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Lesson 002

God Makes Adam And Eve

Genesis 1:26-4:1

MEMORY VERSE

Genesis 1:27

So, God created man in His own image; in the image of God, He created him; male and female He created them.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

As many quartered sheets of black, red, white, green, and yellow construction paper as the number of children in your class and a stapler. As many white sheets of paper as the number of children in your class and markers or crayons.

ATTENTION GRABBER!

The Gospel "Wordless" Book

Have your class make a "wordless" storybook of the Gospel. Start with a black page, representing the death of sin, then a red page, representing the blood of Jesus shed to cleanse us from our sin. Next add a white page, representing that we are washed white as snow, then add a green page representing the growth we will have in Jesus. Finally, add a yellow page, representing that we will one day walk the heavenly streets of gold.

Staple the sheets of color in this order. Encourage the children to share their wordless book with a friend and tell them about Jesus.

LESSON TIME!

In today's lesson, we are going to study about the creation of Adam and Eve. There are some very important things that we can learn from this story—mostly, God's great love for us! The Lord has given us life and desires to have a relationship with us. He desires that we, His creation, give Him glory. God gave us life.

GENESIS 1:26-31

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them,

"Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

29 And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. 30 Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so. 31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Review of the previous lesson:

Let's review the story of the creation of man from the first chapter of Genesis (Genesis 1:26-28). We learned last week that we have been created in the image of God—that means that we have a body, a soul (mind, will, and emotions), and a spirit. We are a triune (three in one), just as God is a triune (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit).

We also learned that God gave man authority or dominion over His creation. He also gave man a responsibility. He created man and woman, and they were to be married and fill the earth with more people.

Why did God make man?

Did He make man because He needed him to take care of everything? No, God does not need us, but God wants us and loves us. Remember, God wants to have a personal relationship with us. God could have just as easily made a robot to take care of the earth--someone who would always serve Him and never disobey Him, always read His Word and spend all of his time doing what God wants. But a robot is programmed to do something; and it has no choice but to do what it is told. God could have done that, but He did not. God gave us a choice; we can have a personal relationship with Him and follow His will, or we can follow our own will. When we choose to follow Him, it is because we want to and because we love Him.

In today's lesson, we are going to look more closely at what happened when God created man and woman; and we will see God's wonderful grace. God gave us life.

GENESIS 2:1-6

Thus, the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. 2 And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

4 This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, 5 before any plant of the field was in the earth and before any herb of the field had grown. For the Lord God had not caused it to rain on the earth, and there was

no man to till the ground; 6 but a mist went up from the earth and watered the whole face of the ground.

In chapter two, we see that God is reviewing some important things concerning creation. Most of what we learn about creation is found in chapter 1, but we are given some more details here in chapter two. Notice that verse 4 says that this is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

One of the greatest things about the Bible is that it contains a history of the world. It is all true and inspired of God. If anyone wants to know how we got here and what has happened since the beginning from God's point of view, they only need to look at the Bible. God gave us life.

There came a time when God created man. Man did not evolve from lower life forms over millions of years. Rather, we are told that on the sixth day of creation, God created man. Man was created special and different from the animal kingdom. He was given a spirit, the only part of God's creation to be created in His image. He was given authority over creation. We were created differently from the animals.

It is very important for us to understand that we are created in God's image and not descended from an animal. God had much greater plans for us. Man was created in God's image. Man's purpose was to fellowship with Him and bring Him glory. But man disobeyed, breaking off that relationship. We will be studying more about that in the coming weeks.

GENESIS 2:7

7 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

We read here that God "formed" man. It was like an artist drawing a picture or a potter forming his clay. God designed His creation and formed us from the earth. The Hebrew word for man (Adam) is related to the word for ground (Genesis 2:20). So, we see that man is like God's work of art. That is how God originally intended man to be before sin entered the world. In Ephesians 2:10, we read that we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works. In relationship with Jesus, we can be restored to the work of art that God originally intended back in the garden.

