

Baptist Training Course

# BTC TEACHER

Summer Quarter, 2009

For BTC Teachers of Preschool, Beginner, Primary and Junior Classes

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## God's Good Gifts

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# Before You Teach . . .

Are you aware of the principles for living that God gave in the book of Genesis? Bible studies for this unit are directed towards learning and applying the values God gave man when history began. The purpose for these lessons is that students will become familiar with God's principles and want to live by them.

Make your teaching as practical as possible by using the Bible stories as the basis for applying God's truth to today's living situations. Children need to know the Bible is relevant to living. It isn't enough for students to learn about a Bible incident without understanding how it relates to their lives today.

Ideas to make your teaching stimulating are given in each lesson, but you should also use other resources available to make the class time a thrilling experience for every situation. Correlating pictures, activities or flash card stories will add another dimension to your teaching.

The visual figures that illustrate the Bible lessons along with the story presentation are in the visual aids. You are not limited to using them with a flannelgraph board only. Try variations to add interest to your teaching.

Plan your class time. Bible study is too important for unplanned presentation. What is your goal or purpose for teaching a particular lesson? The printed teaching aim may need to be adjusted to fit your local situation and the personal needs of your individual students.

How will you introduce the theme? What teaching methods will you use for presenting the story? How will you get student involvement? What supplementary story will you use to help make personal application of the lesson?

To teach effectively requires preparation. Believe God will bless Bible study. He will bless when teachers spend time in planning and getting materials ready for use. Make your class the most lively part of your total church program. It will take effort, but you can do it!

Memorizing Bible verses is a significant plus for children's classes. Why not devise an incentive program to encourage students? Award points for each verse learned, accumulating them for a period of time. Have an attractive prize for those achieving a maximum of points with smaller awards for lesser amounts. There are many Bible-related awards in Bible bookstores in a variety of price ranges. Try it.

I pray that God will give you, each teacher using this book, an intense desire to see His Word make a difference in the young lives you will influence. Be a world changer. When God's Word touches lives, it changes them. "Reach out and touch" your students with God's message.

**Acknowledgments:** Carol Jones prepared material on which the preschool section of each lesson is based. Doris Scarlett submitted material for the junior section.

# A Beautiful Creation

**LESSON TEXT:** Created for God, Genesis 1:1-31; 2:4-15; Ephesians 2:10.

**MEMORY VERSE:** Genesis 1:31, “And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, *it was very good.*”

**TEACHING AIM:** *Preschool and Beginner:* The student will recognize that God’s greatest gift is life.  
*Primary and Junior:* The student will learn that God created all life for His glory.

## LESSON PREPARATION

“The heavens declare the glory of God” (Psalm 19:1). “Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture” (Psalm 100:3).

“I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded. . . . he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else” (Isa. 45:12, 18).

“For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him” (Col. 1:16).

These and many other Scriptures give a clear witness to the power and glory of God in His creative work. Creation week ended in a perfect world inhabited by His ultimate work—man.

The first day of creation was the origination of space (heaven), mass (earth) and time (beginning). God’s Spirit began to move and gravitational electromagnetic force systems for the cosmos were energized. Visible light was generated.

God then provided the earth with a marvelous atmosphere and water masses. No other planet is equipped with air and water in such abundance as earth.

The entire earth was prepared as a beautiful garden on the third day with an abundance of fruit to nourish every living creature that would be made. Then lights to maintain life were brought into being on the fourth day. There had been light on the first three days, but now there were lights. The earth and its contents would be a source of beauty and sustenance to man, and the heavens would bring joy and inspiration to him. In addition, the sun, moon and stars would guide his way.

After preparing the earth for life, God created animals with the life of the flesh in the blood. It was their lifeblood that would later be accepted as an atonement for sin (Lev. 17:11).

The climax and goal of God’s great work was in the creation of man made in the image and likeness of God. Man was made for God’s benefit and is most happy when serving God with his life.

Of all the creation, only people are described as being made in God’s likeness or image.

Read and meditate on these Scriptures: Genesis 5:1, 2; Psalms 8; 33:6-9; Jeremiah 10:12; John 1:1-3.

