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ELEMENTARY LEADER GUIDE—UNIT 1

**Flexible curriculum that nurtures
lifelong disciples of Jesus**

Enduring Faith Bible Curriculum can be used during Sunday School, Midweek programs, small groups, and homeschool—*any time, any day* your congregation meets weekly. With several age levels, the curriculum supports your church's members at whatever stage of life they are to sustain faith that endures for a lifetime.

LESSON	LESSON TITLE / TEXT
1	A Mighty Wonder—Creation <i>Genesis 1:1–2:3</i>
2	The Fall and a Promise—Fall into Sin <i>Genesis 3</i>
3	A New Beginning—Noah <i>Genesis 6:11–22; 7:11–24; 8:13–22</i>
4	A Call to Action—Abram <i>Genesis 12:1–9</i>
5	A Promising Dream—Jacob <i>Genesis 28:10–22</i>
6	Hope in Hardship—Joseph <i>Genesis 37; 45:1–10; 50:20</i>
7	Fiery Directions—Moses <i>Exodus 2:23–3:22</i>
8	The Egypt Exit—Exodus <i>Exodus 14</i>
9	A Loving Law—Ten Commandments <i>Exodus 20:1–21</i>
10	The Land at Last—Joshua <i>Joshua 3:1–4:18</i>
11	A Judge Leads—Gideon <i>Judges 7:1–23</i>
12	A Prophet Serves—Samuel <i>1 Samuel 3</i>
13	A King Forever—David <i>1 Samuel 16:1–13; 2 Samuel 5:1–5; 7:4–17</i>
14	The King's Table—Mephibosheth <i>2 Samuel 4:4; 9:1–13</i>

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Illustrations by Lon Eric Craven © Concordia Publishing House

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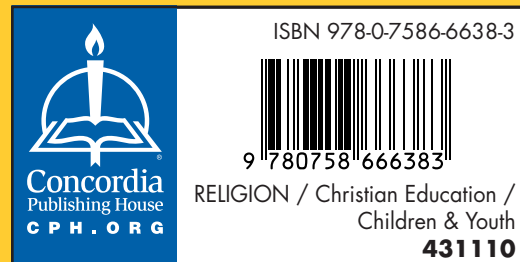
Your comments and suggestions concerning this material are appreciated.
Email us at sundayschool@cph.org.

