

1



CREATION

A Very Good Beginning

1 | Teacher's Notes

Scripture

Genesis 1 – 2

Objectives

To explain that

- Our lessons are all a part of a bigger story which is the story of the Forever Kingdom. This big story is found in the Bible.
- God has always existed and he is three in one – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit – and they were all there at the beginning of time.
- God created heaven and earth, and everything in it.
- God created people (Adam and Eve) to be the rulers of God's creation under the kingship of God.
- Adam and Eve were to love and obey God.
- When Adam and Eve trusted God and were obedient to him, God blessed them.

Memory Verse

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1 – NIRV)

ACNA

Catechism

Connections

Today's story of the Creation is connected to the following Catechism questions:

Q 28 What is in the Old Testament? ...contains the record of God's creation...

Q 38 Who is God? ...God is one, eternally existing in three divine persons, the Holy Trinity... (Father, Son (Jesus) and Holy Spirit)

Q 44 Why do you call God the Father "Creator"? ...He is the creator of everything...

Q 45 How does recognizing God as Creator affect your understanding of his creation? ...created in his image to be stewards of creation...

**Suggested
Materials,
Props, and
Costumes****Big story props:**

- Crown - or picture of a crown
- Large Bible

(These props relate to the bigger story of the Forever Kingdom, and will be used for every lesson. The crown will be referred to as the Kingdom Crown.)

Lesson Props:

- Toy microphone (optional)
- Cue cards are encouraged if a child reads the part

Memory Verse: (Found on the last page of this lesson plan) Print out and place in large Bible.



2 | Lesson Outline:

Welcome	As the children arrive ensure each one is personally welcomed and everyone knows each other's name.
Greeting & Collect for Purity	Light the candles Say the Greeting and Collect for Purity (<i>see Resource Section</i>)
Prayer of Confession	Say the Prayer of Confession (<i>see Resource Section</i>) Extinguish the candles
Music	Books of the Bible - Old Testament Also choose another song from the Resource Section
Review of foundations	Choose from the following as appropriate: The Lord's Prayer, The Apostles Creed, The Ten Commandments or The Greatest Commandment. <i>For more information on how to teach these, see Resource Section</i>
Reading	Memory verse (Printed out and placed in large Bible – invite older child to read)
Poster Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the key concepts highlighted in this week's poster. • Ask "I wonder questions" – these will be answered during the story. <i>Poster discussion is found in Section 3 and on the back of the poster</i>
Props/Costumes	Take a few moments to arrange the narrator and actors. (Props should already be set up prior to the start of the class.) Big story props: Kingdom Crown, Large Bible
Bible Story	<i>Proceed with story and life application found in Section 4.</i>
Related activities	<i>After the story, proceed with related activities found in Section 5.</i>
Preparation for Communion & leaving class	Gather the children together for the Preparation for Communion prayer before exiting the classroom. <i>See Resource Section.</i>

3 | Poster Discussion

Poster

(During the poster discussion, explain any difficult words in the story.)

This picture shows us God's creation. Name some of the things you see that God created in the very beginning. (A man, a woman, the animals, earth, sun, and moon.) Everything that God made was VERY good!

I wonder what God is like.

I wonder how he made all of this.

I wonder what life was like in the very beginning.

Let's find out more in our story....



4 | Story and Life Application

CROWN: *Say to the children:* This year we are going to tell the story of God's Forever Kingdom, and each lesson will fit into that big story. What do you need to have a kingdom? A king, people for the king to rule over, and a land for the people to live in. In God's Forever Kingdom, God is the king, and this crown (*point to the crown*) represents God as king.

BIBLE: *Hold up the Bible and say:* 'The big story of God's Forever Kingdom is found in the Bible. The Bible is God's Word. There are two parts to the Bible - the Old Testament and the New Testament. Our first story is from Genesis, right at the beginning of the Bible, in the Old Testament. We know that it is a true story because it comes from the Bible and all the words in the Bible are true.'

LESSON SUMMARY: *The teacher reads the lesson summary from back of poster.*

STORY:

TEACHER: Let's talk more about the beginning of time. The VERY beginning! That was surely a *l-o-n-g* time ago!

