

God Creates Man and Woman

Genesis 1:26-29; 2:7, 18-24



LESSON GOAL

Students will know that God created man to worship Him.

LESSON OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to

- Explain that only man was created in God's image and likeness.
- List man's God-given responsibilities.
- Describe how God made man and woman.
- Identify the God-ordained relationship between man and woman.

KEY VERSE

"So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27).

APPLICATION

- Obey God, who made you.
- Worship God, who made you.
- Serve God, who made you.

NEXT WEEK

Man Rebels against God Read Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–24.

Symbol Key

Craft

Game

Visual Aid

Activity

Q & A

Work Sheet

_o Grade Level

Memory Verse

Object Lesson

God Creates Man
and Woman

Teacher Planning Sheet

	PREPARE
	Objectives/Truths to cover this week
	•
	•
	Personal Application
	As a result of my study in this passage, God wants me to
	Three ways students need to apply this passage are
Materials	POINT
Needed	Choose from various ideas to point students to the coming Bible lesson.
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	- 0
	PROCLAIM
	_ Choose from various ideas to proclaim the Bible lesson.
	_ Presentation Ideas
	_ •
	_ •
	Praise/Music Ideas
	_ □
	_ •
	PRACTICE
	- Choose ideas to help review and apply today's lesson.

PREPARE WITH THE TRUTH

"Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul.... You shall teach them to your children" (Deuteronomy 11:18–19).

Please take time to prepare your mind and heart to accurately handle the truths of God's Word (2 Tim. 2:15). Read through the Bible background and study the truths contained in this lesson. Crucial background information is included here to aid you in understanding the Scripture.

Bible Background

The book of Genesis impresses upon the reader the special nature and purpose of man. In our day, schoolchildren are taught to consider themselves and their existence as mere extensions of the animal kingdom. To learn about man, scientists conduct experiments to study animal behavior and then estimate upward. The effect of the evolutionary worldview has been a denial of the unique creation of man.

Man was created as a very special being. This can be seen through the special emphasis Moses gave to God's preparation and creation of man (Gen. 1:26; 2:7).

Man was created in the image of God, after His likeness. The Hebrew words for "image" (*selem*) and "likeness" (*demut*) are essentially synonymous. Both terms point to spiritual qualities shared by God and man. It is this image/likeness that distinguishes man from the animal kingdom. Man alone has the capacity for self-consciousness, speech, and moral discernment. Another major factor distinguishing man from the animal kingdom is that man has been given an eternal state. The question is, what is man going to do with it? Being created in the image of God means that man should think the thoughts of God and do His work.

Additional evidence from Genesis 2 shows the special place of man. Here again, we see the special care of God in the creation of man. The animals, birds, and fish were simply called into existence. Yet God "formed" man—as a potter forms his clay vessels—and breathed His own Spirit into him (Gen. 2:7). No continuity between man and the animals is indicated here. Man is not an animal. He is the specially created image-bearer of God.

Man not only was made in the image and likeness of God, but he also was blessed by God. Man was blessed with a lush environment. The garden supplied man's food and shelter, and it was beautiful and pleasing to him as well (Gen. 2:8–15).

Man was further blessed with significant work to do (Gen. 2:15, 19). Work is not a result of the fall. Rather, it is a privilege and responsibility for all men. The work of man is to be a part of a larger purpose.

Finally, man was blessed by God with human relationships in which selflessness and love were to be the guiding principles (Gen. 2:18, 20–25). It was not good for man to be alone, and since the animals could not provide true fellowship for such a unique creature as man, God made an appropriate helper for him.

We now understand that God created man in His own image and blessed man abundantly. In addition, He has given man a special purpose in life. This purpose can be seen in three areas.

First, man was created to have dominion over all the rest of creation (Gen. 1:26). The entire created order (plants and animals) was put at his disposal. Man was

Additional Reference Materials

The Battle for the Beginning by John MacArthur

The MacArthur Study Bible by John MacArthur given the responsibility to rule over them in God's place and to bring God's will to bear upon the affairs of earth.

Second, man was commanded to fill the earth with godly descendants (Gen. 1:28). As the earth was filled with God-fearing men and women, the task of subduing and having dominion over it would be greatly accelerated.

Third, man was solemnly charged to walk in obedience to God (Gen. 2:15–17). Disobedience brought destruction, spiritual separation, and physical death to all mankind. Even today, we can experience blessing only when we are obedient to God and His Word. It is through obedience that we will begin to discover our true nature and pursue our real purpose in life. It is to this extent that we may experience a measure of the peace and prosperity that were the possession of our first parents under God.

