

Lesson 1 – God’s Gifts

Grade 2 – Chapter 1

KEY CONCEPT

God is the Creator of all that is good. Jesus is God’s greatest gift. Jesus is the Son of God.

QUICK SESSION OVERVIEW

STEP 1 - WELCOME

STEP 2 - INVITE

STEP 3 - DISCOVER

STEP 4 - LIVE

STEP 5 - CLOSING

HELPFUL HINT OF THE DAY

Welcome students and thank them for coming

-From day one it is important to convey two things: that you care about the candidates and that you are excited.

-Introduce yourself. Tell them a few things about you and your life – where you grew up, favorite sports team, favorite ice cream, why you decided to be here with them

-Take a few minutes and go around the class, asking each person to introduce themselves and share something like you did

-Let them know that you will be praying for them throughout the year. Encourage them to start praying for each other

-Remember what Theodore Roosevelt wrote: “People don’t care how much you know, until they know how much you care.”

STEP 1 - WELCOME

TIP

Community Activity – coloring sheet

STEP 2 – INVITE

TIP

Let us Pray:

- **Read prayer in prayer space.**
- **Make sure children are making the sign of the cross correctly.**

God's Word

- **Use this poem after the opening prayer, before explaining that God created everything.**
- **Read the poem.**
 - **Ask: What are some ways you are different and alike from your family members?**
 - **After connecting how we learn about family and God through stories, transition back to the lesson instruction.**

God Made Me

- **I thank God for making me just as I am.
My hair is like Mom's and my beliefs like Gramps.
I know that God loved me before I was born.
I will love him back forevermore.**

STEP 3 – DISCOVER

TIP

Praise and Thanks

- **Read paragraphs.**
- **Discuss why it's important to give thanks to God and people.**
- **Stress the activity and underline the things that make people different from the rest of God's creatures.**

In God's Image

- **Read the paragraph.**

God's Word

- **Can read scripture passage and follow directions.**
 - **Alternative: Do What Was Jesus' favorite hobby activity (see attached sheet)**

The Son of God

- **Read paragraphs**
- **Ask question**
- **Do All Creation is Good worksheet**

Alike but Different

- **Read paragraphs**
- **Put 2 columns on board and write How I'm like Jesus and How I'm Different from Jesus.**

STEP 4 – LIVE

TIP

Our Catholic Life

- **Read question and discuss question**
- **Can do Making Use of God's Gifts**
 - **Alternative: Creation Walk outside if it is nice.**

People of Faith

- **Tell Children about Blessed Virgin Mary**
- **Learn the Hail Mary**
 - **Can use flash cards to help children learn the prayer. Play games with having children arrange the cards correctly to form the prayer. Have the boys vs the girls do the cards. Make up games and then have everyone recite the prayer again.**
 - **Someone to Watch over you sheet**

Care for Creation (pg 302 – 303)

- **Read the paragraphs and talk about ways you can care for God's creation**
- **God Takes Care of us All activity**

Take Homes:

- **Remind Children to share Family and Faith section**
- **Chapter Review page**

STEP 5 – CLOSING

TIP

Prayer

- **Do the Blessing Prayer and have the children participate.**
- **Follow the Liturgy link suggestion regarding the sign of the cross**

Chapter 1 Activity Master

Name _____ Date _____

All Creation Is Good

Color the pictures of God's creation. Write the name of the gift on the lines below the pictures.