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION

Display a banner with the title “God’s Good Gifts,” about eighteen inches by eight inches in size. It should be attractive-

ly designed and colored to use for the entire quarter of study.

Make a wall display or mobile arrangement of the six days of creation with pictures cut from magazines or calendars. Use a length of white paper divided into seven numbered sections. Provide a collection of pictures.

The students choose a picture and study it. After deciding which day of creation it shows, they may glue it in the section for that day. For a mobile, glue the pictures to poster board and hang from a spiral cut from poster board. Cut out a twelve-inch circle. Then cut it into a one-inch strip starting at the outer edge and cutting around the circle into the center. Hold the circle by the outer edge and the spiral will dangle downward. Hang pictures from the edges of the spiral.

Students will enjoy a peep-box creation scene also. Place a special nature object in a box or arrange a miniature display of creation work. Guide children to worship God as they view the peep-box scene and thank Him for His good gifts of creation.

Let older students do Bible research to find how many times in Genesis 1:3-27 they read "And God said," or, let them use the same verses to make a list of each day's creation. The list should be similar to this:

Day 1: Light and darkness, day and night

Day 2: Earth's atmosphere (firmament or heavens) and water masses above and below the earth

Day 3: Dry land and seas separated; all plant life

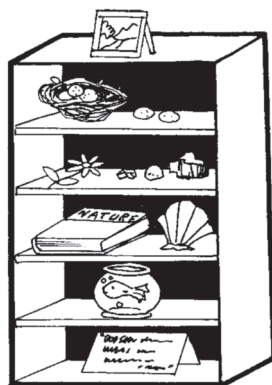
Day 4: Sun, moon and stars; seasons, days, years

Day 5: Sea creatures and birds

Day 6: Land animals and man

Ask the students to look at the order of creation. How did God's design show wisdom? (The earth was prepared for animal habitation and man's enjoyment before they were created. Everything needed to sustain life was ready before it was brought into being.)

A nature center will help children become more aware of God's creations.



Provide a table or shelf to display nature items and books. Choose a picture for the center also. (Calendars are excellent sources for nature pictures.) Print the Bible words and display: "God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good," Genesis 1:31.

Encourage the students to bring nature items to share. Label the items and arrange them in the display. Participation in this project will help boys and girls to thank God for the things He made.

## LESSON PRESENTATION

### PRESCHOOL

Small children are excited with life and will enjoy this study in Genesis. They will be especially responsive to this lesson about the gift of life. The fact that God made each of them is precious.

Use pictures such as calendar prints to decorate your classroom. Pictures of animals, plants and summer beauty that God made will make an attractive atmosphere.

**Bible Story.** Know the story so you can tell it easily as you use the teaching picture. Talk about the picture of the butterfly and flower on the student folder. Bring pictures of several kinds of butterflies and flowers for the children to glue to a strip of paper on the wall.

**Something I Can Do.** Provide magazines or other sources of pictures to com-

plete this activity. After reading the caption, have the pupils cut pictures of animals and plants from the magazine to add to the pages. You may need to have pictures already cut for younger students for them to choose what they want to add to their pictures. Stickers of God's creation might also be used.

**A Picture To Color.** Read the caption then talk about each picture on the balloons. Where does the bird fly? What color is the sky? Color the bird balloon blue. What color is a goldfish? Color the fish balloon orange. The balloon with the boy should be colored the student's favorite color. What color is the sun. Color the sun balloon yellow. There are many trees. Color the tree balloon green.

**Extra Activities.** Bring balloons to class with you. Blow them up and give one to two children to hit back and forth to each other. It should be kept in the air. The team that goes the longest without their balloon touching the floor is the winner. Give the winning team an inexpensive prize. Praise them for sharing and playing nicely together.

## **BEGINNER**

Print Ecclesiastes 3:11; Psalm 33:5 and Genesis 1:1 on separate strips of paper. Print them again using three colors of paper. Cut between each word. As the children arrive, ask them to read the verse from the first strip. Then they are to find the words for the verses and arrange them correctly on the table or floor.

In the pupil book is a cut and glue section that will teach the order of creation. Help them see the perfect order as God created a world for man. Let the students read Revelation 4:11 in unison as a praise to their Creator.

