

LESSON 2

ONE TRUE GOD: GOD AND HIS CREATION

OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that God created the universe and everything in it.
2. To realize that everything was created for God's glory.
3. To know that God is the one that provides and cares for His creation.

MEMORY VERSE

"Everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him."

(Isaiah 43:7)

PRAYER

Our heavenly Father, we praise and thank You for creating the world that we live in and for giving us life. It is only by Your mercy and love that we are able to live each day, because You are the one that provides for our daily needs. Please watch over us today on this Sabbath and help us to focus in class. May You open our hearts and our minds so that we can accept Your words and live out our life to glorify You, which Your purpose for creating us.



Overview

1. Bible Discovery and Spiritual Teaching

- a. God Is Our Creator
 - What is the purpose of His creation?
- b. God's Work
 - In Nature
 - Among the Nations of the World
- c. God's Provides and Cares for His People

2. Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs—One True God

3. Life Application

- a. How Can I Glorify the Lord?
- b. I Will Glorify the Lord

4. Activity—Cinquain Poem



Background Knowledge for Teachers

The almighty God created everything in the universe long ago. At the same time, He also provides order and harmony in the world. From the birds of the air to the fish of the sea, God watches over all and gives food to all. Still, He gave man dominion to rule over and enjoy His creation. It is important to know that our lives are in His hands, and, as our Creator and heavenly Father, He is the one truly in control of the world that we live in. If we are able to see ourselves clearly, then we will discover how small we are in comparison to our God in heaven. Even more amazing is that, even though we are so minute, God faithfully protects and loves us to the point that He sent down His only son Jesus Christ to die on the cross for us. God's great love for us will continue to motivate us to serve and love Him every day of our lives.



Reaching Out to Your Students

The previous lesson covered the essence of God and a few of God's many virtues, so it is important that, in this lesson, students are brought to understand the special relationship between God—the Creator—and His creation. This will help students to have a better understanding of God's interaction with the world and with His people. It will be difficult for some students to grasp the enormity of God's works; therefore, it is important to tie the concepts in the lesson to concrete things in nature. For example, God's protection is shown through the survival of wild animals, which flourish without human guidance. God provides for the needs of His people. God sent down manna for the Israelites to eat for forty years in the wilderness. Share personal testimonies of God's power or familiar examples in the Bible to allow the students to have a better understanding of the interaction between God and the world. Once they have a better grasp on how God interacts with the world around them, they will understand better how God interacts with each of them on a personal level.

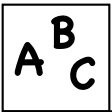


Opener

5 Minutes

Imagine that you are an inventor and that you want to invent to help all the people of the world. What would your invention do? [Wait for students to respond.]

Today, there are many different individuals that invent all kinds of things, such as computers or cars. However, there is one ultimate inventor and creator of all. Do you know who it is? [Yes, it is God!] In Genesis 1, God made everything in the world, and He saw that what He had made was good! Today, we are going to learn about God as our Creator and also about what it means to be part of God's creation.



Vocabulary

glory: a great source of praise or pride

purpose: the reason why something is done; aim or goal

prosperity: the state of being successful



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out the Bible Discovery worksheet to the students. Ask them to complete the first box. Then, continue with the lesson. The students will complete the worksheet as you go over the lesson.

God Is Our Creator

In the first chapter of Genesis, the first book of the Bible, it tells us that God created the heavens and the earth. He created it and it became the home for all mankind. On earth, we have food to eat and natural resources to use to make our clothes and houses. God even made us ruler over all living creatures (Gen 1:26). Not only were all things were created by Him, but all things were also created for Him. This means that everything was created with a purpose. What do you think that purpose is?

Let's read Isaiah 43:7 and Psalm 86:9!

God made all nations so that they could come and worship Him and glorify His name. God has made us for this purpose: to glorify and give honor to Him. This was a command given to the nations, so as His special people, we have to glorify Him even more. The big question is how should we, as Christians, give glory to God?

Let's look at 1 Corinthians 6:20! [Pause to allow students to fill in the blanks on the worksheet.]

It's clear that God wants us to glorify Him using our bodies. How can we do that? We can do that by making sure our actions and words show that we are Christians. When we see a person wearing a police uniform, we know that the person is a police officer. When people see us act

and speak, will they be able to tell that we are Christians?

Let us turn to Genesis 39:1-5. After Joseph's older brothers sold him into slavery, his master Potiphar was able to see that God was with Joseph. Since Potiphar knew that God was with Joseph, he made Joseph overseer of his entire house. By studying the life of Joseph, we can see that even in times of hardship, he still behaved in a way that glorified God. The people around him could see that God was with him. This is amazing considering Joseph's difficult situation.