Manufactured in the United States of America

ENDURING
FAITH®
Sunday School • Midweek
Bible Curriculum

ELEMENTARY LEADER GUIDE

Unit 1: God Creates a World and a Kingdom



TIMELINE A

Written Sumerian language appears in Mesopotamia
3100 BC

Pyramids of Giza built
ca. 2550 BC

Stonehenge erected in England
ca. 2500 BC

First permanent settlements appear in North America
ca. 2000 BC

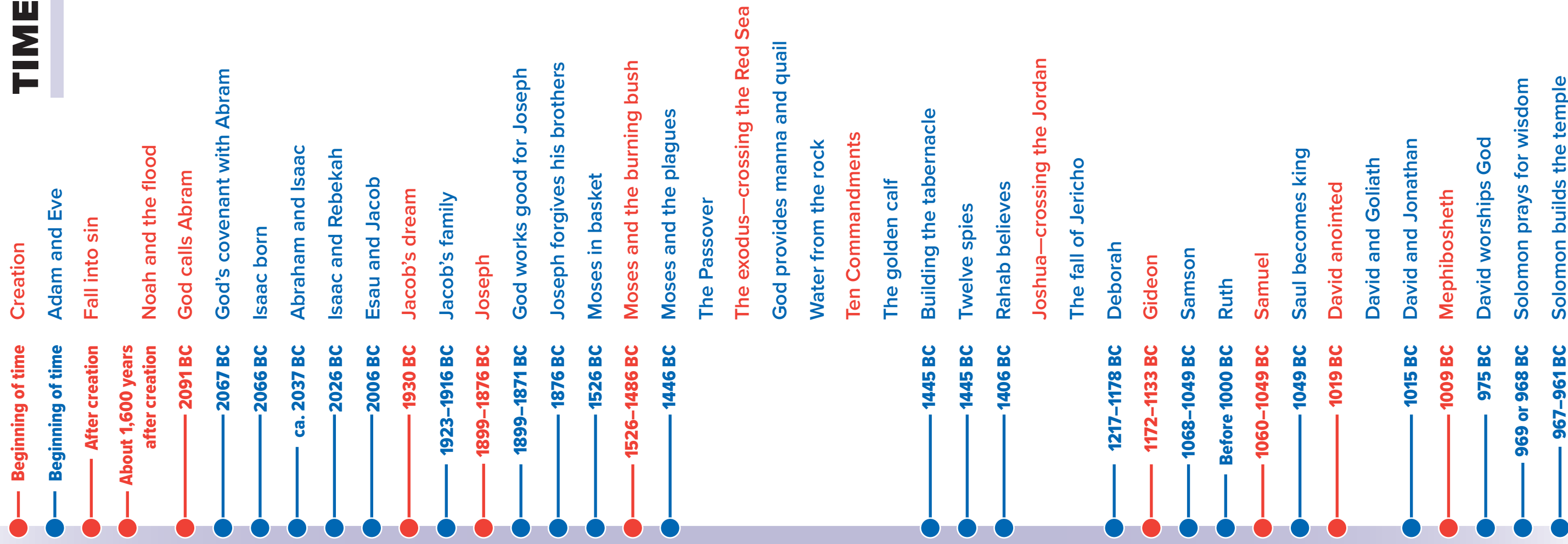
Shang dynasty founded in China
1760 BC

KEY

Bible Survey

Old Testament
Exploration

World history



Ramses the Great becomes pharaoh of Egypt
1279 BC

Feudal system established in China
1046 BC

The Maya settle the Yucatán Peninsula
ca. 1000 BC

ADDITIONAL LEADER HELPS

MAKE YOUR OWN LIBRARY OF CPH RESOURCES

Throughout the teacher-preparation sections, we have pointed to some key resources that would benefit you to have on hand as you prepare your lessons.

The Lutheran Study Bible (CPH, 2009), also referred to as *TLSB*

Lutheran Service Book (CPH, 2006), also referred to as *LSB*

Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation (CPH, 2017)

Know the Bible Now (CPH, 2016)

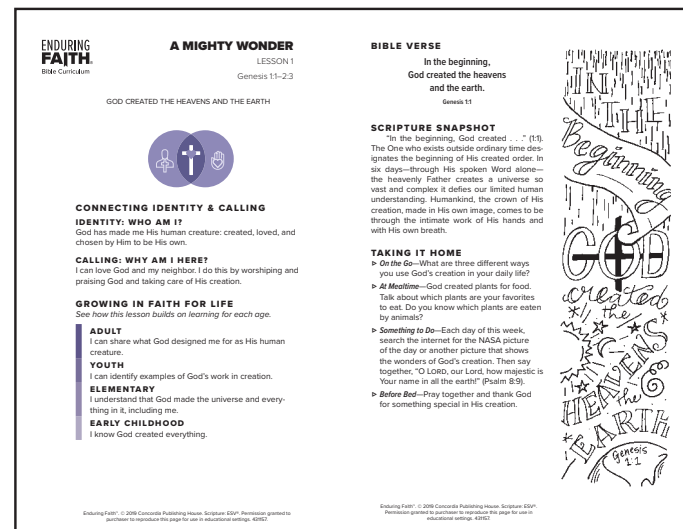
Concordia's Complete Bible Handbook, second edition (CPH, 2013)

ONLINE RESOURCES

Go to the online digital resource center for the Planning Guide, Pastor Guide, Unit Planner, Leader Devotions, and Lesson Openings. Ask your coordinator for access to the online digital resource center to get these materials.

ENDURING FAITH PAGES

When you lead a group of such a wide range of ages and abilities as this level is intended for, it's always a good idea to have something extra for students to do. Depending on your setting, you may have students who arrive at different times. You may have students who finish activities faster than others. Find the Enduring Faith Pages in the online digital resource center and download them for copying. Each page has an illustrated version of the day's Bible Verse. Have extras of these ready for students to color or decorate in those extra minutes of class time.