POINT TO THE TRUTH

"Give ear, O my people, to my law; incline your ears to the words of my mouth" (Psalm 78:1).

This section includes questions to review last week's lesson and ideas to prepare students for this week's lesson. Choose from the following ideas to point to the truths of this lesson.



Review Questions

Use these questions to review and reinforce key truths.

When and how did God come into existence? God has always existed. No one created Him. He is eternal, without a beginning.

When and how did everything else come into existence? "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).

How long did God take to complete the creation? *God took six 24-hour days.*

What did God do the day after He finished creating? *He rested*.

Name at least one thing God did on each of the first three days of creation. Day one: created the heavens and the earth; created light. Day two: created the sky. Day three: separated the waters and caused dry land to appear; created the vegetation, plants, and fruit trees.

Name at least one thing God did on each of the last three days of creation. Day four: created lights in the expanse/sky (sun, moon, stars). Day five: created living creatures in the waters; created birds; created sea monsters; created every living thing that moves in the water and in the air. Day six: created cattle; created creeping things; created beasts of the earth; created man.



Mirror, Mirror on the Wall, Part One

Bring a mirror to class. Take it around to different students as their parents drop them off. Have them look into the mirror, and ask them several questions: "What is the most amazing thing about the human body?" "What things could we learn about God by looking at how He made man?" "Why do you think God made you?" In today's lesson, we are going to learn about these things.

After Their Kind

Give each student a sticker of a person, a bird, a fish, or a cow/mammal. During the teaching time, have the students line up behind the teacher with the same type of sticker. Use this time to explain to the students how the animals were created "after their kind," and man was created "in God's image." Next, ask questions such as "Did fish come from a dog?" (Students answer, "No.") "Did a man come from a monkey?" ("No.") Tell the class that in today's lesson, they are going to see how God made a helper for Adam "according to his kind."

Beginnings

There are many theories of how the world came into existence and of how life began. Ask students to tell you about some they have heard. List the theories on the board. Ask the students their opinions of each one.



"Claytionary" Review

Materials: clay or Play-Doh for each student, cards containing the names of created objects

Directions: Seat the students at tables. Show a card to one student and have him make the item named on the card. Have the rest of the students guess what the object is and which day of creation it was made on. Review with the students what God made on all six days of creation. In today's lesson, we are going to see how God made Adam and Eve.



Created Order Sort

Materials: old magazines (with inappropriate advertisements torn out), liquid glue or paste sticks, large piece of poster board for each group, black markers, rulers, scissors

Directions: Divide the class into equal groups of four or five students. Give each group a large piece of poster board, a black marker, and a ruler. Holding the poster board so that the longest edge runs horizontally, instruct the students to draw a line down the middle of the poster board, using the ruler as a guide. At the top of each side, the groups should write the following labels: (1) Created by God and (2) Created by God in His image. Divide the magazines equally among the groups. Pass out glue and scissors. Direct students to cut out magazine pictures of various things God created (sun, plants, birds, people, ocean). As students cut out pictures, have them glue the pictures to the appropriate side of the poster board. Only human beings (both male and female) should be glued to side two because we are the only things that were created in the image of God. As a review of last week's lesson, students should label each picture with the item's name and the day on which it was created (e.g., sun, day four). Use this activity to emphasize that only man was created in God's image and likeness.

PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

"Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done" (Psalm 78:4).

This section includes the Bible lesson, lesson questions, and praise and worship ideas. Song suggestions are included to use during worship time. Use the lesson questions to check the students' understanding. This section also includes various presentation ideas to use during the teaching time. Read the Bible passage several times before you read these pages. All teaching should be done directly from the Bible.

Bible Lesson

Reading of the Text

Read Genesis 1:26–29, man (male and female) created in God's image and likeness; Genesis 2:7, man created from the dust; Genesis 2:18–24, woman created from man's rib.

Introduction

Have you ever wondered why God created human beings? Do you know why you are alive? These are very important questions that men and women have asked themselves ever since the creation. Today, we will learn the answers to those questions by looking at the first two chapters of the Bible.

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Leadoff Questions (LOQs)

LOQ: Was it only the man whom God created in His image and likeness? **Answer:** No. At the end of verse 27, Genesis 1 says, "Male and female He created them." Both the man and the woman were created in the image and likeness of God. Although God made men and women with differences, they are equal. Neither one is better than the other.

