



Beautiful
BIBLE TREASURES
For Children

Lesson 1

Level A—Little Bible Treasures:
God Creates the Earth

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:
God Creates the Earth

Level C—Story Time with Jesus:
God Creates the Earth

Level D—What Does it Actually Say? :
God Creates the Earth

**Level E—Bible Bits: Chapter Studies—Matthew 5:1-16/
Topic Treasures—God Gives Light**

God Creates the Earth

God created the Earth and all the beautiful places in it.

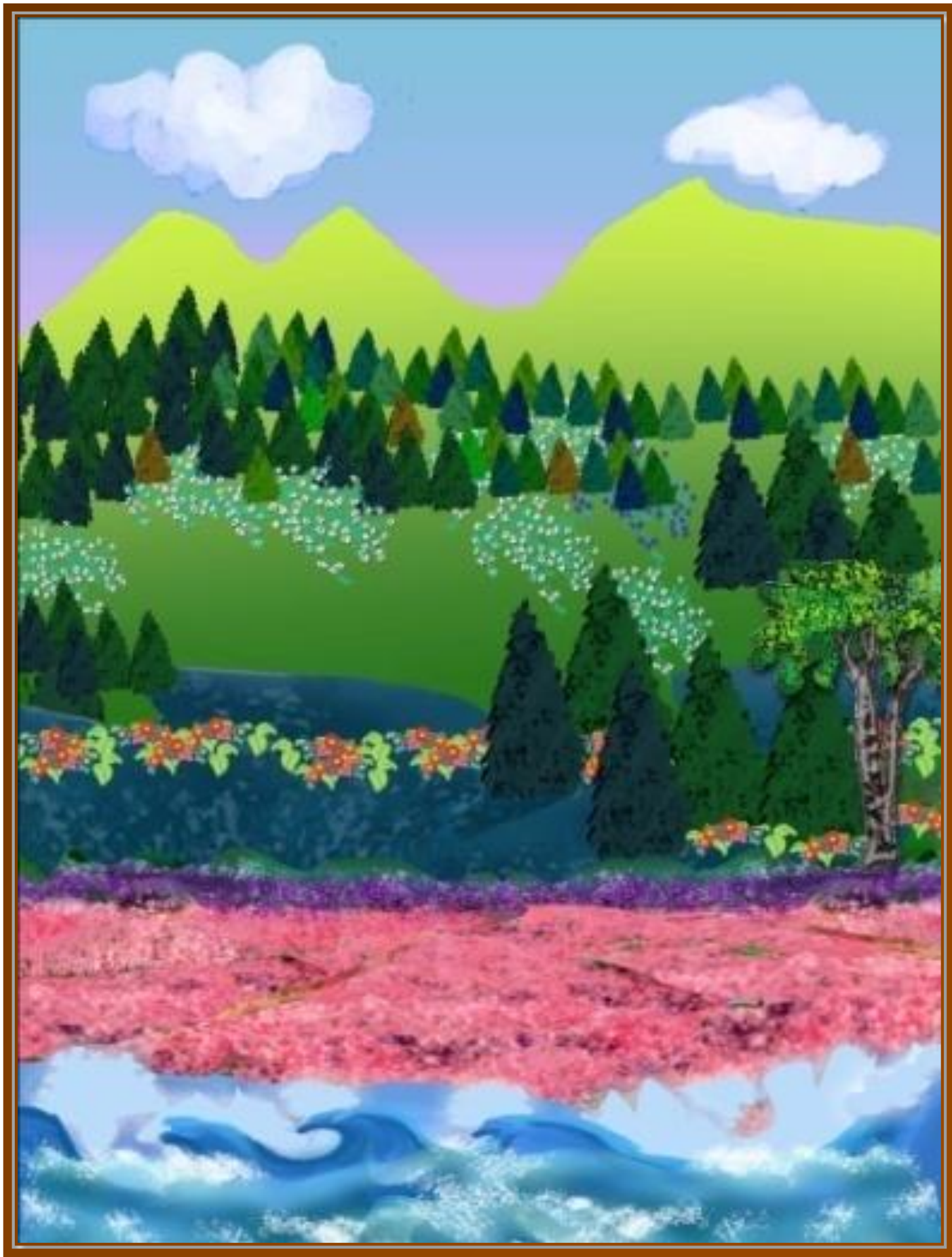
First He created the light. "Let there be light," He said, and then there was light!

Next, God spoke and created the sky and air around the world. He separated the water, leaving some below on the Earth, and placing some way up above.

Then it was time for the land to be formed.

After that, God filled the world with many pretty things, like plants, fruit, food to eat, grass, trees, beaches, rocky mountains and flower-filled meadows.

It was a lovely place!



God Creates the Earth

Would you like to know how the world began? God wanted to make a planet—Earth—and place on it some very special creations. You, and other people too!

But it needed to be made just right, so you and others could live on it and enjoy all the amazing things He wanted to fill it with.



God is an amazing guy—and He's got a lot of love too, more than you can even imagine!

Everything He does comes from His heart of love—for a loving reason.

When He decides to make something, all it takes is for Him to give the word, and things happen.