MUSIC

Download music from the online digital resource center. Songs and hymns have been chosen and used over the course of several lessons so students have an opportunity to learn and practice them so they understand and remember them. If you aren't comfortable teaching children to sing a song, play the music in the background as students enter your classroom or work on projects during the lesson or at the end of class. Together with students, sing along and enjoy God's Word in song.

MAKE THIS YOUR OWN

We recognize that no two classrooms are the same. Each group of students is unique. Different teachers and students have differing backgrounds and abilities. You may have a large group of students of similar ages. You may have a small group of students with a wide age difference. You may have some mix of both. You may have students who are just learning to read and some who are advanced readers. You may have students who know these Bible narratives well and some students who have never heard them before. All this may change from week to week.

We hope we have provided you a framework of options to share the unchanging Word of God in creative and flexible ways. Choose from the options in the road map of this Leader Guide to make the lessons work best for your students in your setting. Know that we at Concordia Publishing House are praying for you as you do the important work of sharing the precious love of Jesus with His children.

ENDURING FAITH BIBLE CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The Enduring Faith Bible Curriculum features a Christ-centered, three-year chronological survey of Bible history with uniform outlines across all levels. The materials have been designed to help you teach the Christian faith in age-appropriate ways, with the goal of helping your students grow deeper in their understanding of God's Word.

- Year 1 is an overview of the Bible and its major themes, tracing God's plan of salvation from Genesis to Revelation.
- Year 2 looks at the Old Testament in depth.
- Year 3 looks at the New Testament in depth.
- There are three units per year, with fourteen lessons per unit; this allows for a seasonal lesson in each unit. Teachers can choose to teach the seasonal lesson when Thanksgiving, Christmas, or Easter occurs, or disregard it if they wish to stick with the chronology.
- There are four overlapping levels plus materials for a one-room classroom. Here is a handy chart that shows the focus of the levels and how all the levels connect:

Level	Age Range	Objective	Summary Word
Early Childhood	Preschool through grade 1, nonreaders	Discover the account	Know
Elementary	Grades 1 through 6	Explore the context	Grow
Youth	Grades 6 through 12	Defend the faith	Go
Adult	Grade 11 through adult	Equipped to teach	Show
One-Room Classroom	Preschool through grade 6		

FEATURES OF THE EXPLORE BIBLE GUIDEBOOK FOR STUDENTS

You will need one guidebook per student.

Page 1

- Bible narratives are written in age-appropriate ways.
- Colorful Bible art illustrates lesson narratives.
- Additional interesting facts about key figures are provided in the narratives.

Page 2

- Colorful and engaging visuals and text help students of different ages learn more in-depth information about each Bible narrative.
- For visual learners, there are many and varied pictures. For strong readers, there is additional text to share interesting Bible facts. There's something for everyone!
- Additional Scripture connections are provided for students who are adept at using their Bibles.

Keep the *Explore Bible Guidebook* in your classroom or with your materials to use every week. At the end of the unit, send the guidebooks home with students for use as personal devotions or for family Bible story reading.

HOW TO USE THE ELEMENTARY LEADER GUIDE

OVERVIEW

The Overview lets you see the biblical foundation of each lesson at a glance. All levels share the same Bible Truth, Bible Verse, Law & Gospel, and Scripture Snapshot, allowing families to learn together. The Learner Goal is unique to each level.

PAGE 1 LEADER GUIDE

OVERVIEW
BIBLE TRUTH God created the heavens and the earth.
BIBLE VERSE In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1
LEARNER GOAL I understand that God made the universe and everything in it, including me.
LAW & GOSPEL We forget or even refuse to believe that God is our Creator and the giver of all good things. God gives us faith to believe that He created the heavens and the earth and that He continues to provide us with all good things, especially life and salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ.
SCRIPTURE SNAPSHOT "In the beginning, God created..." (1:1). The One who exists outside ordinary time designates the beginning of His created order. In six days—through His spoken Word alone—the heavenly Father creates a universe so vast and complex it defies our limited human understanding. Humankind, the crown of His creation, made in His own image, comes to be through the intimate work of His hands and with His own breath.

