



LIVING THE WORD

*Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 4*



Teacher's Guide

Sample Lesson

Lesson #4-1—September 12, 2021

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Lesson #4-1

GOD'S GOOD CREATION

Genesis 1:1-2:4a



Key Verse:

God saw everything that [God] had made, and indeed, it was very good.
Genesis 1:1-2:4a

The Point:

God declares that creation is good.

Making Connections:

God Provides Blessings

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

What is the Bible?

Spiritual Practice:

Worship



ACTIVITIES A LA CARTE

ACTIVITIES

SUPPLIES

STORY CENTERS (PK-K)

15 MIN.

CLAY CREATIONS

Create a mini-world.

† Play clay

ANIMAL NAMES

Play with stuffed animals.

† Stuffed animals

HEAVENS AND EARTH

Separate the waters from the dry land.

† Sand and water play table

† Optional: dish pans containing sand and water

INTO THE STORY (PK-2ND)

GOD, THE ARTIST

Introduce the story of the day.

5 MIN. † None

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS (1ST-2ND)

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

The Bible is a library.

5 MIN. † Bible
† One or more book series sets (boxed sets if possible)

ACTIVITIES A LA CARTE

LEARNING THE STORY (PK-2ND)

IN THE BEGINNING...

Use props to learn the story of creation.

15 MIN.

- † Activity Sheet #4-1.A
- † Flashlight
- † Fan or squirt bottle of water
- † Sealed container of water
- † Container of dirt or soil
- † Fruit, vegetables, houseplants, leaves, etc.
- † Pictures of stars, planets, galaxies
- † Pictures of fish and birds
- † Pictures of land animals
- † Mirror
- † Hand stamp
- † Washable stamp pad
- † Pillow
- † Large box
- † Optional: stuffed animals

SINGING THE STORY (PK-2ND)

Sing a piggyback song to the tune of
“Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.”

5 MIN.

- † None

LIVING THE STORY (PK-2ND)

GOOD CARE/BAD CARE

We are made to care for God’s creation.

10 MIN.

- † Book
- † Board game
- † Plant
- † Picture of a pet
- † Healthy snack

ACTIVITIES A LA CARTE

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

GOD SAID...BOOKLET (PK-2ND)

Create a booklet to tell the story of creation.

- 15 MIN.**
- † Activity Sheet #4-1.B
 - † Scissors
 - † Stapler
 - † Art supplies (see activity for suggestions)
 - † Optional: glue sticks, construction paper

ACTING THE STORY: CREATION (PK-2ND)

Use imagination to act out the story.

- 10 MIN.**
- † Children's story Bible

MADE IN THE IMAGE (1ST-2ND)

Handprint art to show God's image.

- 10 MIN.**
- † White cardstock paper
 - † Washable paint
 - † Paintbrush
 - † Marker
 - † Access to soap, water, and towels
 - † Optional: jumbo washable stamp pad

BIBLE BOOK (PK-2ND)

Optional ongoing activity.

- 5 MIN.**
- † Bible Book page (found at end of lesson)
 - † Card stock or plain paper
 - † Pens
 - † Markers or crayons
 - † Optional: three-ring binders, hole punch

SENDING THE STORY (PK-2ND)

- 10 MIN.**
- † Large cross
 - † Stickers

BACKGROUND FOR TEACHERS

Making Connections

The Narrative Lectionary, just like the Bible itself, begins with the story of creation. This is the story of beginnings. In fact, our name for this book of the Bible comes from the Greek word for “origin.” How a story begins is critical to understanding the story as a whole.

Story Summary:

God’s Good Creation

It is in the first verse of Genesis where we meet the main character of the Bible: God. But all ancient peoples had one (or more) god, so how do we know which god we are talking about? Genesis introduces God as the Creator of all things. This is the God we are talking about.

This creation is good. From ancient times to now, some religious people have thought that the physical world is somehow bad or second-rate. The story of creation in Genesis, however, repeats over and over that what God created was called good. And if God called the world of energy and matter good, then it is good!

Not only does the story of Creation emphasize that all of creation is good, but it also emphasizes that humans (both male and female) are created in God’s image. The “image of God” has much depth in meaning, but this lesson focuses on the fact that this makes each student special and beloved of God, and that we have the responsibility to treat all other image-bearers of God with love and respect.

