

## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

God provides for our needs.

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will discuss how whenever they see a bird flying in the sky, or a fish swimming in a tank they can be reminded that just as God takes care of the birds and fish, He will also take care of us.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Genesis 1:20-23, The Fifth 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 each recite or read the verse in a fishy voice.

**SUMMARY:**

Day 5 - On the fifth day, God made every creature that swims in the sea and every bird that flies in the sky. Kids will learn that God takes care of the fish and birds and He takes care of us too.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for all that you do for us!*

*In Jesus’ name,  
Amen*

## EASY AT HOME OBJECT LESSON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

An empty roll of toilet paper

Has this ever happened to you? You race to the bathroom, you do what you have to do, you reach for the toilet paper - and it's empty! There's no more toilet paper on the roll! Someone used the last of it and forgot to replace it. You look under the sink, and there's no TP under there either. What do you do? You start calling for help. "Mom! Dad! Anybody! We need toilet paper now!"

My guess is when you call for help, you get it. There's always more toilet paper, right? And if you're ever really in danger of running out, that's when Mom and Dad run to the store to reload.

It's a good feeling to know Mom and Dad will always come through, isn't it? As loving as Mom and Dad are, and as much as they provide, God is even greater when it comes to meeting our needs. True, God may not reach down from heaven and give you a new roll of toilet paper, but when it's peace you need, or grace, or love, or something that you can't buy at Wal-Mart, only God can meet that need.

God provides for us just as he provides for the birds and the fish. Let's thank God for his amazing provision, and all that he does for us.

## FAMILY GAME TIME

### SWEDISH FISH DROP

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

A small fish bowl  
Swedish fish  
A chair

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

Pick two players for this game. Have the players stand on a chair with the fish bowl on the floor in front of them. Each player will try to drop 10 Swedish fish candies into the bowl. The player who drops the most candies into the bowl before time runs out wins.

#### VARIATION:

For a tougher challenge for older players, have them fling the fish at a bowl from 15-20 feet away.

#### WHAT'S THE POINT?

God will provide for us just as he does the fish in the sea.

## FAMILY BIBLE LESSON

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**KEY PASSAGE:**

Genesis 1:20-23, The Fifth Day

**INTRO:**

Do any of you have aquarium fish at home? Did you always have an aquarium, or do you remember when Mom and Dad first bought the tank and set it up? If you do, you'll recall that you didn't bring fish home that first day. If you want to have an aquarium full of tropical fish, you have to take some time to prepare the tank first. You have to pour the gravel, set up the filtration system, fill the tank with water, treat the water, bring the water to the proper temperature. Everything has to be just right before you can add tropical fish - that is, if you want the fish to live!

The same could really be said for the homes we live in. Nobody moves into a house before the plumbing, the electrical systems, and the gas systems are in place and functional. You want to make sure you not only have power and lights, but running water and functioning toilets. A broken toilet isn't going to kill you like a poorly prepared fish tank, but it will make life unpleasant.

We've come up to day five in our study of Genesis 1. We've witnessed how God created day and night, how he separated the waters and the sky and the land. We've witnessed the creation of plant life and the creation of the sun, moon, and stars. In other words, we've been watching God do all the prep work to put some truly extraordinary creations into this new world.

That something extraordinary begins on day five. We're going to see God start to fill the world with life - life that would not have survived two or three days before. The world was now ready for what was next because God had provided everything needed to sustain life.

# FAMILY BIBLE LESSON

## READ GENESIS 1:20-23

### MAIN POINT:

God doesn't waste time, does he? He said, "Let's fill the ocean," and it was filled. From tiny shrimp and plankton to giant squid, from lobsters and crabs to whale sharks and blue whales, from little clown fish to Great White Sharks, God made all the creatures of the sea. The waters were ready to sustain life, and God filled the tank!

The land and sky was ready to support life as well, so God filled their skies with birds. Everything from tiny swallows to giant condors took flight, filling the air. God put everything in place so that these winged creatures could nest and live and eat, and Creation took one more step toward completion.

God provided everything the fish and birds needed to survive, even before they existed. It's a good reminder that God provides for all of Creation - including us. God wants us to have faith in him and not worry about tomorrow or about things that are uncertain. As sure as God provides for the clams, the sharks, and the eagles, he will provide for us.

### DRIVE IT HOME:

Does this message sound familiar to some of you who have grown up in church? It should. Jesus taught a similar message in His very first sermon. Let's jump ahead to the book of Luke to see what God says about the birds.

## READ LUKE 12:22-26

God put a message in the skies before the first man ever drew a breath. Look at the birds. Do they look worried? Are they concerned where their next meal will come from? They know that God provides, and they do not worry. As Jesus says, "How much more valuable you are than birds!"

If you don't know how much more valuable you are than birds, I'll remind you. You are so valuable to God, He sent His only Son to die for you. Jesus took your place on the cross to pay for your sins so you could have eternal life. God loved you enough to provide Heaven for us, even when we did not deserve it. There is no need He does not know, and there is no need He will not provide.

God knows what we need before we ask. He knows when we need material things, and He knows when we need spiritual things. He will hear our prayers, and He will give us what we need. We don't have to doubt. We don't have to worry. Have faith, and God will provide.

The next time you feel worried about something, look to the skies. Look at the birds. Or if you prefer, look under the sea.

# FAMILY BIBLE LESSON

God will provide for you like he does the mighty blue whale and the tiny hummingbird. Have faith, and know that God will provide all you need.

**CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for all that you do for us!*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### ICEBREAKER:

Which would you rather be - a fish or a bird?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

**Psalm 24:1**

Have the kids each recite or read the verse in a fishy voice.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

**Read Genesis 1:20-23**

What did God create on the fifth day?

What did God have to create before he could create fish and birds?

Do fish and birds worry about the things they need?

Does God provide for us like he does the fish and birds?

How can we remind ourselves, through the fish and the birds, that God provides?

Are there things you need, or things that are worrying you, that we can pray for this morning?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Give us the things we need each day, and give us the faith not to worry.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*

## FAMILY REVIEW GAME

### FIVE DAY REVIEW

What did God create on the fifth day?

FISH AND BIRDS

What did God create on the first day?

DAY AND NIGHT/ LIGHT AND DARK

What did God do on the second day?

SEPARATE THE SKY AND WATERS

What did God do on the third day?

CREATE THE LAND AND PLANTS

What did God do on the fourth day?

CREATE THE SUN, MOON, AND STARS

## CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have the kids make birds or fish out of foam craft pieces or construction paper. Let these creatures be a reminder that we do not need to worry. God will provide for us.