LESSON PREP
BASIC Read Genesis 1:1–2:3 and notes in *The Lutheran Study Bible*.
MORE TIME Read through the "Challenges for Readers" section in the introduction to Genesis in *The Lutheran Study Bible*, page 9.
IN DEPTH Read *In the Beginning, God: Creation from God's Perspective* by Joel Heck, especially part 1.

SUPPLY LIST
FOR THIS LESSON
 Blocks, Lego building blocks, or play dough
 Drawing supplies
 Poster paper or paper plates
FOR EVERY LESSON
 Device with downloaded music
 Pens or pencils
 Student copies of *Explore Bible Guidebook*
 Bible
 Copies of downloadable activity page
 Supplies for bonus activities

LESSON PREP

Use these suggestions for your own Bible study as you prepare to lead this lesson.

BASIC Begin here—read the full Bible text.

MORE TIME Go past the basics.

IN DEPTH Gain a deeper understanding of the narrative and its context.

SUPPLY LIST

FOR THIS LESSON Check this list for items you will need specifically for this lesson.

FOR EVERY LESSON Use this checklist as a reminder of items that you need on hand for every lesson.

DOWNLOADABLE PAGE HELPS

To reinforce learning, each lesson has an extra paper-and-pencil activity page that can be downloaded from the online digital resource center.

Look here for a thumbnail of the page and suggestions for use as well as answers you may need.

PAGE 4 LEADER GUIDE

DOWNLOADABLE PAGE HELPS
 Make copies of the downloadable activity page by accessing the digital resource center. Use the helps below as a guide.
 Guide students as they draw simple figures in each box to help them remember what happened on each day of creation. Remind them that the drawings are to help them remember God's amazing work, not for judging their artwork.
 Younger students can create simpler drawings, while older students may make more complex drawings. You can draw simple figures in each box along with your students to encourage them to make the artwork in their own style and to the best of their ability.

CONNECTING IDENTITY & CALLING
IDENTITY: WHO AM I? God has made me His human creature: created, loved, and chosen by Him to be His own.
CALLING: WHY AM I HERE? I can love God and my neighbor. I do this by worshiping and praising God and taking care of His creation.

GROWING IN FAITH FOR LIFE
 See how this lesson builds on learning for each age.

ADULT I can share what God designed me for as His human creature.
YOUTH I can identify examples of God's work in creation.
ELEMENTARY I understand that God made the universe and everything in it, including me.
EARLY CHILDHOOD I know God created everything.

BONUS ACTIVITIES
PICTURE IT 10 minutes
 Use the picture book *God Made It for You!* by Charles Lehmann to tell the story. If you have more younger students, they might respond better to this method of presentation.
MAKE A MURAL 20–30 minutes
 As a class, make a giant wall mural of the days of creation, or make seven posters. If you have a larger class, you could divide into groups and let each group make a poster for one day.
TAKE A TRIP 25–35 minutes
 Take a nature walk. Point out all the things you see that God created. Students could try to name which day of creation the sights were created on.

BONUS ACTIVITIES

Look here to find a variety of creative ways to complement, add to, or extend the lesson.

PAGE 2 LEADER GUIDE

LAUNCH
PRAY Dear Lord, bless us as we gather to study Your Word today. Help us to learn how You created all things. Amen.
SING "Builder of Everything"
 "God, Who Built This Wondrous Planet"
 Music can be found in the digital resource center.
SAY What kind of things do you like to build or make? Even when we make things from scratch, we start with some ingredients. Let's see what God used to create the universe.

LEARN
READ "A MIGHTY WONDER"
 Read the Bible narrative aloud to your students, or ask volunteers to take turns reading sections. Fill in a chart in front of the class that records what was created each day.
DO SOMETHING
FOR A LARGER GROUP Review the Bible narrative by having students work in pairs or trios to develop an action to represent each day. Have an older student say the day number and what was created that day, and then have the other students do the actions.
FOR A SMALLER GROUP Use paper plates as your base, and have students work in pairs to draw what was created on each day (one plate for each day). Have them hold up the corresponding plate as you reread or retell the creation story.
KEY DISCUSSION POINTS
 • Through your group activity, help students identify what God created on each day.
 • Help students see the orderly and amazing way that God made the universe and continues to keep it going.
 • God spoke creation into being. It was not an accident.
 • Note how God declared the work of each day "good." God's creation was made to work together in wonderful concert.
 • The high point of this narrative is the creation of both male and female.

