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The Creation of Man and Woman

Genesis 1:28; 2:7-9,15-24

Looking Ahead at Lesson 2

Man's Sin and God's Promise

Genesis 3

Aim: How did God show his great love for all people after Adam and Eve fell into sin?

Truth: God promised to send a Savior from sin.

Application: God sent Jesus to be our Savior.

Response: We hate sin and want to thank God for saving us by obeying him.

Lesson Summary: The devil, in the form of a serpent, tempted Eve to eat fruit that God had forbidden Adam and Eve to eat. Eve gave in to the devil's temptation, and Adam soon did the same. But even as sin entered the world, God, in his love, promised to send a Savior.

Memory Treasures: *John 3:16; *Romans 3:23; *Romans 6:23; *The Second Article of the Apostles' Creed (with a portion of the explanation)



How did God show his love for Adam and Eve?



God gave Adam and Eve life, a wonderful home, satisfying work, and the promise of children.

Application: God has given each of us the blessings of life, a home, work, and a family.

Response: We appreciate God's gifts of our lives, homes, work, and families.

Lesson Summary: God again demonstrated his wisdom and power in creating the first people. He showed his great love for Adam and Eve by providing them with a beautiful home, fulfilling work, and the blessings of life and family.



- ★ **Genesis 1:1**
- ★ **Exodus 20:11a**
- ★ **Psalm 139:14**
- ★ **The First Article of the Apostles' Creed** (with a portion of the explanation)



immortal—living forever

companion—a person who spends time with another person



See Franzmann, *Bible History Commentary: Old Testament*, pages 29–36; The People's Bible: Jeske, *Genesis*, pages 32–42.



Dear Lord, thank you for creating me and blessing me so richly with your love. Thank you also for giving me these special children to whom I can tell of your love. Help me show them that each of them is a wonderful creation of God. Amen.



WORSHIP

Sing: Praise God for giving us life and all things by singing “Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him” (hymn 235:1,4).

Pray: Dear heavenly Father, thank you for blessing us so richly with wonderful bodies that can see, hear, smell, eat, sleep, run, jump, think, and so much more! Help us use our bodies and minds to praise you. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.



Have each child take out a sheet of **paper** and a **pencil**.

Ask the children how they think parents feel when God blesses them with a new son or daughter. [*Happy, excited.*] Explain that loving parents do their best to take care of their children. Ask the children to list on their papers some things their parents give them. After a minute or so, have the children circle the items on their lists that are things they truly need in order to survive. Then ask what the items not circled show them about their parents. [*They not only provide all that the children need but even more.*]



In today’s lesson God shows love for his first two children—the first people he created. We’ll learn **how God showed his love for Adam and Eve**.



Note: Remember there are To Do at Home activity options in a separate file on the Teacher’s Guide CD.

Alternate Lesson Plan



Sing: Praise God for his marvelous creation and the gift of salvation by singing “Lord of Lords, the Sparkling Heavens” (hymn 237:1,3).

Pray: Almighty God, you made so many amazing things—from tiny seeds and insects to huge, beautiful stars and planets! Best of all, you have given us heaven through Jesus’ death and resurrection. We praise you for your incredible goodness! Amen.



You will need **dirt** and a **rib bone** (from beef or pork).

Ask what God used to create all things. [*His almighty power.*] Point out that, unlike God, we need materials in order to make things. Display some dirt and ask a volunteer to make something from it. Then display a rib bone. Ask another volunteer to act out using it for a specific purpose (possibilities: as a drumstick, a small baseball bat, a tool for moving dirt). Point out that no matter what the children make, the dirt is still dirt, and the bone is still a bone.



In today’s lesson God uses dirt, a rib bone, and his power to show that the first people were special to him. We’ll learn **how God showed his love for Adam and Eve**.

Note: You'll need to use the story in the adjacent column.



Have the children draw an illustration of the story as you tell it. Each child will

need a large sheet of white **construction paper**, two people shapes made from **Copy Master 1**, and some **crayons or markers**. Have the children cut out the people shapes (to represent Adam and Eve). Then have them attach or draw the following items as you mention them: the first man/Adam (cut out person); the garden (grass, flowers, etc.); two fruit trees in the center (the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil); animals and birds to be named; and Eve (cut out person).

