



# 3<sup>RD</sup>-5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

October 13/14, 2012

DATE

Genesis 1, Psalm 103, Zephaniah 3:17  
(pp. 2, 669, & 1028 in the Adventure Bible)

WHERE TO FIND IT

A Journey Home—Week 2

LESSON TITLE

God is a loving father, who made us a great home.

MAIN POINT

## schedule

Play games and hang out (10 minutes)  
Large Group (30 minutes)  
Small Group (20 minutes)  
Video/Song Review (10 minutes)

## tips

When you move from one activity to the next, set kids up for success—tell them what you expect from a good audience in Large Group, and how to participate well in Small Group.

## check-in/out

Parents are learning the same thing as kids during 'A Journey Home'. Engage with the parents who drop off and pick up their kids. How is the journey going for them? Are they in a small group?

## large group heads up

During large group, kids will be told the story of creation. We are emphasizing that God is a loving father who created a wonderful home for his kids. We can trust Him, and he is skilled at taking care of us.



## instructions

The two main points that we want kids to take away are that **God is a loving god** and **God is powerful**. When we forget these two things, we act like orphans.

Use the **QUESTIONS** to review the lesson, and then the **ACTIVITY** to give the kids perspective on what it is like to be a creator.

### AFTER THE ACTIVITY

Don't stop having fun! You can build several creations with spaghetti and marshmallows. See how high of a tower you can make, or make a house, dome, or tree.

## QUESTIONS

### CONNECT

- What was the best part of your week?
- What was the worst part of your week?
- Is there anything that you are excited about? Is there anything that you are worried about?

### RELATE

- What do you know about God from the lesson today?
- What is your favorite part of the home that God made for our family?

### REVIEW

- Let's read the verse from today's lesson again: *The Lord is tender and kind. He is gracious. He is slow to get angry. He is full of love. Psalm 103:8 (Pg. 669)*
- Can you think of a way that God (the Lord) is kind?
- Can you give me an example of being full of love? How has God shown you love?

## ACTIVITY—A PERFECT HOME

- Each group will get some **spaghetti** and **marshmallows**.
- **Say:** remember that God created a home for our family? Today we are going to try to create a home, too. We are going to use these marshmallows and this spaghetti to build it. Now, the home can be any size or shape, we just have to work together to build it.
- Give kids time to work together to build something. Then, debrief the activity using the following questions.

### DEBRIEF

- When were you frustrated while building?
- Do you think that God was ever frustrated when he was creating our home?

(The Bible says that God called everything "good". It never says that God was frustrated. He was so powerful that creating our home wasn't hard for him.)

## QUESTIONS

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INTENTIONALLY

## ACTIVITY

## special notes

**Today our goal is to help kids realize that God is powerful and full of love.**

The creation story demonstrates that God is able to create an amazing home for his family.

## presenter tips

Did you know that the kids respond better to your teaching if you don't hold the script?

Make your presentation conversational and practice out loud at least once before you do it in front of a crowd.

## script

### WELCOME

Hi everyone! We are so happy that you are here today. I'm especially excited because today we are discovering something very, very important about OUR family. That's right, OUR family. Did you know that we are all one big family? We'll get back to that in a minute. Right now, I have a video for you to see.

### ATTIC VIDEO: CREATION

Play: 30-:45 **Attic Video 2** in which a kid finds dried flowers and pressed leaves.

Interesting. Who would have guessed that we would find all of those dried flowers and leaves? I wonder if someone in our family was really into hiking and collected their favorite leaves. Or maybe there was someone who was a florist, so they dried their favorite flowers. Do you think that I'm on the right track? What else could those flowers and leaves mean? (Take 3 answers from kids.)

Like I mentioned before, we are all one big family. Let's take a look at the very beginning of our family's story to see where all of these flowers and leaves come in.

### GOD'S STORY VIDEO: CREATION

*This video is about 4 minutes long.*

Wow, I am so amazed. What was your very favorite part of that video? My favorite part was that God was such a good father that he made a perfect home for his family to enjoy. And, in that perfect home, there weren't any tears, because no one was ever sad.



## script continued

In that perfect home, there weren't any fights, because people loved each other. And, in that perfect home, Adam and Eve--the first people in our family--loved spending time with their Father, God.

It was an amazing place to live, and an incredible feeling to be loved that much by such an amazing God.

### IMAGINE A PERFECT HOME

Now, I want you to use your imagination. You'll have to be absolutely ninja silent for this next part. Ready? (Kids will say "yes" out loud.) Oh, try again--silent this time. Ready? (No sounds.) ...Ahhh, good. Everyone take a minute to find a spot to lie on the floor. We are going to imagine the perfect home that God created for us.

**Light:** Imagine what it would feel like if there was light, but the sun never burned you. You could play in the sunshine all day and never squint your eyes or wear sunscreen.

