

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Genesis

CREATION

Genesis 1:1-2:3

Elementary Lesson

Year One, Quarter One, Lesson One

[0010]

AIM: to teach my class how God created the earth

OBJECTS TO HAVE: the word “eyewitness” written on a card
 The numbers 1 through 7 written on separate pieces of paper
 Pictures of plants, the sun, moon and stars, fish and birds, and animals
 A picture of a man
 Your Bible

POINT OF CONTACT: I want you to pretend with me this morning. We are going to pretend that the circus came to town last week. There were clowns and tigers and elephants, and a man on a flying trapeze. There was popcorn and cotton candy and pink lemonade. The only problem is this: most of us didn’t get to go. In fact, only one of us got to go. The rest of us didn’t see any of the excitement. But we wanted to hear all about it. So we came to Sunday School this morning, and I said, “I didn’t get to go to the circus. I know it was a lot of fun, and I’m sure sad that I missed it. Did anybody go to the circus last week? Can anybody tell us what it was like?” Let’s pretend that when I asked that question, two people in our class raised their hands. (Use any two students as examples). So I said to the first person, “You went to the circus?” And he answered, “I sure did! There were so many amazing things to see!” Then I said to the second person, “You went to the circus, too?” And he said, “Well, no. But you said you want to hear all about it. And I think I can imagine how it went. I think I can give you a pretty good idea of all the things that happened there.” Tell me, who should I let tell us about the circus? Why? Because he was there and he saw the whole thing. Do you know what you call somebody who was there, and who saw the whole thing? An **eyewitness**. That’s the best person, and the only person, who can really tell you what happened.

Let’s pretend that after church today, two cars came to the intersection right in front of the church, and they had an accident. Nobody was hurt, but both cars were smashed pretty badly. The police come, and they must write a report about what happened. That report is important, because it will tell who caused the accident. The person who caused the accident will have to pay for the damage to both cars. So the first driver says, “It wasn’t my fault. He ran the stop sign.” And the other driver says, “No, it wasn’t my fault. He was signaling to turn the other way.” The police officer doesn’t know what to write. He looks over and sees some people standing in front of the church. He says, “Can anybody tell me what happened here?” One man raises his hand and says, “Yes sir, I can tell you what happened. I was coming out the door when it happened, and I saw the whole thing.” Another man says, “Well officer, I was inside of the church, so I didn’t see the accident, but I think I know exactly what happened. I have some good ideas about how it probably went.” Who is the officer going to listen to, the first man, or the second man? Why? Because the first man is an **eyewitness**. He was there when it happened and he saw the whole thing.

Now let’s stop pretending, and I will ask you a question that’s much more important than what happened at the circus or who caused a traffic accident. Here’s the question: “Where did the world come from? How did it start? Where did the sun, the moon, the stars, the mountains, the ocean, the animals, the trees and flowers come from? Where did the human race come from? How did it all start?”

A scientist might say, “Well, I wasn’t there when it happened, but I think I know how it went.”

A school teacher might say, “Well, that was thousands of years before I was born, so I didn’t see it happen. But I can imagine how it probably went.”

And God says, “I was there. I saw the whole thing. And I wrote it in a book for all people to read, as long as the earth exists.”

Who should we listen to? The **eyewitness**, of course; and the only eyewitness to the beginning of the world is GOD!!! So let us read how **God** says the world began.

LESSON: God created the world in seven days. Each day God did a very important job. And God did that job just by speaking. God spoke, and it happened. You see, God's Word always gets the job done.

On the **first** day God said, "Let there be light." And suddenly there was light everywhere on the earth. And God divided every day into two parts: day, when it would be light outside; and night, when it would be dark outside.

On the **second** day God said, "Let there be a sky." And God created the sky to be above the earth. You see, the sky is not just empty space. The sky is exactly the place that God wanted it to be. There was no sky before God made it. There was water everywhere. But God created the sky on the second day.

On the **third** day God said, "Let the dry land appear on the earth." And the earth was divided into oceans and dry land. Before that third day, the earth was completely covered by water. But on the third day God separated the land from the ocean. Then God said, "Let there be plants on the earth." And there was grass, and trees, and plants, and flowers, and fruit, and vegetables everywhere. God's Word did the job once again. And God said, "Let there be seeds in the plants, so that there will be more and more plants and trees." And ever since there has been more plants and more trees.

On the **fourth** day God said, "Let there be a sun, a moon, and stars." And God put the sun, the moon and the stars exactly where He wanted them to be. They have been in their places doing their jobs for thousands of years now.

On the **fifth** day God said, "Let there be life in the skies and in the waters." And suddenly there were many different kinds of fish in the waters, and many different kinds of birds in the skies. God's Words made it all happen! And just like the plants, God caused the birds to have baby birds and the fish to have baby fish, so they would always be on the earth.

