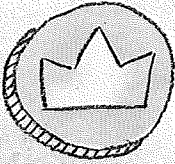


THE GOSPEL

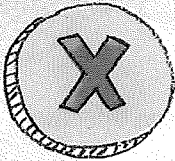
GOD'S PLAN for US

The gospel is the good news, the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use these prompts to share the gospel with your kids.



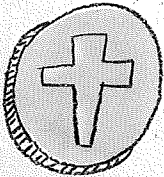
GOD RULES.

Ask: "Who is in charge at home?" Explain that because God created everything, He is in charge of everything. Read Revelation 4:11.



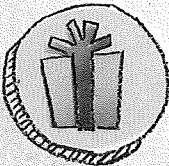
WE SINNED.

Ask: "Have you ever done something wrong?" Tell kids that everyone sins, or disobeys God. Our sin separates us from God. Read Romans 3:23.



GOD PROVIDED.

Explain that God is holy and must punish sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to take the punishment we deserve. Read John 3:16.



JESUS GIVES.

Ask: "What is the best gift you've ever received?" Say that Jesus took our punishment for sin by giving His life, and He gives us His righteousness. God sees us as if we lived the perfect life Jesus lived. This is the best gift ever! Read 2 Corinthians 5:21.



WE RESPOND.

Explain that everyone has a choice to make. Ask: "Will you trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord? You can turn from self and sin and turn to Jesus." Read Romans 10:9-10.

Bible Study at a Glance



Leader Bible Study

Familiarize yourself with the content and context of the Bible story and how it relates to God's plan of redemption.

Preparation

Pray for your kids and contact families during the week. Gather and prepare session materials.

Pray for your kids

Send a parent e-mail

Print/download printables

Prepare videos

Assemble supplies

Opening Activities

Activity Page

Small Group Opening

Engage kids and introduce the day's Bible story.

Say what?

Use the suggested "Say" dialogue to easily move between segments.

Large Group Leader

Communicate the day's Bible story and discover God's big story.

Sing

Big Picture Question

Giant Timeline

Key Passage & Bible Skill

Bible Story

Discussion Starter



Suggested times

The times provided allow you to complete the session plan in an hour and fifteen minutes. Lengthen or shorten the session as needed.

Make it fit

Customize the session plan to fit the needs of your church or classroom.



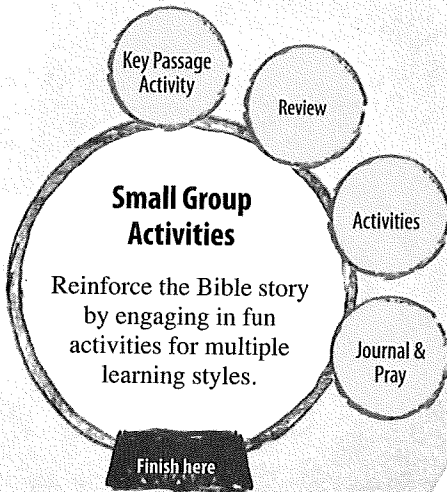
1 room

- 1) Use the Small Group Opening to welcome kids to Bible study. Kids may work the activity page and/or complete an activity together.
- 2) Transition to an area within your classroom that can be designated as the Large Group Bible story area. Watch the Bible story video or tell the Bible story. Incorporate any large group elements that fit your space and your time constraints.
- 3) Regroup to the small group area by using a countdown video, or gather around a table as you reinforce the Bible story's main point and Christ connection.



1 or more rooms

- 1) Use the Small Group Opening to welcome kids to Bible study. Kids may work the activity page and/or complete an activity together.
- 2) Use the countdown video or other transition signal as you move your small group to join the other small groups in the large group area. Watch the Bible story video or tell the Bible story. Incorporate any large group elements that fit your space and your time constraints.
- 3) Regroup to the small group rooms where you will reinforce what the kids learned from the Large Group Leader, review the key passage, and practice Bible skills.



Check out our tips and resources for an additional hour in the Worship Guide!

Unit 1: God the Creator

Unit Description:

In the beginning, God created everything for His glory. He made people in His image. When sin entered the world through Adam and Eve, God revealed His plan to bring people back to Himself through a descendant—His own Son.

