

Old Testament 1: God Creates a World and a People

Engage CD

Cross Explorations® Sunday School



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God Creates a World and a People

Old Testament 1 • Lessons At-a-Glance

Lesson	Lesson Title / Scripture	Key Point
1	God Creates the World Genesis 1:1–2:3	God made the world in six days by the power of His Word. All creation is God's blessing to us.
2	God Creates Adam and Eve Genesis 1:26–2:25	God has made us in His image, provides all things for our good, and makes us rulers over the earth and everything in it.
3	Sin Enters the World Genesis 3	Through Adam, sin spreads to all people. Through Christ, God offers forgiveness to all people.
4	Cain and Abel Genesis 4:1–16	Even though Cain sinned, God still loved and preserved him. Even though we sin, God, in Christ, still loves and preserves us.
5	Noah and the Flood Genesis 6:1–9:17	In the flood, God destroyed sinful people. God's Son, Jesus, destroyed sin, once and for all, through His death and resurrection to give life to sinful people.
6	God's Covenant with Abram Genesis 12:1–9; 15:1–6; 17	God chose Abram (Abraham) and gave him faith to trust His promises to save His people. God gives us faith in Jesus, our Savior.
7	Abraham's Visitors from Heaven Genesis 18:1–15; 21:1–7	God came to Abraham with the promise of a son. Abraham's descendant, our Lord Jesus, comes to us in Word and Sacraments, telling us that in Him all things are possible.
8	Abraham and Isaac Genesis 21:1–7; 22:1–19	God provided a ram as a sacrifice for Abraham and Isaac. He provides the perfect sacrifice for our sin: His Son, Jesus, the Lamb of God.
9	Isaac and Rebekah Genesis 24	God worked His plan of salvation through the lives of Isaac and Rebekah. God's plan for our salvation is fulfilled through Jesus, their descendant.
10	Jacob and Esau Genesis 25:19–34; 27:1–40	God worked through Jacob and Esau, despite their sin, to advance His plan of salvation. In spite of our sinful actions, God accomplishes His will and plan for our lives.
11	Jacob's Dream Genesis 27:41–28:22	God revealed the certainty of His presence now and forever to Jacob in a dream. God reveals Himself and His plan of salvation for us in His Word and Sacraments. We respond with praise and worship.
12	Jacob's Family Genesis 29:1–30:24	Through Jacob's family, God brought forth the Savior, Jesus Christ, who endured lies, deception, and the schemes of sinful mankind to work our salvation on the cross.
13	Esau Forgives Jacob Genesis 31:3; 32–33	Though Jacob was sinful and deceived his brother, God preserved his life and reconciled him with his brother, Esau. Through His Son, God preserves our lives. Jesus overcame sin and death on the cross to win our forgiveness, life, and salvation.

Preparing the Lesson

Date of Use

God Creates the World

Genesis 1:1–2:3

Key Point

God made the world in six days by the power of His Word. All creation is God's blessing to us.

Law/Gospel

God requires that I believe that He is the only true God, the Creator and Sustainer of the world. **God gives me faith to believe that He created the earth and heavens, and He continues to provide me with all that I need to sustain this body and life, including forgiveness for my sins, through His Son, Jesus Christ.**

Context

Genesis is a family history about Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (called Israel), chosen by God. The creation account and other material in Genesis 1–11 serves as foundation for the family history that follows in Genesis 12–50.

Moses is the authority behind the first five books of the Bible, called the Torah (Law). Some material was revealed directly to Moses; other material was known to generations before Moses and, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, was set down by him or immediate successors.

The Genesis accounts of creation, the preflood world, the flood, and the immediate resettlement after the flood have parallels in ancient writings that predate Moses, particularly in Mesopotamia.

Commentary

The Spirit of God hovering over the waters of the formless void shows that the Spirit brings order out of chaos. This image recurs in the Baptism of Christ (Mark 1:10), where it reminds us that in Christ we are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17), with the Spirit bringing order out of our chaos. The Hebrew word translated "Spirit" in Genesis 1:2 also means "wind" or "breath."

Words are formed from breath. As God proceeds to speak creation into being, the Genesis account establishes a unity between God the speaker, the Word by which He created the world, and the Spirit. This Word became flesh in Christ Jesus, as proclaimed in John 1:1–14. The words of

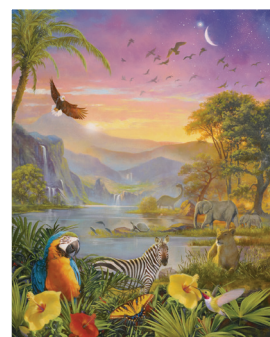
Psalm 104:30 also portray the Spirit as an agent of creation. God's Word does what it says ("Let there be . . . and there was"). What God declares is true; God's Word is truth (John 17:17).