Notes:

- *You do not always have to know the answer! It is fine to tell a student, “Hey, that is a great question! I do not have a great answer for you now, but let me find out and tell you next Sunday, okay?” This makes the student feel great and encourages them to dig deeper into the topic.*
- *The first day of Sunday school can be busy, so do not worry if you cannot get to everything. If things get too crazy, focus on the “Learning the Story” and “Living the Story,” only moving to the others if you have time.*
- *Each week, there will be an ongoing Student Bible Book project that you can choose to use as an additional activity. Instructions and a page template will be included at the end of each lesson, before the student take home pages.*

The Point

God declares that creation is good. From the earliest days, God has blessed and cared for God’s people. God created this beautiful world and all that it contains to provide for God’s people. The relationship between humankind and creation is reciprocal. In God’s loving wisdom, God provided all that we need in this complex, mysterious creation.

Bible Nuts & Bolts:

What is the Bible?

In addition to exploring the lectionary text of the week, each lesson will introduce something about the structure of the Bible to the students. This week, students will discover that the Bible is not truly one book, but instead a library of books put together into one volume. You can also think of the Bible as a book series. As in many book series, there are the individual stories told in each book, but there is a larger story or plot arc that includes the entire series. The Bible does not follow one human character throughout the different books; instead the main character is God. The Bible is God’s story of love and faithfulness to God’s whole creation.

Spiritual Practice: Worship

Each lesson will also incorporate one of four spiritual practices: worship, prayer, service, or fellowship. Activities will be included to help the students dive deeper into these spiritual disciplines while also learning more about the lesson topic. This week we begin with worship.



LESSON PLAN



STORY CENTERS (PK-K; 15 MINUTES)

Story Centers are mini-activities designed specifically for preschool and kindergarten students. Depending on the size of your class, you can set these up as centers for in-class rotations or do them as a whole class one after another. In most preschool and kindergarten classes, these centers along with a snack, the “Learning the Story” activity, and the “Living the Story” activity will fill the education time, but feel free to choose any activity you think would be fun and appropriate for your class.

CLAY CREATIONS

Allow students to create their own mini-world with clay. Don’t forget the trees, animals, birds, and fish!

ANIMAL NAMES

Encourage students to pretend they are creating all of these new and unique animals. What interesting new names can they give these creations?

HEAVENS AND EARTH

Provide a sand and water table (or use dish pans if a table is unavailable). Allow students time to play in the sand and water, creating heaven and earth and separating the waters from the dry land.

INTO THE STORY (PK-2ND; 5 MINUTES)

GOD, THE ARTIST

Introduce the story of the day.

You will need:

- † Nothing

During class:

1. **Raise your hand if have done an art project at home or school?** Most students will raise their hands.
2. **What does it mean to do an art project?** [*Make something, create, make something that is pretty.*]
3. **Art is something that we create. You have an idea, you get some crayons or markers or play dough, and then you make your idea!**
4. **That is similar to what God did in our story today. God had so much love inside that God wanted to create something to love. God had an idea, and then made this whole universe. God is the best artist around! We say that God is the *Creator*. Today we're going to talk about God creating the whole world and saying that it is very good! God loves the whole world and especially you!**

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS (1ST-2ND; 5 MINUTES)

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

The Bible is a library.

You will need:

- † Bible
- † One or more book series sets (boxed sets if possible)

During class:

1. Hold up the Bible. **What is this?** [*A Bible.*]
2. **Is the Bible one book or lots of books?** [*Students may choose either option, ask them to explain their answers.*]
3. **In fact, the Bible is actually a library. Packed between these book covers are 66 books. There are books of stories, books of songs, books that talk of the past and books that talk of the future.**
4. Hold up a book series set. Say: **This is a book series. It is about** (describe the main characters and their adventures in one sentence).
5. **The Bible is like a book series. But it doesn't just follow one character** (or set of characters) **like this book series. Who do you think the main character is in the Bible?** [*God.*] **The Bible is the story about God and God's love for the whole world, even when people make very bad choices. Today, we're learning about the very first story in the very first book of the whole Bible, the story of creation.**

LEARNING THE STORY (PK-2ND; 15 MINUTES)

IN THE BEGINNING

Use props to learn the story of creation.