Note that God breathed His breath into man. We do not see that for any of the animals. Man was created differently--again, in God's image. We have a spirit, a will, and emotions; that is very different from animals. Animals do everything by instinct. They just do what they do because they were made that way; they do not have a choice. We choose how we will live our lives. To say that we came from animals is an insult to the Lord who created us. Our life is a gift from the Father above. God gave us life.

Picture Perfect

When Adam and Eve were created their world was perfect, without sin. Have your class draw a picture of a "picture perfect" world. Have them imagine if our world were perfect. What would it look like? What kinds of things would be different from how they are now? Let them use markers or crayons.

GENESIS 2:18-25

18 And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." 19 Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. 20 So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.

21 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh in its place. 22 Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

23 And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man." 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Here we have the account of God creating woman. God did not create woman at the same time He created man. Adam spent some time alone, enjoying all of creation. There was only one problem though--He was all alone. Notice that it is the Lord who says, "It is not good that man should be alone..." God, our creator, knows all of our needs even before we know what we need. He saw that Adam needed a helper, someone like him, with whom he could share his enjoyment of God's wonderful creation.

Have you ever wondered if God knows what your needs are or whether or not He wants to take care of your needs? We see from our lesson today that God knows our needs before we even ask Him. He desires to take care of us. What needs do you have in your life? Go to the Lord and ask Him for help. He will take care of you.

So, God said He would make a helper for Adam and that this helper would be someone like Adam. Next, we see the Lord bringing all of the animals to Adam to name them. Imagine all of the animals in the world needing names. That is a lot! Adam must have been a very smart man to be able to give names to every single animal.

Notice, none of the animals were "comparable to him." Again, how different man is from the animal kingdom. Although man may have similar characteristics with animals, God created man very unique from all other creatures. Adam must have realized how alone he was.

So, God caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep. He took one of Adam's ribs and from that rib He formed a woman. He then brought the woman to Adam. God made Eve comparable to Adam.

Notice that she was not inferior or better than he was, but comparable. She was to complement man and make him complete. Some commentators have noticed that Eve was not taken from Adam's head so that she would be over him or rule him; she was not taken from his feet so that he would treat her as below himself; but rather, from his side, to complement, help, and be one person with him, serving the Lord together.

Here in Genesis chapter 2, we have the beginning of a special relationship between a man and a woman called marriage. Marriage is very important! It is God who began it. His plan was for a man and a woman to come together in marriage and live the rest of their lives as one flesh. The world tries to tell us a lot of different things about marriage today. For many, marriage is not very important. That is sad! We only hurt ourselves when we neglect God's wonderful plan for our lives and relationships. Some day when you are grown-ups, the Lord may have someone for you to marry. Since God desires to bless you, it is important that you honor Him in your marriage. We see that God made Eve comparable to Adam. Man was made last of the creatures, as the best and most excellent of all. Although Eve was made after Adam and out of him, God puts an honor on Eve, as the glory of the man (I Corinthians 11:7). If man is the head, she is the crown, a crown to her husband, the crown of the visible creation.

We need to thank the Lord for His creation and for giving us life. It is amazing to consider how He made us. As you grow up and go to school, you will be studying about the human body. It is amazing how the heart works, how the lung works, how blood carries oxygen through our bodies, etc. Consider how complex and wonderful our bodies are. How could that happen without one to design it? God gave us life.

There is a designer in heaven. He is a wonderful artist in heaven who created us and gave us the breath of life. And He has a plan for our lives and desires to walk with us and have a relationship with us. We can do that through His Son Jesus. If you have never asked Jesus into your heart, you can do so today.

The Gospel "Wordless" Book

Have some of your children tell the story of the Gospel to your class using their "wordless" books that they made at the beginning of class time.

Serving God

Ask your class to name some things that they can do for God. Write these ideas on the chalkboard and discuss with your class how they impact the world around us.

Explain to your class that we were created for "God's good pleasure." We find our highest fulfillment in serving God, because that's why we were created.

<u>PRAYER</u>

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for God's great love for us.