Can you imagine what it was like before anything existed in the world? Let's turn off the lights, and read a few scripture verses from the Bible.

ACTION: *Turn off the lights so that the room is dark. (Warn the children that you are going to turn off the lights. Ensure that younger children are seated beside a teacher/helper.)*

TEACHER: In the beginning of time, everything was dark. But God ALWAYS existed – even before the world was created. God is three in one – God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit – and they were all there at the beginning of time, creating the world.

Let's put on our "imagination caps"

ACTION: *Demonstrate to the children how to put on an imagination cap.*

TEACHER: Imagine.... there was no earth, no light, no plants, no animals. Then, into this total darkness, God spoke:

GOD (student): "Let there be light!"

ACTION: *Turn on the lights immediately as the voice sounds: "Let there be light."*

TEACHER: Wow....this is exciting.....God was excited too!

Yes...the Bible tells us that God named the light "day" and the darkness "night."

God also separated the water from the air. God called the air "sky."

Then God said,

GOD (student): "Let the water under the sky be gathered together so the dry land will appear."

TEACHER: "God named the dry land "earth." He named the water that was gathered together "seas." God saw that this was **good**".

After making day, night, earth and sea, God made the earth to produce plants.

Then God made the sun, the moon and the stars.

Then God filled the water with large sea animals, fish and other living things, and he made birds to fly in the air above the earth.

Then God said,

GOD (student): "Let the earth be filled with animals, and let each produce more of its own kind."

TEACHER: Then God created people in his image. A man and a woman. God blessed them and told them to have many children. God wanted man to be the master of the earth, and to rule over everything that moves on the earth!

God looked at everything he had made. God saw that it was very **good**.

On the seventh day, God rested. "God blessed the seventh day and made it a holy day."

Yes – God created everything. He wanted man and woman to be happy in the world and have a wonderful relationship with Him. This was always God's intent when he created the world and us!

God named the man, Adam, and the woman's name was Eve. Adam and Eve were very special to God because they were made in God's image.

Do you know that you are also special to God? Do you know why you are special

to God? You are very special to God because you are made in His image too! The Bible tells us that God is love and that he loves each person in the world because we are made in his image.

God was very pleased with all of his creation, and with Adam and Eve, who he made in his own image. Nothing was wrong. Nothing was bad. Adam and Eve obeyed God. Everything was good and Adam and Eve knew that God was good too.

Now, God put Adam and Eve in a beautiful garden called the "Garden of Eden." God told them to look after and rule over his beautiful creation. But most importantly, God told them that they could eat *anything* they wanted, but they were not to eat from *one* certain tree. God told Adam and Eve that if they ate from that tree, they would die. God was teaching Adam and Eve that he was their king, and they were to obey His word. Adam and Eve trusted and obeyed God. They were under God's rule as they submitted to what God told them.

And to be under God's rule in the Bible is always to enjoy God's blessing; it is the best way to live.

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:

- **What does this story tell us about God?** (He is love, a Trinity, eternal, creative, and a loving King)
- What did God make? (the world)
- How did he make creation? (by his word...out of nothing...he spoke what was to be created)
- Where did God place Adam and Eve? (in a beautiful garden called the Garden of Eden)
- What did God tell Adam and Eve to do with his creation? (to take care of it)
- Why are you and every person ever born special to God? (we are created in God's image)
- What was the *one* thing that God said Adam and Eve were *not* to do? (to eat the fruit of one certain tree)
- What would happen if they did? (they would die)
- What does eternal mean? OR Did God ALWAYS exist? (yes, God ALWAYS existed.)

There was never a time that God did not exist. All three persons of the Trinity are eternal.)

- Who are the three Persons of God? (Father, Son and Holy Spirit)
- Who was there at the beginning? (Father, Son and Holy Spirit)
- What does believing that God created the world for us, change how we live? (makes us want to obey him, be thankful and take care of creation)

Life Application (this discussion can also take place during craft/activity time):

What are some of the beautiful things that you enjoy that God has made for us? (Family, relationships, creation) How can we show God that we appreciate these things? (Thanking God for them, taking care of them.)

"In the beginning,
God created the
heavens and the
earth."

(Genesis 1:1)