

## LESSON 1

## CREATION: MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

## LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Made Us in His Image

**SCRIPTURE:** [Genesis 1–2](#)

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** God creates the world and everything in it. His most precious creation is people, who He created in His image to look after the earth and to be in relationship with Him.

**WORD OF WONDER:** Jesus makes us new. —from [2 Corinthians 5:17](#)

## FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

**WHO?**

The “who” in [Genesis 1–2](#) is God. The Bible makes it clear that God is the One who brings all things to life. And the high point of His creation is humanity— Adam and Eve, the first two people. They represent God's image.

**WHAT?**

[Genesis 1–2](#) shows the depth and breadth of God's creation. From darkness to light, from tiny insects to great sea creatures, God created them all. In His good world, all is beautiful and as it's meant to be.

**WHERE?**

Everywhere! This is the big story of the creation of the whole world. God placed Adam and Eve in a garden called Eden, near the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers ([Genesis 2:10–14](#)). This places Eden in modern-day southern Iraq in the region of Mesopotamia.

**WHEN?**

The Bible tells us this happened “in the beginning” ([Genesis 1:1](#)). The main point is that God created everything according to His purpose. [Genesis 1](#) focuses on the big picture of creation, and [Genesis 2](#) zooms in on the care God put into creating humanity.

**CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY**

In the beginning, there was no sin or suffering. The world was beautiful, and humanity walked and talked with God. Sadly, sin marred creation and people's relationship with God. God promises to one day restore all things. All who trust in Jesus will be made new, and sin and suffering will be no more.

## Object Lesson: Stuffed Animal

Set out a variety of stuffed animals or animal toys.

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

**Welcome! In God's big story today, we'll hear about how God created the world and everything in it. Let's look at the animals and pretend to be each one. As I hold up each stuffed animal, shout, "Yes!" if God created that animal. Then we'll all pretend to be that animal.**

Hold up each stuffed animal and tell the kids whether God created it, then encourage them to pretend to be each animal. Let the kids play with the stuffed animals and talk with them about how God created animals.

## Activity: Mirror Reflections

**I have something that will help us think about our story today. Who do you see?** Hold up the mirror to each kid and let him look in it to see his reflection. Say, **"I see (child's name) in the mirror!"**

Take turns letting the kids look into the mirror while doing different actions. You can encourage them to smile or make a silly face while looking in the mirror.

**It's fun to look at our images in the mirror, isn't it? Today we're going to learn how we're kind of like a mirror reflection of God because we were made by God in His image!**

**Our Wonder Truth today is: GOD MADE US IN HIS IMAGE.**

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

**GOD**—*Point up.*

**MADE US**—*Point to yourself.*

**IN HIS IMAGE**—*Hands out in front of you.*

## Prayer and Blessing

**Let's talk to God. We'll tell God, "Thank You" for making us. When I say, "Thank You!" jump up and clap your hands and shout, "Thank You" to God!**

**God, thank You (kids respond) for creating us and making us in Your image. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Encourage the kids to hold their hands in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

**Blessing:** God made the flowers and trees, the birds, and the world, and He made you and me! May you always remember that God made you special and in His image. Never forget how special you are to God and how much He loves you!

## Activity: Play Dough Creations

Set out play dough and encourage kids to make their own creations. While they play, ask them if they can make a flower and then ask them who made the flowers.

Repeat with other things God made such as stars, sun, moon, people, birds, trees, animals, etc.

**Today we learned how God created the world. He created stars and animals and flowers. He also created you and me! We're special because He made us in His image.**



**Leader Tip:** Watch young toddlers carefully to make sure they don't put play dough in their mouth or make messes.