**Sky/Land/Water: (Wind sound effect.)** Now, imagine a perfect sky. Just the right amount of clouds and the perfect color blue. And, imagine the land without trash. While you are at it, think about perfect water. **(Waves sound effect.)** ...Great waves, not too hot and not too cold. God made a perfect home for us with wonderful sky, land, and water.

**Plants:** Now imagine that you are lying on the softest patch of grass ever. This grass is so amazing that it is softer than your bed. Imagine beautiful trees covering the land. **(Sounds of trees rustling.)** There are also endless supplies of plants to eat. And, they all taste amazing. You'll never run out of food.

**Sun/Moon/Stars:** Remember that amazing sky that you imagined? God wanted to add something more. So He put the sun in the sky during the day, the moon at night, and sprinkled the stars around. Imagine a night sky with lots and lots of stars. **(Shine a flashlight across the faces of the kids while their eyes are closed.)** Oh, did you see it? There went a shooting star! God is so amazing.

**Animals:** Now, think back to all of that water and the land with the plants. It was missing something. So God made animals. **(Animal sound effects)** He could have just made one or two types of animals. But no, he made hundreds and hundreds of kinds of animals. He made hundreds of types of fish, animals and birds. It was an amazing display of God's power and creativity. He made all of that with his words.

Okay, you can all open your eyes now. Sit up and stretch. Reach up high to the sky and then put your arms down. Nice.

Can anyone tell me about your favorite thing that God put in our home? What was the best thing you just imagined? (Take 3 or 4 answers from kids. Repeat them so that the entire class can hear.) Wow, there are so many amazing parts it is difficult to hear just a few.



## script continued

### **BUILDING A HOME**

If you were building a home for a family you would sit down with someone to make a plan first. And in that plan you might decide where the kitchen goes and how many rooms the house would have. If you were really lucky you might even put a pool in. What about a climbing wall, or a tree house, or a swing? Would you like all of those things in a house? Me, too!

Well, think about this: when God made our home he didn't just give us a pool—he gave us the ocean (**show picture of ocean**). He didn't just give us climbing walls—he gave us mountains (**show picture of mountains**). He didn't just give us a tree house—he gave us the rain forest (**show picture of the rain forest**). He didn't just give us a swing—he gave us vines to swing from in the woods (**show picture of the woods**). God is an amazing dad who gives us MUCH better things than we have ever dreamed up.

### **GOD IS A GOOD DAD**

Of course a good dad would make a great home for his kids--that's us, God's kids. But that's not all. God is also SUPER interested in showing us that he loves us. Check this out. (Show verse on screen.)

***The Lord is tender and kind. He is gracious. He is slow to get angry. He is full of love.  
Psalm 103:8***

Now that sounds like a dad I could really love spending time with! Could you trust a dad that was like that? Could you love a dad like that? Me, too! I'm so happy that God's family (that's all of us) has that kind of dad.

### **BACK TO US**

Now, what do we know about God? (**Take a few answers from kids.**) Well, from the story today, we know that God is powerful and has amazing abilities. After all, God created the entire world and everything in it. Also, we know that God is kind, slow to get angry, and that he is full of love.

Knowing that God is so powerful and loving makes me feel great! I feel like I can face anything with a dad like that. But, like we have talked about before, everyone forgets who our family's real Father is sometimes. We are all God's kids, and he's our real dad.

### **WORSHIP**

God is so great that we are going to take some time to sing some songs that remind us how wonderful he is. Everyone stand up and stretch. We're going to sing and dance.

**Song with Motions—Before I Go I Stop**

**Video--Home**

Thank you all for joining me in singing.

### **PRAY**

Would someone like to come and pray for our group today?



**script continued**

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name





# PREP needs



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## small group supplies

- One small package of Spaghetti for each small group
- One half of a bag of small marshmallows for each small group
- The Adventure Bible (Mark pg. 669)

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## large group supplies

- One flashlight
- The Adventure Bible (Mark pg. 669)

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## a/v needs

1. Attic Video: Journey Week 2 Creation
2. God's Story: Creation
3. Sound effects:
  - a. Wind
  - b. Waves
  - c. Trees/Leaves
  - d. Animals
4. Picture of ocean
5. Picture of mountains
6. Picture of rain forest
7. Picture of woods
8. The Lord is tender and kind. He is gracious. He is slow to get angry. He is full of love. Psalm 103:8
9. Song: Before I Go I Stop
10. Video: Home

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## special room set-up

None

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## connect questions

- What is God like?
- To see what we did today, check out [crossroads.net/kc](http://crossroads.net/kc).

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## parent page

This week, kids learned that God is powerful and full of love. Genesis 1 tells the story of the creation of the earth with great detail. And, it seems that with each beautifully designed feature, God was trying to communicate that he loves us (his children). Spend some time in creation with your kid this week. What do you see that reminds you that God loves you?