

the Beginning

Date: 01.04.26 | God Creates Everything
Scripture: Genesis 1

CENTRAL TRUTHS

PRESCHOOL:

God made everything in six days, rested on the seventh, and said it was good.

YOUNGER KIDS (K5-2ND GRADE):

God made the world and gave it everything it needed.

OLDER KIDS (3RD-5TH GRADE):

God is eternal, and He created everything with order and purpose.

STUDENTS:

God made everything for His glory, and it all points back to Him.

ADULTS:

Creation declares God's glory and power, calling us to acknowledge and trust Him.



MEMORY VERSE

*For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
Colossians 1:16–17*

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



DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

What is God? God is the creator and sustainer of everyone and everything. He is eternal, infinite, and unchangeable in his power and perfection, goodness and glory, wisdom, justice, and truth. Nothing happens except through him and by his will. NCC q.2

BACKGROUND INFO FOR LEADERS



Before time began, God already existed. *Psalm 90:2* declares, “Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.” God—Elohim, a plural name that points to the fullness of the Trinity—has always been. He is eternal, sovereign, and unchanging.

Genesis 1:1 says, “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” Heaven and earth represent everything—God made the entire universe out of nothing. In His wisdom, power, and majesty, He called all things into being simply by speaking. *Hebrews 11:3* explains, “By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.” God’s Word—His spoken rhema—was effective. He needed no preexisting materials; His voice alone brought creation into existence.

John 1:1-3 connects creation directly to Jesus: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made.” “The Word” refers to Jesus Christ, as *John 1:14* clarifies: “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” Jesus, the eternal Word, was present at creation and served as the divine agent through whom all things were made. *Colossians 1:16-17* further emphasizes this truth: “For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.”

Even in the opening verses of Genesis, we see the Trinity at work: the Father willing creation, the Word (Jesus) speaking it into being,

and the Spirit hovering over the waters (*Genesis 1:2*). The Spirit's hovering created a sense of anticipation—something magnificent was about to happen. *Psalms 33:6* declares, "By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host." The same divine breath that formed the universe would one day breathe new life into believers through Christ.

God's creation unfolds with order, wisdom, and rhythm—each day building upon the next.

On the first day, God created light and formed day and night.

Genesis 1:2-5

Creation begins when God speaks light into the darkness, demonstrating His power to bring order out of chaos and to separate light from darkness. This first light foreshadows the greater Light—Christ Himself—who would one day enter a dark and sinful world to bring salvation (*John 8:12*). Throughout Scripture, light serves as a powerful image of how people come to know God. Israel was called to be "a light to the nations" (*Isaiah 49:6*). God's Word is described as "a lamp to our feet and a light to our path" (*Psalms 119:105*). And followers of Jesus are commanded to "let their light shine before others" (*Matthew 5:16*). It is no coincidence that creation begins with both order and light, for God Himself is the source of both.

On the second day, God created the sky. *Genesis 1:6-8*

God separates the waters to create a space between them, forming the sky. The waters left below would become the seas on the third day, and the waters above would become moisture in the atmosphere. With this, a water system was now in place, allowing vegetation to grow. It is no surprise, then, that God created plants on the next day. On day two, God established boundaries, creating structure and systems that would sustain life.

On the third day, God created land, seas, plants, and trees.

Genesis 1:9-13

The third and final creative act through separation results in the formation of land masses and seas. Unlike the first two days, the third day includes two distinct creative acts. God creates vegetation with the ability to produce fruit containing seeds that will continue to produce more plants and fruit. The seed displays God's thoughtful and intentional design of creation. Creation was not random; it was purposeful—designed for reproduction, provision, and flourishing. The image of the seed will remain significant throughout the Old Testament.

God also creates by separating light from darkness. This pattern establishes a parallel structure where days one and four, days two and five, and days three and six correspond to one another. The sun is not created until day four, so this initial light is likely the light of God's glory (*2 Corinthians 4:6*).

On the fourth day, God created the sun, moon, and stars.

Genesis 1:14-19

Day four parallels day one. On the first day, God created light; now, on the fourth day, He created other sources of light in the heavens—the sun, the moon, and the stars. God uses these celestial bodies as instruments of His design to mark days and seasons, and to provide humanity with a means to measure the passage of time.

On the fifth day, God created birds and sea creatures.

Genesis 1:20-23

The fifth day of creation parallels the second day when the waters were separated and the sky was formed. Now God fills the waters and the skies with sea creatures and birds. Here we see a progression from vegetation to animals, and then, finally, to the pinnacle of creation—man. On this day, God does something new as He blesses the birds and sea creatures, commanding them to be fruitful and multiply. This blessing indicates that animals hold a favored place in creation, although they will ultimately be surpassed by humanity.

On the sixth day, God created animals and people.

