

THE
GOSPEL
PROJECT
FOR KIDS

1st - 2nd Grade
September 9, 2018



Use Week of:

Unit 1 • Session 2

God Created People

BIBLE PASSAGE:

Genesis 1–2

STORY POINT: God created people in His own image, and He loves us.

KEY PASSAGE:

Colossians 1:16b-17

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Who is God? God is our Creator and King.

INTRODUCE THE STORY
(10–15 MINUTES)
PAGE 26



TEACH THE STORY
(25–30 MINUTES)
PAGE 28



APPLY THE STORY
(25–30 MINUTES)
PAGE 34



Additional resources are available at gospelproject.com. For free training and session-by-session help, visit www.ministrygrid.com/web/thegospelproject.

LEADER Bible Study

On the sixth day of creation, God created man in His own image. God formed the man out of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. (Gen. 2:7) Man was set apart as different from the rest of God's creation. God skillfully formed man out of dust as a potter forms a pot out of clay. (See Isa. 64:8.) He put His own breath into man.

God sustained and provided for the man. He planted a garden in Eden and put the man there to work it and keep it. (Gen. 2:8,15) Then God gave the man a command. God told the man, "You must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." Then God explained the consequences, "For on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die" (Gen. 2:17).

Then God made woman from the man's rib. She was a suitable helper for him. Both man and woman were created in God's image. The first man, Adam, and the first woman, Eve, lived in the garden and enjoyed God's friendship.

As you teach kids this week, help them understand what it means to be made in the image of God. It means we are made like Him, or patterned after Him. God does not have a physical body; He is Spirit, and He has given each of us a spirit. God gives people the ability to think and to feel emotions and to make choices. He gives us the ability to understand right and wrong.

God created people to know and love Him. We know that Adam and Eve's disobedience brought sin into the world. For that reason, God sent His Son, Jesus—"the image of the invisible God" (Col. 1:15) and "the exact expression of His nature" (Heb. 1:3). God the Son became fully man, acting as the second Adam, to bring life to those who are in Him. (See 1 Cor. 15:45-49.)

The BIBLE Story

God Created People

Genesis 1–2

On the sixth day of creation, God made people. God said, “Let us make man in our image. They will rule over the whole earth and all the creatures on the earth.” God took dust from the ground and made a body. God breathed into the man, and the man became alive. God planted a garden in the land of Eden and put the man there. God told the man to work in the garden and take care of it.

God provided food from the trees for the man to eat, and God provided a river to water the garden. Then **God said, “You may eat from any of the trees in the garden, except for one.”** The garden had a tree in it called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. **God warned the man, “If you eat from that tree, you will die.”**

Then God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone.” So God decided to make a helper for the man.

God brought to the man the animals He had created, and the man gave names to all of the creatures. But none of the animals was a good helper for the man.

So **God made the man fall fast asleep. He took one of the man’s ribs and created a woman.** When the man saw the woman, he was very



happy. “This one, at last,” he said, “is bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh.”

The woman was a perfect helper for the man; she was his wife. The man’s name was Adam, and his wife’s name was Eve.

God gave Adam and Eve good things. He put them in charge of the animals and provided everything they needed. God looked at everything He had made, and it was very good. So on the seventh day of creation, God rested from His work.

Christ Connection: God created people in His own image and provides for everything He made. People are special because God made people to live forever in a relationship with Him. Through His Son, Jesus, we can have eternal life with God just as He planned.

Bible Storytelling Tips

- **Use hand motions:** As you tell the story, use various hand motions to portray forming a body from dust, pointing out trees, and bringing animals to the man.
- **Stand to speak:** For lines of dialogue, stand tall and speak loudly and clearly. Convey appropriate emotion with your voice.

INTRODUCE the Story



SESSION TITLE: God Created People

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 1–2

STORY POINT: God created people in His own image, and He loves us.

KEY PASSAGE: Colossians 1:16b-17

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

Welcome time

Tip: Be sensitive to kids from difficult backgrounds or home lives.

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to fill out attendance sheets, and help new kids connect to your group. As kids arrive, ask them about their family members. Do they have older brothers or sisters they look up to? Do they want to be like their mother or father when they grow up?

SAY • Families come in a lot of shapes and sizes. Our brothers, sisters, mothers, and fathers are all different, but one thing is for certain: All of us are made in God's image! What do you think that means? We'll learn more about that today.

Activity page (5 minutes)

- "Image Match" activity page, 1 per kid
- pencils or markers

Invite kids to complete the "Image Match" on the activity page. Instruct kids to circle the two versions of Adam and Eve that are identical to each other.

SAY • Each of those pictures looked pretty similar, but only two were exact matches. Today we will learn about the ways people, both men and women, are made in God's image. Do you think we are similar to God or an exact match?

Session starter (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: Shadow puppet theatre

Dim the lights in your room and use a flashlight or other single source of bright light to cast shadows on a focal wall. Allow the kids to use their hands to make different kinds of animal-shaped shadows. Use the pictures in the margin to help teach kids how to make a few select shadow puppets.

