God’s Big Story: Creation – it was good!

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| scripture focus |
| Genesis 1-2 |

big picture

In the beginning, God created our world and everything in it, and then said that it was good – and it was! God cares for and loves this good world. God created humans in God’s own image and said we were good, which means that every single person is precious and wonderful and worthwhile. God gave Adam and Eve (and all humans) the job of taking care of creation – just like God takes care of us and everything God makes. God created Eve to be both different from Adam and united with him, sharing the same flesh and fellowship with God: they were perfect partners and helpers for each other, participating together in the life of God and the mission God gave them. God also created us to be different from each other: to depend on each other and love each other well, to help each other take care of creation. We were created to be friends with God and share in God’s life and joy with each other; to live full lives as we worship and obey and walk with God in community, just as Adam and Eve did in the Garden of Eden.

|  | storybooks | bible readings |
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| read aloud | *Jesus Storybook Bible:* p.18-27  (“The Beginning: A Perfect Home”)  *Psalms for Young Children:*  Psalm 8, 95, 100, 104, 136 | Genesis 1-2  Psalms 8, 104  Job 38-41 (older kids)  Ephesians 2:10 |
| discuss/ ask | What are some of your favorite parts of God’s creation? Are there any places that are really special to you (mountains, ocean, forest, etc.)? What makes them special to you?  How are you unique? What makes you different and special? How can you use your gifts to help take care of God’s creation?  If every single person in the world is made in the image of God, what does that mean about how they should be treated? | |
| do together | Keep your eyes open to the wonder in God’s creation. At the end of each day (maybe at mealtime), name one thing you noticed and found wonderful, and thank God for creating it.  Go on an outdoor outing together and make it a time of discovery.  Plant something together and care for it (it’s a great time for bulbs).  Choose something to do together to take care of God’s creation (simple ideas [here](https://kidshealth.org/en/parents/go-green.html)).  Focus on seeing each person you encounter in a day as somebody wonderful, made in God’s image. Talk as a family about how that changed the way you interacted with them. | |