Suggestion: Instead of having the children draw individual pictures, tape a large sheet of paper to a wall and have volunteers add the parts to make one large class illustration.



Duplicate the choral reading of the creation story from **Copy Master 2**. Have

the boys and girls stand in separate areas and read the parts as listed in the script.



Use the figures on **Copy Master 1** as patterns to cut the same shapes from **construction paper** (enlarged, if necessary), or prepare to project each of the four sections. Display the figures when indicated while telling the story.

God created the entire **universe** in **six days**. On the **sixth** day, God created the **land animals**. He also created the first **people**.

God created the **first man** in a very **special way**. First he took some **dirt** from the ground and **molded** it into the shape he wanted the man's body to have. Then God blew the **breath of life** into the man's **nostrils**, and he became a **living person** with an **immortal soul**. God named him **Adam**.¹

God **placed Adam** into a beautiful, parklike **garden** that he had made especially for him. This garden, called **Eden**, was to be Adam's **home**.² God **expected Adam to work**³ in the garden and **take care** of the many **trees and plants** that grew there.

Some of the trees in this huge garden were **nice to look at**. **Others** were filled with good-tasting **fruit**. **Two special** trees grew in the **center** of the garden. One was the **tree of life**. The other was the tree of the **knowledge of good and evil**.

God told Adam, "You are **free to eat from any tree** in the garden, but you must **not** eat from the tree of the **knowledge of good and evil**. If you do, you will **die**."

God **brought** all the **animals and birds** to Adam so that he could see them and give each of them a **name**. As Adam named all the creatures, he also **realized** that there was **no creature like himself** among them. There was **no one for him to talk to** or to **share his work** with, no one to **keep him company** or for him to **love**.

God said, "It's **not good** for the man to be **alone**. I will **make a helper** for him." So God created **another person** to be a **companion** for Adam. He caused Adam to fall into a **deep sleep**. Then he took a **rib** out of Adam's body, and from it he **made a woman**. God **brought** her to **Adam** to be **his wife**. When **Adam saw** her, he said, "This is now my **wife**. I will call her '**woman**' because she was **taken out of man**." In this way God started the **first family**⁴ on earth.

God **blessed** Adam and Eve and told them, "You will have **many children**. From your family will come so many children that someday they will **fill the whole earth**. And **every living thing** on earth will **serve you**."

How **happy** Adam and Eve were **in their beautiful home**! They **trusted God**. They **knew God loved** them, and they **loved God and each other**. There was **no sin** in their world. Everything was **perfect**.



discuss

Be ready to show the **figures** prepared for the **Learn** section. You need a **Bible** opened to Psalm 127.

- Say** God created the first man by molding dirt into the shape of a man and blowing the breath of life into him.
- Ask** What did God show by creating man in this special way? *[People are God's most important creation.]*
- Say** Adam was different from the animals because he had a soul.
- Ask** What is a soul? *[It is the part of a person that either believes in Jesus as Savior or does not believe. It will be separated from a person's body when the body dies, and it is immortal—it will live forever.]*
- What was the first blessing God gave Adam? *[Life.]* (Cue by showing figure 1.)
- Say** God has given each of you life too. Just like Adam, each of you is a special creation of God. But sometimes you might not feel very special, especially when you're having trouble doing well in school, in music or sports, or in other things, like making friends.
- Ask** When you start to think you're not special to God, what can you remember? *[God doesn't make junk; he made each of us just the way he wants us to be, with the talents and abilities that are best for us to have. In fact, we're so special to God that he sent his own Son, Jesus, to be our Savior. God loves each of us!]*
- Do** Show figure 2.
- Ask** What blessing did God give Adam next? *[A beautiful garden for a home.]*
- How did this show God's love for Adam? *[God gave Adam a wonderful home so that he would be happy where he lived.]*
- Do** Draw a large house shape on the board. Have several volunteers tell what they like best about their homes, and write their responses inside the house. Point out that our homes are blessings from God.
- Ask** What blessings do we receive through our homes? *[Shelter from the weather, safety, a place to be together with our families, etc.]*
- Say** God expected Adam to work to take care of the Garden of Eden.



