Beautiful BIBLE TREASURES

For Children

Lesson 4

Level A—Little Bible Treasures: The First Man on Earth

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures: The First Man on Earth

Level C—Story Time with Jesus: The First Man on Earth

Level D—What Does it Actually Say?: The First Man on Earth

Level E—Bible Bits: Clay and Dirt/Topic Treasures— God Thinks About Us

The world was a beautiful place to be now, and ready for the first human beings. God then used some soil from the ground and did the most amazing thing.

Out of the dirt He made a man! Then He breathed life into him. The first man's name was Adam. God loved Adam!

He then gave Adam a fun job to do—to choose what each animal should be called. Adam named all the animals!

He liked his new animal friends, but he was also lonely, as he was the only person on Earth.

Adam wished for a friend, a person he could live with and talk to, and love—someone made like him.



People often wonder what God looks like. We may not have seen Him in all His wonderful splendour and awesome, light-filled glory, but He did make something on Earth to look a lot like Him. You! God made mankind "in His image", to resemble Him.

As soon as planet Earth was inhabitable, and had all that it needed to support life, God made a man.

So far, the only thing God did to create the different things on Earth was to speak the words and things just came into being. He doesn't need a factory to create things.

This time, however, God did something different. He



formed a man out of the dirt, the mud, the clay of the Earth that He had just made.

After man was shaped just right, God breathed life into him. What a moment of wonder that was, to see the first person alive, thinking, exploring and moving on the planet God had made for him, and many more people were to follow.

Then God gave him a name—Adam—and He gave him a fun job to do, too. Adam was to choose what each animal and creature on Earth was to be called.

One by one they came before him and were given a name. Adam must have had a great time getting to see each and every creature, from huge elephants to the tiniest bugs, and giving each one a name suited to it.

No matter how many fun animals and interesting creatures there were, Adam saw that he was the only person, the only one made just like him, and the only one that resembled God, his only Father.

Adam was lonely and longed for a friend, a companion, someone to talk with, who would understand what it was like to be a person on Earth. He wanted someone to love and who would love him too.

Activity

*Use Play-Dough, clay, bread dough, or mud, and make shapes. Try to make a little "man".



Now the world was ready with everything that was needed for the next and best part of creation—people! It was a wonderful and fun place for a human to live in, and there was plenty that would keep him interested and active.

I knelt down, running My fingers through the mud; I cried a tear, which blended with the moist soil. It was as if I could feel what people's hearts would feel, the hard times,

and the difficulties that would be known and felt by mankind when they were created. Yet My face brightened. The laughter and joy that would also be known would more than make up for the difficulties.

We would be friends, and no matter how hard things would get on Earth, I would be around to help, to protect, to secure, and to enjoy each person's journey on Earth, alongside them, although from a divine dimension. There would be tears, pain and hurt, for such is life, but many joys would fill the lives of those who made Me a part of their existence.

There would be hard times too, yes. It wouldn't be easy. But the love that would be felt would more than make up for it. Yes, God would make a man.

This man would learn as he lived and experienced things on Earth. He would take care of the world, —or so God would ask him to, but he'd have to make the choice to do so on his own.

It wasn't something that God would force on people. They would have to decide to do what was right, to obey, to make choices to love, to benefit others, or to live life as they wished. Choice! That would be a key element of their life on Earth. God could have made all mankind to be as the animals, or as the little creatures who just do what they are programmed to do: build a nest, search for food, sleep, raise young, and so forth—always the same thing in the same way, and doing only the things that they were meant to do.

God made something different though, something unique. He made people to resemble Him, to be made in "His likeness". God created people to have personality, to have the freedom to choose, to have feelings, to know love, to communicate in



many different ways, to create, to design, and to live a long time.

Yes, He made them to live a long time. Things are very different now, of course, because of the choices made by mankind, and changes that happened as a result. People don't live as long anymore, and some of the experiments and creations of man haven't helped to make the planet better.

God still loves each one anyway, and hopes that each one will communicate with Him and recognise that He's the One that made them, and most of all to know how very much God loves them—no matter who they are or where they are.

In time, God will help to bring all things back to the beauty of creation, back to the way things were when Earth's time began. It will take a while, but things will eventually be made new again. At that time people will come to know more about God's love, just as He's always hoped for—and live lovingly too. People will learn to be more like Him, the God of love, the One they were fashioned after when they were first created.

People were made for love, and by love, and in love, and when they reflect His love in their personalities and ways of operating, they can make Earth a marvellous and special place to have the privilege of living on.

So God, using the dirt, the soil of the Earth, formed His best and most special creation of all—for whom everything else was created. God made a man! He then put breath and life into him. He was now an alive, breathing, thinking, amazing man!

Ah! God smiled to see Adam, the first man ever made. God laughed, and enjoyed watching him wake and discover where he was. Adam had lots to learn, and God would be the One to teach him, like a loving father with his son.