LEADER NOTE If you have confident readers, have them read this account directly from their Bibles.

BONUS ACTIVITY Check "Make a Mural" on the back page for a fun way to reflect on the days of creation.

LAUNCH

Start your lesson here by opening with prayer.

If your students haven't had an opportunity to sing with the larger group, music suggestions are provided here to connect with the day's lesson. Find downloadable music in the online digital resource center.

Use the "Say" section to engage students and introduce the day's narrative.

LEARN

Here's the heart of your lesson, the Bible narrative. Use the *Explore Bible Guidebook* to share the Bible story with your students.

Look in the "Do Something" section for teaching and review activity options.

Use the "Key Discussion Points" to guide you, but make the lesson your own.

All of these are options. You know your group better than anyone. Choose from all the options to make a lesson that fits your students best.

SIDEBARS

Notes in the sidebars provide options to help you individualize each lesson to fit your group.

Leader Notes give options and helps.

Explore Bible Guidebook reminds you to hand out the student books.

Christ Connection points to Christ in the narrative.

Bonus Activity suggests options for adding to or extending the lesson.

Downloadable Page points to the digital resources to be used at this point in the lesson.

LIVE

Now that you and your students know the Bible narrative, you can dig a little deeper into the context of the story. Use the second page of the *Explore Bible Guidebook* to learn new and interesting facts about the Bible narrative.

Then use the "Talk about It" section to discuss how this narrative matters in the daily lives of your students.

Use the "Check for Understanding" suggestions to wrap up your lesson.

LEAVE

Send your students out into the world by reminding them of the day's Bible Truth. Collect the student books for use in the next lesson.

Close each lesson by singing the Doxology or the Lord's Prayer. Close with prayer.

PAGE 3 LEADER GUIDE

LIVE
EXPLORE THE CONTEXT
 Before you start the discussion questions, page the *Explore Bible Guidebook* for further details about God's amazing work of creation.

TALK ABOUT IT
 Choose from the following questions. For a few helps, encourage students to look in the *Explore Bible Guidebook*.
 ▶ What is your favorite thing that God made?
 ▶ How do you think God could make all this?
 ▶ God didn't stop giving us gifts when He finished creation on the sixth day. What other gifts does God continue to give us?
 ▶ What evidence do you see in our world or in your life of how God continues to keep His creation going?
 ▶ What are some ways we can care for God's creation?

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE TOGETHER
 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS
 • Read John 1:1 to consider creation and the Trinity.
 • Help students to see that Jesus was with God in the beginning. The Word was Jesus (the Word made flesh!).
 • Reread Genesis 1:2.
 • Look who else was there at creation—the Holy Spirit! This is something that may really click for older students in your group. Younger students may not get it just yet.

CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING
 As you close for the day, check for understanding by asking students to review the creation events. Listen for the Bible Truth in their retelling.

LEAVE
SAY Praise God for He created the heavens and the earth.
 Our verse for today reminds us of that: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).
SING "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
 "The Lord's Prayer"
 Music can be found in the digital resource center.
PRAY Thank You, heavenly Father, for creating such a wonderful world for us. Help us to care for Your creation and share the love of Jesus with everyone. In Your name we pray. Amen.

DOWNLOADABLE PAGE
 Extend learning by printing the downloadable activity page, found in the digital resource center. See the back page of this guide for details.

CHRIST CONNECTION
 God built everything, but sometimes we forget that He still takes care of it! Even though we mess it up with our sin, God didn't leave us on our own. He sent His Son to be our Savior.

LEADER NOTE
 Remember to collect student copies of the *Explore Bible Guidebook* for use in class again next week.



CONNECTING IDENTITY & CALLING

IDENTITY: WHO AM I?

God has made me His human creature: created, loved, and chosen by Him to be His own.

CALLING: WHY AM I HERE?

I can love God and my neighbor. I do this by worshiping and praising God and taking care of His creation.

