## Teacher Training Unit 1 Session 1: God Created the World January 19, 2025

In Genesis 1–2, we encounter one of Scripture's most well-known passages: the creation story. This account is not a mere children's story; it is foundational to understanding our God as Creator. Faith is a necessary component of believing this biblical account and in trusting the goodness of the triune God whose hand has been at work since the beginning.

So, how do we find Jesus within the creation account?

To understand Jesus within the context of Genesis 1–2, we must focus on how God chose to create the heavens and the earth. He did not simply point at the formless void and silently fashion it into existence; rather, He used His voice to speak. **Hebrews 11:3** declares, "By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible." God spoke, and creation was formed.

Throughout the New Testament, Jesus is referred to as "the Word of God," meaning He is the fulfillment of God's promises made manifest in the world. Because we know that God has always existed as three-in-one, we can know that Jesus, the Word, was there at the dawn of creation and present as the Father spoke and the Spirit hovered over the waters (**Genesis 1:1-3**). Later in **Genesis 1:26**, God says, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness." We see that mankind was created in the image of our three-Person God, this verse recognizing the Trinity's presence.

The apostle Paul later wrote in <u>Colossians 1:16-17</u> that everything was created by Jesus, through Jesus, and for Jesus. He was before creation, and by Him all things are held together; the Word has been present since the beginning.

As you prepare this session, pray that God makes His truths known to the children whom you teach. Ask for clarity in your words as you proclaim His truths. May God grant faith to the hearers of this Bible story, that the simplicity of the creation account would take root in their hearts that He created, just as His words took form in the beginning.

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