You will need:

- † Activity Sheet #4-1.A
- † Flashlight
- † Fan or squirt bottle of water
- † Sealed container of water
- † Container of dirt or soil
- † Fruit, vegetables, houseplants, leaves, etc.
- † Pictures of stars, planets, galaxies, etc.
- † Pictures of fish and birds
- † Pictures of land animals
- † Mirror
- † Hand stamp
- † Washable stamp pad
- † Pillow
- † Large box
- † Optional: stuffed animals

During class:

1. Put all of the props in the large box or otherwise keep them from view.
2. Reading from Activity Sheet #4-1.A, display the props after the appropriate passage has been read.
3. As an alternative, after each section has been read, have a student go to the box and find an item that matches what was just read.

LIVING THE STORY (PK-2ND; 10 MINUTES)

GOOD CARE/BAD CARE

We are made to care for God's creation.

You will need:

- † Book
- † Board game
- † Plant
- † Picture of a pet
- † Healthy snack

Before class:

1. Before serving any food, always check with participants or caregivers for students who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

During class:

1. **In Genesis, we learn that God created everything. That means that everything belongs to God, even you. So everything that you have and all that you are belongs to God. We are only borrowing our things, our minds, and our bodies from God. In church, we say that this makes us stewards and how we use our things and our lives is called "stewardship." It's kind of like this book. Raise your hand if you've ever checked out a library book or borrowed a book from someone. (Most students will raise their hands.)**
2. **How are you supposed to treat your library or borrowed book?** [*Very carefully, give it back when you're done.*]
3. **Just like we are supposed to treat this library book carefully because it does not belong to us, we are supposed to treat our world, our things, other people, and ourselves carefully because they all belong to God. God loves everyone and everything very much.**
4. **Now we are going to play a little game. I am going to hold something up and you are going to tell me how you could use or treat it badly and how you can use or treat it well.**
5. Hold up the board game. **How can you treat this badly?** [*Throw it around, break it.*]
6. **How can you treat it well?** [*Be careful, play it nicely.*]
7. **How can you use this game to help other people?** [*You can play the game with someone and help them have fun.*]

8. Adapt these questions for each item you brought. Before you discuss and share the snack, talk about your hands [*Use badly by hitting, etc., use well by hugging and helping*], and your body [*Treat badly by eating junk food, treat well by eating healthy food and exercising.*]
9. **Treating people and things well and taking good care of them is practicing good stewardship. God loves you more than you can ever understand and God wants us to practice good stewardship. How do we know if we're being good stewards, or good caretakers? Jesus gave us a simple rule: Love God and love others. The more we practice these, the better stewards we are.**

SINGING THE STORY (PK-2ND; 5 MINUTES)

THE CREATION SONG

Sing a piggybank song to the tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.”

God created day and night
The blue water, sky so bright
Plants and fruits and veggies too
Sun and moon and me and you.
God is filled with so much love
God gave us everything to love!

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

GOD SAID...BOOKLET (PK-2ND; 15 MINUTES)

Create a booklet to tell the story of creation.

You will need:

- † Activity Sheet #4-1.B
- † Scissors
- † Stapler
- † Art supplies (see chart below activity instructions for suggestions)
- † Optional: glue sticks, construction paper

Before class:

1. Make copies of Activity Sheet #4-1.B (all six pages) for each student.
2. For the younger students, or to save time in class, cut out the ten page boxes from the copies of Activity Sheet #4-1.B.

During class:

1. If it has not already been done, have students cut out the ten page boxes on Activity Sheet #4-1.B.
2. Have students write their names on the title page.
3. Beginning on page 1, read to students (or have older students read aloud) the text on each page and then have students glue or draw an illustration for each page, using the suggestions in the table below.
4. When students are finished with all of the pages, or if you run out of time, staple the pages together to make a booklet.
5. If desired, students can glue each page to a half-sheet of construction paper to make a more colorful and sturdy booklet.

Page #	Topic	Suggested Illustration
1	Void	Rectangles of black construction paper Black crayons or markers for coloring
2	Light	Rectangles of yellow construction paper Yellow crayons or markers for coloring
3	Sky	Cotton balls, or white or grey construction paper (clouds)
4	Land, Sea, Plants	Small (1" square) pieces of sandpaper (land) 3" length of blue yarn (sea) Green crayons or markers for drawing plants Beans, rice, or other seeds
5	Stars and Moons	Star stickers Glue dots and glitter
6	Sea Creatures and Birds	Crayons or markers for drawing Multicolored art feathers Stickers of sea creatures and birds Magazines for cutting out pictures
7	Land Animals	Crayons or markers for drawing Stickers of pets, farm animals, wild animals, bugs Magazine for cutting out pictures
8	People	Crayons or markers for drawing Magazine for cutting out pictures
9	Rest	Happy face stickers



ACTING THE STORY: CREATION (PK-2ND; 10 MINUTES)

Use imagination to act out the story.