Today, God has given us the purpose to glorify His name, so, as His special children, we must strive to be holy. What are some things that we can do? [Wait for students to respond. Possible answers: Don't cheat on our homework or tests; have good manners; don't say rude or bad words; etc.]

There are so many things that we can do to show others that we belong to Jesus Christ, so it is important for us to make sure we do them.

God created everything with a purpose, so He knows about His creation and takes care of them. Let us look at some examples.

God's Work In Nature

Through the simple act of speaking, God was able to create the whole world. God commanded, "Let there be light," and then there was light (Gen 1:3). God not only has the power to create, but He also has the power to control His creation. For example, God was the one that sent a big fish to swallow Jonah, and God was also the one who commanded the fish to spit him back out. Above all, God protects His creation. He is the one that sends down rain to water the plants, and He is also the one that feeds and gives shelter to the animals. If we look at nature, we can see God's protection over all His creation; even the smallest insect has a home and food. Can you think of other examples of God's power over nature in the Bible? [God sent down fire from heaven; God allowed the Israelites to cross the Red Sea on dry land; etc.]

The Bible records many examples of God's work in nature, but we can experience His power today simply by going outside and looking at everything that God has made for us. We are truly blessed!

God's Work Among the Nations of the World

God is the one that created the world, and He is the one who puts rulers in their places. From the Bible, we can see that God is not just a God of creation, but He is also a God of the nations.

Let's turn to Daniel 4:17. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon spoke these words, recognizing God as the ruler in the kingdom of men. Even such a great and powerful king as Nebuchadnezzar acknowledged God's sovereignty. When King Nebuchadnezzar forgot who was really in control because of his pride, God punished him to teach him a lesson. God can give a person a great kingdom, but God can also take it away. All things are under God's authority. Today, there are many things that we do not have control over, but God does. We really have nothing to fear; rather, we can entrust ourselves into the protection of God.

God's Provides and Cares for His People

As we live out each day, God directs our steps—our lives are in His hands. Just as He takes care of the creatures of the earth, He also takes care of us. God is also the one that can protect us from evil, but sometimes, God chooses to test our faith. In Genesis 22:1-19, God tested Abraham to see if he was willing to sacrifice his only son, Isaac.

Likewise, sometimes bad things happen to good people because this is to fulfill the will of God. In Genesis 37:12-36, Joseph's older brothers sold him into slavery, but this happened so that he could save his family from the famine that would happen later.

While God provides and cares for all His creation, as His children, we are especially precious to Him. This is because God has called us personally to receive the way to salvation. Today, we are especially blessed to have been called by God and to be able to receive the true gospel!

God truly cares for us—we can go to Him in our time of need and He will be there. We can pray to Him and He will answer us. God loves the world that He created, but God loves His chosen people even more so.

Let's turn to Job 22:21. Once we come to know the true God that we worship, we will receive peace, joy, and prosperity. This means that if we actively pursue a relationship with God, and gradually understand His true nature better, He will bless us abundantly! Let us always remember and worship our only God in heaven!

FOR TEACHERS

Give students to complete the last section of the worksheet, and then go over the answers. The students may use the examples provided or come up with their own.



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

One True God

The world—everything that lives on it and everything that happens in it—is under God’s control. We can so easily lose sight of God’s great power, but God truly holds the whole world in the palm of His hands. The one true God is the only God that we worship.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

1. **What is the purpose of God’s creation?** To glorify Him.
2. **How does God care for the world?** God watches over it and provides for it.
3. **Give an example in the Bible that shows God’s authority over nations.** God took away King Nebuchadnezzar’s kingdom when King Nebuchadnezzar became proud.
4. **Give an example of how God provides for us.** God can protect us from trouble, and He can test our faith, so that we can become stronger.



Life Application

10 Minutes

1. HOW CAN I GLORIFY THE LORD?

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #1.] Read each scenario and then discuss the questions with the students. Be sure to emphasize which choice from the scenarios would glorify God and why.

2. I WILL GLORIFY THE LORD

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #2. Go over the worksheet one row at a time, pausing to allow students to write their responses. For each section, students can list more than one answer.]

How can I glorify God in my life? God created us with this purpose, so let us examine how we can glorify God in our daily life.

First, let us see what we shouldn’t do. We may do many things that God is not pleased with and that do not glorify Him. What do you think they are? [Wait for students to write down the first row, and then have some students share.]

- **At school:** Copying my friends homework
- **At church:** Being disrespectful to my RE teacher
- **At home:** Talking back to my parents with a bad attitude

Now that we have identified behavior and actions that do not glorify God, what are some actions that we do now that glorify God? [Wait for students to write down the second row, and then have some students share.]