Duplicate **Copy Master 3** so that you have one copy for every 2 or 3 children. Cut each duplicate apart on the lines, and put the pieces into an **envelope**. Keep the copy master handy for reference as you help the children form their charts.

Do Divide the class into groups of two or three children, and give each group one of the envelopes you have prepared. Explain that the groups are going to make charts to show what they've learned in today's story and what it means to them. Have each group open its envelope and lay the following three headings in a row across the tops of their work areas: "Blessings God Gave Adam and Eve," "Blessings God Has Given Us," and "How We Can Show Our Appreciation."

Ask What blessings did God give Adam and Eve? *[Life (through creation from dirt and a rib bone), the Garden of Eden, the work of caring for the Garden of Eden, and a spouse and the promise of children.]*

When asking questions, pause and count to five before calling on a student. This gives children who need more time to respond an opportunity to participate.

Teaching
tip

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Do As the blessings are named, have the children place the corresponding rectangles under the first heading, “Blessings God Gave Adam and Eve.”

Say God gave Adam and Eve life.

Ask What blessing has God also given to each of us? [*Life (through birth).*]

Do Have each group add the “life (through birth)” rectangle to the second column of their chart, across from the “life” rectangle in the first column.

Say God gave Adam and Eve the Garden of Eden for their home.

Ask What similar blessing has God given you? [*A house, apartment, or other home.*]

Do Have the children add the corresponding rectangle to the second column of their charts. Continue in the same way to add the “household chores and schoolwork” and “parents and brothers and sisters” rectangles to the appropriate places in the second column. Then ask the children to name ways they can show appreciation for each of the blessings listed in that column. They should place the corresponding rectangles in the third column, as shown on the copy master.

Ask Why was this work pleasant and satisfying for Adam? [*There was no sin in the world, so the work was not difficult. It was a pleasure.*]

So, in addition to life and a home, what blessing did God give Adam? [*God gave Adam satisfying work.*] (Cue by showing figure 3.)

Say Each of you has work to do too.

Ask What is your work? [*Schoolwork, chores at home, helping a relative or neighbor.*]

Say Sometimes your work might not seem like a blessing. Because sin has come into the world, work is no longer always pleasant and trouble free.

Ask How is your work still a blessing from God? [*Work helps us learn, provides for our needs, helps our family, and keeps us from becoming lazy.*]

Say God gives us the strength and ability to do our work, and he will bless the work that we do.

Ask When God commanded Adam not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, what was God giving Adam a chance to do? [*God was giving Adam a chance to show his love for God by obeying him.*]

What did God have Adam notice as he named all the animals? [*That there was no one like himself.*]

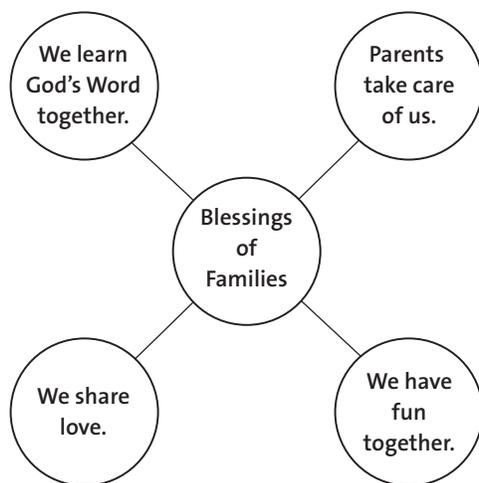
What blessing did God give Adam next? [*God created Eve and gave her to Adam as his wife.*]

Say God promised to give Adam and Eve many children.

Ask How would children be a blessing to Adam and Eve? [*Adam and Eve would have other people to love and to share their lives with.*]

What, then, was another blessing God gave Adam and Eve? [*A family.*] (Cue by showing figure 4.)