You will need:

- † Children's story Bible

During class:

1. **I am going to read our creation story. I want you to stand up, and use your imagination to act out this story as I read. You don't all have to do the same thing; feel free to move however you want. What types of things will you need to be?** [*Darkness, earth, water, sun and stars, land, heavens, animals, birds, fish, humans.*]
2. Read the story of creation out loud from a simple children's story Bible. As you read, encourage the children to act out the story.

MADE IN THE IMAGE (PK-2ND; 10 MINUTES)

Handprint art to show God's image.

You will need:

- † White cardstock paper
- † Washable paint
- † Paintbrush
- † Marker
- † Access to soap, water, and towels
- † Optional: jumbo washable stamp pad

Before class

1. Recruit an additional volunteer or two to help.

During class:

1. **When God made people, God made us in God's own image. That doesn't mean that God looks like us with two eyes and hands and feet. God made us so that we can love people and the whole creation, just like God does.**
2. **An image is like a handprint or a footprint. Does your handprint look like you?**
[No.]
3. **We are going to make a handprint, or an image, of you to give to someone you love. That way, you can both remember that you are made in God's image.**
4. Write, or have students write, "[Name] is made in God's image!" on the top or bottom of the paper.
5. Using the paintbrush, brush a thin layer of paint on each student's hand (or both hands if using a full sheet of cardstock) and help them carefully press their hand(s) onto the center of the paper.
6. As an alternative, use a jumbo washable stamp pad to make the handprints.
7. Students can decorate the border of the paper with finger-painted fingerprints if desired.
8. Have students wash their hands.

BIBLE BOOK (PK-2ND; 10 MINUTES)

Optional ongoing activity.

You will need:

- † Bible Book page (found at end of lesson)
- † Card stock or plain paper
- † Pens
- † Markers or crayons
- † Optional: three-ring binders, hole punch

Before class

1. Make copies of this week's Bible Book page on card stock or copy paper for each student.

During class:

1. Pass out Bible Book pages.
2. Read the bottom of the Bible Book page aloud, reminding students of what they learned in the lesson.
3. Have them put their names on their pages, and draw a picture of something they particularly liked or remember from story in the middle of the page.
4. Optional: Collect and three-hole punch the pages, and put them in individual binders for each student to be kept at church until the end of the year. If you wish, you can investigate other options for binding the Bible books through a local print shop at the end of the year instead of using a three-ring binder.

SENDING THE STORY (PK-2ND; 5 MINUTES)

PRAYER

Before ending class, make a point to come together to pray. Use the following or say your own prayer. Tell the kids there will be a place in the prayer for them to thank God for their favorite parts of creation.

Creator God,

You made everything! We love that you have made... Invite students to add in things in creation that they find amazing. **Help us to take care of your world. Thank you that you made us in your image. Help us to treat everyone with love and care. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

IN THE BEGINNING...

Use props to learn the story creation.

Passage	Props/Actions	Questions/Explanations
In the very beginning, there was nothing but God. But, God wanted a creation to love.		
Genesis 1:1-2	Action: Turn off the overhead lights or have students close their eyes.	In a story, the beginning tells you about what the story is about and the characters in the story are like. What is the first thing we learn about God in Genesis? <i>[God is a loving God who creates.]</i>
So God said, “Let there be light!” And the first light shone in the darkness. And, God saw that it was good!		
Genesis 1:3-5	Action: Turn on the lights or shine the flashlight at the students.	In this story of Creation, what was the first thing that God created? <i>[Light.]</i> How did God describe the light? <i>[It was good.]</i> Listen for that word “good” in this story. It will show up again!
And God said, “Let there be air to breathe and clouds to bring rain!” So God created the sky. And God saw that it was good!		
Genesis 1:6-8	Prop: Fan or squirt bottle of water. Action: Blow air at the students or squirt them with water.	For the rest of the passage, have the reader say, “And God saw...” and coach the other students to respond, “that it was good!”
And God said, “Let there be water in the seas, oceans, rivers, and lakes. Let there be land, soil, rocks, and mountains!” And so God created our world of water and land. And God saw that it was good!		
Genesis 1:9-10	Props: Sealed container of water, container of soil or dirt.	Ask: What is good about land or soil? <i>[Answers will vary, but may include: It gives us something to walk on, plants grow in it.]</i>
And God said, “Let there be plants to cover the earth with green. Short grass and tall trees, plants that grow in the water and on the mountains. Plants that grow good things to eat.” So God created every plant that grows, fruit and vegetables, flowers and trees. And God saw that it was good!		
Genesis 1:11-13	Props: Fruit, vegetables, houseplants, leaves, etc. If you have fruits or vegetables, have them washed and cut up for students to eat.	What are some of your favorite fruits? What are some of your favorite vegetables? What are your favorite plants? <i>[Answers will vary.]</i>

