


Understanding the Home Guide



God Created Us

Scripture Focus: Genesis 1:26–31

Lesson Goals

- to state that God created human beings
- to explain that God created us to love and to be loved
- to describe God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

Parent Preview

- Review the Featured Story on page 22 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:26–31).
- Read the Background Reflection on page 2 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.
- Review this home guide chapter.

Get Ready! (10 minutes)

- Pray** the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.
- Discuss** with your child what it feels like to create something and what we feel about the things we make.
- Tell** your child that today's lesson introduces something very special and important that God has made.

Discover! (20 minutes)

- Read** with your child the article "We Created to Love and to Be Loved" on the second page of this home guide chapter. Review the key words. Use the review questions to check your child's understanding.
- Invite** your child to complete the activity on page 3 of the chapter 1 activity booklet. *Answers: Father, Son, Holy Spirit, Holy Trinity*

Dive In! (20 minutes)


- Read** the Featured Story on page 22 of *The Catholic Children's Bible* (Genesis 1:26–31).
- Ask** your child these questions:
 - What does the passage tell us that God made? (*human beings, animals, and plants*)
 - What did God say about human beings? (*We will be like God. We will have many descendants.*)
 - How did God feel about what he made? (*God was very pleased.*)

Read the Understand It!, Live It!, and Tell It! sections on page 23 of *The Catholic Children's Bible*.

Invite your child to complete the activity on page 2 of the chapter 1 activity booklet. *Answers: 1. human beings; 2. children (or descendants); 3. in charge; 4. grain, fruit; 5. pleased*

Go! (10 minutes)

- Invite** your child to share one thing she or he learned from today's lesson.
- Choose** one of the Family Activities on page 4 of the chapter 1 activity booklet to complete together during the next week.
- Invite** your child to locate the turtle on the lower left of page 22 in *The Catholic Children's Bible*. Encourage your child to find the image of the turtle on the folder. It can be found in five different places.
- Conclude** by praying the prayer on page 1 of the chapter 1 activity booklet.



The **Lesson Goals** section identifies the key desired outcomes of the chapter.

The **Parent Preview** section offers steps parents can use to prepare for the lesson.

The **Get Ready!** part of the lesson begins with an opening prayer and an activity that will spark interest in the lesson focus.

The **Discover!** part of the lesson involves a short reading to support understanding.

The **Dive In!** part of the lesson involves direct use of *The Catholic Children's Bible* and learning through a key Bible story.

The **Go!** part of the lesson invites the child to recall what he or she learned and closes the lesson with a fun activity and a prayer.

The reading on this page relays important information related to the lesson.



We Are Created to Love and to Be Loved

When you draw or decorate a birthday card for your mom or dad, how do you feel when you show parents? How do you feel when they put on the refrigerator or the bathroom mirror, you can see it every day? Now imagine how you would feel if they just threw it away.

Today's reading from the Book of **Genesis**, tells us that God created something special: human beings. He created us to love and to be loved. He also created us to respect and care for all the animals and plants he created. And he gave us the special responsibility of loving and respecting all people—the ones we know, and the ones we don't know.

God wants us to work together in peace and love, just as the **Holy Trinity** does. The Holy Trinity is the **mystery** of three Persons in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God the Father created us out of love, and he is always with us. He sent his Son, Jesus, to teach us how much the Father loves us. God sent the Holy Spirit to be with us all the time. The Holy Spirit reminds us that God loves us! The Holy Spirit also helps us love God and love each other.

Just as we want the people to love the things we create, God wants us to love the things he created. How can you care for the things you created this week?

The **Key Words** section highlights any words in the reading that may need additional definition.

Key Words

Genesis The first book of the Bible; the word genesis means creation or beginning.

Holy Trinity Three Persons in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

mystery Something difficult or impossible to understand.

We Know and Live Our Faith

The following articles and activities in the *We Know and Live Our Faith* resource correspond to the concepts introduced in this lesson:

- "God Made the World," page 6
- "God Made You" + activity, pages 7–8
- "God Wants You to Know Him and Love Him," page 9
- "Three Persons in One God" + activity, pages 10–11

If you have additional time, read the selections together, and invite your child to complete the activities.

The **Review!** section offers several questions that reinforce key concepts from the lesson. Answers are provided.

Review

1. Who created human beings?
2. What is the Holy Trinity?
3. How can you show people you know that you love and respect them? What about people you don't know?

Turn this page upside down to check your answers!

1. God. 2. Three Persons in one God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. 3. Accept all reasonable responses.

The **We Know and Live Our Faith** resource provides additional content that can be used to support the lesson.