God begins His creation by creating light on the first day. God is the real source of light. Each day, God adds dramatically to the world that He calls "good"—heaven; earth and seas; plants; sun, moon, and stars; creatures that swim and fly; creatures that walk and crawl on the ground; and finally, man, both male and female. Some mistakenly worship the sun or other elements of creation that merely do what God assigns to them. However, they were not made to be worshiped but to be used.

The creation of people on the sixth day serves as the climax of creation. God creates both male and female in His image. Our image is not physical likeness but spiritual likeness, or righteousness. Note that man's rule over all other creatures and marriage/procreation are part of the sinless creation, which God declares "very good." God gives plants as food; death for humans and animals is not part of this perfect creation. Everything is intended to work for good.

Because God rested on the seventh day (our Saturday), the Sabbath ("rest") day was set apart ("made holy"). The ceremonial laws regarding the Sabbath have their fulfillment in Christ, who, having finished His work on Good Friday (John 19:30), rested in the tomb on the Sabbath. Christians from the earliest times met on Sundays to celebrate His resurrection. The commandment concerning the Sabbath no longer pertains to a particular day of the week but rather to setting aside time so that God might re-create us through His Word. Creation's patterns give us a sense of how things "ought to be."

To hear an in-depth discussion of this Bible account, visit cph.org/ podcast and listen to our Seeds of Faith podcast each week.



Robert Papp © CPH

Pronunciation Guide—Old Testament 1

God Creates a World and a People

Lesson 1: God Creates the World, Genesis 1:1–2:3

None

Lesson 2: God Creates Adam and Eve, Genesis 1:26–2:25

Assyria	ah SEER ee ah
Cush	kush
Euphrates	you FRAY tease
Gihon	GIH hon
Havilah	HAV uh luh
Pishon	PEE shawn
Tigris	TIE gris

Lesson 3: Sin Enters the World, Genesis 3

None

Lesson 4: Cain and Abel, Genesis 4:1–16

None

Lesson 5: Noah and the Flood, Genesis 6:1–9:17

Ham	hamm
Japheth	JAY fehth
Nephilim	NEFF fill im
Shem	shim

Lesson 6: God's Covenant with Abram, Genesis 12:1–9; 15:1–6; 17

Abram	A bruhm
Ai	A eye
Bethel	BETH uhl
Canaan	KANE un
Canaanites	KANE un ites

POWERPOINT TIPS

The slides on this CD work with PowerPoint versions from 2003 forward or with the free, downloadable PowerPoint Viewer.

The full PowerPoint program is available as part of Microsoft Office for PCs or Macs. A variety of programs on Apple computers convert and use PowerPoint files as well.

As an alternative, Microsoft offers PowerPoint Viewer as a free download. This program lets you view, project, or print slides, but not create or edit them. You need the complete PowerPoint program for those tasks.

To install PowerPoint Viewer, use the link on the automatic menu of this CD.

1. Put the CD in your computer's CD drive.
2. Click "Install." Follow the directions on the automatic menu. It will take you to this site: <http://www.microsoft.com/download/en/details.aspx?id=13>
3. You need to agree to the license terms. Once installation completes, restart your computer.

Troubleshooting

When working with these PowerPoint slides, some things may affect the look of your slides.

1. Different versions of PowerPoint may provide slides that look slightly different than the originals. You might see odd spacing or words that run out of a text box or off the page. You may see odd placement of Bible references.

The problem comes from different fonts on the computers that made the slides and the one you use. Even fonts with the same names may differ from one computer or system to another.

2. To help, we use fonts embedded in Microsoft Office programs and common to most computers. Using the Microsoft Office fonts should take care of most of the differences between the two operating systems.
3. We also prepare and check slides on PC and Mac computers to make sure they work with both systems.
4. If you find odd spacing with apostrophes and quotation marks, change a setting in your PowerPoint program. After doing so, you might need to retype the punctuation marks to get rid of the odd spacing.
 - For Macs, when in the PowerPoint program, click on the word "PowerPoint" along the top menu and choose "Preferences" from a pull-down menu.

Choose “Autoformat As You Type.” Click to check the box in front of “Straight quotes with smart quotes.”

- For PCs, go to File/Options/Proofing/Autocorrect Options. Choose “Autoformat as you type” and click to mark the choice that says “Straight Quotes with Smart Quotes.”

Editing slides

If you have 1997, 2003, 2007, or 2010 Microsoft Office with a full PowerPoint program, you can edit these slides or copy and paste them into different presentations. Some animations may not work in pre-2003 versions of PowerPoint.

