

STORIES WITHIN THE TRUE STORY

**Week Two - Creation: Humans****A Note to the Parents/Teachers**

Humans were created in the image of God, to be His living statues, His representatives to all of creation. Not only that, but we were invited into partnership with this Creator God to care for all of creation. What an incredible role we were called to play!

- **Big Idea:** Humans were made to be God's image, in partnership with Him

Starter**Evidences of Grace**

Take some time to ask kids to share ways they've seen God at work this week, month, or even past year. Anything, big or small, that is good is from God. When a kid shares, encourage everyone to thank God together.

Mirror, Mirror

Bring a small mirror and let the kids take turns looking into it. Ask them who they see. But is the reflection actually them? Now, use a dry erase marker and color over the mirror. How much does the reflection look like them now? Explain that we were meant to be reflections of God, but sin has stained us. Only Jesus can clean us and make us pure reflections again!

Sing Together

Made For This - <https://youtu.be/jVKuOi3YEAM>

Story - from Genesis 2

At the time God made Earth and Heaven, before any grasses or shrubs had sprouted from the ground—God formed Man out of dirt from the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. The Man came alive, a living soul!

Then God planted a garden in Eden, in the east. He put the Man he had just made in it. God made all kinds of trees grow from the ground, trees beautiful to look at and good to eat. The Tree-of-Life was in the middle of the garden, also the Tree-of-Knowledge-of-Good-and-Evil. A river flows out of Eden to water the garden and from there divides into four rivers to bring bring life to all the earth.

God took the Man and set him down in the Garden of Eden to work the ground and keep it in order. God commanded the Man, “You can eat from any tree in the garden, except from the Tree-of-Knowledge-of-Good-and-Evil. Don’t eat from it. The moment you eat from that tree, you’re dead.”

God said, “It’s not good for the Man to be alone; I’ll make him a helper, a companion.” So God formed from the dirt of the ground all the animals of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the Man to see what he would name them. Whatever the Man called each living creature, that was its name. The Man named the cattle, named the birds of the air, named the wild animals; but he didn’t find a suitable partner.

God put the Man into a deep sleep. As he slept he removed one of his ribs and replaced it with flesh. God then used the rib that he had taken from the Man to make Woman and presented her to the Man. The Man said, “Finally! Bone of my bone, flesh of my flesh! Name her Woman, for she was made from Man.”

Therefore a man leaves his father and mother and embraces his wife. They become one flesh. The two of them, the Man and his Wife, were naked, but they felt no shame.

[Dialogue Questions - you may use some or all]

- When you make something from clay or play dough, why can’t you blow on it and make it come alive? Why could God?
- If you were to create your own animal, what would you name it?
- Why do you think God wanted the humans to name the animals and care for the earth? (*partnership*)
- What does it mean that humans were made in God’s image?
- The woman was made to be the man’s partner. Both were made to partner with God! So were you... how can you partner with God?

Breakout Time

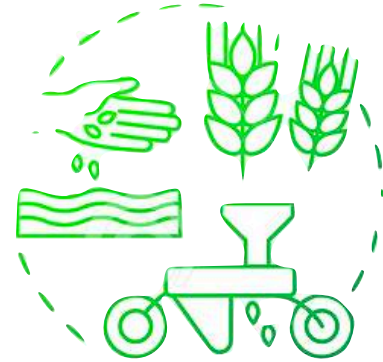
- **Prayer:**
God, thank you for choosing to partner with us and make us more like you. Help us with your Spirit to live in your ways. In Jesus' name, amen!
- **Craft:**
Have the kids draw a picture of the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowing Good and Evil and color them.
OR
Use the coloring sheet attached to talk through one way humans partner with God to keep life going. God created soil, plants, seeds, air, water, sunlight, etc. - but He tasked humans to cultivate the land and help crops grow! What work can the kids do to partner with God in creation?
- **BLESS Activity:** **For kids to do during the week**
Because this Story is true, we want to be faithful to live in it. We ask Spirit to help us *Bless, Listen, Eat, Speak, and Sabbath* (rest & celebrate) in ways that tell the good news of God's Story.

This week, focus on the **Bless** rhythm. Humans were created to be a blessing to all the earth as we care for it like God would. How can you bless and care for God's creation this week?

**HUMANS WORK TO PARTNER WITH GOD'S
CREATION TO KEEP LIFE GOING!**



SOIL TILLING



PLANTING SEEDS



CULTIVATING CROPS



HARVESTING

“You cause the grass to grow for the livestock
and plants for man to cultivate,
that he may bring forth food from the earth.”
(Psalm 104:14)