

## To the Teacher

The information below is to help you in teaching the lesson. DO NOT read this page to the students. Instead, teach the information in your own words. Be sure to finish the student's lesson as well. The Scripture references in parentheses are for additional study, to round out the information given in the lesson. Become familiar with these passages as well, to provide additional Scriptures to your students.

## Lesson 4 – In the Beginning... (Teacher's Lesson)

Opening: Ask the students the opening questions. When we do something, it brings a sense of accomplishment and pride in a job well done. It also implies ownership (i.e. property rights).

### Study Notes:

#### **Genesis 1:1-2:3**

##### **Formed**

Day 1 – Light and Darkness

Day 2 – Waters (above and below)

Day 3 – Earth and Seas

##### **Filled**

Day 4 – Lights in the heaven

Day 5 – Creatures of the sea and birds

Day 6 – Creatures of the earth and people

Day 7 – God rests

God brings order from chaos. He is the only one who can make something out of nothing (Hebrews 11:3). When He created the world, He pronounced it "good." Notice the reference of God to Himself with "We" (1:26) reinforces His nature of three persons. Notice as well that other religions of the same period worshipped the sun, the stars, the moon and the animals. This passage demonstrates God's dominion over, and apart from, all of creation.

#### **Genesis 2:4-7**

God's creation of Adam is personal and intimate. He breaths life into man. The word for "breathe" is the same as the word for "spirit." This is to be made in His image. Human beings have the capacity for a personal relationship with God. When they were created, this capacity was perfect, but since then it has been spoiled by sin.

In the original language the name "Adam" is the same as the word "man." It also sounds like the word for "soil" (*admah*). This has brought some to the conclusion that these details of creation should not be taken literally. However, it at least seems, if not that, that the three words are related due to the manner in which they created Adam. They formed him from the earth, so it makes sense that his name relates to the word for dirt. He was the first man, so it makes sense that humanity would take its name from him.

#### **Genesis 2:21-24**

The creation of Eve by God is also personal and intimate. He creates Eve in such a way as to forge a special union between the man and the woman. This special union is demonstrated in marriage. You should not think that people are incomplete without a

spouse – we are totally complete in Christ. It means that God has instituted the family and this relationship must be carried out in honor. (See Hebrews 13:4.)

*Summary:* God created all things for His glory and pleasure.

**\*Special – Six Literal Days\***

Many have asked if the days of creation refer to six twenty-four-hour days. Others believe that the word for “day” can be translated as “period” or “epoch.” While this is a question on which sincere Christians can differ, it is my belief that it is best to take the Bible literally unless there is a compelling reason not to (i.e. symbolic language or metaphors, etc.).

Study Notes:

**John 1:1-3**

Fill in the blank:

In the beginning the Word already existed.

The Word was with God.

The Word was God.

About whom is this passage speaking? Jesus

This passage demonstrated that God the Son, was present and instrumental in creation, together with the Father and the Spirit.

**John 1:10-18**

Each person is a child of God.

Jesus has revealed the Father.

The Word (Jesus) always existed.

We can be children of God by receiving Jesus.

No one has ever seen God.

Moses was God in the flesh.

Jesus made the world.

*Summary:* The focus of John at the beginning of his Gospel was on Jesus and His work at creation. His focus is also related – specifically, man’s relationship to God through the Son. The words used that tell us that Jesus “made us known” to the Father carry the meaning of the explanation. Jesus has “explained” the Father to His creation.

Application: Help students to understand that the image of God has been restored in those who have received eternal life through a relationship with Jesus Christ. We have received perfect reconciliation in Him (Romans 5:9-11).

Lesson 4 – In the Beginning...

**Created to create**

Have you ever done something for which you are very proud? How much time did it take?

**Six days and a rest**

The story of creation is found in chapters one and two of Genesis. God’s perspective on creation is found primarily in 1:1-2:3. Read this passage and fill in the spaces below, describing how God formed and filled our world.

	<b>Formed</b>		<b>Filled</b>
<i>Day 1 (1:1-5)</i>		<i>Day 4 (1:14-19)</i>	
<i>Day 2 (1:6-8)</i>		<i>Day 5 (1:20-23)</i>	
<i>Day 3 (1:9-13)</i>		<i>Day 6 (1:24-31)</i>	

What did God do on day 7 (2:1-3)?

What opinion did God repeat about His creation (1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, y 31)?

**Created In His Image**

In the second chapter of Genesis, the story centers around the creation of man. Read Genesis 2:4-7. How did God create Adam (the man)?

In 2:18, the man was alone – what was God’s opinion in respect to this?

Read 2:21-24 and write below how God created Eve (the woman).

From these passages in Genesis, we can see that the creation of God is special to Him. and no other created thing is more special to Him that people. Humanity is so important to Him, that He sent His own Son to be with us, and to die for us to restore our relationship with Him.

### **In the Beginning, part II**

The Gospel of John begins with the same three words as Genesis, but there his approach is different. Read John 1:1-3 and complete the following:

In the beginning \_\_\_\_\_ already existed.

The \_\_\_\_\_ was with \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_.

About whom is this passage speaking? \_\_\_\_\_

Read John 1:10-18 and mark each sentence below that is true.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Each person is a child of God.   | <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus has revealed the Father.                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Word (Jesus) always existed. | <input type="checkbox"/> We can be children of God by receiving Jesus. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No one has ever seen God.        | <input type="checkbox"/> Moses was God in the flesh.                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus made the world.            |  |

What was John's focus in writing the opening verses of his Gospel?

When God created Adam and Eve, they were created perfect and in perfect relation to God. How do you feel after knowing that God has created you in His image?

Scripture to Memorize:

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.

Revelation 4:11