

Do you like friends?

Even though Adam—the first man to live on Earth—had a beautiful world filled with only good things, and had great things to see and lots of animals that were kind and friendly, Adam wanted something more.

God knew he needed a friend, a person to live with, talk to, and be a companion for him.

So after putting Adam to sleep, God prepared a special friend for him.

When Adam woke up, he saw what God had made—a woman!

Adam was very happy! He loved her and called her "Eve". She was the world's very first woman.



Everyone needs to know that they are special to someone. Even Adam needed to feel this. He wanted someone to share life's joys with. He wanted someone who would understand his feelings, and who knew what it was like to live on Earth, and who could help him. He needed and wanted a companion.

God has so much love, and He made us to need and want it too. Love is to us like the sunshine and the moisture is to the flowers—it helps them to grow and blossom into

beautiful parts of nature.

Love can help to bring beautiful and wonderful things into your life and others' lives. We need it just as much as we need other things in life.



God knew that Adam needed someone to love and to be loved by, in order to make his life complete.

Adam already had a great place to live, and all the food and water he needed. There was no sickness or danger, all creatures were just as God had made them to be—friendly and gentle, and helping the world in their own ways. However, Adam didn't feel complete. God knew just what he needed.

After putting Adam into a very deep sleep, God created that special somebody that Adam was missing.

When Adam woke up, he saw standing beside him a beautiful woman. He was delighted!

Adam named her "Eve", and they became close friends and companions, and could help each other. Now he had someone to love and live with, and be loved by.

Activity

*Glue pictures from magazines, or draw one, or print out from the Internet pictures of mothers and children. Write the words, "I love Mummy and Mummy loves me". Or "Mothers are special!"



Isn't it amazing how important love is? You could be in the most beautiful paradise, like Adam was. You could have everything that you want, as much of it as you want, and have everything to yourself, and still feel sad. People want to know they have friends.

God was Adam's friend, but it was different. He was more like a heavenly Father to Adam. God would talk with

him, teach him, and help him, but Adam felt he needed more. He wanted to have a friend in human form. Someone to talk with, to enjoy exploring the world with, who would laugh with him at the things they found funny, someone to wonder and be amazed with the discoveries made, together.

He wanted someone to be close to, someone he could care for and who would help care for him, and to have a family.

God wasn't done creating. There was more to be made. And because Adam had to wait a while to have a close friend on Earth, he now would appreciate having one more than if he'd had someone there with him all the time.

God put Adam into a deep sleep and did the most amazing thing. What God did next showed why He didn't make a man and a woman at the same time. Since He wanted to make the woman extra special and dear to Adam, God wanted to make her out of a part of Adam.

So when Adam was in a special deep sleep, God took a rib bone from Adam and with it created a wonderful present for him. Imagine Adam's surprise, after waking from a nice refreshing nap, that the thing that he'd most wanted—a friend, a companion, a woman—was there for him.

It felt better than waking on Christmas morning and seeing presents there. He was so, so happy. Adam realized that God knew his heart's wishes, the thoughts he had, the feelings he felt, and his needs. God truly knew it all.

Even though God wasn't in human form, and wasn't there in the same way that others on Earth are, He knows everything, down to the tiniest feelings and thoughts of each person on Earth.

When Adam saw this new human being, this person that God had made to be his companion, someone made much like him, he loved her!



She was perfect for him. God even let him name her. "She will be called, 'woman', he said, and her specific name was "Eve", which meant the "mother of all living".

The two friends—Adam and Eve—were so happy to not only have a wonderful place to live and to know that God loved them and would give them all they needed, but to now have each other to live and learn with.

The adventure of life had begun for them, but God still wanted to create more. He has more ideas of new things to make all the time, more ideas than your mind can ever even imagine!

He wanted to make more people, to make children. He liked Adam and Eve so much, and thought they were just the greatest creations He'd ever made! They could talk to Him, and He would listen. God would be as much a part of their lives as they let Him—as much as they included Him.



God would love to let them also feel a bit of that joy—the joy of seeing new creations and new people learning and growing and loving each other.

He wanted Adam and Eve to have the joy of having children. God knew how fun this would be.

God would form a new little life, a new person, inside of mummy Eve when the time was right. He'd choose how the

baby would look, what he would be like, and what job he would do on Earth.

