

2.1 GOD THE CREATOR

Topic: Learning About God

Subtopic: God the Creator

1A. God the Creator and Father

Class: Standard II (2nd Grade)

Objectives:

Knowledge: When asked to describe who God is, students will say God is the Creator and He interacts with people.

Attitude: Students will recognize God as they observe His creation.

Materials Needed:

2 Exercise books (to be used throughout year)

Pens or pencils for each child

(optional) big ball of yarn, twine or ball

Scripture:

References: Genesis 1:1-31; 3:1-11

Teacher's Notes

Memory Verse: "In the

beginning... God created the universe."

Genesis 1:1

TEACHER ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. Help students describe identifying features about each other. What traits of God help us know Him?

Bible Story:

2. Briefly tell creation story including story of Adam and Eve in the garden based on Genesis 1:1-31; 3:1-13

Suggested Discussion Questions

3. What things do we learn about God from this story?
4. How can we talk with God?
5. What do we do when we disobey God?
6. What are some ways we can take care of God's creation?

Application:

7. Suggest children especially notice God's creation when they walk home and give God thanks.
8. Pluck a "piece" of God's creation and talk about it with someone.

Evaluation:

9. If God loves us so much that He created so many things for us to enjoy, are we saying thanks to Him by taking good care of His creation and living like He wants us to live?

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Introduction:

1. Students name specific traits that identify each other—tall, wears glasses, laughs easily... God is loving, faithful, generous, maker.

Bible Story:

2. Students listen for things about God they learn from creation story.

Possible Answers to Questions:

3. God is creator, longs for our fellowship, doesn't like sin, wants us to obey Him, loves us and wants to talk with us, wants us to take care of His creation.
4. Pray
5. We sin and sin separates us from God.
6. Don't be wasteful. Nurture growing things. Live simply.

Application:

7. Students make observations and thank God for being the Creator.
8. Students pick flower, fruit, or something they notice on way home and tell someone how God created it.

Evaluation:

9. God likes to hear us say thank you for the things He created for us. He knows we love Him when we take care of His world. Have children lift arms and say "Thank you, God" together.

Extension Activities

1. Memory Verse: Review memory verse until children can say it without being prompted. Help them by asking, "When did the universe get created?" Expect them to answer, "In the beginning..." Then ask, "What did God do". Their response: "God...created the universe." Genesis 1:1 GNT Have students write this verse in their Memory Verse Exercise book complete with reference.
2. In other exercise book, have students write at the top of the page: "Learning About God". Underneath, write "God is Creator". Then have them draw a picture of something of God's creation such as a tree, flower, sun.
3. Game. Have students get in a circle. [If your class is large, you may want to divide into more than one circle or call out some students to the center and let them play the game while others watch.] Explain that you have a big ball of yarn (twine). You are going to take hold of the end and throw the ball to one of the children. That child will hold on to the yarn and throw the ball to another child. The next child will hold on to the yarn and throw the ball to another child etc. Every child needs to be included in the "web" that is formed of that yarn (twine). When everyone has been given the ball, talk about how you are all connected. Help them understand that God cares about each one of us. He created us. He loves us. He wants to be a part of our lives. [alternative: If yarn or twine is not available, you can use a ball and have the students throw from one to another and name an identifying feature about that child they like. At the end remind them that just as they can be identified by certain traits so we can learn to know God and mention that He is creator. He longs for our fellowship. He doesn't like sin. He wants us to obey Him. He loves us to talk with Him. He wants us to care for the world He created.]

NOTES FOR TEACHERS

Highlights for the Bible Story

You can use a variety of ways to tell the Bible stories. Sometimes you may want to have students role play while you tell the story. This lesson covers a lot of material and is probably best told in a brief but interesting summary.

1. Out of darkness, God commanded light to come thus creating day and night. He separated the sky from the land and water. He created plants, made the sun and moon and all living creatures such as animals, fish and birds.
2. God created man and woman and gave them the responsibility to care for all creation. The first man was called Adam and his wife, Eve.
3. God enjoyed walking and talking with them in the garden of Eden.
4. God also had some restrictions. He told them they could not eat the fruit from one of the trees.
5. When they disobeyed, God put them out of the garden. He still loved them but He cannot abide sin.

Suggestion for Introducing this Lesson

After students identify features about each other, mention that none of us is exactly like another. Suggest that they describe Someone they can't see, yet they can know Him. Have them close their eyes in order to imagine how they would describe this special Someone. This special Someone is God. Is there an image of God that comes to their minds? Can they describe Him? Or can they really picture God physically? Let them express their thinking about how they would describe God. Well, no one has seen God so we don't have any pictures of God. That's because He is Spirit so He can be everywhere at once. If we can't see God, how can we get to know Him? The answer to that question is that we know God by what He does and how He expresses Himself to others. God has personality. He thinks. He talks. He laughs. He has no beginning and no ending. [He is eternal and will always be.] One way we learn about God is to see Him interact with people who became friends of God. They are people just like you and me who lived a very long time ago but whose life stories are recorded in the Word of God—the Bible. The students may have met some of these people in Sunday School. As they meet them now, together we want to identify something special about God that helps us know Him.

Key Points

God loves us so much He created a wonderful world for us to enjoy.

God wants to fellowship with us.

God doesn't like sin.

God gives us responsibility to care for the things He created for us.

God wants us to be obedient to Him.

We give thanks to God by talking with Him, living like He wants us to live and caring for His creation.

Teacher Evaluation

How do I view God? Do I know His love? Am I an example of taking care of what God created for us? Do the children understand that God loves us but sometimes He has to correct us just as parents sometimes have to correct their children? They do that because they love their children and want them to know right from wrong. What can I do to help the children remember that God created the things we enjoy and we need to take care of them for Him?