God Created People

Genesis 1:26-2:25

**Unit Description**: In the beginning, God created everything for HIs glory. He made people in His image. When sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, God revealed His plan to bring people back to HImself through a descendant--His own Son.

**Memory Verse**: I Corinthians 8:6

**Big Picture Question**: Why Did God create the world? God created the world and everything in it for His Glory. What is sin? Sin is breaking God’s law, and sin separates people from God.

**Parent’s Background Information:**

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. Man was set apart as different from the rest of God’s creation. God did not breathe into the animals. He skillfully formed man out of dust as a potter forms a pot out of clay.

God sustained the man. He planted a garden in Eden and put the man there to work it and keep it. 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.”

Then God made a 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.

We know Adam and Eve did not keep the command God gave,a dn their disobedience brought sin into the world. For that reason, God sent HIs Son, Jesus “the image of the invisible God” and the “exact expression of His nature”. God the Son became fully man, acting as the second Adam, to bring life to those who are in Him.

As you teach kids this week, help them understand that being made in God’s image 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.

Emphasize that God made people different than anything else He created. God created people in His own image and for HIs glory.

1. **Introductory Activities**
   1. **Younger Children: How long is a minute?**

You will need the following:

* stopwatch

As kids to sit in a circle. Challenge them to guess when a minute has passed after you say go. Kids should raise their hand when they think a minute has passed. Use a stopwatch to keep track of the time. Do not tell kids how long it has been until all kids have raised their hands. Tell kids who was closest to the one minute mark.

**SAY THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR CHILDREN:**

It was probably difficult for you to rest for one minute. Today we are going to learn about when God created people. After he did, He saw that all He had done was good. Then, He rested for one day. (*Transition to Bible story)*

* 1. **Older Children: Charades**

Each kid should find a partner. Each kid should stand, facing her partner. Each pair should decide which partner will lead first.

The lead player will begin making a slow motion. For example, raising an arm or turning a foot. The second partner should reflect her partner’s actions, as if the lead is looking into a mirror. After some practice, the lead player should make faster movements. Glalenged the second partner to keep up. Then allow partners to switch roles.

**SAY THE FOLLOWING TO YOUR CHILDREN:**

When you look into a mirror, you see your reflection. Your reflection is an image or picture of you. Did you know that the Bible says you were created in God’s image? when God made people, He made them like Himself in some ways. We’ll learn more about that during today’s Bible story. *(Transition to Bible Story)*

**II. Learning the Bible Story: Genesis 1: 26-2:25**

*You can READ this story with your children or use the following PARAPHRASE to retell the story.*

Paraphrase of Genesis 1:26-2:25

On the sixth day of creation, God made people. God created people differently than anything else He created. God created people in His very own image. God took dust from the ground, and made a man. God breathed His very own breath into the man, and the man became alive. God made a garden in the land of Eden, and He put the man in the garden. 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 can 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.”

No God was not yet finished with creation. He saw the man and said, “It is not good for the man to be alone.”

So God decided to make a helper for the man. God made wild animals and birds, 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. 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. God had done everything He planned to do. So on the seventh day of creation, God rested from HIs work.

Help your child understand that God created people in His own image. Adam was like God in some ways, but he was not a perfect representation of God. God sent HIs SOn, Jesus to show us exactly what God is like. Jesus is the perfect representation ofGod because He is God.

**III. Big Picture Question**: **Why did God create the world? God created the world and everything in it for His glory.**

**V. Memory Verse**: Recite I Corinthians 8:6 together 3 or 4 times trying to memorize it. OR write Mark 6:34 as words or phrases on separate sticky notes. Challenge the kids to arrange the sticky notes in the correct order.

**VI. Remembering the Lesson Through Activity**

**Option 1 (Preschool): Dust the Room**

*You will need the following supplies:*

* *dust rags*
* *feather dusters*

Provide clean dust rags or feather dusters. Invite children to dust different areas of the room.

**SAY TO YOUR CHILD**: God made Adam out of the dust on the ground. Dust is so small, sometimes we cannot even see it. Most of the time, dust is something we don’t want. That’s why we wipe it away. God created people in His own image, using something as tiny and unimportant as dust. God is good at using things that seem unimportant to do amazing things!

**Option 3 (Older Kids): Shadow Pictures**

*You will need the following supplies:*

* *black and white construction paper*
* *bright lamps, flashlights, or sunshine*
* *colored pencils*
* *scissors*
* *tape*
* *glue*

Choose a volunteer and demonstrate how to make a shadow picture. Guide the kid to sit or stand sideways next to a wall. Position a bright lamp or flashlight several feet away so the shadow of the kids’ head and neck is shpar on the wall.

Tape a piece of white paper where the shadow falls. Use a pencil to trace the outline of the shadow. Lightly glue the black construction paper to the back and the kid can cut around the outline. Moun the shadow on another piece of white construction paper.

**SAY TO YOUR CHILD**: God created people in HIs own image; God created them male and female. We aren't’ exactly like God, but we are like HIm in some ways--like a shadow. We have knowledge, wisdom, and love like God. God sent His Son, Jesus, to show us exactly what GOd is like. Jesus is the perfect representation of God because He is God.

**VII. Sing Family Hymn Together:** All Creatures of Our God and King

**VIII. Reinforce the Lesson throughout the week**

* Work on Memorizing I Corinthians 8:6 together
* Continue singing Family Hymn

**The Gospel: God’s Plan for Me**

1. **God Rules:** God created everything and He is in charge of everything. (Gen 1:1, Rev. 4:11, Col 1:16-17)
2. **We Sinned:** Since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Rom 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. (Rom. 6:23)
3. **God Provided:** 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. (John 3:16, Eph 2:8-9)
4. **Jesus Gives:** 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! (Rom 5:8, 2 Cor. 5:21, 1 Pet 3:18)
5. **We Respond:** 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. (Rom 10: 9-10, 13)