GROWING IN FAITH FOR LIFE

See how this lesson builds on learning for each age.

ADULT

I can share what God designed me for as His human creature.

YOUTH

I can identify examples of God's work in creation.

ELEMENTARY

I understand that God made the universe and everything in it, including me.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

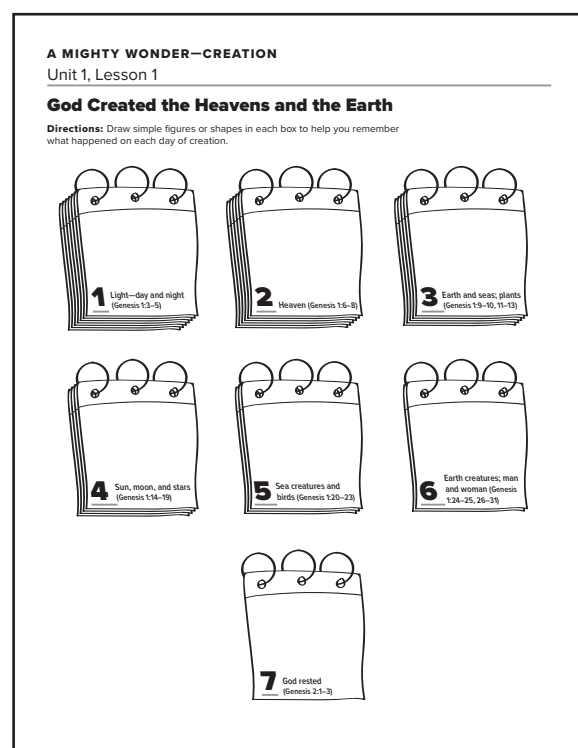
I know God created everything.

DOWNLOADABLE PAGE HELPS

Make copies of the downloadable activity page by accessing the digital resource center. Use the helps below as a guide.

Guide students as they draw simple figures in each box to help them remember what happened on each day of creation. Remind them that the drawings are to help them remember God's amazing work, not for judging their artwork.

Younger students can create simpler drawings, while older students may make more complex drawings. You can draw simple figures in each box along with your students to encourage them to make the artwork in their own style and to the best of their ability.



A MIGHTY WONDER

Creation
Genesis 1:1–2:3
Beginning
of time

OVERVIEW

BIBLE TRUTH

God created the heavens and the earth.

BIBLE VERSE

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1

LEARNER GOAL

I understand that God made the universe and everything in it, including me.

LAW & GOSPEL

We forget or even refuse to believe that God is our Creator and the giver of all good things.

God gives us faith to believe that He created the heavens and the earth and that He continues to provide us with all good things, especially life and salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ.

SCRIPTURE SNAPSHOT

“In the beginning, God created . . .” (1:1). The One who exists outside ordinary time designates the beginning of His created order. In six days—through His spoken Word alone—the heavenly Father creates a universe so vast and complex it defies our limited human understanding. Humankind, the crown of His creation, made in His own image, comes to be through the intimate work of His hands and with His own breath.

LESSON PREP

BASIC Read Genesis 1:1–2:3 and notes in *The Lutheran Study Bible*.

MORE TIME Read through the “Challenges for Readers” section in the introduction to Genesis in *The Lutheran Study Bible*, page 9.

IN DEPTH Read *In the Beginning, God: Creation from God's Perspective* by Joel Heck, especially part 1.

SUPPLY LIST

FOR THIS LESSON

- Blocks, Lego building blocks, or play dough
- Drawing supplies
- Poster paper or paper plates

FOR EVERY LESSON

- Device with downloaded music
- Pens or pencils
- Student copies of *Explore Bible Guidebook*
- Bible
- Copies of downloadable activity page
- Supplies for bonus activities
- cph.org/digitalcontent

BONUS ACTIVITIES

PICTURE IT

10 minutes

Use the picture book *God Made It for You!* by Charles Lehmann to tell the story. If you have more younger students, they might respond better to this method of presentation.

MAKE A MURAL

20–30 minutes

As a class, make a giant wall mural of the days of creation, or make seven posters. If you have a larger class, you could divide into groups and let each group make a poster for one day.