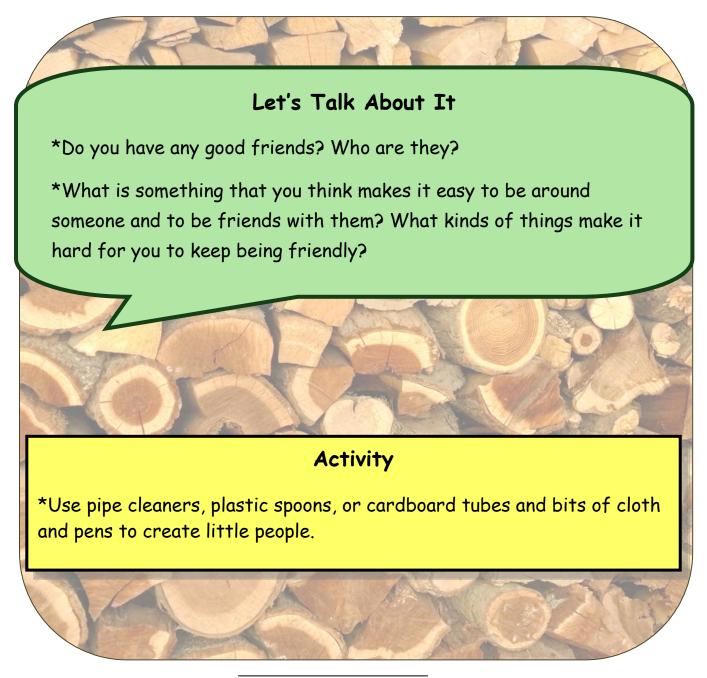


God gave him a job to do. God had created the world and all the creatures that filled it. But he'd saved a fun job for Adam, something that he could do. Adam couldn't make things from nothing and make them live, but God gave Adam a smart and thinking mind. He could use that and come up with names for each of the animals that had been created.

Imagine what a brilliant mind Adam had! He named each creature, remembered what he called them, and was able to teach his children. He got to be a part of the creation of the world in this way. It was fun for him. As amazing as each creature was, there was nothing on Earth that was made just like Adam. He was the only person around.

Can you imagine being the only person on Earth? Maybe it would be nice for a while. No one to take your things, no one to give you a hard time, no one to disturb you, no one to mess things up. But also no one to talk to who really understands what it's like being on Earth. No one to help you. No one to love or to be loved by. No families, no children—just you.

So Adam was feeling these things as he did his special new job of naming all the animals. He felt lonely.

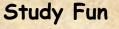


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Connect and Communicate

*Act out a story from the life of Jesus in the New Testament. Then say things you are thankful for that Jesus can do!



Repeat aloud: The phrases that say "God created" or "God formed".

<u>Select</u>: A phrase or short sentence to illustrate.

Summarise: The story in a sentence or two.

Genesis

1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.



1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

2:7 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 soul.



2:19 And out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.

2:20 And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the

field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him.

Activity

*Play: "I'm thinking of someone I love", and the person thinking gives clues about them—things they like or do, or interests they have, and so forth. The others try to guess who it is. Whoever correctly guesses gets the next turn.



John 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

John 14:2-3 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for



you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

Clay and Dirt

Prayer

Psalm 66:19 But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer.

*Think of the countries and cultures that are in spiritual darkness, those who haven't yet had a chance to hear the good news of Jesus and His gift of love and salvation. Pray for those there to be reached, in whatever ways possible—by the printed word. radio. missionaries. TV. Internet. dreams. etc.

Genesis 2:7 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 soul.

Ecclesiastes 3:20 All go unto one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again.

2 Corinthians **4:7** But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

John 9:1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

John 9:6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

John 9:7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

Daniel 2:31-33 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible. This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass. His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

Daniel 2:34-35b Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. And the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

Jeremiah 18:3,4 Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it.

Exodus 8:16 And the Lord said unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch out thy rod, and smite the dust of the land, that it may become lice throughout all the land of Egypt.

Psalm 40:2 He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings.

Psalm 40:3 And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord.

Daniel 12:2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

Daniel 12:3 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.

Activity

*Make something out of clay, if you have access to some. Or watch a professional make a pot out of clay on a potters wheel, on the Internet.



Study Fun

Repeat aloud: The verses Psalm 139:17 and Psalm 37:23

Select: A portion to commit to memory.

Summarise: A few points that these verses express.

Psalm 139

139:14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

139:15 My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

139:16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned,

when as yet there was none of them.

139:17 How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!

139:18 If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand: when I awake, I am still with thee.



Psalm 37

37:23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way.

37:24 Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand.

37:25 I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread.

37:26 He is ever merciful, and lendeth; and his seed is blessed.





<u>*List five things you are glad for about the way</u> <u>you were made. Tell Jesus you are thankful for the</u> <u>good, and for the less-than-perfect things too,</u> <u>about yourself, and that He loves you no matter</u> <u>what.</u>

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