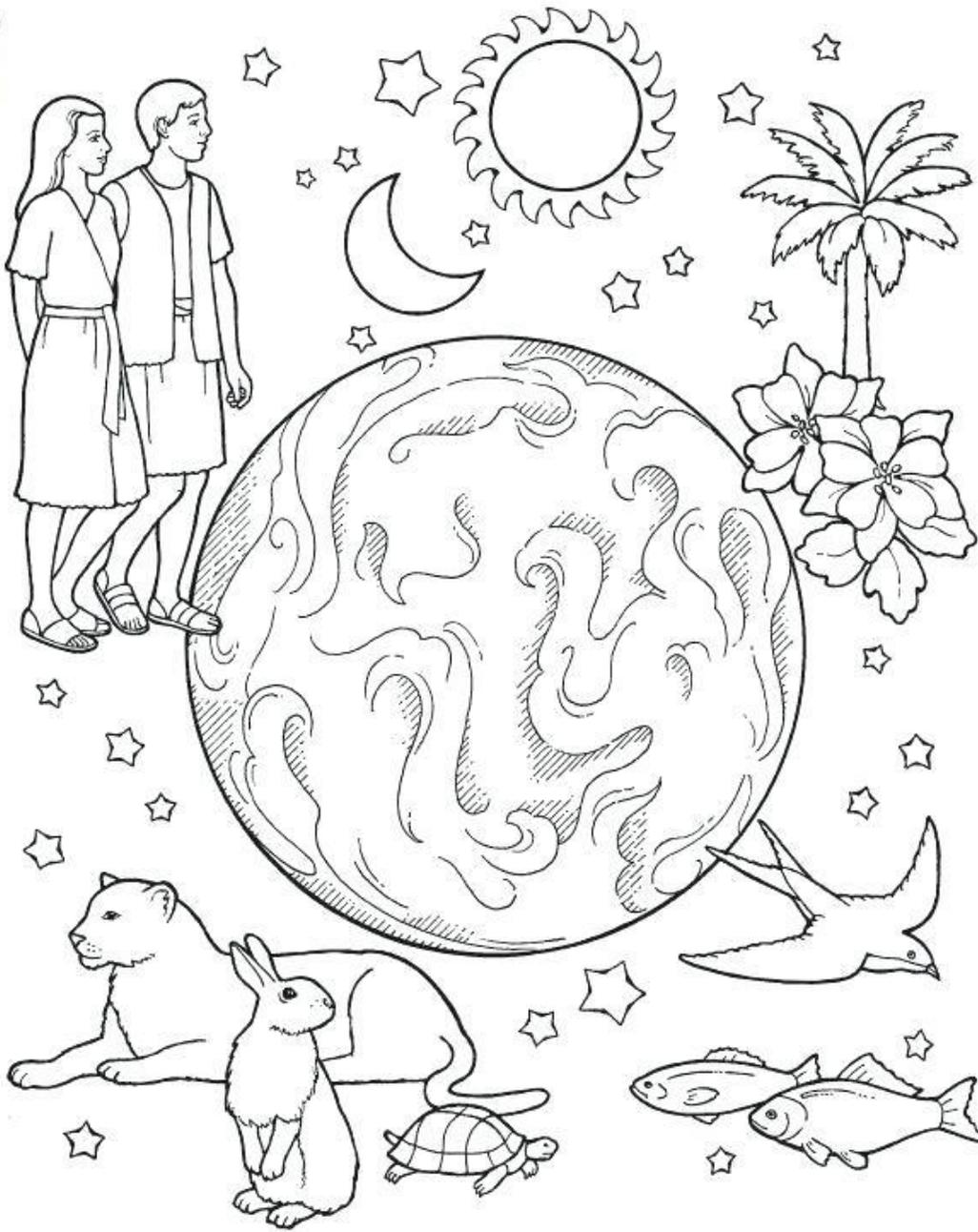




e Our Sunday Visitor







The Creation

God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good (Genesis 1:31).

Tree-"God takes care of us ALL!"



Have the children paint a large paper plate green. Have them lay their arm and hand on a piece of brown construction paper. Trace and cut out to make the tree trunk. Have the children attach the tree trunk as shown. Have the children use an leaf shaped paper punch to punch leaves for the tree or have them rip small pieces of tissue paper and ball the pieces to make leaves. Glue the leaves to the tree.

Cut out a verse for each child to glue to the tree. The verse reads:

**Through the Winter, the Spring,
the Summer, the Fall,
God takes care of us all.**

Someone to Watch Over You

Name _____

When Jesus was on the cross, he said to his disciple John, "Here is your mother." Jesus gave Mary to all of us to be our loving and watchful mother. Like all mothers, Mary wants the best for her children. She listens as we pray to Jesus and adds her prayers to ours. Solve the puzzle to see what Jesus wants all of us to call Mary.



Now that you have come to know more about Mary, here is a special prayer to Mary that you can cut out, hang in your room, and use to pray to Mary every day.





What Was Jesus' Favorite Hobby?

Theme:

God gives each of us talents and abilities.

Bible Reference:

Luke 2:46-47

Simple Supplies:

A Bible; a sports ball, baseball mitt, or anything having to do with sports; a book; a tambourine or any small musical instrument; a watercolor set or anything that represents art; and a large bag to put everything in

What is a hobby? *Let the children respond.*

In my bag, I have different items that represent hobbies. *Pull out a sports ball.* Clap your hands if one of your favorite hobbies has to do with sports. *Pull out a book.* Tap your foot if your favorite hobby has to do with books or computers. *Pull out the tambourine and the watercolor set.* Shout "Hooray!" if your favorite hobby is something musical or artistic. Raise your hand if you have a hobby other than the hobbies I just mentioned. *Ask children who raised their hands about their hobbies.*

Have you ever wondered what Jesus' favorite hobby was? I have. Since his dad here on earth was a carpenter, I've wondered if Jesus liked to work in the wood shop during his free time. Or maybe he liked to read. We can ask Jesus what he liked to do when we get to heaven. Won't that be great? In the meantime, let's think about some verses found in the Bible. We'll discover something about how Jesus liked to spend his time when he was twelve years old. *Open your Bible to Luke 2:46-47.* Listen to this: "After three days they (Jesus' parents) found Jesus sitting in the Temple with the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and answers."

After hearing these verses, what do you think Jesus liked to do? *Let children respond.* I think that Jesus liked to spend time thinking and learning about God and the Bible. He may have loved playing games and going to the marketplace, but we know he also enjoyed hanging out with the church teachers and talking about God.

One thing I've learned is that we don't have to be in church to learn about God. We can be playing baseball, reading books, painting pictures, or listening to music, and we can still learn about God.

Also, it's important to share with others what we know about God. In what

ways can we can share Jesus with others while we do things we enjoy? How can you use your hobby to share Jesus with those around you? *Let children share.*

Isn't it great that God gives us all different talents and hobbies?

♥ Let's thank God for our different hobbies with a popcorn prayer. Any time you want during the prayer, pop up and say "Thank you, God, for baseball (or whatever your hobby is)" as we talk to God. I'll close our prayer after you've each had a chance to pray. *When everyone has had a chance to pray, close by saying **Amen.*** ♥