



God Creates Adam and Eve

Genesis 2:4-22


Peers take on added importance for preteens. What others think about them has a big impact on their self-esteem. Being part of the group helps preteens feel good about themselves, but negative comments from others about clothes, hair, interests, or lifestyle can cause emotional distress. Use this lesson to remind or enlighten fifth- and sixth-graders that God made each of them unique and special and that he loves them just the way they are.



► **Bible Point**
God made us.

Key Verse
“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well” (Psalm 139:14).

Weaving Faith Into Life
Kids will praise God as they understand their importance to him.

LESSON	WHAT KIDS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Spotted Ideals <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Explore reasons they believe one group is better than the other.	Teacher Pack: circle stickers 	
2 Bible Exploration	God Made Us <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Read the Bible passage, and make murals to highlight aspects of God’s creation of humanity.	Bibles, masking tape (1 roll per 4 students)	
	What the World Likes <i>(about 10 min.)</i> List qualities that people find worthy, and place these in masking-tape people.	masking-tape murals from previous activity, markers, paper	
	What God Likes <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Update their masking-tape people with qualities God finds worthy.	Bible Buzz, masking-tape people from previous activity, markers	Tear out the Lesson 2 pages from each Bible Buzz student book.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



LESSON	WHAT KIDS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>3</p> <p>Weaving Faith Into Life</p>	<p>What I Like About Me <i>(about 10 min.)</i> See the importance of loving themselves by talking about their best qualities.</p>	Bibles, Bible Buzz, pens	
<p>4</p> <p>Lasting Impressions</p>	<p>Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.</p>	Bible Buzz	
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		

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BIBLE BACKGROUND
FOR LEADERS

God Creates Humans

God communicates through the Bible to give us a spiritual message—to tell us of his love and his plan for us. Because of this focus, we can't always expect everything we read in the Bible to fall in strict chronological order.

Some scholars see problems in the differences between the accounts of the creation of humans in Genesis 1 and Genesis 2. Others, however, see the account in Chapter 2 as an elaboration of Chapter 1. But notice the emphasis in both accounts: God did it. The emphasis in this account is not upon the creation, but upon the Creator.

God Creates Adam

In Genesis 2:7 we see a bit of the “how” of Adam’s creation. It’s interesting to note that humans were the first of creation not simply spoken into being. God personally formed Adam out of the earth. And then one more difference appears: God breathed life into Adam, and he became a living being. Many here translate *being* as *soul*. No other creature was given that designation. Genesis 1:27 tells us that humans were created in God’s image. And after the creation of humans, God announced that his creation was not only “good,” it was “very good” (Genesis 1:31).

God Creates Eve

Adam’s need for a mate didn’t come as a surprise to God. The parade of animals for Adam to name had a purpose beyond the naming: It pointed out to Adam that he was alone, that he didn’t have a mate like him—someone who could share his life. After helping Adam come to this realization, God created woman.

Adam and Eve Become One

Many appropriate conclusions have been drawn from Eve’s being created from Adam’s rib—from his side—such as the intent that the two work side by side, that they be equal to each other in standing before God, and that they become “one flesh” in the bond of marriage. However, Adam lost a rib to make Eve. Without her, he was incomplete. And without Adam, Eve wouldn’t have existed. Together, man and woman became a whole being, able to stand together and support each other against the forces that oppose them—just as God had planned from the start.

The Jesus Connection

God made us his very special creation, and because God is good, he gave us Jesus to show us the way to live for God’s glory. Take a moment to thank God for the individuals in your ministry and for the unique and beautiful way he created them. You can ask God to help you show them how important they are and write your prayer here.



Spotted Ideals Supplies

Teacher Pack
circle stickers

1 GETTING STARTED

Spotted Ideals

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Place either a red or a green circle sticker on each child where it's seen easily. Ask students to leave their stickers on throughout the entire activity.

When everyone has a sticker, say: **Welcome to the world of exclusive living. In this world we're friends only with people who are just like us. And we refuse to be kind to people who are from another group. You have 30 seconds to find people whose circles are the same color as yours. But you can't talk to people who are wearing a different color sticker than yours. Ready? Go!** Allow time.

Say: **Now with your groups, come up with reasons your group is the best. You can make up a cheer, a poem, a rap, or whatever you'd like to demonstrate why your group is the best. Then you'll present your reasons to everyone.** Allow about three or four minutes for kids to come up with ideas, and then have groups present their reasons.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What was it like to be in an exclusive group?
- What did you not like about being ignored because of something unimportant—like the color of a sticker?
- What negative emotions are involved when you ignore others?
- What can we do instead to show others that they're important to us?

Say: **God wants us to respect everyone because ► GOD MADE US and he loves us. God wants us to treat others just as he does. When we do, we show respect not only for each other but to God, too. After all, God made every person in the world. Let's discover more about the way ► GOD MADE US.**



2 BIBLE
EXPLORATION

God Made Us

What You'll Do

Have kids form groups of four, and give each group a Bible and a roll of masking tape. Ask groups to turn in their Bibles to Genesis 2.