- **At school:** Paying attention to what the teacher is saying in class
- **At church:** Greeting elderly members
- **At home:** Praying with my parents before going to school

Praise the Lord that there are things that we are currently doing to show the world that we belong to God. Lastly, let us think about how we can glorify God more in this coming week. [Wait for students to write down the third row, and then have some students share.]

- **At school:** I want to glorify God by telling my friend that I am a Christian
- **At church:** I want to glorify God by making sure to cleanup after myself, so that the house of God is clean.
- **At home:** I want to glorify God by asking my parents what I can do to help them.

Praise the Lord that there are so many ways that we can glorify God in our life! If we continue to follow Him, then God will bless us for sure!



Activity

Cinquain Poem

10-15 Minutes

Objective: To glorify God through a poem.

Using the Cinquain poem format, students will write a poem that illustrates how God has provided for them in their life or how they will glorify God in their life.

Cinquain Poem Format

- Poems are five lines long
 - o Line 1: Two syllables
 - o Line 2: Four syllables
 - o Line 3: Six syllables
 - o Line 4: Eight syllables
 - o Line 5: Two syllables
- Cinquain poems do not need to rhyme, but students can include rhyming.

Instructions

1. Brainstorm ideas about your topic on a piece of paper. It will help to write down a couple sentences or even words.
2. While you are writing, count the syllables and change words so that each line matches the syllables needed.
3. After writing the words, read over the poem to make sure that it conveys the meaning that you intended.

Example Poem

*Glory
Glory to God
I will sing hymns to Him
And give praise to His name always
Amen*

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. True
2. False
3. True
4. False
5. Answers may vary.
6. Answers may vary. Possible answer: Daniel glorified God by choosing not to eat the food that had been worshipped to idols.
7. Answers may vary.



Draw some of God's creation that you see in your everyday lives.

God's Creation

How should we
GLORIFY GOD
 as a Christian?

"For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your _____ and in your _____, which are God's."
 (1 Corinthians 6:20)


What does God do in the world?

GOD WORKS
 IN NATURE

Example:

Example:

GOD ^{RULES}
 OVER THE WORLD

GOD Takes care
 of the people 
 of the world

Example:

"Now acquaint yourself with Him, and be at peace: thereby good will come to you." (Job 22:21)

How can I GLORIFY GOD?

Instructions: Read each scenario and discuss the questions below.

Scenario 1: The Math Quiz

As soon as Peter enters into the classroom, his teacher announces that there is a math quiz today. He is already in trouble with his mother over his previous failed math quiz. He will be in even bigger trouble if he fails this test as well. As he sits down in his seat, his friends come to him, telling him that they have a “cheat sheet” for all of them to use. Peter hesitates since he is afraid of getting caught, but his friends tell him that it’s fine and that they have already done it before without getting caught.



Discussion Questions

1. What are the two different choices that Peter could make?
2. Which choice would be easier for Peter? Why?
3. Which choice would glorify God? How do you know?

Scenario 2: The New Friend

It’s the Sabbath Day and Martha is so excited to go to church to catch up with her friends. She just received a new set of glitter pens, and she wants to show it to them. When lunchtime comes, she is about to run to her friends, but her mother pulls her aside and introduces her to a young girl that has just moved from China. Her mother tells her that she has to make the young girl feel welcome by sitting and talking to her during lunch and RE Class. In her heart, Martha really doesn’t want to because she wants to sit and talk with her friends. What should she do?



Discussion Questions

1. What are the two different choices that Martha could make?
2. Which choice would be easier for Martha? Why?
3. Which choice would glorify God? How do you know?

Scenario 3: The Crash

You’re throwing a ball in the house and accidentally break your mother’s favorite table decoration. Your mother hears the crash and comes running to see what has happened. If you tell the truth, you know that you will be punished. You could say that you accidentally bumped into the table.



Discussion Questions

1. What are the different choices that you could make?
2. Which choice would be easier for you? Why?
3. Which choice would glorify God? How do you know?

I will GLORIFY the LORD

Directions: Think and reflect on the questions. Then, fill in the rows, one at a time.

	AT SCHOOL 	AT CHURCH 	AT HOME 
<p>What does not glorify God?</p> <p><i>Example:</i> Being a bully by making fun of those who I see as being different from me.</p>			
<p>In what ways have I glorified God?</p> <p><i>Example:</i> At school, I make sure that I say grace before lunch to thank God for the meal.</p>			
<p>In what ways can I improve, so that I can glorify God?</p> <p><i>Example:</i> At church, I can glorify God by greeting older members when I pass by them.</p>	I want to glorify God by...	I want to glorify God by...	I want to glorify God by...

"Everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory: I have formed him, yes, I have made him." (Isaiah 43:7)