(PowerPoint 1997 does not copy and paste slides easily. Please consult your software manual for help.)

When editing and creating slides, you may have difficulties when you cut and paste elements from one slide or presentation to another. However, this is very easy to do if you know a few secrets.

PowerPoint defaults to the design template of the presentation you pasted slides **into** and does not automatically carry over design elements from the slide you copied. This means you can lose art, photos, and other elements of the original slide. However, a few easy steps can retain the design of the original slide.

1. Make sure you are in NORMAL view.
2. Copy slides from the source (right click to bring up the menu and choose COPY), and then put your cursor below or between the slides in the new presentation to insert the copied slides.
3. Paste slides into the new presentation (right click to bring up menu and choose PASTE).
4. When you do, a small clipboard icon appears at the bottom right hand corner or somewhere near the new slides. (If it does not appear, undo and reinsert.) Click on the clipboard. Two choices appear in a menu below the clipboard: (1) Keep source formatting, OR (2) use design template formatting. To retain the design elements of the copied slide, choose 1. To take on attributes of the new presentation, choose 2.

Playing Slides with Linked Music

Open the PPT file. The music slides will automatically play when you click to the first page of lyrics. Do not click again until the song finishes.



Lesson 1 Handout

God Creates the World

Genesis 1:1–2:3

Invocation

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Song

Opening Sentences

Creation Praise (Psalm 148)

Leader: Praise the LORD!

People: Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise Him in the heights!

Girls: Praise Him, all His angels;

Boys: praise Him, all His hosts!

Girls: Praise Him, sun and moon,

Boys: praise Him, all you shining stars!

Leader: Praise Him, you highest heavens, and
you waters above the heavens!

People: Let them praise the name of the Lord!

Girls: For He commanded and they were
created.

Boys: And He established them forever and
ever;

Girls: He gave a decree,

Boys: and it shall not pass away.

Leader: Praise the LORD from the earth,

People: you great sea creatures and all deeps,

Girls: fire and hail, snow and mist,

Boys: stormy wind fulfilling His word!

Girls: Mountains and all hills,

Boys: fruit trees and all cedars!

Leader: Beasts and all livestock, creeping things
and flying birds!

People: Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

Girls: Young men and maidens together,

Boys: old men and children!

Leader: Let them praise the name of the LORD,

People: for His name alone is exalted;

Girls: His majesty is above earth and heaven.

Boys: He has raised up a horn for His people,

Girls: praise for all His saints,

Boys: for the people of Israel who are near to
Him.

People: Praise the Lord!

Presentation

Song

Offering and Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be
Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be
done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this
day our daily bread; and forgive us our
trespasses as we forgive those who trespass
against us; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the
kingdom and the power and the glory forever
and ever. Amen.**

Song

Bible Challenge Questions

Engage Openings, Old Testament 1

Lesson 1

God created all of the planets in our solar system. What are their names? **Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune (Pluto is now considered a dwarf planet)**

Lesson 2

What were the names of the first people? **Adam and his wife, Eve**

Lesson 3

What is original sin? ***Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation* says, "Original sin is that total corruption of our whole human nature which we have inherited from Adam through our parents."**

Lesson 4

What are the names of the first brothers mentioned in the Bible? **Cain and Abel**

Lesson 5

True or false?
Noah was six hundred years old when the flood began.
True. See Genesis 7:11.

Lesson 6

True or false?
(1) Abraham's name was originally Abram. **True. God changed his name (Genesis 17:5).**
(2) Sarah's name was originally Sarai. **True. God changed her name (Genesis 17:15).**

Lesson 7

True or false?
Abraham was one hundred years old and Sarah was ninety years old when God promised to give them a baby.
True. See Genesis 17:17.

Lesson 8

What does the name *Isaac* mean?
"He laughs." Remember, both Abraham and Sarah laughed when God promised to give them a son in their old age (Genesis 17:17; 18:12).

Lesson 9

Choose all the ways to travel from this list that did not exist in Bible times: donkey, walking, airplane, camel, wagon, car, motorcycle. **Airplane, car, motorcycle**

Lesson 10

What were the names of the twins born to Rebekah and Isaac? **Jacob and Esau**

Lesson 11

True or false?
When Jacob ran away from the trouble he caused with his brother, he stayed in a Holiday Inn overnight. **False. Hotels as we know them did not exist in Bible times.**

Lesson 12

How many years did Jacob work under Laban?

- a) 14 years
- b) 20 years
- c) 40 years
- d) 18 years

b) 20 years; see Genesis 31:41.

Lesson 13

True or false?
Jacob was renamed Israel by God.
True. See Genesis 32:28.