Utilize extra pictures from calendars or magazines to help students understand the wonderful, dependable world which God created. (See Lesson Illustration section.)

The goal for your teaching is to encourage students to give praise, honor and glory to God for his great gifts of creation, especially the gift of life. God's creative works were good for man, and man was made to have fellowship with God. Have a time of praise when students share an expression of gratitude to God for something He created.

Use your creative abilities that God has given you to make this lesson especially meaningful for your class. Teach in such a way that each will leave with a warmth of love toward God for the things He has given us to enjoy.

## **PRIMARY**

Use an idea from the Lesson Illustration as students arrive.

Teach the lesson from your open Bible with verses marked for the creation story. The students will enjoy searching for the next creation named in their Bibles. Encourage them to do so. Use the teaching picture as called for in the visual aids.

Discuss the Memory Verse as you finish the lesson. Why did everything appear perfect as God looked over His creation work? Because it was. No pollution of any kind had spoiled any part of creation. He gave man responsibility of caring for the world. We still need to do our part and more toward taking care of God's creation. That is one way we can honor Him.

Use the Bible verses list as a sword drill. The student finding the reference first gets to read it aloud.

Emphasize the praise idea listed. We are made to praise our Creator. The intricate way our bodies function declares God's greatness. The orderly world in which we live speaks of His majesty. God is great and greatly to be praised.

Encourage students to think of how each day of creation prepared the world for people. Do they understand that the creation was the beginning of the world? Do they realize it is God's power that keeps creation functioning as it was designed to do for man's benefit?

The final section of the lesson deals with situations in which children either take care of God's world or neglect to do so. Discuss individual choices in making the world a better place in which to live.

## JUNIOR

To emphasize the quarterly theme, prepare a bulletin board with the title across the top. Encourage pupils to bring pictures they draw or from newspapers, magazines or other sources to illustrate the good gift in each lesson. Thumbtack these on the bulletin board weekly after removing the pictures from the week before.

"Keep Your Score" is a personal grading system for the pupil to measure his participation in study and classroom work. Look at page 43 in the pupil book. This grading system could be used as a contest for the quarter. An appropriate award should be given to the pupil or team with the highest total score at the end of the quarter. Remind pupils weekly to keep their scores. Encourage pupils to get extra points by bringing a visitor each week.

"Gifts To Give Parents"—use pages 45 and 47 with Lesson 4. Encourage pupils to faithfully fulfill the pledge in each coupon as a gift of love to their parents.

**Lesson Plan.** Show the active part of the Trinity in creation by correlating Genesis 1:1, 2 with John 1:1-3; Ephesians 3:9 and Hebrews 1:2. Let the students read the verses aloud.

Discuss the events on each creative day. Emphasize that God spoke all life-forms into existence instantly. They did not evolve over billions of years. Show the distinction God made in naming the great lights, the sun and moon, apart from the stars. (See Genesis 1:3, 6, 9; Psalms 33:8, 9 and 148:1-5.)

Discuss how each creative act is good for students today. Coordinate this discussion with pupils' answers to "What I Think" on page 5 in their books.

Explain how man was made in God's image as illustrated in "God's Image and Likeness" on page 5. Show how man was created to glorify God.

**Lesson Key.** This section of each lesson emphasizes God's principle for living stated in the lesson aim. The Scripture given weekly underscores the aim.

Make a large key from poster board. See illustration. On a piece of paper letter the words of the "Lesson Key" each week. Attach it to the large key displayed in your classroom on a weekly basis.



*God wants my life to praise and glorify Him.* Explain the meaning of the word *glory* and what is meant by glorifying God. God is light (1 John 1:5). Jesus is the Light of the world (John 8:12). Believers are the light of Jesus in the world (Matt. 5:14-16). Jesus' light in a believer shines outward to others and upward to God—both give Him glory by causing others to see Jesus and be aware of His presence. Discuss "The Real Thing" on page 4. Explain since man was made to glorify God, he is most happy when serving God with his life.

On page 44 of the pupil book there are three questions given to review each lesson. The teacher book gives the review answers each week.

**REVIEW ANSWERS:** (1) life, (2) good, (3) praise.