TAKE A TRIP

25–35 minutes

Take a nature walk. Point out all the things you see that God created. Students could try to name which day of creation the sights were created on.



LEADER NOTE

Give each student a handful of blocks, Lego building blocks, or play dough. Tell them to build whatever they can in two minutes. Then talk about how hard it is to build things even when you have something to start with. God made the world out of nothing.



GUIDEBOOKS

Hand out student copies of the *Explore Bible Guidebook* and turn to Lesson 1.



LEADER NOTE

If you have confident readers, have them read this account directly from their Bibles.



BONUS ACTIVITY

Check “Make a Mural” on the back page for a fun way to reflect on the days of creation.

LAUNCH

PRAY Dear Lord, bless us as we gather to study Your Word today. Help us to learn how You created all things. Amen.

SING “Builder of Everything”
“God, Who Built This Wondrous Planet”
Music can be found in the digital resource center.

SAY **What kind of things do you like to build or make? Even when we make things from scratch, we start with some ingredients. Let’s see what God used to create the universe.**

LEARN

READ “A MIGHTY WONDER”

Read the Bible narrative aloud to your students, or ask volunteers to take turns reading sections. Fill in a chart in front of the class that records what was created each day.

DO SOMETHING

FOR A LARGER GROUP Review the Bible narrative by having students work in pairs or trios to develop an action to represent each day. Have an older student say the day number and what was created that day, and then have the other students do the actions.

FOR A SMALLER GROUP Use paper plates as your base and have students work in pairs to draw what was created on each day (one plate for each day). Have them hold up the corresponding plate as you reread or retell the creation story.

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- Through your group activity, help students identify what God created on each day.
- Help students see the orderly and amazing way that God made the universe and continues to keep it going.
- God spoke creation into being. It was not an accident.
- Note how God declared the work of each day “good.” God’s creation was made to work together in wonderful concert.
- The high point of this narrative is the creation of both male and female.

LIVE

EXPLORE THE CONTEXT

Before you start the discussion questions, use the *Explore Bible Guidebook* for further details about God’s amazing work of creation.

TALK ABOUT IT

Choose from the following questions. For a few helps, encourage students to look in the *Explore Bible Guidebook*.

- ▶ **What is your favorite thing that God made?**
- ▶ **How do you think God could make all this?**
- ▶ **God didn’t stop giving us gifts when He finished creation on the sixth day. What other gifts does God continue to give us?**
- ▶ **What evidence do you see in our world or in your life of how God continues to keep His creation going?**
- ▶ **What are some ways we can care for God’s creation?**

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE TOGETHER

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- Read **John 1:1** to consider creation and the Trinity.
- Help students to see that Jesus was with God in the beginning. The Word was Jesus (the Word made flesh)!
- Reread **Genesis 1:2**.
- Look who else was there at creation—the Holy Spirit! This is something that may really click for older students in your group. Younger students may not get it just yet.

CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

As you close for the day, check for understanding by asking students to review the creation events. Listen for the Bible Truth in their retelling.

LEAVE

SAY Praise God for He created the heavens and the earth. Our verse for today reminds us of that: “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (Genesis 1:1).

SING “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
“The Lord’s Prayer”
Music can be found in the digital resource center.

PRAY Thank You, heavenly Father, for creating such a wonderful world for us. Help us to care for Your creation and share the love of Jesus with everyone. In Your name we pray. Amen.



DOWNLOADABLE PAGE

Extend learning by printing the downloadable activity page, found in the digital resource center. See the back page of this guide for details.



CHRIST CONNECTION

God built everything, but sometimes we forget that He still takes care of it! Even though we messed it up with our sin, God didn’t leave us on our own. He sent His Son to be our Savior.



LEADER NOTE

Remember to collect student copies of the *Explore Bible Guidebook* for use in class again next week.



LEADER NOTE

Play the “shell game” with kids. (You can use plastic cups if you don’t have shells.) Hide a little ball under one shell/cup and then move the shells/cups around while you talk. When you’re done, explain that you tried to trick them by hiding the ball and moving it around. Satan also tricks us.