LOQ: What did God say to the man and woman after He created them? **Answer:** In verse 28, God told them to be fruitful and multiply and to fill the earth. They were to have children so that the earth could be filled with people. They were also told to take care of the earth and to control it for the right purposes. God also gave Adam and Eve rule over every animal. God put mankind on the earth to take care of it for Him. In this special way, people are very different from the animals. According to God's plan, they were to fill the earth and rule over the land and the animals. By doing so, they would glorify God.

LOQ: What was man's responsibility?

Answer: Adam was supposed to cultivate and keep the garden. And he was supposed to obey God's commands. This is another purpose for which man was created: to serve and obey God.

LOQ: From what was man made, according to Genesis 2:7? **Answer:** "The LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground." Although man was made like God in some ways, he was made with a physical body, which God does not have or need. God Creates Man and Woman

LOQ: All by itself, dust has no life. How was the "dust of the ground" changed into a human being?

Answer: When God breathed "the breath of life" into the nostrils of the man He had formed, the man became alive. Nothing has life unless God gives it life. That means that every living creature—including every man, woman, boy, and girl—is alive because of the power of God.

LOQ: What did God think about Adam being alone? **Answer:** God said, "It is not good that man should be alone."

LOQ: What did God say He would do so that Adam would not be alone? **Answer:** God said, "I will make him a helper comparable to him."

LOQ: What did God bring to Adam first in order to find "a helper comparable to him?"

Answer: In Genesis 2:19–20, God brought many animals to Adam. Whatever name Adam gave to each animal was its name. None was a "helper comparable to him." The animals were so different from Adam that none was the right helper for him.

LOQ: Who was "a helper comparable to [Adam]?"

Answer: Genesis 2:23 tells us that Adam was very happy when he saw the woman whom God had brought to him. This was the "helper comparable to him," and he knew it right away. She was different from the animals. She was very much like he was.

Genesis 2:24 tells us that the relationship between the man and the woman would be very special. A man would leave his family to be with a woman, who would be his wife. And instead of each of them thinking of himself or herself alone, they would both think of themselves as one person. When a man and a woman get married, they should no longer act as though they are two people, but as though they are one person. This is what God planned for the man and woman.

LOQ: Man was formed from the dust of the ground. How was woman formed? **Answer:** Genesis 2:21–22 tells us that God took a part of the man and from it made the woman. So God made the man first; then, from the man, He made the woman.

Summary

Man is unique and different in God's creation of the earth. In some ways, man is like God, but he definitely is not God. Man was to rule the earth for God. Not only the man, but both the man and woman were given this task since they both were created in God's image. Man was created first, out of the dust of the ground. He became alive when God breathed the breath of life into him. God formed the woman from a part of the man's body. By himself, the man was alone, without a suitable helper. But the woman whom God made was the perfect helper and friend for him. God created each of them for the other, and both for Himself so that they might serve Him.

Application

In last week's lesson, we learned how the whole universe came to be. God created

it. This week, we learned about how man and woman were created. We learned why they were created, too. Man was made to rule God's creation on earth. He was to be a good caretaker of it. He was not to do this just for himself, though. The main reason man was to rule God's creation was for God, because God created him to do this job. This leads us to the other and more important purpose we learned for why we were created. God created man to serve and obey Him.

So, when you think about where you came from, remember that God made you (but in a different way from Adam and Eve)! And when you think about why you are alive, remember that it is to serve God in exactly the way He has told you in the Bible. Adam and Eve had instructions on what they were to do, and you do, too!

Presentation Ideas

A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards





Betty Lukens Flannelgraph

Use appropriate flannelgraph pieces and background with the lesson.

Use appropriate A Beka Book Flash-A-Cards with the lesson.



Mirror, Mirror on the Wall, Part Two

Hold a mirror up to your face and ask the students whose reflection or image is in the mirror. Ask them whose image they see when they look into a mirror. "Is the face in the mirror a reflection of you, or is it someone else who looks like you?" It is only a reflection. Explain that God made man in His image, something like a reflection of Him. When God looks at man, He should see His character and attributes. In today's lesson, we are going to see that God commanded man to rule the earth. Adam reflected God's image by ruling over the plants and animals.



How Many People Are There?