Each person on Earth is there for a reason, you know. Each one that is made comes with a job. Just as God gave Adam a job to do when He was created, so do you and others on Earth have a reason to be here and a job to do.

Do you think God stopped creating after just those six days? Are you kidding? Look at all the types of people on Earth! So many different kinds. More animals, fish, bugs and creatures are being discovered all the time. And each kind of animal has several types, with varied appearances, sizes and colours.

God loves the world and is continuing to be involved and trying to make things the best He can. Even as the world changes, or some places get ruined, or the deserts grow, or the rain forests get smaller through being cut down, or some animals go extinct, or the environment isn't what it used to be, there are still many more animals and creatures on the planet than there were when the Earth was first made.

After all, that was part of His plan and His job and commission to those first creatures. God told the creatures of all kinds, from fish to birds, from large animals to tiny bugs, and to Adam and Eve: "Fill the Earth".

God wanted them to make more, to have children that would grow and have families too, and on and on the creation would grow. God has helped animals adapt and learn to live in all kinds of places and climates. Climates change, mankind builds and invents, and the world keeps changing in different ways that affect the creatures.

Let's Talk About It

*Is there something you've always wanted, that you feel would be good for you, but the time hasn't been right to get it yet? (Remember, Jesus knows, and will bring the right things to you at the right time.)

*Discuss the qualities and differences of girls and boys, mothers and fathers, men and women, and how each is interesting and needed.

Activity

*Help the children write a note to a friend, telling them what they like or appreciate about them.



Connect and Communicate

*Have one person say "When I'm feeling..." phrases, and someone else fills in what Jesus can do. Try rhyming them! (Examples: "When I'm feeling friendless..." "Jesus can be a friend that's best!", or "When I don't know what to do..." "Jesus shows me just what to!" etc.)

Study Fun

<u>Highlight</u>: The words or phrases of commands and instructions from God in these verses.

<u>Copy</u>: Onto a card or book or on a sheet of paper the phrase of praise from Psalm 148:5.

<u>Count</u>: How many life forms and living things are mentioned in these verses—anything to do with people, plants, animals—and God!

Genesis

- 2:21 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;
- 2:22 And the rib, which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

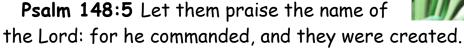




- 2:23 And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.
- 3:20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.
- 1:28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

1:29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

- 1:30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.
- 1:31 And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.







Philippians 1:6

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

Philippians 2:16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.





Level E Bible Bits Lesson 5

Proverbs to Ponder #1

Praise

Psalm 33:1 Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous: for praise is comely for the upright.

*Think of a favourite thing—to see, or hear, or taste, or smell, or touch. Tell Jesus that He's better than that to you, and express a reason why, something that only He can do.

Proverbs

- 1:5 A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:
- 1:7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.
- 1:33 But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil.
- 2:10 When wisdom entereth into thine heart, and knowledge is pleasant unto thy soul;
 - 2:11 Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee.
- 2:20 That thou mayest walk in the way of good men, and keep the paths of the righteous.
- 3:1 My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:
 - 3:2 For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.

- 3:3 Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart:
- **3:4** So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man.

Activity

*Talk about what these verses mean, and discuss examples in present-day life. Choose one to make a skit about. For example, Proverbs 1:33, and how praying and getting guidance from the Lord can save you from an accident or bad situation.



Topic Treasures

Love andTogetherness



<u>Highlight</u>: Words or phrases that describe showing love, and specific ways to do it.

<u>Copy</u>: A phrase that you want to remind yourself of, onto a heartshaped piece of paper, and put it where you'll notice it.

<u>Count</u>: How many times these verses mention the words "love" or "charity".

- 1 John 3:11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.
 - Psalm 68:6 God setteth the solitary in families.

Ecclesiastes 4:9,10 Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

Colossians 3:14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

- 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up. Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil. Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth. Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.
- 1 Peter 4:8 And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.
- 1 John 4:7,8 Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

Colossians 2:2a That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together

in love.

Hebrews 13:16 To do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

1 John 1:7 If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another.



Proverbs 18:24a A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly:

2 Corinthians 13:11b Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.



Daily Diary

*Pray for the Lord to show you a few ideas of how you can be a better friend to those in your family or those you know.

(Maybe it will be things like being more willing to listen than to talk, or to give first choice to others more often, or to include someone else in your games that you normally wouldn't, etc.)

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