Do Ask the children to list ways that God has blessed them through their families. List their answers on the board in the form of a word web as shown in this example:



Read Psalm 127:3b to the children. Ask the children why they can say, “I am a blessing to my parents.” *[God himself has said that he is blessing parents when he gives them children to love and take care of.]*

CLOSE

Ask How do people who love you sometimes show their love toward you on your birthday and at Christmastime? *[They give gifts.]*

Say God showed his love for Adam and Eve at the beginning of the world in a similar way.

Ask How did God show his love for Adam and Eve? *[God gave Adam and Eve life, a wonderful home, satisfying work, and the promise of children.]*

In what similar ways has God shown his love for us? *[God has given each of us the blessings of life, a home, work, and a family.]*

Say We have many blessings from God to appreciate. Let’s thank him in prayer.

Do *Pray:* Dear loving Lord God, thank you for creating us and for giving us the blessings of our homes, work, and families. Help us remember that our lives and all we have are gifts from you, so that we take care of all you have given us. Amen.

Challenge: Point out that the blessings listed in the second column are earthly blessings. Ask the children to name a spiritual blessing they have that corresponds to each. Possible answers: life—eternal life in heaven through Jesus; home—an eternal home in heaven; work—the task of telling others about their Savior; family—a family of fellow believers.



Ask How did God show his love for Adam and Eve? *[God gave Adam and Eve life, a wonderful home, satisfying work, and the promise of children.]*

Do Read together the First Article memory treasure. From the explanation, have the children compare the blessings that God gave Adam and Eve with the blessings that he gives us.

Ask How has God also shown his love toward us? *[God has given each of us the blessings of life, a home, work, and a family.]*

Say Let’s show our appreciation for these blessings by joyfully singing praise to God!

Do Sing “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (hymn 234:1,4,5).

Suggestion: Have the girls sing stanza 1, the boys sing stanza 4, and all sing stanza 5.

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* **Genesis 1:1**

* **Exodus 20:11a**

Psalms 139:14

* **The First Article of the Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life. God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil.

OPTIONAL

mid-
week
Lesson

- Begin by asking the children to name some of their favorite things that God created. List the things they name, and then pray together, thanking God for those things.
- Use **Activity 1** under **Lesson Activities** to review the story.
- Use **Activity 2** to help the students realize how wonderfully God has made them.
- Praise God as our Creator and the Creator of all things by singing "Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices" (hymn 242:1,3).

Lesson Activities

1. Review

Sentence Strip Shuffle

Purpose: To have the children review the story by placing story sentences in chronological order.

Procedure: Give the children strips of paper with the following sentences written on them (one sentence per strip):

- God created the first man and named him Adam.
- God placed Adam into a garden made especially for him.
- God told Adam to work in the garden.
- God told Adam not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- Adam named all the animals.
- God took a rib out of Adam's body and made a woman.
- God told Adam and Eve that they would have many children.

Mix up the strips, and challenge the children to put the story events back in order as quickly as possible. Suggestions: (1) Use large strips and have children stand in front of the class holding their strips, rearranging themselves until the strips are in order. (2) Have the children work in teams with smaller strips to see which team can do this the fastest.

2. Application

Our Wonderful Bodies

Purpose: To help students appreciate the wonderful bodies God has given them.

Procedure: Read together Psalm 139:14. Discuss ways that our bodies are wonderful and amazing. (Examples: Our brains signal our hands to move the way we want them to without our needing to think about it; arms and legs can bend in such a way that we are able to run, jump, kick, and throw; our bodies constantly take care of things we don't even think about, like blinking, breathing, keeping our hearts beating, and digesting our food.)

To show God's wisdom in creating us as he did, have volunteers try the following demonstrations:

- walk and sit without bending at the knees
- put on a coat without bending at the wrists and elbows
- deal out playing cards or hand out a stack of papers without using thumbs

Emphasize that God has truly made us in a wonderful way, and we praise him for this!

3. Music

Psalm 139b

Purpose: To study and sing a portion of a psalm that praises God for creating us.