Say: **We'll break up our Bible passage into sections, and for each section your group will create a mural on the floor using your tape. From each section of the Bible passage, include what you think are the highlights of the verses you just read. I'll offer help as we go.** Invite a willing child to read aloud Genesis 2:4-7, and then allow time for kids to start their tape murals. Each group will make a separate mural. Then repeat this sequence with the following sections of the passage: Genesis 2:8-14, 15-20, and 21-24. Encourage kids to create outlines of humans with their tape if they don't do so on their own.

Talk With Kids

After kids finish with their murals, lead them in this discussion.

Ask:

- **Of all God's creations, humans are the only ones the Bible says God breathed life into. Why does that make us special?**
- **What do you find interesting about the way God made Eve from Adam's rib and not from dust the way God made Adam?**
- **What good comes from God making us all in his image but with different characteristics and abilities?**

Say: **Isn't it interesting how ► GOD MADE US? Instead of just speaking us into existence, God chose to form our bodies. God chose to shape our personalities. God took time to construct the way we look, think, and act. It shows that we're important to God. Sometimes we forget what it means to be made in God's image, and we begin to set up our own ideas of perfection. Let's talk about the way we decide who's perfect and who's not.**

What the World Likes

What You'll Do

Have kids remain in their groups from the previous activity, and give groups paper and markers.

Say: **Think about characteristics the world believes are elements of perfection. These can include looks, personality, intelligence, wealth, and physical strength.**



God Made Us Supplies

Bibles
masking tape (1 roll per
4 students)

What the World Likes Supplies

masking-tape murals
from previous activity
paper





What God Likes Supplies

Bible Buzz
masking-tape people
from previous activity
markers

What God Likes Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 2
pages from each Bible
Buzz student book.

Draw or write these qualities, and then place your papers inside the human figures in your murals. Allow time.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What are ways the world, or our culture, defines someone's worth?
- Is it possible for any of you to measure up to the "perfect people" that you created? Explain.

Say: **God doesn't hold us to quite the same standards. In fact, God loves us no matter what. When ► GOD MADE US, he said all was good. God's pleased with his creation. Let's find out more about the qualities God looks for.**

What God Likes

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Distribute this week's Bible Buzz page, and ask kids to remain in their groups from the previous activity. Say: **Find the "What God Likes" section on your Bible Buzz page. As you read through the Scripture reference, watch for things that describe good human qualities. When you identify a quality, have a group member write the quality on your masking-tape people. Try to identify as many qualities as you can in five minutes.**

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What differences do you see between qualities the world looks for and qualities God looks for? similarities?
- Which set of qualities do you think is easier for you to have? Why?
- What do the qualities God looks for tell you about what God had in mind for us when he made us?

Say: ► **GOD MADE US wonderfully and worked very carefully to make us who we are. Realizing that God created each of us for a special reason and with unique qualities can change our perspective about others, too. When we realize that we're all wonderfully made, we'll have more respect for everyone God's made—and that's definitely something God likes! Let's see what today's Key Verse says about the way ► GOD MADE US.**



3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

What I Like About Me

What You'll Do

Make sure everyone has a Bible, and then have students find the Key Verse, Psalm 139:14. Invite a willing child to read it aloud: "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

Ask:

- What do you think this verse says about all of us?
- What can we do in response to that knowledge?

Direct students to the "What I Like About Me" section on their Bible Buzz page, and make sure everyone has a pen.

Say: **Sometimes we don't feel very good about ourselves, or we feel that God doesn't think we're very important. But we *are* important to God— ► GOD MADE US. We can give ourselves the respect we deserve. I'd like you to think honestly now about how wonderfully you're made. Write your true feelings on your Bible Buzz page.** Allow kids five minutes to work through the Bible Buzz activity.

Talk With Kids

When kids have finished their Bible Buzz activity, lead them in this discussion.

Ask:

- What are things you like about the way God made you?
- What can you do with this list to help you remember God made you in a wonderful way?
- Think about the characteristics you discovered from the "What God Likes" section of your Bible Buzz page. With those in mind, what can you do to show you're made in the image of God?

Say: **Always remember that ► GOD MADE US in his image. Remembering that can help you treat yourself and others with the respect every person deserves. Let's decide on ways we can do that this week.**



What I Like About Me Supplies

-
- Bibles
 - Bible Buzz
 - pens





Daily Challenges Supplies

Bible Buzz

4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Let's think about how we can show respect this week for the way ► GOD MADE US.**

Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges on their Bible Buzz page and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- **Tell a friend or family member why you think he or she is wonderfully unique. Then tell that person you're thankful for the way God made him or her.**
- **Thank God for the things you listed on your "What I Like About Me" section.**
- **Show respect to a person you usually don't get along with. Try to see that person as someone God made and loves.**

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Ask:

- **What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Share a time, a place, or other ideas. Allow time.**

Say: **Let's give thanks for the way ► GOD MADE US and other people as we follow through on our Daily Challenges this week.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about how God made each of us unique and in his image. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their Bible Buzz pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

Have kids sit with their groups around their masking-tape people again. Pray: **God, thank you for making us in your image. Help us to remember that you made everyone special, even if the world tells us differently** (invite kids to rip up the papers in the masking-tape people). **Help us to seek the qualities you look for, God** (have kids place their hands on the qualities they wrote on the masking tape), **and to treat ourselves and others with respect. In Jesus' name, amen.**