

GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM
Primary Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 7
Seventh Day of Creation (Genesis 2:1-3)

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. The Lord is the beginning of everything. He created heaven and earth.
- B. The Word is the Lord's revelation to us of all that we need to know about our Creator and our relation to Him.
- C. The whole Word is a parable written in the language of correspondences.
- D. The Sabbath state of rest is attained only through learning the Lord's truth and obeying it.
- E. "Another reason why the celestial man is the Sabbath, or rest, is that combat ceases when he becomes celestial; evil spirits depart, and good spirits and celestial angels draw near; and when these are present evil spirits cannot be, but flee far away. And because not the man himself but the Lord alone has fought for man, it is said that the Lord rested." (AC 87)

II. Story Circle

- A. Introduce the Story (Review)
 - 1. What are the 2 main things that the Word teaches us about? (The Lord, and everything we need to know to get to heaven.)
 - 2. The first book of the Word is [Genesis], and "Genesis" means [the beginning]. Can anyone recite the very first verse of Genesis? ("In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.")
 - 3. Let's see if we can remember what happened on each of the 6 days of creation:
 - a. First day: Light & darkness separated
 - b. Second day: Firmament, with waters divided under & above
 - c. Third day: Dry land & growing things (plants)
 - d. Fourth day: Sun, moon, & stars
 - e. Fifth day: Birds & fish
 - f. Sixth day: Animals & people
 - 4. Listen while I read from the Word about what the Lord did on the seventh day.
- B. Tell/Read the Story
 - 1. Genesis 2:1-3

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C. Ideas to Discuss

1. What did the Lord do on the seventh day? (Rest)
2. We have Sunday as our seventh day, a day of rest. What is another word we use for this day of rest? (Sabbath— means "rest")
3. "Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it." What does this mean? (Blessed means "made happy"; sanctified, "made holy")

D. Further Ideas

1. We've talked before about how the Lord provided everything in creation that people need to live and grow, both bodily and spiritually. Why did the Lord provide the seventh day as a day of rest?
 - a. Discuss: The Lord knows what we need; He created us! Our bodies need a break, a change from our usual activities; our minds need it; and our souls, our spirits need one day in seven when we can forget about our everyday worries and think instead about the Lord and what He wants for us.
2. What are some ways we can make Sunday, our Sabbath, be a day of rest, "blessed" (happy) and "sanctified" (holy)?
 - a. We should go to church. The Word tells us in Luke (4:16) that Jesus did this. He went to the synagogue each Sabbath.
 - b. We can be helpful to other people. In the Word in the book of Matthew (12:12), the Lord says, "It is lawful to do good on the Sabbath." Jesus healed and taught people on the Sabbath.
 - c. What are some other ways of doing good on the Sabbath?
 - Talking with friends (especially about important things)
 - Obeying parents
 - Making other people happy (brothers, sisters, parents, neighbors)
 - (Other ideas from the students)

SUNDAY SHOULD BE A DAY WHEN OUR HEARTS AND MINDS ARE OPEN TO THE LORD AND EAGER TO DO HIS WILL.

III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. "And God said, 'Let there be light,'" FIRST SONGS FOR LITTLE CHILDREN, p. 24 (all verses)
2. "This is the day that the Lord has made," LAUREL SONGBOOK #50 (Copy attached to Lesson #1)
3. "This is the day that the Lord hath made," FIRST SONGS FOR LITTLE CHILDREN, p. 22
4. "The Lord created you and me," LORI'S SONGS II (tape). Side 2

B. Activities

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- C. Project for the Seventh Day of Creation
 - 1. Picture of God the Creator (see below)

