

LESSON 5

AIM

This lesson will present the true, biblical facts of creation. You will show that God created everything and that He created it from nothing. However, our most important aim is to show God's attributes through His creative acts.

NOTE: The doctrine of creation runs throughout the entire Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. Even where creation is not stated in words, it is still an underlying truth — God is sovereign; all things began in Him (Colossians 1:16-17).

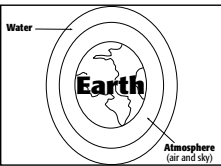
GATHER VISUALS & CHARTS

CHART 1: Learning About God

Learning about	
GOD	
GOD communicates with man.	
GOD had no beginning and He will never end. He is eternal.	
GOD is everywhere all the time. He knows everything.	
GOD is greater than all and more important than all. He is the highest authority.	
GOD is holy and righteous. He demands death as the payment for sin.	
GOD is all powerful. Nothing is too hard for Him to do.	
GOD is loving, gracious, and merciful.	
GOD is faithful. He always does what He says. He never changes.	

You will not be introducing any new attributes of God in this lesson, but use the chart to review the attributes of God and point out these attributes again as you teach them in this lesson. God's attributes are shown again and again throughout the Scriptures.

CHART 5: Earth's Atmosphere



INTRODUCTION

Remind the clubbers that God knew how to create. God knows and understands everything. The Bible tells us that nothing is too hard for God.

Ask your clubbers: Have you ever wondered how everything came into existence?

- Where did the earth come from?
- What was the earth made out of?
- What about the sun, moon, and all the stars?

The Bible tells us that God created everything!

You will study God's record of creation as He has given it to us in the Book of Genesis.

Something from Nothing

LARGE GROUP TIME

STORY

"Hi, kids!" greeted Uncle Peter. "What are you making?"

"Hi, Uncle Peter," said Jon and Carol at the same time.

"Oh, I'm working on a project for one of my school classes," said Jon. "But I'm having a problem with it."

Uncle Peter looked and looked at the project Jon was making and asked, "What is it supposed to be, Jon, a ball?"

"No, it is supposed to be a model of the world," replied Jon. "But I don't have all the things I need to finish it. I didn't realize how many items I would need. I only have some clay and wire ..."

"Yes, and he's making a mess!" interrupted Carol.

"She's right, I'm making a mess," agreed Jon.

"Well," exclaimed Uncle Peter, "that's a pretty big project — it will take a lot of work to make. Do you know how the world really was made?"

"I don't know," said Jon. "Does anyone really know?"

"Yes," replied Uncle Peter, "because the One who made it had someone write down how He did it."

"Where is it written?" asked Carol.

"In the Bible," answered Uncle Peter. "God, who created all the spirits, also created the earth. He was the only one there in the beginning, and He knew exactly what happened. Remember, God is one, yet God is three in one — God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit — all having part in the mighty act of creation."

"Does the Bible say how He did it?" asked Jon.

"Yes," replied Uncle Peter. "It says that God created the heaven and the earth. He simply spoke, and there was light."

"Wait a minute!" interrupted Jon. "What did He use to make the earth, and where did the light come from?"

Smiling, Uncle Peter said, "In Genesis, the very first book of the Bible, it tells us that God made everything from nothing. God is all powerful; nothing is impossible for Him to do."

"But how did God know how to make heaven and the earth?" asked Carol.

Uncle Peter explained how we have to learn how to do all the things that we do. We are not born with knowledge and understanding. Some people go to school to learn, yet they will never learn about everything. God did not need someone to teach Him how to make the heavens and the earth, because He knows and completely understands everything. God is all knowing. "It is hard to understand how someone can be so powerful and wise, isn't it?" asked Uncle Peter.

"It sure is!" agreed Jon, "Next time I want to hear how the rest of the earth was made too."

LARGE GROUP TIME TEACHER HELPS

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE:

Genesis 1:1-8

NOTE: It is important that the Scriptures accompanying each bold numbered point in these lessons also be read while teaching the lesson. If the children can read, they need to be encouraged to do some of the reading. But they may read slowly, and other children may lose interest when there is a lot of reading. So in addition to having the children read, you will find it very helpful to alternate by reading some of these passages yourself or having some of your adult helpers read.

CHART 1: Learning About God

Read, "God is all powerful. Nothing is too hard for Him to do."

Have your clubbers recite Hebrews 11:3.

LARGE GROUP TIME

LESSONS FROM GOD'S WORD

Note: It is important that you teach your clubbers the nature and character of God. For example, you will be teaching that God knew how to create and that God knows everything. With these foundations, you will later be able to teach that God knows everything about every person. God knows about our sin. God even knows our thoughts. If you don't lay these foundations of truth deeply in the minds of your clubbers now, you are not going to be able to use them later on. The Holy Spirit will not be able to use your teaching to bring conviction of sin.

1. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth (Genesis 1:1).

This lesson will cover what God says happened at the very beginning. We have already learned that God created the spirits which we cannot see. Now we will study God's creation of the universe — the things we can see.

- The Bible is divided into 66 books. Genesis is the very first book in the Bible. The Bible is a true history — it is God's story of what really happened.
 - The word *Genesis* means "beginnings" or "origins."
 - All things had a beginning. Nothing/no one (except God) existed before the beginning.
 - *Created* means "made something from nothing." Only God can do this. Only God is a powerful. Nothing is too hard for God.

Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for you. (Jeremiah 32:17)

2. The earth when first created — Genesis 1:2.

- The earth had no form or shape; it was completely empty.
- The earth was covered by darkness.
- The earth was covered by water. There was no dry land.
- There was no life anywhere on earth — no people, no animals, no plants.

3. God was ready to create everything.

- God is all powerful, and He was ready to use His mighty power to create.
 - The Bible says that the Spirit of God "moved upon the face of the waters."
 - It was **God** who started all things moving!
 - He is the source, the beginning of all energy.
- God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit all took part in the mighty act of creation.
 - God is one, yet God is three in one, the Almighty God, the Creator of everything.
 - We can't fully understand the Trinity, nor God's mighty power.

LARGE GROUP TIME TEACHER HELPS

Read: Psalm 18:30a says,
As for God, His way is perfect.

Read: Isaiah 6:3 says,
... Holy, holy, holy is the LORD ...

CHART 5: Earth's Atmosphere

LARGE GROUP TIME

LESSONS FROM GOD'S WORD

4. The first day: Light created — Genesis 1:3-5.

- Only God could create light by simply speaking!

Discuss: Wouldn't it be something if we could simply speak and have light appear? But it doesn't work that way. No, we are totally dependent on light that was created by God from the beginning of time. (Help the clubbers to think of many different kinds of lights, such as flashlights, candles, matches, lanterns, light bulbs, sunshine, moonlight, etc.)

Whenever we see the light of the sun, the moon, or the stars, flip on a light switch, or light a match or a candle, remember that it was God who in the beginning created light. Only God could do that because only God is all-powerful and all-knowing. He created light out of nothing.

- The light God made was very good. You will notice that each time God created, He said, "it is good."

- We are not able to make **anything** perfect. Things we make need repairs or wear out. But everything God made was **perfect** because:

- **God is perfect.** God is faultless. In other words, God is holy. (Write the word holy so the clubbers can see it.)

- God divided the light from the darkness; this is light only, not the sun.
 - He called the light "day" and the dark "night."
 - This was the first day in the beginning of the world.

5. The second day: Firmament created — Genesis 1:6-8.

- On the second day, God created the air and the sky.
 - Above this "firmament" or "thin" stretched-out space" that we call the atmosphere, God placed some of the water from the world He had created.

We will see that this water is very important in a later story.

Note: We are not told exactly in Scripture what God actually did when He placed the water above the firmament. However, many dependable scientists believe that these waters are not the clouds, but water which God turned into mist or vapor and placed as a canopy (covering) surrounding the earth, high above the atmosphere.

It is important to establish that God placed water above the earth, so that when you teach the story of the flood, it will be simple to explain how God reversed the process and returned to the earth the water which He had placed above the firmament.

- Again, God just spoke, and the firmament was created.
 - Man's ideas of how the world came to be are changing all the time. But God's true written history of creation has not changed, and it never will. As we study the Bible, we see that God is greater than all, more important than all, and more powerful than all!

TRUTH REWIND

Questions and Answers

1. How many books are in the Bible? **66**
2. What is the first book of the Bible? **Genesis**
3. What does the word created mean? **Made something from nothing.**
4. When the earth was created, what was it covered with? **Water and darkness**
5. What did God create on the first day? **Light, night and day**
6. What did God create on the second day? **Air and sky, he also divided the water on the earth — some above the sky and some covered the earth.**
7. Could anyone else have created the earth? **No**

SMALL GROUP TIME LEADER HELPS

LET'S LOOK IN THE BIBLE

- Encourage clubbers to find the verse in their Bible
- See Section 2 for Teacher Helps to have good Small Group Time
- If using a chart with stickers for recognition have clubbers place their sticker on the chart
- See Section 4: Appendix E for Memorization Helps
- See TruthSeekers: Roots of Faith, Small Group Handbook, Part 1, Lesson 5.
- **Bolded** words in memory verse = short version

DEFINITION:

Framed — Made


Visible — Can be seen

LET'S THINK IT THROUGH


- See Section 2 for ways to make review fun.

COMPLETE THIS ACTIVITY AND SHOW IT TO YOUR TEACHER.


Fill in the blanks with the correct words.




light



night



water



air and sky

1. On the first day, God created _____ which he called **day** and the **darkness** he called _____.

2. On the second day God created the _____. Where did He put them and what was on top of them? _____.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Next Week's Verse:

Genesis 1:1 — *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

- See TruthSeekers: Roots of Faith, Parent Guide Part 1, Lesson 6.

SMALL GROUP TIME

LET'S LOOK IN THE BIBLE

Hebrews 11:3 — *By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.*

Help your clubbers find this verse, read it, and then explain the verse using the definitions given. Explain to the clubbers that God made the heavens and the earth out of nothing! Only God can make something out of nothing. Again, nothing is too hard for God!

LET'S THINK IT THROUGH

1. What was Jon using to make his model of the world?
A. Nothing **B. Clay and wire** C. Paper
2. How was the real world made?
A. We don't know. B. It always was. **C. God made it.**
3. What did God use to make the world?
A. Nothing B. Rocks and dirt C. Clay and wire
4. Did God just speak, and there was light? **Yes** / No
5. Did someone tell God how to make the earth? Yes / **No**

GAME TIME

See Section 2: How to Prepare for Your Club Meeting, page 36, for general hints for running successful Game Time.

See Section 4: Appendix G for Game Time Helps.