

LESSON 5

NEW CREATION

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Makes Us New

SCRIPTURE: [Romans 5](#)

GOD'S BIG STORY: God loves us so much that He sent His Son to die, so we can be forgiven. Because of Jesus, our relationship with God is healed, and we are made new!

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

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

Romans was written by Paul, a man who persecuted Christians before he knew Jesus. After his conversion, Paul devoted his life to sharing the good news about Jesus with gentiles—non-Jewish people. He wrote this letter to the Roman church, the majority of whom are Gentiles.

WHAT?

Romans is Paul's most theologically systematic book. It's filled with explanations of the work of the gospel—God's salvation, His plan, and His invitation to us. Paul often references the Old Testament as he explains God's big story of salvation.

WHERE?

The church in Rome was at the heart of the Roman Empire, where Caesar was declared as the "savior of the world." Gentiles and Jews in the Roman church were called to live out the way of the kingdom of Jesus—the true Savior.

WHEN?

Paul likely wrote Romans in AD 57 while on his third missionary journey. Although it's the first of Paul's letters that we read in the New Testament, it was likely written after he wrote to the Galatians, Thessalonians, and Corinthians.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

Paul writes to the Romans about the basics of the gospel—God showed His love for us by sending His Son Jesus, who died for us while we were still sinners. Because of Jesus, we are made right with God and filled with joy!

Object Lesson: Dirty to Clean Heart

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! I'm so glad you're here today! We're going to learn about how God makes us new, even though we do wrong things. He makes our hearts new. Look at this heart.

Draw a heart on the scratch pad. Hold up the scratch pad with the heart on it and show kids the dark heart, telling them it's full of sin and bad choices.

This heart is starting out dark, full of sin, or bad choices. Sin separates us from God. It's the bad things that we do that make God sad.

Take the stick that comes with the scratch pad and slowly scratch away the black inside the heart, letting the kids watch as the colorful paper is revealed underneath.

The heart is becoming more and more beautiful as I clean away the darkness. In the same way, God cleans away the sin, or bad choices, from our hearts and gives us new and beautiful hearts when we believe in and trust Him!

Activity: Caterpillar and Butterfly

Today we're talking about changing to become new creations. God makes us new when we believe in Jesus! Did you know a caterpillar doesn't stay a caterpillar? It changes into a new creation: a butterfly! Hold up the picture and point out the caterpillar and then point to the butterfly.

Let's pretend to be caterpillars and butterflies! When I call out, "caterpillar," you'll crawl and slither on the ground like a caterpillar. When I called out, "butterfly," you'll stand up and pretend to fly around the room like a beautiful butterfly!



Call out each word a few times (or hold up the pictures) and encourage the kids to do the actions.

We'll learn today how Jesus makes us new, kind of like butterflies! Our Wonder Truth today is: **JESUS MAKES US NEW!**

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.

JESUS—Point up.

MAKES—Start with both hands bunched up in front of you and then have them explode to open hands like you're creating something out of thin air.

US—Point to yourself.

NEW—Put your hands and arms over your head in a Y shape with open hands.

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God. When I say, "new creation" you put your hands up in the air.

God, thank You for taking our sins and our hearts and turning us into a new creation (hands in the air).
Thank You for loving us and sending Jesus. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out 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: May you go today with energy, passion, and excitement—knowing that you are a new creation in Jesus—and may you live in the peace that God gives, even when you go through difficult things!

Activity: Butterfly Bursts

For this game, kids will pretend to be new butterflies emerging from their cocoons. Wrap toilet paper around the kids a few times and have them squat down and then stand up and burst out of the cocoon. You can do this one at a time or wrap them all up and have them jump up at the same time.

Today we learned about how God changes us into new, beautiful creations, like a caterpillar who goes into a cocoon and comes out a beautiful, new butterfly! We can thank God for Jesus loving us and making us new.

Leader Tip: For toddlers younger than 18 months, instead of using toilet paper, they can jump up from the ground, bursting open their hands, then pretend to be a butterfly flapping its wings.