

GOD CREATES THE WORLD

God is the powerful and majestic maker of all things



THE STORY: GENESIS 1

MONDAY

God existed before all things

God existed before all things. Genesis introduces us to the beginning of everything we can see around us (natural observation). Genesis also shows us that God existed before all things. He is greater than everything we see. He is the awesome Creator of all. Therefore He is the Ruler of all, and the Sustainer of all things.

TALK ABOUT IT:

What does God's amazing creation tell us about him? (God's amazing creation gives us a look at God's creativity, His power to make such an amazing world, and just how much He loves us to give us a place so beautiful to live in.)

PRAY:

Give God praise for all that he has made and thank him for his creation.



THE STORY: GENESIS 1:3-26

TUESDAY

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In six days, God created all things by His spoken word and formed man by His own hand. It is important to know that the mere spoken word of God was sufficient to cause creation to spring forth. In contrast to the creation of all other living things, God formed man from the dust of the earth in order to set him apart. The forming of the first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve, signals a personal relationship in which the Creator God would reveal himself to man. The animals were simply spoken into existence but man was formed

by the hand of God. Like the clay to the potter, man took on the image given to him by God.

TALK ABOUT IT:

Compare the first three words of each paragraph between verses 3 and 26. What do they have in common? (Each of the paragraphs starts with the words “And God said”.)

God has given us the ability to create. For instance, painters create beautiful paintings. How is our process of creating things different from how God creates? (We cannot create by speaking, we are limited to forming things with our hands or other parts of our body.)

PRAY:

Thank God for his awesome power, which is demonstrated in his ability to create just by speaking a word. Also thank him for the fact that the very words of God are recorded in the Bible for us to read today.



THE STORY: COLOSSIANS 1:15-16

WEDNESDAY

Where is Jesus?

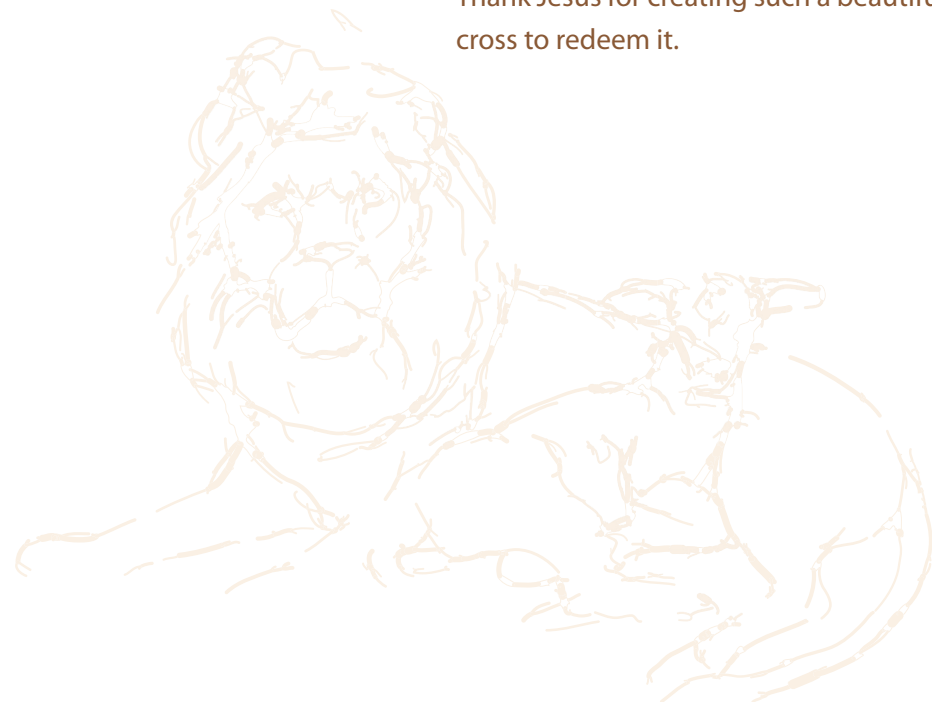
In Colossians 1:15-16, we read that Jesus is the firstborn over all creation and that all things were created by him and for him. The creation was made by the Lord for the Lord.

TALK ABOUT IT:

What do we learn from Colossians 1:15-16 that we can't learn from reading Genesis 1 alone? (We learn that Jesus was active in the creation.)

PRAY:

Thank Jesus for creating such a beautiful world and then being willing to die on the cross to redeem it.





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Today's story is perhaps the most significant portion of the creation text. In these verses we read that man is set apart from the rest of the creation and given dominion over it. The first hint of the image of God in man is revealed when God charged the man to rule over the creation. In this act, authority was delegated from God to man and he was given the gift of leadership to rule.

Man's leadership images God's leadership. No other part of the earthly creation is blessed with God's qualities.

TALK ABOUT IT:

God made us in his image—this means that man resembles God. What responsibility did God delegate to man that shows us that man is like God? (God delegated rule over the earth to man. Not only did God give man the responsibility to rule, he gave man the responsibility to subdue the earth God created.)

PRAY:

Because of sin, we all fall short of living up to God's image. Pray God would help you live in such a way that when people see your life they recognize the image of God in you.





On the road to Emmaus.

At first glance, you might not think that Psalm 1 points to Christ and the Gospel, but in fact it does. In Psalm 1, the psalmist describes a man who lives a righteous life in the midst of unrighteous people. There is only one person who avoided the sins listed in the first part of the Psalm and instead meditated day and night upon the law of God. That one person was Jesus. Ultimately, he is the only person who could accomplish the call of Psalm 1.

TALK ABOUT IT:

What are some things we learn from Psalm 1 that we should do? (We should not walk in the counsel of the wicked or follow sinners. Instead, we should delight ourselves in God's word and meditate upon it.)

PRAY:

Ask God to help you follow the example of the righteous man described in Psalm 1. Thank Jesus for being the one who came to earth but committed no sin.