IN THE BEGINNING...

Use props to learn the story creation.

Passage	Props/Actions	Questions/Explanations
<p>And God said, "Let there be stars and planets sprinkled throughout the universe; a sun and moon to give light to the earth!" So God created the stars and planets, sun and moon, and all of the wonders of the universe. And God saw that it was good!</p>		
Genesis 1:14-19	Props: Pictures of stars, planets, galaxies, etc.	Show the pictures of the astronomical objects. Aren't these amazing and beautiful? God made them all! And God saw... <i>[That it was good!]</i>
<p>And God said, "Let there be creatures that swim and sway in the waters: fish, whales, crabs, and jellyfish. And let there be birds to fly through the air, dive into the waters, and run through the deserts!" So God created the creatures that swim and sway in the waters and birds to flit and fly through the air. And God saw that it was good!</p>		
Genesis 1:20-23	Props: Pictures of fish and birds	Animals are amazing! Birds and fish and every animal fit where they live perfectly. Creation is like God's art gallery! What are your favorite fish? Favorite bird? Why? <i>[Answers will vary.]</i>
<p>And God said, "Let there be animals to walk and run on the earth, climb the trees and dig under the ground. Cats and dogs, horses and pigs, snakes, turtles, and lizards, frogs and toads, and bugs everywhere!" So God created all of the animals on the earth, big and small, cute and scary. And God saw that it was good!</p>		
Genesis 1:24-25	Props: Pictures of land animals or stuffed animals	Go around the room and have some or all of the students act out their favorite land animal.
<p>Then God said, "Let me make people. Big people, small people, of all different colors in eyes and skin and hair. Let me make them in my own image, stamp them so they are like me, able to love and create and do wonderful things!" So God created people, girls and boys, women and men. God created all people with the stamp of God in them. And God made them so they could take care of each other and the world God had made.</p> <p>God looked at everything in creation and was happy. And God saw that it was very good!</p>		

IN THE BEGINNING...

Use props to learn the story creation.

Passage	Props/Actions	Questions/Explanations
Genesis 1:26-31	Prop: Mirror, hand stamp and washable stamp pad	<p>This is the biggest part of the creation story! When God created humans, God made girls and boys, women and men in God's image! It was like God put a stamp on every person and said, "This one is mine and I love them!" Who did God make in God's image? Hold up the mirror so the students can see themselves. Have the students say: "ME!"</p> <p>Give each student a stamp on the hand so they can remember that they were made in God's image.</p>
<p>When all of the creation was finished, God made one more special thing, a gift to all people. God made a special day of rest. God gave this day to the creation as a day to enjoy all that was made, a special day to be with God. And God called it the seventh day, the Sabbath.</p>		
Genesis 2:1-3	Prop: Pillow	<p>In this story, we get to know God as the Creator, and we learn that everything in all of creation is good. We learn that God made people in God's image. Now God gives us a new lesson. What does God want us to do on the seventh day? [<i>Rest, enjoy the creation, spend time with God.</i>]</p> <p>We need to take time to rest, to enjoy God's creation and to be with the people we love!</p>

GOD SAID...BOOKLET

Create a booklet to tell the story of creation.

God said...

The Story of Creation

Name: _____

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In the Beginning...

...there was nothing.

GOD SAID...BOOKLET

Create a booklet to tell the story of creation.

Then, God said, “Let there be light...”

...and there was light!

2

God said, “Let there be sky...”

...and there was sky!

3

GOD SAID...BOOKLET

Create a booklet to tell the story of creation.

God said, “Let there be land and seas, fruit and vegetables, plants of every kind...”