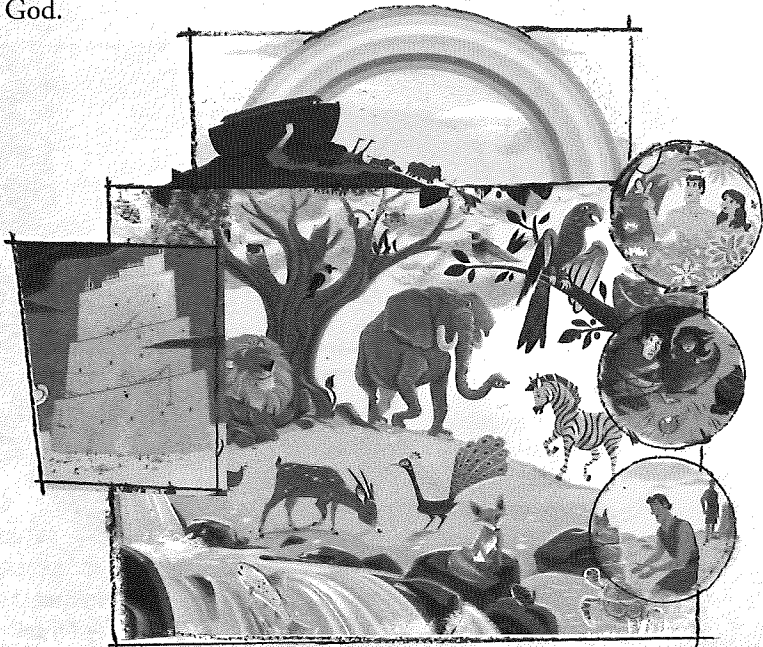
Unit Key Passage:

1 Corinthians 8:6

Big Picture Questions:

Why did God create the world? God created the world and everything in it for His glory.

What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.



Unit 1: God the Creator

Session 1:

Bible Story:

God Created the World

Bible Passage:

Genesis 1:1-25

Main Point:

God created everything for His glory.

Session 2:

Bible Story:

God Created People

Bible Passage:

Genesis 1:26-2:25

Main Point:

God created people in His own image; God created them male and female.

Session 3:

Bible Story:

Sin Entered the World

Bible Passage:

Genesis 3:1-24

Main Point:

Adam and Eve's sin separated them from God.

Session 4:

Bible Story:

Cain and Abel

Bible Passage:

Genesis 4:1-16,25-26

Main Point:

Cain's sin separated him from God and people.

Session 5:

Bible Story:

Noah and the Ark

Bible Passage:

Genesis 6:5-9:17

Main Point:

God is holy, and He punishes sin.

Session 6:

Bible Story:

The Tower of Babel

Bible Passage:

Genesis 11:1-9

Main Point:

God created people to give glory to Him alone.

God Created the World

BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 1:1-25

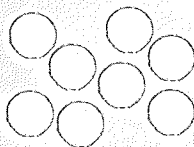
MAIN POINT: God created everything for His glory.

UNIT KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: Why did God create the world? God created the world and everything in it for His glory.

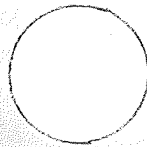
SMALL GROUP OPENING
(10–15 MINUTES)

PAGE 10



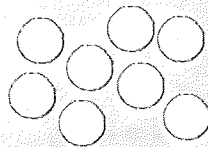
LARGE BIBLE STUDY
(25–30 MINUTES)

PAGE 12



SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES
(25–30 MINUTES)

PAGE 18



Leader BIBLE STUDY

In the beginning, God created everything. God created the universe *ex nihilo*, or “out of nothing.” All of creation began with a word. When God spoke, it happened. Light, land, sky, stars, plants, and animals. God made them all, and they were good. Creation was perfect, just as God intended.

Every story in the Bible is a small piece of a much bigger story—God’s redemptive story. Sin would enter the world and affect everything, but God already knew. He already had a plan to show His grace to people through His Son (2 Tim. 1:9), to rescue and restore. In fact, the Bible says that God’s plan existed before He created the world. (Eph. 1:4-6)

Explain that kids should begin passing their candies, one at a time, with the beat. Slowly increase the speed of clapping.

When someone drops a candy, pause the game. Ask players to determine who was at fault—the person passing the candy or the person receiving it. The player at fault must sit out, but his candy remains in play. Difficulty increases with fewer players.

Make sure kids are not cruel in “passing the blame.” If tension rises, pause the game and talk about how Adam and Eve must have felt when God confronted them for their sin.

SAY • Adam and Eve’s sin separated them from God.

Since Adam and Eve, everyone has sinned. When we sin, we don’t need to blame others or make excuses. We can confess our sin because Jesus died to take the punishment for our sin. When we trust in Jesus, God will forgive our sin.

Option: Review the gospel with boys and girls. Explain that kids are welcome to speak with you or another teacher if they have questions.

Journal and prayer (5 minutes)

Distribute pencils and journal pages.

SAY • Think of a time you did something wrong. What was your punishment? Write about or draw a picture of how you felt. The Bible says we deserve to die for our sin, but Jesus came to rescue us from sin. How does this good news make you feel?

As time allows, lead kids to complete “What Is Sin?” on the activity page. Kids should cross out every third letter from left to right, starting on the top row and working down.

Kids will fill in the blanks to reveal the answer to, *What is sin?* (Answer: *Sin is breaking God’s law.*)

- pencils
- Journal Page
- “What Is Sin?” activity page, 1 per kid

Tip: Give parents this week’s *Big Picture Cards for Families* to allow families to interact with the biblical content at home.