- D. Cumulative Projects (*continued over 7 Sunday School lessons on Creation*)
 - 1. Creation Poster: As students learn about each day of the creation story, they picture what was created on individual posters or a group mural. With the final lesson, the poster will be filled with the Lord's creations. (See detailed explanation, attached.)
 - 2. Creation Collage Book: This project is described in the enclosed excerpt from *Art in Education* by Beth Johns. Each page of the book is a collage representing one day of creation.
 - 3. Folding Screen: Same as collage book, but tape the pages together to create a folding screen-like decoration. (See attached "Variations on Creation Project".)
 - 4. Diorama
 - i. Backdrop on poster board with play dough/salt ceramic/plasticine figures of animals and people set in front.
 - b. Diorama that can be taken apart and then used again to act out the 7 days of creation one day at a time. (*See following lessons on 7 days of creation.*)

IV. Teaching Aids

V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. Dole's Bible Study Notes, Vol. I, "The Creation - A General View," Genesis 1; 2:1-3; "The creation - The Seventh Day," Genesis 2:1-7.

- B. The Sower, Vol. I, "The Five Books of Moses," (pp. 1-4); "The Creation," Genesis 1 (pp. 5-12).

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Creation Project for the Seventh Day

I. God the Creator

A. Materials needed for each child:

1. 12"x18" piece of paper
2. markers, crayons or oil pastels
3. gold glitter, crayons or markers

B. Motivation:

1. Show the children pictures of the Lord. The Lord is our Father, the Shepherd, the Teacher, and baby Jesus. The Lord is also the Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them, isn't He? Let's make a picture of the LORD THE CREATOR. What do you think the Lord looks like? How can you show that He is the Creator? What if we put some of the things the Lord created in the picture with Him?

C. Procedure:

1. Think about how you want to arrange your picture. Do you want to put the face of the Lord in the center of the page and the things He created in a circle around Him? Or do you want to make a picture of the Lord standing on the earth He created, showing something for each day of creation?
2. Draw the Lord on the paper, making His clothes bright yellow or white.
3. Don't forget to make something for each day of Creation in your picture:
 - a. 1st day: light and darkness separated
 - b. 2nd day: oceans, lakes or rivers beneath, clouds above
 - c. 3rd day: land and plants
 - d. 4th day: sun, moon, and stars
 - e. 5th day: birds and fish
 - f. 6th day: animals and people
4. Make a title for your picture: THE LORD THE CREATOR

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From *Art in Education* by Beth Johns

THE DAYS OF CREATION

A Collage Book
(each page representing one day)

Optional: Tape the pages together to create a long, folding screen-like book or decoration.

- First Day: Torn paper bits of many toned light and dark papers. The children actually separate the light from the dark, and then paste them to the background.
- Second Day: Torn paper bits of metallic and tissue papers for sky and water, separated and pasted as before.
- Third Day: Torn paper pieces in earth tones and greens creating scene for dry land and growing things.
- Fourth Day: Gold paper sun, silver paper moon cut and pasted on black with many sticker stars added.
- Fifth Day: Bright paper, birds and fish cut out and pasted against pale blue. Blue cellophane covering lower part of page for sea.
- Sixth Day: Many cut-paper shapes of animals and people.
- Seventh Day: Simple red and white background representing Love and Wisdom at rest. Suitable quotation carefully copied in best printing.

Creation Story Mural

Rendered in collage materials similar to the above on several large panels for a school decoration. It is much more elaborate detail by older children.

Note: the above projects are deliberately described in very sketchy terms to give plenty of latitude for development by individual teachers. Very often, especially for the Christmas projects, glitter, sequins, and other bits of special material have been offered. This adds an exciting touch and makes the product seem more worthy as a gift. It should be emphasized once more that all of these projects work only when the children's affections are aroused so they relive the episode almost as if it were their own experience. "Let's show how the Wise Men held their gifts with both hands because they were the most precious things they could bring to the Lord." "Think how desperate Peter must have felt when he began to sink in the water and how the Lord's strong arms reached forward to help him." "Just imagine the magnificence of that shining golden city coming down from God out of heaven!" If the inspiration is vivid and immediate the children's work will powerfully show their response.

And He rested on the seventh day.

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