GUIDEBOOKS

Hand out student copies of the *Explore Bible Guidebook* and turn to Lesson 2.



LEADER NOTE

Use a Bible app to listen to the Bible account with your class.



BONUS ACTIVITY

Check the bonus activity “Nature Walk” on the back page for an outdoor way to extend this account.

LAUNCH

PRAY Dear Lord, bless us as we gather to study Your Word today. Help us to learn how You promise to help sinners. Amen.

SING “Builder of Everything”
“God, Who Built This Wondrous Planet”
Music can be found in the digital resource center.

SAY How do you try to hide it from your parents or teachers when you’ve done something wrong?
Does this strategy usually work?
How do you feel when you know you’ve done something wrong but you’re hiding it?

LEARN

READ “THE FALL AND A PROMISE”

Read the Bible narrative aloud to your students.

FOR STRONG READERS Ask volunteers to take turns reading sections aloud either from the *Explore Bible Guidebook* or directly from Scripture.

FOR ACTIVE LEARNERS Choose three students to pantomime the parts of Adam, Eve, and the serpent as you read. Show students how to use exaggerated, melodramatic movements to illustrate their part in the story.

DO SOMETHING

Print a picture of Adam and Eve on a piece of construction paper or card stock, then tear it apart to show how our sin separates us from God and from one another. Make several copies. For added fun, have different groups use different means to put it back together: tape, glue stick, stapler, and the like. Even when you tape it back together, you can still see the torn lines. We can never hide these scars of sin from God. It’s only when He sees us through the saving work of Jesus on the cross that our scars of sin are gone for good. Someday, we’ll all be made new when Jesus returns.

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- Help students see that they, like Adam and Eve, were created by God, but they have also inherited the problem of sin from their ancestors Adam and Eve.
- Eating from the forbidden fruit poisoned our relationship with God and the rest of the world.
- The devil is very skilled at twisting words and telling lies. The devil continues to twist God’s Word and tell us lies.
- God promised a Savior to Adam and Eve and to us. Remind students that we learn about that precious Savior, Jesus, when we come to church and Bible class.

LIVE

EXPLORE THE CONTEXT

Before you start the discussion questions, use the *Explore Bible Guidebook* for further discussion about life in the garden before the fall and in creation after the fall.

TALK ABOUT IT

- ▶ The devil loves to twist God’s Word, plant doubts, and tell lies. What lie did he tell in the garden? (“Did God really say . . . ?”)
- ▶ What lies does he tell you? How does he make you doubt?
- ▶ God gives us boundaries (such as “Don’t eat from that tree”) to protect us, not because He doesn’t love us—in fact, it’s just the opposite. It’s because God loves us that He gives us these boundaries. Adam and Eve didn’t know evil until they ate of that tree. What are some boundaries in your life that keep you safe?
- ▶ Adam didn’t eat the apple first, so why is he still in trouble? (Adam knew the serpent was lying to Eve in the Garden of Eden [1 Timothy 2:14], but he did not speak up to protect her. He even ate the fruit she handed him, knowing he would die. Adam believed God’s promise to send a Savior and taught that promise to his children and grandchildren after him.)

SAY THE BIBLE VERSE TOGETHER

The Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world. 1 John 4:14

KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- Jesus died to take away the sins of Adam and Eve and all their descendants (that includes you and me).
- Read **Romans 5:15** for a New Testament explanation.

CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

Be sure to review the Bible Truth, and check for understanding by asking students to tell you today’s story in their own words before they leave.

LEAVE

SAY Praise God for He promises to help sinners. Our verse for today reminds us of that: “The Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world” (1 John 4:14). We are the world that He came to save!

SING “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
“The Lord’s Prayer”
Music can be found in the digital resource center.

PRAY Thank You, heavenly Father, for sending a Savior, Jesus, to rescue us from our sin. Help us to share that Good News of Jesus with others. In Your name we pray. Amen.



DOWNLOADABLE PAGE

Extend learning by printing the downloadable activity page, found in the digital resource center. See the back page of this guide for details.



CHRIST CONNECTION

Even though the text of Genesis 3:15 is more abstract than most elementary-age students will understand, it is here that we first see God’s promise to send a Savior.