...and God saw that it was good.

4

God said, “Let there be stars and planets, suns and moons, amazing things to fill all of space...”

...and God saw that it was good.

5

GOD SAID...BOOKLET

Create a booklet to tell the story of creation.

God said, “Let there be fish and dolphins, sea turtles and seals, animal that live and play in the water. And let there be birds of every shape and size and color to delight in flying through the air...”

...and God saw that it was good!

6

God said, “Let there be dogs and cats, cows and sheep, lizards and snakes, frogs and all sorts of bugs...”

...and God saw that it was good!

7

GOD SAID...BOOKLET

Create a booklet to tell the story of creation.

God said, “Let me make humans, girls and boys, women and men, in beautiful shades of brown and black, tan and white, all different, but yet the same. Let us make them all in my image, so when they love each other, they can see me.”

And God saw that it was VERY good!
8

God looked at all that was created, and loved it all. God gave a special gift to this creation: Rest. Rest to enjoy God and all that was made.

And God was full of joy!
9

GOD'S GOOD CREATION

Genesis 1:1-24a

THE POINT:

God declares that creation is good.



THE STORY @ HOME

**KIDS
PK-2ND**

NL

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story
Narrative Lectionary, Year 4 (2021-2022)

Lesson #4-1
Genesis 1:1-2:4a

THIS WEEK

The Narrative Lectionary, just like the Bible itself, begins with the story of creation. This is a story of beginnings. In fact, our name for this book of the Bible, Genesis, comes from the Greek word for "origin."

STORY SUMMARY

God's Good Creation

In the first verse of Genesis we meet the main character of the Bible: God. Genesis introduces God as the Creator of all things. This creation is good. The story of creation in Genesis repeats over and over that what God created was called good. And if God called the world of energy and matter good, then it is good! Not only does the story of Creation emphasize that all of creation is good, but it also emphasizes that humans (both male and female) are created in God's image. This lesson reminds us that each of us is special and beloved of God, and that we have the responsibility to treat all other image-bearers of God with love and respect.

PRACTICE: WORSHIP

Each lesson incorporates one of four spiritual practices: worship, prayer, service, or fellowship. This week we begin with worship. As a family, go outside and look around at God's beautiful creation. Take turns naming what you see, then thank God together for God's good creation"

THE POINT

God declares that creation is good.

BIBLE NUTS & BOLTS

What is the Bible?

"In addition to exploring the lectionary text of the week, each lesson will introduce something about the structure of the Bible to the students. This week, students discovered that the Bible is not truly one book, but instead a library of books put together into one volume. You can also think of the Bible as a book series. As in many book series, there are the individual stories told in each book, but there is a larger story or plot arc that includes the entire series. The Bible does not follow one human character throughout the different books; instead the main character is God. The Bible is God's story of love and faithfulness to God's whole creation

NEXT WEEK

Next week, the early story of God's provision for God's people continues as we look at how God provides for Abraham.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✚ Where do you see the message that "It is GOOD" in this Scripture?
- ✚ What does this Scripture have to do with our lives today?
- ✚ What part of this Scripture is the most interesting to you? Why?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Genesis 1:1-2:4a

God created everything, and it was good! Take turns naming things that God created. After each person shares, respond together, "And it was GOOD!"

Monday—Read Genesis 2:7-9, 15, 18-25

In this second creation story, Man is given a partner to help care for creation. What are things your family can do to help care for creation?

Tuesday—Read Genesis 3:8-19

Adam and Eve's sins are discovered. Adam places the blame on Eve, and Eve in turn blames the serpent for their bad behavior. Talk about times it was tempting to blame someone else for something that you did wrong.

Wednesday—Read Genesis 12:1-9

God promises to bless Abram. Consider the history of your family. How do you see God's blessing throughout the generations? Go outside and try to count the stars.

Thursday—Read Genesis 15:1-6

God promises that Abram's descendants will be as numerous as the stars. This seems like an impossible promise, especially because Abram and Sarai were nearing 100 years old.

Friday—Read Genesis 17:15-21

God changes Abram and Sarai's names and promises blessings. The meaning of names can be powerful. If you don't already know them, go online to find the meaning of the names of your family members.

Saturday—Read Genesis 18: 1-15

The Lord appears to Abraham and Sarah. Sarah is so startled by God's promises that she laughs at the improbability. Share a time you were surprised by God's ability to keep a promise.