Procedure: Read together the verses of Psalm 139b (hymnal, page 117). Ask the children to find the verses that say the following:

- God made us in a wonderful way. (I praise . . . full well.)
- God created us inside our mothers. (O LORD . . . mother's womb.)
- God saw what we looked like before we were born. (My frame . . . unformed body.)
- God had a plan for us before we were born. (All the days . . . came to be.)
- God knows more things than we can even count. (Were I . . . grains of sand.)
- God's thoughts are all good. (How precious . . . sum of them.)

Close by singing the psalm together.

4. Art

3-D Home

Purpose: To make a project that reminds the children that God gives them the blessings of home and family.

Procedure: Give each child two sheets of white construction paper of the same size. Have the children draw their homes on one of the sheets, cutting the doors and windows on three sides so that they open and close. Have them glue only the outer edges of the home sheet to the other sheet of construction paper so that the doors and windows can still open. Have the children draw people or things behind the doors and windows to illustrate blessings God has given them at home. Provide colored tissue paper and construction paper for making trees, bushes, flowers, and other items to add to the outdoors. Have the children add the caption "Thank you, God, for my home and my family."

5. Review and Apply

God Blesses Us

Purpose: To review ways God blessed Adam and Eve on earth; to list ways God blesses us on earth.

Procedure: Have each child complete **Copy Master 4**. The answers are as follows:

1. i, 2. f, 3. e, 4. o, 5. m, 6. e, 7. a, 8. m, 9. l, 10. y

Blessings: life, home, family

Find the Verse (Challenge)

Purpose: To have the children read the Bible to review the lesson and to learn about God's blessings in their lives.

Procedure: Have each child complete **Copy Master 5**. The answers are as follows:

Part One: 1. 7, 2. 8, 3. 9, 4. 15, 5. 17, 6. 19, 7. 22, 8. 23

Part Two: 1. Job 31:15; 2. Deuteronomy 8:17,18; 3. Proverbs 1:8,9

6. Other Ideas

Take Them to Heart

Purpose: To reinforce understanding and learning of the memory treasures.

Procedure: Have each child complete **Copy Master 6**. The answers are as follows:

Part One: First the students write the three passages. 1. Exodus 20:11; 2. Psalm 139:14; 3. Genesis 1:1

Part Two: 1. b, 2. d, 3. a, 4. c, 5. e

Bible Study

Copy Masters 7.1-7.4 contain an age-appropriate, theme-related Bible study. The Bible studies are from the original Christ-Light (© 1998) and use the 1984 edition of the New International Version Bible translation.

Man's Sin and God's Promise

Genesis 3



Aim How did God show his great love for all people after Adam and Eve fell into sin?



Truth God promised to send a Savior from sin.

Application: God sent Jesus to be our Savior.

Response: We hate sin and want to thank God for saving us by obeying him.

Lesson Summary: The devil, in the form of a serpent, tempted Eve to eat fruit that God had forbidden Adam and Eve to eat. Eve gave in to the devil's temptation, and Adam soon did the same. But even as sin entered the world, God, in his love, promised to send a Savior.



- * **John 3:16**
- * **Romans 3:23**
- * **Romans 6:23**
- * **The Second Article of the Apostles' Creed** (with a portion of the explanation)



- serpent**—snake
- enmity**—hatred
- offspring**—children, descendants
- misery**—great suffering



See Franzmann, *Bible History Commentary: Old Testament*, pages 37-54; *The People's Bible*: Jeske, *Genesis*, pages 42-58.



Dear Father, how well I know the effects of sin on my life! Give me strength to overcome temptation, and forgive me when I fail. I pray in the name of Jesus, my Savior. Amen.

Looking Back at Lesson 1

The Creation of Man and Woman

Genesis 1:28; 2:7-9,15-24

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Truth: God gave Adam and Eve life, a wonderful home, satisfying work, and the promise of children.

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Memory Treasures: *Genesis 1:1; *Exodus 20:11a; Psalm 139:14; *The First Article of the Apostles' Creed (with a portion of the explanation)