SAY • Great shadow puppets, everyone! When you make a shadow, your hand blocks the light from hitting the wall. We can make a shadow look like all kinds of different things, but none of the images look exactly like the animal we are mimicking. Today, we will learn about the way people are made in God's image, and what that means. We aren't perfect images of God either!

LOW PREP

• flashlight or other
single source of
bright light



The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they have ever heard the word *gospel*. Clarify that the word *gospel* means “good news.” It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.



God rules. Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.



We sinned. Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



God provided. Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.



Jesus gives. Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:18.



We respond. Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10,13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.

Offer to talk with any child who is interested in responding to Jesus. Provide *I'm a Christian Now!* for new Christians to take home and complete with their families.

APPLY the Story



SESSION TITLE: God Created People

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 1–2

STORY POINT: God created people in His own image, and He loves us.

KEY PASSAGE: Colossians 1:16b-17

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

Key passage activity (5 minutes)

- Key Passage Poster
- “Mirrored Words” printable
- hand mirror
- “All Things Hold Together” song

Print a copy of the “Mirrored Words” printable. Ask the kids if they recognize the key passage. Give them chances to read the key passage. Then, allow a kid to use a hand mirror to read the key passage in the reflection. Practice saying the key passage together; then sing the key passage song “All Things Hold Together.”

SAY • Great job figuring out that key passage! Our key passage reminds us that Jesus is the Lord of creation. He holds all things together by His power. **God created people in His own image, and He loves us.** We exist to glorify God. Through Jesus, we can know and love God, which gives Him glory.

Discussion & Bible skills (10 minutes)

- Bibles, 1 per kid
- Main Point Poster

Distribute a Bible to each kid and help the kids find Genesis 1–2. Show them how to use the table of contents to find books, and then explain the difference between the big numbers, which show chapters, and the little numbers, which show verses within a chapter.

SAY • We talked last week about how the Bible is divided into two main parts, the Old Testament and the New

Testament. The Old Testament has different divisions too. The first five books of the Old Testament are known as the *Law*. Genesis is the very first book in the Bible. That means it is the first book in the Old Testament and in the Law.

Ask the following questions, leading discussion as suggested:

1. How are people different from the rest of creation?
(People are created in God's image, Gen. 1:26)
2. How did God create Adam? *(He formed dust and breathed life into it, Gen. 2:7)*
3. How did God create Eve? *(He put Adam to sleep, and formed Eve from one of Adam's ribs, Gen. 2:21-22)*
4. What does it mean to be created in God's image?
Help kids understand the truth that God made us to love Him and be loved by Him. Guide the discussion toward the truth that we share some traits with God, like creativity and intelligence. Remind kids that we glorify God by living for Him.
5. Since everyone is made in God's image, how should we treat one another? *Help kids understand that, although people are born different shapes and sizes and with different skin tones, we are all equal before God. Guide the discussion toward the truth that He values all of us and loves each of us. Remind kids that because God loves everyone, we should treat everyone with compassion, kindness, and godly love.*
6. If God created us to love Him and be loved by Him, how can we do that? *Help kids understand that we can have a relationship with God through Jesus. Talk to them about the importance of reading God's Word to know more about Him, and the role of prayer in communicating with Him.*

Option: Retell or review the Bible story using the bolded text of the Bible story script.

LOW PREP

• Gospel Plan Poster
(optional)

Tip: Use this
activity option
to reinforce the
missions moment in
Teach the Story.



Activity choice (10 minutes)

OPTION 1: Gospel practice

Instruct kids to spread out around the room.

Explain that they will do an action for each color command.

Demonstrate the action for each color command:

- Blue: Jump or stretch as high as you can. Shout, “God created!”
- Red: Freeze in place. Shout, “We sinned!”
- Green: Squat down. Shout, “God provided!”
- Yellow: Run in place. Shout, “Jesus gives!”

Call out the color commands one at a time in order. If someone performs the wrong action, he should do five jumping jacks (or a similar exercise) to remain in the game. Continue play as time allows.

SAY • You just practiced sharing the gospel! **God created people in His own image, and He loves us.** Sadly, Adam and Eve disobeyed God and sin entered the world. The good news is that God sent Jesus to die on the cross to save us from sin! Remember the Rigney's, a missionary family sharing the gospel people in London, England. No matter where you are, you can share the gospel with people who need to hear that their sins can be forgiven through Jesus.

Reflection and prayer (5 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper to each child. Ask the kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or about the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Whom can I tell about this story?

Make sure to send the activity page and any other pages home with the kids so that parents can see what their kids have been learning.

If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page provided with this session. Pray for your group.

- pencils and crayons
- paper
- Bible Story Coloring Page, 1 per kid

Tip: Give parents this week's Big Picture Cards for Families to allow families to interact with the biblical content at home.