



LESSON 1

REFERENCES: GENESIS 1; PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS, P. 44; STEPS TO CHRIST, PP. 9–15.

“In the Beginning . . .”

Have you ever made a good picture of an animal and felt pleased about it? God made real live animals and a whole new world—and it was very good!

God looked at a place of darkness and water. It was too dark to see anything, and there were no sounds except the sound of water.

Then God spoke. “Let there be light,” He said. And there was light! God divided the light and the darkness. The light He called day. The darkness He called night. And that was the end of the first day of our world.

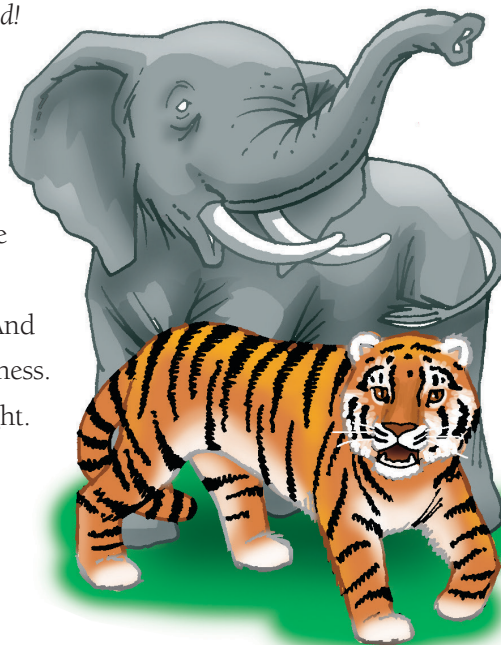
Memory Verse

“God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.”

GENESIS 1:31, NIV.

The Message

God made a wonderful world because He loves me.



On the second day God created air and the beautiful blue sky to surround the new world.

And the evening and the morning made the earth's second day.

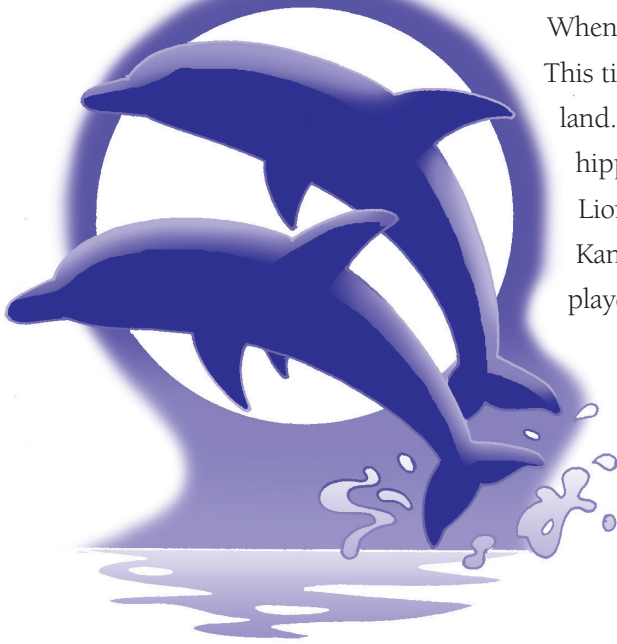
The next day God said, “Let the water under the sky come together, and let dry ground appear.” Suddenly the waters came together in certain places, and dry land appeared. God called the dry places “land,” and the waters He called the “seas.” God saw that this was good.

But there was still more work to do on this day. God spoke again, and the earth became beautifully green with grass and trees. Red and orange and purple and yellow flowers nodded in the gentle breeze. Plants and trees grew tasty things to eat. Before night crept over the land on the third day, God looked at all these beautiful, delicious things. He liked what He saw. "It's good," He said.

The next day God said, "Let there be lights in the sky!" And it was so. The new, brilliant sun warmed the earth by day, and that night the moon threw moonbeams across the peaceful seas. Millions and millions of tiny stars twinkled in the night sky. And God said, "That's good."

Although the earth was beautiful, it was still a quiet place. But that was about to change! On the fifth day God spoke again. "Let the water be filled with living creatures," He said, "and let birds fly above the earth."

Dolphins and whales splashed in the seas. Brightly colored fish danced in the streams. The seas filled with swimming creatures. Birds of every color chirped and squawked and screeched and cooed. God saw that this was good.



When a new day dawned, God spoke again. This time He called for living creatures on the land. Great animals like the elephant and hippopotamus lumbered across the earth. Lions and tigers swished their long tails. Kangaroos and rabbits hopped along. Puppies played, and horses neighed.

God looked at the beautiful world He had created. Then He said, "This is good!" And so it was.

Do and Say



SABBATH

Take your child to a beautiful place in nature and read the lesson, “In the Beginning . . .” Talk about the memory verse and say it together. What does it mean?



SUNDAY

Ask your child to tell you the lesson story. Then ask: What did God say about everything He made?

Sing the memory verse to the tune of “London Bridge.” (See page 60.)

Help your child share with someone the drawing of the six days of Creation made in Sabbath School.

MONDAY

Plant some fast-growing seeds on damp cotton balls in a saucer. (Radishes, alfalfa, and beans all sprout quickly.) Sprinkle water on them every day and see how fast they grow. As an alternative, put a sweet potato or the top of an old carrot in water. Something should begin to grow by the end of the week.

Thank God for making things grow. Say the memory verse together.

TUESDAY

Blow up a balloon and tie it off with a colored

ribbon or yarn. On it, write “God gives me breath.” Put the balloon in your child’s room as a reminder of God’s gift of air.

Thank God for the air we breathe. After prayer, say the memory verse together.

WEDNESDAY

Take your child outside at night to look at the stars. If you can’t see the stars, take a flashlight and a colander into a dark room. Shine the flashlight through the colander to create the effect of stars in the sky. Thank God for the lights He put in the sky for us. Say the memory verse together.

THURSDAY

Take a walk with your child and see how many flowers (or trees or birds) you can see. If appropriate, pick some flowers to take home and put in water. Thank God for things that grow. See if your child can say the memory verse from memory.



FRIDAY

Ask your child to pretend to be something that God has made and have the rest of the family guess what it is. Sing a praise song together. Then thank God for the wonderful world He made. Have your child teach the memory verse to the family.