

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**  
Name the Animals  
**SUPPLIES:**  
✓ photos of animals (Use a library book or the Internet to find photos of unusual animals that the children may not already know.)
- 6. SWORD BIBLE MEMORY . . . . . 5 MIN**
- 7. ACTIVITY TIME . . . . . 15 MIN**  
Ode to God  
**SUPPLIES:**  
✓ pens/pencils and paper
- 8. CLOSING PRAYER . . . . . 5 MIN**
- 9. BONUS OBJECT LESSON . . . . . 15 MIN**  
Man-Made Creations  
**SUPPLIES:**  
✓ clay or cut straws and white glue

**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.

### A LITTLE BIT MORE

#### *Woman*

Woman was created out of Adam for Adam. In Genesis 2:18, we read that God made woman to be a “helper fit” for Adam. In Genesis 1:27, we see that God made both man and woman in his image.

As a result, both man and woman have equal worth in God's eyes since both reflect his holy image. Though they are equally image bearers of the holy living God, they do not both have the same jobs to do. Adam is called upon to name the animals, and in fact, he also names Woman. Eve is called upon to be a helper for Adam. God brings them together in Genesis 2:24 and creates the first marriage. Paul refers back to this passage in Ephesians 5 where he teaches that Christ is the head of the church and husbands are the head of their wives. This pattern of leadership has its beginnings in the creation record of Genesis 2.

### 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**

**Name the Animals**

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ photos of animals (Use a library book or the Internet to find photos of unusual animals that the children may not already know.)

Read Genesis 2:19–20. Explain that God gave the responsibility of naming the animals to man. Tell the class that you are going to show them a picture of an animal. Ask them to pretend that they are explorers who discovered this new animal that needs to be named. To come up with a name, they can make up a totally new word or they can use words that describe what the animal looks like; e.g., an elephant might be renamed “longnoser.”

After several animals are renamed, ask the children who named Adam. Explain to them that God himself gave Adam his name (Genesis 1:26). Man (Adam) was made in the image of God and was named by God. God maintained leadership over the man but gave man leadership over the animals. The word for man in Hebrew is “adam.” Even though the Bible often translates adam as man, they are one and the same word and can mean all of mankind or Adam, the first man.

**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**

**Ode to God**

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ pens/pencils and paper

One of the ways we are made in the image of God is that we can speak words. God created words and they belong to him. He gives them to people as a gift. God created with words when he said, “Let there be light.” We cannot create out of nothing with words, but we can assemble words to create. Poetry is a creative arranging of words to express artistically some thought or idea. The words in poems may rhyme or have a certain sound or rhythm.

Have the children create a poem that honors God and his creation. If they are not able to finish this week, collect the papers, and pass them out again next week. Finally in the third week,

give them an opportunity to read their creations. Remember to emphasize the amazing ability people have been given to string words together in special meaning and how important it is that we bring glory to God in what we write and say.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**5 MIN**

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

**BONUS OBJECT LESSON . . . . . 15 MIN**

*Man-Made Creations*

**SUPPLIES:**

- ✓ clay or cut straws and white glue

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 in the wonderful man-made things around us. Consider some of the human race'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 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 design a sculpture that represents one of their favorite parts of God's creation.