On the **sixth** day God said, "Let there be animals to live on the land." And once again, God's Word did the job. There were all different kinds of animals, like lions, bears, cows, kangaroos, monkeys, and sheep. Animals were everywhere.

Then, on the sixth day, God said, "Now I am going to create one special being. This special one is going to be made like me, and he is going to be in charge of the earth." Then God took a handful of dirt from the ground, and formed it into the body of a man. God breathed into him, and he came alive. God had created the human race! God made a man and a woman, and they were going to be in charge of all of the other things God had created on the earth.

So God was finished with all of His work. And on the **seventh** day, God rested. Why, because He was tired? No, but because God wanted to teach us that we are supposed to work hard for six days and then rest on the seventh day. These seven days make up a week, and that is where a seven-day week comes from. God made it that way.

There you have it. God, the only eyewitness to how the world began, tells us in the Bible how it happened. You don't have to guess or wonder, and you don't have to listen to somebody who didn't see any more of it than you did. God tells us how the world began.

Let's learn our memory verse: **Genesis 1:1 - *In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.***

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

Genesis

CREATION

Genesis 1:1-2:3

Teen and Adult Lesson

Year One, Quarter One, Lesson One

[0010]

Teacher, choose one of the following truths to expand upon in teaching this portion of Scripture to your teen/adult class. Teach and apply the truth that you choose using statements and illustrations that are most helpful and applicable to your students.

- I. **GOD’S WORD HAS THE POWER TO CREATE.** *And God said...* The Word of God that said, “Let there be light” is the same Word of God that you have in printed form in your Bible. God’s Word is no less powerful today than it was when it created the world. Everything God does He does through His Word, and you have a perfect copy of His Word in your Bible.

- II. **GOD’S WORD ALWAYS ACCOMPLISHES WHAT GOD WANTS IT TO ACCOMPLISH.** *And it was so.* God’s Word never fails to accomplish what God intends for it to accomplish. When you use God’s Word the way that God says to use it, it will accomplish what God says it will accomplish.

- III. **GOD IS ALWAYS PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS OF HIS WORD.** *And God saw that it was good.* God is never displeased or disappointed with what His Word produces. If you will fill your life with God’s Word, the result will be pleasing to God.

- IV. **GOD DIVIDED OUR LIVES INTO DAYS.** *And the evening and the morning were the first day.* 1:5. God intended us to live our lives in daily cycles, with daily routines and habits.

- V. **MANKIND IS GOD’S SPECIAL CREATION.** *And God said, Let us make man in our image* 1:26. God did not make any other creature in His image. We are His special creation, the apple of His eye. We are the only creatures with body, soul and spirit, just as God is.

Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:3

[0010]

God Describes How He Created the World

I. GENESIS 1:1 The Beginning of the Universe

→ In the beginning, God already was

II. GENESIS 1:2 The Barrenness of the World

→ After the creation of the universe, the world was unshapen and empty

III. GENESIS 1:3-31 The Creation of the World

3-5 Day One: God creates light

6-8 Day Two: God sets the firmament

9-13 Day Three: God creates the dry land and plant life

14-19 Day Four: God fills the firmament with the sun, moon, and stars

20-23 Day Five: God creates the fish and the birds

24-31 Day Six: God creates animal life, and man

IV. GENESIS 2:1-3 The Seventh Day

→ God rests from His work, setting the precedent for the 7-day week

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

Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:3

[0010]

Using the words provided, fill in the blank to correctly complete each statement from the Scripture passage and from today's Bible story.

SPOKE
DAY

GENESIS
SEVEN
GOD

BIBLE
EYEWITNESS
WORD

LIGHT
RESTED

1. An _____ is someone who saw something happen for themselves.
2. The only eyewitness to how the world began is _____.
3. In the _____ God describes for us how the world began.
4. God created the world in _____ days.
5. God _____ the world into existence.
6. God said, "Let there be _____," and there was light.
7. Each _____ God created a different part of our world.
8. God _____ on the seventh day.
9. God tells us about Creation in the first chapter of the book of _____.
10. God's _____ always gets the job done.

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

Genesis 1:1

Creation

Genesis 1:1-2:3

[0010]

The answers to this week's puzzle

SPOKE
DAY

GENESIS
SEVEN
GOD

BIBLE
EYEWITNESS
WORD

LIGHT
RESTED

1. An eyewitness is someone who saw something happen for themselves.
2. The only eyewitness to how the world began is God.
3. In the Bible God describes for us how the world began.
4. God created the world in seven days.
5. God spoke the world into existence.
6. God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.
7. Each day God created a different part of our world.
8. God rested on the seventh day.
9. God tells us about Creation in the first chapter of the book of Genesis.
10. God's WORD always gets the job done.