Genesis 1:24-31

The sixth day of creation parallels the third day when God created the land and vegetation. Now God begins by creating animals to live and move upon the land. On the third day, there are two creative acts. The second is the pinnacle of creation—the creation of man, which is why Scripture gives more detail about this day. Man was created uniquely from the rest of creation because he was made in the image of God. This places humanity in a special relationship with God and sets people apart in importance from everything else He made. Unlike any other creature, humans reflect God's character, possessing both authority over the earth and the capacity for a relationship with Him. Humanity is blessed and commanded to be fruitful and multiply and to fill the world, just as the animals were. But added to humanity's blessing and purpose is the call to subdue the earth and rule over it as God's representatives.

On the 7th day, God rested. *Genesis 2:1-3* and *Exodus 20:8-10*

There is no mention of God speaking because His creative work was complete. This day was important to confirm that His creation was finished and that it fully met His perfect standards. The seventh day serves as a period—or even an exclamation point—on creation, with God declaring that His work was complete. Everything was truly very good. God established a rhythm of work and rest that we are meant to follow. Later, He would command His people to observe this pattern through the institution of the Sabbath. God designed us to need and enjoy rest, reminding us each day—when we sleep—that He alone is our provider and sustainer.

TELL THE STORY

Genesis 1



In the very beginning, there was nothing—no sky, no land, no people—only God. God has always been alive and powerful. Then God decided to create everything!

First, He made the heavens and the earth. The earth was dark and empty, but God’s Spirit was there, hovering over the waters. God spoke, “Let there be light!” and light appeared. That’s how God created—just by talking! He called the light “day” and the darkness “night.” That was the first day.

On the second day, God made the sky, separating the waters above from the waters below. On the third day, He gathered the waters so dry land appeared. He called the dry land “earth” and the waters “seas.” Then God said, “Let the earth grow plants,” and grass, trees, and flowers began to grow, each with seeds to make more plants.

On the fourth day, God made the sun, the moon, and the stars. The sun gave light for the day, and the moon and stars gave light for the night. They also helped people know time—days, months, and seasons.

On the fifth day, God filled the sea with fish and the sky with birds. He blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and fill the earth.” On the sixth day, God made animals to live on the land—big and small, wild and tame. Then He made His greatest creation—people! God made man and woman in His own image, meaning we are made to be like Him in special ways. He gave people the job of ruling over the animals

and caring for the earth. God placed them in a beautiful garden to live and work. God looked at everything He had made and said it was good. But when He saw people, He said it was very good!

When God finished creating everything, He rested on the seventh day. He didn't rest because He was tired—He rested to show that His work was complete and perfect. God blessed that day and set it apart as a day of rest.

From the very beginning, creation showed how amazing, wise, and powerful God is. Everything God made points us to Jesus, the Word of God who spoke the world into being (*John 1:1-3*). Jesus is the Light of the World (*John 8:12*), and through Him everything was made and held together (*Colossians 1:16-17*).

REBUILD THE STORY

1. Who created the heavens and the earth, and what does this reveal about His nature? *Genesis 1:1*



2. What does *Hebrews 11:3* teach us about how the universe came into being?

3. Who is “the Word” in *John 1:1-3*, and what role did He play in creation?

4. What does it mean that mankind was created in the image of God? *Genesis 1:26-27*

5. Why is the creation of light on the first day significant? *Genesis 1:3, John 8:12*

6. How does the pattern of creation show God's order and purpose? *Genesis 1:31*

7. Why did God rest on the seventh day? *Gen. 2:2-3, Hebrews 4:9-10*

8. How does *Colossians 1:16-17* connect the creation story to Jesus?

9. What does this story teach us about ourselves?

10. How does it affect our lives if we believe that God made everything we can see?

11. In what ways do you see the light of Christ bringing order and hope into the chaos in your own life?

12. How can you practice the rhythm of work and rest that God modeled in creation?

GOSPEL EMPHASIS

The story of creation is not just about how God made the world, but why. Creation reveals God's glory, order, and goodness. It declares that life has meaning because it comes from the Creator. Yet creation also sets the stage for the Gospel: the same Word that spoke life into being would one day take on flesh to bring new life to a world marred by sin.



Through Jesus, the light that first pierced the darkness of *Genesis 1* now pierces the darkness of the human heart (*2 Corinthians 4:6*). The One through whom all things were made also became the Redeemer who restores all things broken. Just as God brought order out of chaos in creation, He brings redemption out of the chaos of sin through Christ's death and resurrection.

Colossians 1:16-17 reminds us: "All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together." The world exists for Jesus—He is both the Creator and the Sustainer. The same power that spoke stars into existence now holds our lives together by grace.

WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TEACH US ABOUT GOD?

Use your Attributes of God poster as a guide.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Praise God for His power and wisdom in creating the heavens and the earth. Thank Him for creating light, life, and all that is good in the world. Ask God to help us see His glory in creation and to live as people who reflect His order, goodness, and light to others.



THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING

Genesis 2