Find the number of the earth's population. Before beginning the lesson, write the number on a blackboard or poster board. Ask the students whether they know how many people live on the planet. Briefly explain that all the people in the world came from one man and one woman whom God created.



Significant Repetitions

As you read through Genesis 1:26–31 with the class, instruct the students to listen for three repeated words. Write the words on the board as a reminder. Teach the students the following hand signals to make when they hear the words being read aloud.

- 1. *Image* or *likeness* (*image* and *likeness* in 1:26 and *image* twice in 1:27)—Hold left palm in front of face as if gazing into a mirror.
- 2. *Make/made* or *created* (*make* in 1:26, *created* three times in 1:27, and *made* in 1:31)—Make right hand into a fist and pound into open left hand as if hammering.
- 3. All or every (all the earth and every creeping thing in 1:26; every living thing in 1:28; every herb and every tree in 1:29; and every beast, every bird, everything that creeps, and every green herb in 1:30)—Hold both hands in front of chest, palms up, and cross hands in front of chest, moving outward.

After reading the entire passage, explain the importance of each term that was

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repeated. Refer to the Bible Background section for an additional explanation of these terms.

Praise and Worship

God Is So Good Great Is the Lord I Sing the Mighty Power of God My God Is So Great This Is My Father's World This Is the Day Thou Art Worthy We Bow Down

PRACTICE THE TRUTH

"That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments" (Psalm 78:7).

Choose ideas from this section to review and apply the truths of the Bible lesson.



Tending the Garden

Have the students draw plants and flowers on a piece of construction paper. Then have them brush glue onto the bottom edge of the paper and sprinkle it with sand. For easy cleanup, line tables with butcher paper or newspaper before starting the craft.



Rightly Reflecting on Creation

Materials: copies of "Rightly Reflecting on Creation" on white cardstock (two per student), aluminum foil, hot-glue gun with glue sticks, pencils, scissors

Directions: Pass out two mirror patterns to each student. Instruct students to cut around the outside and inside of the mirror frame, along the solid black lines. Younger students may need assistance starting the inside cut of the mirror pattern. Ask the students to turn to Psalm 139:14a in their Bibles. Read the verse together, and then direct the students to write the verse around the edge of the mirror pattern on both sides. Direct students to cut aluminum-foil squares slightly larger than the inside of the mirror (or you can have these precut). Insert the aluminum foil between the two mirror patterns, and glue the papers together to fasten the aluminum foil in place with hot glue. An adult should supervise the hot-glue gun station. Use this craft to discuss the importance of praising God for creating us in His image.



"God Creates Man and Woman"

Use this work sheet in small groups as a review or send it home with students to work on with their parents. The work sheet is located at the back of this lesson.



Journal Page: "God Made Me to Serve"

Give each student a copy of the journal page at the back of this lesson. The students can complete the page individually, in small groups, or at home.

Coloring Sheets

Give each student a copy of the coloring sheets at the back of this lesson. The students can color the pages in class or at home.



