

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

God is powerful enough to speak all of Creation into being.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will name ways that light and darkness are a part of their life today, and how that can remind them of God's power.

KEY PASSAGE:

Genesis 1:1-8, The First and Second Day

MEMORY VERSE:

"The earth belongs to the Lord. And so does everything in it. The world belongs to him. And so do all those who live in it." Psalm 24:1 (NirV)

Have the kids read the verse in a light, happy voice together, and then have them read it in a dark, scary voice together.

SUMMARY:

Day 1 & 2 - Once there was nothing, but then God spoke. On the first day, God created light and dark, day and night, and the sky. Kids will learn that God is more powerful than anything because he made everything out of nothing.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

We praise you for your awesome power!

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

EASY AT HOME OBJECT LESSON

ITEMS NEEDED:

Night Light

The object you see before you is called a night light. It was invented for one purpose – to give just enough light to kids and adults who have to get up in the middle of the night. It wasn't intended to be a big, bright light. It's only used at night, when people sleep. It's also much more powerful than it appears to be. This may only be a small, tiny bulb, but this small tiny bulb can save one from stubbed toes or stepping on Legos. It can mean the difference between getting to the bathroom or bumping into the wall beside the bathroom. It's also just enough light to give you the assurance that there's nothing to fear in the dark. You are safe.

Light and darkness remind us of how the Creation story began. It began with God showing his enormous power as he created light. It continued on day two with God creating the waters and the skies. The same God who created something from nothing is the same God we worship this morning. It's the same God who sent His Son so that He could have a personal relationship with you.

God's power is amazing, and His love for us is even more amazing. What a blessing it is to know that such a powerful God is only a prayer away for you and me.

FAMILY GAME TIME

BLINDFOLDED SCULPTORS

ITEMS NEEDED:

Blindfolds
Play-Doh

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose three players for this game. Blindfold them, and give them both a lump of Play-Doh. The players will have 60 seconds to shape and make any animal of their choosing with the Play-Doh (except a snake - too easy!). When time is up, have the players set down their creations on a table. Move the animals around on the table, and then take off their blindfolds.

The players will have to guess which of these three animals they made. If they guess correctly, they win a prize.

VARIATION:

If you want to have some real fun with the kids, when they set down their Play-Doh creations, swap them out with some really nice, well-formed animals. See if you can convince them that these are their creations.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

God didn't need clay or any starter materials to make the world. He is so powerful, he spoke, and there was light.

FAMILY BIBLE LESSON

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KEY PASSAGE:

Genesis 1:1-8, The First and Second Day

INTRO:

How many of you have ever made something out of Legos? How many of you have made something using Play-Doh? Who here has made art using watercolors? Crayons? Or chalk? What other creative tools have you used to make something amazing?

Let me ask you one more question. Has anyone here ever made something from nothing? I don't mean you took a blank page and applied markers to it. I don't mean you took a shapeless lump of Play-Doh and formed it with your hands. I mean you literally created something new, amazing, and creative out of thin air? Anyone?

Humans are creative. Just like the God who made us, we love to create. We make art. We make bridges and buildings. We make delicious dinners and desserts. But none of us have ever made something from nothing. It's just not possible! If you want to build a bridge, you need steel. If you want to make a salad, you need vegetables. If you want to make vegetables, you need seeds and soil and water and sunlight. As creative as we are, we simply can't make something from nothing.

Today we're starting a new series about Creativity – specifically, how God created our world. The first five words are, "In the beginning, God created..." The first thing we learn is that our God is creative. But God didn't need Play-Doh or seeds or Legos to get started when he chose to create. God isn't limited like we are to using things already created. God spoke, and all of creation came to be.

READ GENESIS 1:1-8**MAIN POINT:**

FAMILY BIBLE LESSON

God spoke, and there was light. In the midst of void and darkness, he created light out of absolutely nothing. He used that light to create something else – time. God used the light to designate “day” and the darkness to designate “night”. He did all this in just one day.

God came back the next day and did something even more amazing. God started to form a world, the world we call home. He separated water from sky, creating a world covered in ocean and surrounded by air. Blue skies marked the day, and black skies marked the night as day two came to an end.

God is all-powerful. There is nothing He can't do because He is so powerful. This is the first thing we learn about God from the Bible. And incredibly, this is the same God we worship today, the same God who wants us to know Him personally.

DRIVE IT HOME:

There is nothing we can do to make something out of nothing. Try as we might, we can't create gold or water or anything out of thin air. The world we live in was designed and made by an all-powerful God so that all the parts and pieces work together. We can create new inventions like cars and air conditioning and harvesting equipment to make life better and easier, but there's nothing truly new we can make or add to this world. Everything we make is made with things that were made originally by our God.

It can be easy for those of us who have known God or known about God all our lives to forget just who He is. We come to church, we sing some songs, and we say a prayer during the week when we're about to take a test. But how often do we stop and remember this is the God who made light? This is the God who made the ocean and all the incredible creatures that live in it. God made the foods we eat, the air we breathe, and the families who love us.

God was all-powerful in the beginning, and he is still all-powerful today. When we pray, we are asking the God who made night and day, oceans and sky, to listen to our requests. The same God who made the world out of nothingness wants to know about our illnesses, our fears, our worries, and our concerns. He hears every prayer we speak, and He uses his awesome power not to do our bidding, but to answer our prayers in a way that will show us, and everyone around us, that He is who the Bible says He is.

God spoke and there was light. God spoke, and made night and day. God spoke and separated the sky and the sea. The same God speaks to us today. He is all-powerful, and if we have faith in Him, nothing will be impossible for us. God spoke and made the world. Imagine what He can do in your life!

FAMILY BIBLE LESSON

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

We praise you for your awesome power!

In Jesus' name,

Amen

FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

ICEBREAKER:

What is your favorite thing to do when you feel like being creative?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Psalm 24:1

Have the kids read the verse in a light, happy voice together, and then have them read it in a dark, scary voice together.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Genesis 1:1-8

What is the first thing the Bible tells us about God?

How did God make light?

What does this passage tell us about God's power?

How did God separate the waters and the sky?

How are light and darkness part of our daily life?

How can light and dark remind us of God's amazing power?

Can God use his awesome power in our lives today?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for your awesome power.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

What is your favorite thing to do when you feel like being creative?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

Psalm 24:1

Have the kids read the verse in a light, happy voice together, and then have them read it in a dark, scary voice together.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Give all of the kids some paper and see what kind of creations they can make from one or two sheets with no other materials.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Genesis 1:1-8

How did God make light?

What does this passage tell us about God's power?

How are light and darkness part of our daily life?

How can light and dark remind us of God's amazing power?

Can God use his awesome power in our lives today?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for your awesome power.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

CRAFT ACTIVITY

Give each kid a plain cookie that they will frost - half with light (vanilla) icing, and half with dark (chocolate) icing.

If you don't want to hand out sweets, an alternate craft would be to have the kids cut out a black and white circle and glue them back-to-back. Punch a hole in the top and thread it with string so they can hang it up as a reminder of how God made light and dark.