

Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program
Preschool Lessons, Phase 1 - Lesson 10
Summary of Creation and Thankfulness (Genesis 1,2; Psalms 92:1, 100:1-3)

Theme: Thanks for Creation

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. Everything the Lord created is for the sake of mankind. (TCR 67)
- B. The Lord requires that we give thanks for our own sake so that we might come into a state receptive of His love. (AC 5957)
- C. It is good to give thanks to the Lord for all the blessings He has given us

II. Story Circle

- A. Introduction (Use a visual aid to review Creation)
 - 1. Do you remember the story of Creation?
 - a. **On the First Day** God said, "Let there be light." And He called the light Day and the darkness Night.
 - b. **On the Second Day** God made the sky, and He divided the rains from the seas below. And He called the sky Heaven.
 - c. **On the Third Day** God made the dry land appear and called it Earth. He called the waters Seas. And He made the grass, the herb, and the fruit tree, which gives us fruit and has its seed in itself.
 - d. **On the Fourth Day** God said, "Let there be lights in the sky to divide the day from the night." So He made the sun, the moon, and the stars.
 - e. **On the Fifth Day** God said, "Let the waters be filled with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth." So God made the animals of the sea and the birds of the air.
 - f. **On the Sixth Day** God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures." And God made the animals that live on the land. Then God created man in His own image; male and female He created them. And God blessed them. And He gave them the plants and animals for their use.
 - g. **On the Seventh Day** God rested from all His work, which He had done. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy.
 - 2. The Lord made everything—the sun, the moon, and the stars; the land and seas; the plants and the animals. Then He made us and gave us all these things to use and enjoy! They are a present for us from the Lord. What do you say when someone gives you a present? (Yes, we say "thank you.")

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3. Remember David, the shepherd boy, who killed the giant, Goliath? He wrote some beautiful songs thanking the Lord. Let's read parts of two of them from the Lord's Word.

B. Read/Tell the Story

1. Read Psalm 92:1 and Psalm 100:1-3.

C. Ideas to Discuss

1. David wrote those songs to thank the Lord. What could you do to thank the Lord for everything He gives to us?
 - a. You could say "thank you" to the Lord.
 - b. You could sing a song of thanks to the Lord.
 - c. You could go to church to worship the Lord. (Talk about the special Thanksgiving service with the fruit offering.)
2. We talked about how the Lord gave us the plants and animals and all the rest of Creation. What else did the Lord give us?
 - a. He gave us the Word. (Show children the Word.) It is a special letter from the Lord to each one of us, isn't it?
 - b. He gave us the church. It is a wonderful place to worship the Lord and learn more about Him.
 - c. He gave us our home and our families, too.
 - d. We have many things to thank the Lord for!

D. Further Ideas

1. Why should we say "thank you" to the Lord? Would the Lord be angry if we didn't? (No, He wouldn't be angry, but He might be sad.) When we think about all the wonderful things the Lord gives us, we realize how much He loves us. When we say "thank you," the Lord knows that we love Him, too. And that makes the Lord happy.

III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. "Thank you Lord, for food this day," *Lori's Songs From the Word III*, Side 2, 13th song.
2. "When I'm Happy I Like to Sing," *First Songs for Little Children*, p. 1.
3. "Wonder Song," *First Songs for Little Children*, p. 23.
4. "All Things So Bright and Beautiful," *Hymnal*, #118.

B. Activities

1. Look at creation books.
2. Do creation fingerplay (see attached).

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C. Project: A "Thank You" Page

Give each child a large piece of construction paper. Have them draw what they are thankful for, such as the sun, plants and animals, the Word, their homes, etc. (This may be turned into a sticker project with stickers of plants and animals and precut sun, home, and Word.)

IV. Teaching Aids

A. Books on Creation for illustrations

B. A bowl of fruit for discussion of the fruit offering at the Thanksgiving service.

C. *The Lord Gives Us Everything* (available from the Office of Education).

V. Further Reading for the Teacher

THE LORD MADE ME

A Fingerplay

The Lord (hands raised) made the sun (arms circle overhead).

The Lord (hands raised) made the tree (arms like a tree).

The Lord (hands raised) made the earth (spin as if on axis).

And the Lord (hands raised) made me!

(hug yourself to show how the Lord loves you)

Thank you, Lord, (hands folded) for making the sun (arms circle overhead).

Thank you, Lord, (hands folded) for making the tree (arms like a tree).

Thank you, Lord, (hands folded) for making the earth (spin as if on an axis).

And thank you, Lord, (hands folded) for making me!

TEXT SLIPS FOR PROJECT

*Oh, give thanks unto the Lord,
for He is good!
For His mercy is forever.
Amen.*

(Psalm 106:1)

*Oh, give thanks unto the Lord,
for He is good!
For His mercy is forever.
Amen.*

(Psalm 106:1)

*Oh, give thanks unto the Lord,
for He is good!
For His mercy is forever.
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(PSALM 106:1)