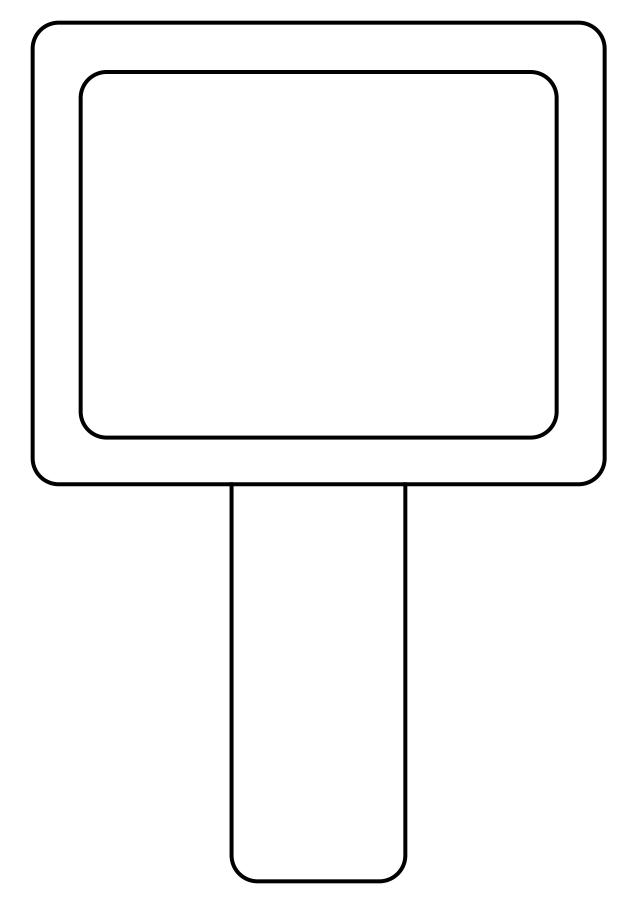
Hangman

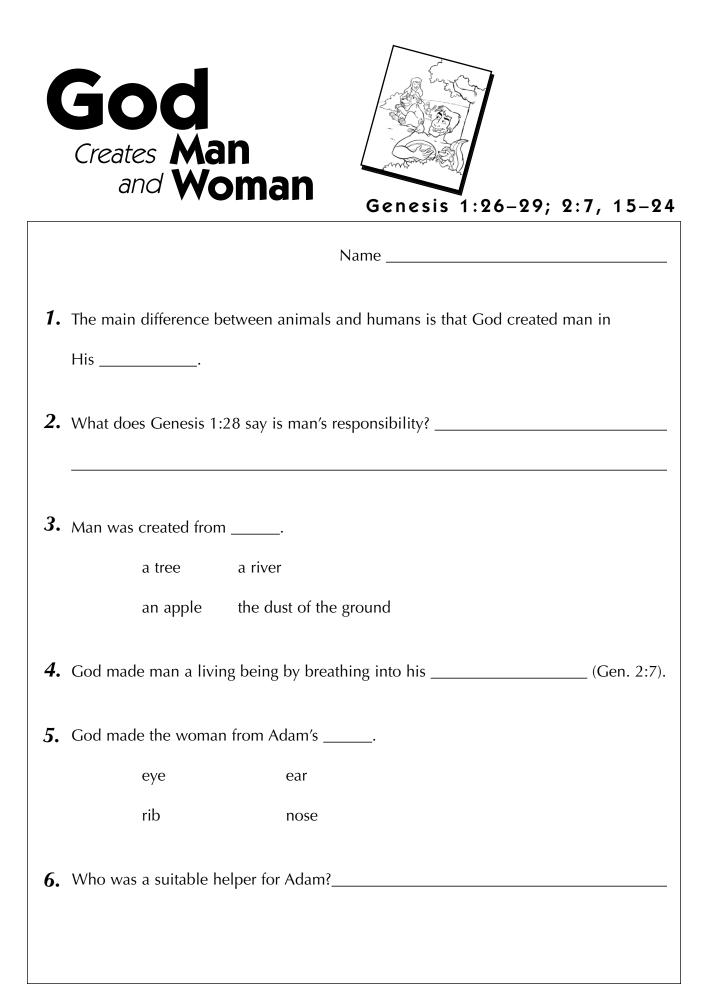
Use this activity in a large or small group. After reciting the verse as a class, make the appropriate number of blanks for the number of words in the verse. Play the game, choosing one student at a time to fill in a blank in the verse.

MEMORY VERSE

"So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Genesis 1:27).

Rightly Reflecting on Creation





God Made Me to Serve	God Made Me to Serve
God created Adam out of dust from the ground and Eve from Adam's rib. He created you in a special way, too. Like Adam and Eve, you were created to serve and glorify God.	God created Adam out of dust from the ground and Eve from Adam's rib. He created you in a special way, too. Like Adam and Eve, you were created to serve and glorify God.
Today's date is	Today's date is
Draw a picture of yourself in the space below.	Draw a picture of yourself in the space below.
I have Ears to hear God's Word.	I have Ears to hear God's Word.
A voice to praise Him.	A voice to praise Him.
Hands to serve Him.	Hands to serve Him.
Feet to go where He wants me to go.	Feet to go where He wants me to go.
God Desires	God Desires
That I have truth in the inward parts (Psalm 51:6).	That I have truth in the inward parts (Psalm 51:6).
That I have a clean heart (Psalm 51:10).	That I have a clean heart (Psalm 51:10).

"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created" (Revelation 4:11).	"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created" (Revelation 4:11).
Write a praise poem or prayer to God about serving Him.	Write a praise poem or prayer to God about serving Him.
I would like to thank the Lord God for	I would like to thank the Lord God for
Today I will praise Him in this special way:	Today I will praise Him in this special way:
I can serve God in this special way:	I can serve God in this special way:
Fill in the blanks.	Fill in the blanks.
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