

Ask the children why they think it is not working. Lead the discussion into how amazing God is to be able to create man out of the dust of the earth.

TEACHING/DISCUSSION 10 MIN

Using the teaching points, teach through the lesson for today.

OBJECT LESSON 2 10 MIN

A Helper Suitable

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ Twelve-inch length of a two-by-four board

■ LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON 2

- ✓ one Phillips #8 wood screw
- ✓ a large selection of tools; e.g., tape measure, hammer, pliers, scraper, sandpaper, ruler, pipe wrench, and one Phillips screwdriver

Prior to class, drill a pilot hole in the piece of wood and screw in the #8 wood screw flush to the surface of the board.

In the classroom, lay the tools out on the table and allow the children to look at them when they come into class. (Keep the board with the screw and the screwdriver hidden until you use them later.)

Show the board to the class and explain that you are going to pretend that you have never seen a tool before. You are going to ask the class to create a new name for each of the tools and try to find a helper suitable to remove the shiny thing (the screw) from the wood. Name all the tools and look for a tool that can help you get the screw out of the wood. A hammer, for instance, might be called a “thumb smasher” for humor.

Go through the tools one by one, naming them and coming to the conclusion that they are not a suitable helper. In the end, come to the conclusion that no suitable helper can be found. Then, at the last moment, remember the screwdriver or find it hidden. Get all excited, match the tip of the screwdriver to the screw and ask the class what you should do. Play out the drama by using the screwdriver incorrectly, and finally, take out the screw.

Use this object lesson to help the children remember the Bible story and how God knew just how to create the perfect helper for Adam. Explain to the class that Adam rejoiced to find someone like him that could share his life. Go on to read Genesis 2:24 and ask the children what it is describing (the first marriage).

Note: The “tool” analogy can only be taken so far. Eve is far more valuable than a “tool.” In fact, in Hebrews 13:6, God is called our “helper” (same word). God honors the role of women and esteems them. They have equal worth before God though they have a different role than men.

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY 5 MIN

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

ACTIVITY TIME 15 MIN

My Favorite Part of Creation

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ crayons, colored pencils, and paper

Teach the children that one of our unique abilities in being made in God’s image is that we have the capacity to create. No other living creature, possibly not even the angels, has the ability to take an idea and translate it into something that does not exist anywhere else in the world. This God-given ability to create results is evident in the wonderful man-made things around us. Consider some of man’s most amazing creations, such as the space shuttle, a Rembrandt painting, the Empire State Building, or even our church’s logo. All of these things were created with the special skill God gave mankind. Knowing that we alone are like God in this way should help us to remember to glorify God in our creations.

Have the children draw a picture that represents one of their favorite parts of God’s creation.

CLOSING PRAYER 5 MIN

Pick several children to pray prayers based on the day’s scripture passages.

BONUS OBJECT LESSON 15 MIN

Handmade by God

SUPPLIES:

- ✓ washable black marker
- ✓ moist hand wipes
- ✓ paper or small card with the words “Handmade by God” across the top
- ✓ crayons

Color the thumbs of each child with the black marker and then quickly press their thumbprint into the center of the page or card. Clean their fingers with the hand wipes. Then allow your children to decorate the cards with flowers and other plants and animals around the thumbprint. When they are finished have children compare their thumbprints to see if any are exactly the same. Explain that no two thumbprints in the world are identical. Marvel with them how every person was wonderfully designed by God to be unique.