God said, "Let there be light", and there was light!

Next He made air and the sky—because we'd need that on our planet to survive.

He divided the water, and put some down below on the Earth and some high up above too.

He then decorated the whole Earth with beautiful and useful plants and trees, grass, flowers, and all sorts of things that grow, and things that you can eat.

Each plant had seeds too, so more and more would grow, and the Earth would be filled with beauty and all that was needed.

Activity

*Use mud on a tray or a sandbox to form hills, valleys, mountains, islands, plains and so forth. Sprinkle some grass to create the plains, and stick in small twigs with leaves to create the trees.

God Creates the Earth



The first part of the story starts with My very first friends on Earth. Can you imagine a time when the Earth had only two people on it? Well, even before that, there weren't any at all! Let Me tell you about it.

Before people were made and began living on Earth, it was a mass of nothing. Nothing but darkness and water, but that was going to change, and in only one week's time it was a thriving, beautiful planet.

God made the world, the sky, and then, to fill them, He created everything else. With just the word of His mouth, everything was formed. He took six days to make the planet we are on, as well as the surrounding stars, planets and Sun which contribute to life on Earth.

What do you think was the first thing that God created? What makes things grow and brings beauty? Light! God said, "Let there be light!" and that was all it took. Right then and there, light was created.

So, on the first day of His creation project He made light, and all the amazing aspects of light. Light makes it possible for people to see colour, it gives energy and helps things grow, and there are many other things light can do.



God, of course, doesn't need it in order to look around; the Bible says He can see in the light and in the dark (Psalm 139:12). It's not as if He had to turn on a light in order to see what He was doing, but God loves light! He's called "the Father of lights" (James 1:17). Wherever He is, in whatever He's doing, He brings light.

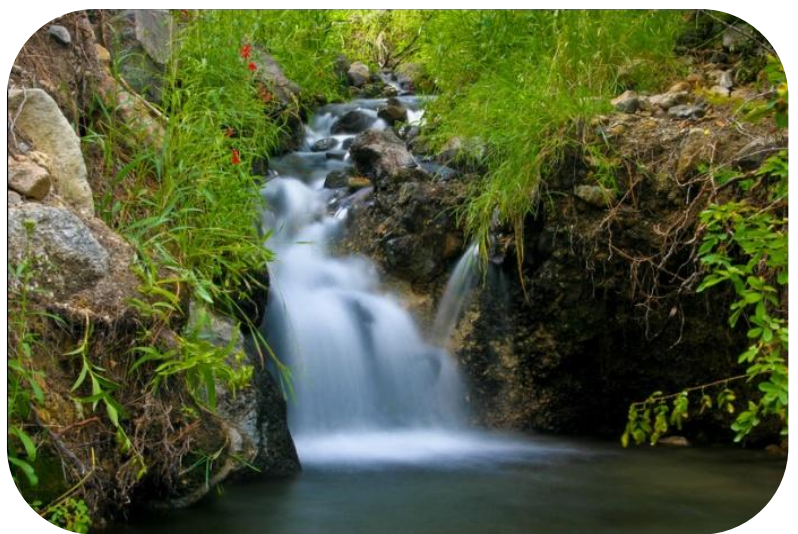
On the second day of the world's creation, another very important thing was made—air! Air to breathe, the atmosphere, the sky. God put a layer of air all around the world. He divided the water and put some down on the Earth, and a layer of water way up above the atmosphere or firmament, as it was called.

On the third day things really started to get fun, because that's when Earth started to take shape—like the way you do with a big mud pie, or Play-Dough! God formed the land, the islands, the mountains; He chose where to put seas and oceans, and where to place the continents, and what shape the land should have.

He didn't just leave it all brown, though. God turned it into the most amazing art project! He added new beauty to the planet, covering it and decorating it with plants, trees, flowers, bushes, vines, grass, waterfalls, trickling streams, forests, meadows, beaches, grassy hills, orchards, and on and on.

Of course, the vegetation did more than just look pretty. God knows how to make anything look beautiful, since He loves beautiful things.

He's like an artist, and can make each thing that is useful and needed look wonderful, colourful, and perfect.



Trees, grass, plants, and all sorts of greenery would provide food, shade, and shelter for the people and animals He was about to create.

What kinds of food did He make? Fresh, juicy fruits like oranges, mangos, pineapples, watermelons, and strawberries. Crunchy coconuts, cashew nuts, walnuts and other nuts.

Grains like rice, corn, oats, wheat and many more. Beans of many types and colours. Vegetables of all sorts, like carrots, beets, cucumbers, tomatoes, lettuce, zucchini, bell peppers and countless others. He made food that grew rich and full of the nutrients and vitamins that Earth's new inhabitants would need.

There was still something to do before man and animals could live there, though. (We'll learn about that in our next story!)

Let's Talk About It

*What are some of your favourite flowers, foods, plants and trees? Aren't you glad God chose to make things beautiful, good tasting and pleasant?

*Is there a part of the world or place that you'd enjoy visiting and seeing what it's like?

Activity

*Plant some seeds, or sprout some on wet paper towels, and watch them sprout over the next several days. (Seed ideas: birdseed, mustard seed, beans, coriander, grass seed.)