Cain and Abel

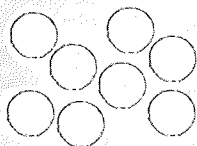
BIBLE PASSAGE: Genesis 4:1-16,25-26

MAIN POINT: Cain's sin separated him from God and people.

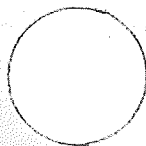
UNIT KEY PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 8:6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is sin? Sin is breaking God's law, and sin separates people from God.

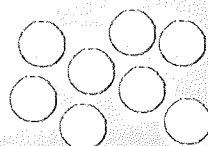
SMALL GROUP OPENING
(10-15 MINUTES)
PAGE 58



LARGE BIBLE STUDY
(25-30 MINUTES)
PAGE 60



SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES
(25-30 MINUTES)
PAGE 66



Leader BIBLE STUDY

Imagine Adam and Eve's joy as their family grew. With each birth, maybe Eve hoped that this son would be the one to end the curse of sin, to crush the head of the snake. (Gen. 3:15) But as her sons Cain and Abel grew up, she and Adam probably witnessed with grief how sin affected their own children. Cain was not the Promised One, and neither was Abel.

When they were grown, Cain and Abel each had jobs. Abel was a shepherd, caring for his flocks of animals. Cain worked the ground as a farmer. One day, they each presented an offering to the Lord. God accepted Abel's offering, but He did not accept Cain's.

God warned Cain about sin, and told him what he needed to do to be accepted. Then Cain and Abel went out into the field, and Cain killed Abel. God knew what Cain did, and He punished him. God sent Cain away from the land to wander the earth. Cain's sin separated him from God and people.

Some time later, Eve gave birth to another son. She named this baby Seth. Seth was not the Promised One either, but Jesus would come from Seth's descendants. (See Luke 3:23-38.)

As you teach, help kids develop an awareness of the deep effects of sin. Then point them to the future hope—the hope we now realize—in Jesus Christ. Generation after generation, God's people lived with an expectant hope. Could this son be the One? And for many generations, they faced the reality of sin. No one was good enough.

Every baby was born a sinner—like his parents and like Adam and Eve. Still, the people hoped. At just the right time, God would send His Son to save sinners. (Heb. 11:13; Gal. 4:4) God always keeps His promises.



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...norrized the verse, allow them to recite it from memory.
...en sing together "There Is Only One."

Discussion starter video (4 minutes)

LEADER • After Cain killed his brother, God confronted Cain. God said, "Where is your brother?" God knew what Cain had done, and He wanted Cain to confess. But Cain did not confess his sin and say that he was sorry. Do you think Cain felt bad for what he had done? Do you always feel sorry for doing something wrong?

Show the "Unit 1, Session 4" discussion starter video. Lead kids to discuss a time they were punished for doing something they shouldn't have. Were they sorry for what they had done or sorry that they were being punished?

LEADER • God had warned Cain, "Sin wants to control you, but you must control it." The desire to sin is strong, and it wants to control us too. On our own, we have no power over sin. We are not strong enough to put an end to sin. But when we trust in Jesus, He gives us power to say no to sin! [See 1 Cor. 15:57.]

Prayer (2 minutes)

LEADER • It's almost time to go to your small groups. Let's pray to God right now. Lord God, You know our hearts. We are sinners! But we have hope because You kept Your promise to send someone to rescue us from our sin. Thank You for Jesus. Amen.

Dismiss to small groups

The Gospel: God's Plan for Me

Ask kids if they have ever heard the word *gospel*. Clarify that the word *gospel* means "good news." It is the message about Christ, the kingdom of God, and salvation. Use the following guide to share the gospel with kids.



God rules. Explain to kids that the Bible tells us God created everything, and He is in charge of everything. Invite a volunteer to read Genesis 1:1 from the Bible. Read Revelation 4:11 or Colossians 1:16-17 aloud and explain what these verses mean.



We sinned. Tell kids that since the time of Adam and Eve, everyone has chosen to disobey God. (Romans 3:23) The Bible calls this sin. Because God is holy, God cannot be around sin. Sin separates us from God and deserves God's punishment of death. (Romans 6:23)



God provided. Choose a child to read John 3:16 aloud. Say that God sent His Son, Jesus, the perfect solution to our sin problem, to rescue us from the punishment we deserve. It's something we, as sinners, could never earn on our own. Jesus alone saves us. Read and explain Ephesians 2:8-9.



Jesus gives. Share with kids that Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again. Because Jesus gave up His life for us, we can be welcomed into God's family for eternity. This is the best gift ever! Read Romans 5:8; 2 Corinthians 5:21; or 1 Peter 3:19.



We respond. Tell kids that they can respond to Jesus. Read Romans 10:9-10, 13. Review these aspects of our response: Believe in your heart that Jesus alone saves you through what He's already done on the cross. Repent, turning from self and sin to Jesus. Tell God and others that your faith is in Jesus.

Offer to talk with any child who is interested in responding to Jesus.