God Creates the Earth



Connect and Communicate

*Tell Jesus three things that you are glad happened (or didn't happen) in the last week.

Study Fun

Mark: Circle, underline, or highlight all the times it mentions God speaking ("said", "called", etc.)

Look up: Hebrews 11:3, Psalm 139:12

List: Notice and list (verbally or on paper) all the opposites you can find mentioned. (Heaven/Earth, Day/Night, etc.)

Genesis

1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

1:2 And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

1:3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.



1:4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

1:5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

1:6 And God said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters.

1:7 And God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament: and it was so.

1:8 And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.

1:9 And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.

1:10 And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

1:11 And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

1:12 And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

1:13 And the evening and the morning were the third day.

Psalms

104:1 Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.

104:2 Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:



148:4 Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens.

148:5 Let them praise the name of the Lord: for he commanded, and they were created.

Activity

*Learn the names and shapes of various land forms, such as peninsula, island, cliff, mountain range, valley, volcano, beach, etc. Look up the different types to read about, and see pictures (in books, or on the Internet). Learn to draw some.

Fountain of Faith

Isaiah 41:13 For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.

Psalms 27:1 The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?



Chapter Studies—Matthew 5:1-16**Praise**

Deuteronomy 10:21 He is thy praise, and he is thy God, that hath done for thee these great and terrible things, which thine eyes have seen.

*Sing a song or hymn of praise.

(*See the "Activity" section with ideas of things to do while reading.)

Matthew

5:1 And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain: and when he was set, his disciples came unto him:

5:2 And he opened his mouth, and taught them, saying,

5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

5:4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

5:5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

5:6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

5:7 Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

5:10 Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

5:11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

5:12 Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.

5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Activity

Verses: Matthew 5:1-2

Do: Show pictures, postcards, calendar pictures and drawings of mountains. Learn the names of a few famous mountains or mountain ranges. Look on maps or a globe and show where they are located.

Verse: Matthew 5:3

Do: Say which words below describe some of Jesus' disciples, as the Bible has told us they were, and what were they not:

simple	poor	ignorant	rich	unlearned
smart	haughty	humble	proud	fishermen

Verse: Matthew 5:4

Do: Has anyone you know gone to be with the Lord? What's something they might be glad about now, in heaven?

Verse: Matthew 5:5

Do: Take turns naming countries that are suffering in some way because of the selfishness, greed, fear or pride of other countries, and then pray for the people living there.

Verse: Matthew 5:6

Do: Read and act out the "Parable of the Sower". (See Matthew 13 for selected verses.)

Verse: Matthew 5:7

Do: Look up and write out simple definitions to the words "obtain" and "mercy". Forgive anyone who has wronged you whom you might still be holding a grudge towards.

Verse: Matthew 5:8

Do: Read the verses: "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer" (Psalm 66:18,19). Pray silently for the Lord's forgiveness for something that you are feeling bad about, something that is in your heart that only He knows.

Verse: Matthew 5:9

Do: Pick names of different people in your home or family or class. Without saying the name, but only by telling some way they help to make things better for others, try to have the others guess who you are thinking of. Remember the good things said, and repeat them to the person when you can. "We were saying how nice it is that you _____" or "So and so said today that they like how you _____".

Verse: Matthew 5:10

Do: For fun, learn to spell "righteousness".

Verse: Matthew 5:11-12

Do: Draw a picture of a reward you are looking forward to in heaven, for being faithful to Jesus now.

Verse: Matthew 5:13

Do: Explore salt. Find out how important salt is, and some of its many uses. Why is the sea salty? Where does salt come from? Talk about how specific foods or snacks would really taste different if there wasn't any salt added? Do a taste check to find the difference it makes to add salt to different foods like a tomato or an avocado. What does salt do to help prepare olives?

Verse: Matthew 5:14-15

Do: Try an experiment. Light a candle and put a jar over it. See how long the air lasts and when the flame goes out.

Verse: Matthew 5:16

Do: Draw or write some ways that members of your family "shine"—qualities or talents the Lord gave them, which are used for good. Quote or read the Bible verse: "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever" (Daniel 12:3).



Topic Treasures

— God Gives Light

Study Fun

Mark: Highlight or underline instructions for us, God's children of light, to follow.

Look up: Definitions of words you want to understand better. (For example: "inheritance", "translated", "circumspect".)

List: Verbs and phrases mentioned of things that God does or can do. (For example: "send", "enlighten darkness", "deliver".)

Isaiah 2:5 Come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Isaiah 42:16b I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.

Psalms 18:28 For thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness.

Psalms 36:9 For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

Psalms 43:3 O send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles.

Psalms 139:11 If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.



Psalm 139:12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

Colossians 1:12 Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light.

Colossians 1:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.

Ephesians 5:8,11,14,15 Walk as children of light: And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. Christ shall give thee light. See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise.



Daily Diary

*Talk with Jesus and think about, "How can I show more happiness to those around me?" Write down the words or thoughts He gives you.

If you like, write down some things that seem to be taking away your joy, things that are hard for you right now. Pray for Jesus to change things for the better for you.

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