



CONVERSATION WITH GOD

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 1 - 2:9

## SESSION ONE

## CREATION

## FOR THE STUDENT

Students will know that they were created with a purpose - to glorify God through a deep, growing relationship with Him, not to simply comply with rules.

## FOR THE LEADER

Your goal is to bring deeper meaning to the phrase **"GOD IS OUR FATHER"** by asking key questions and bringing the student back to the truth of scripture.

## BEFORE THE SESSION

- Read through the entire lesson to enable full understanding.
- Ask all the youth group leaders and small group leaders to read through the Scripture to understand the full context of the story.
- Set up small group sections before youth arrive.
- Ensure that small group leaders have all supplies needed for any activities.
- Set up and test any and all videos needed for this lesson. (See TOOLS section)

## TOOLS

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 Music Video
 

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 Testimony Video
 

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 Small Group Leader Handout (ReBranded Website)
 

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## MEMORY VERSE

**PSALM 139:15-16 / NOTHING ABOUT ME IS HIDDEN FROM YOU! I WAS SECRETLY WOVEN TOGETHER OUT OF HUMAN SIGHT, BUT WITH YOUR OWN EYES YOU SAW MY BODY BEING FORMED. EVEN BEFORE I WAS BORN, YOU HAD WRITTEN IN YOUR BOOK EVERYTHING ABOUT ME.**

## OPENING PRAYER

5 minutes

Use the initial prayer in this first lesson to emphasize the fact that God listens to prayers.

## OPENING EXERCISE:

10 minutes

Supplies needed:  
Pen and Paper

\* Note to Leaders: Be aware of the atmosphere in the room. Students may not be as honest in their writing if they feel closely surrounded by others.

## THE BIG PICTURE

Understanding  
God's View of Us

5 minutes



## THE RIGHT RHYMES

**Leader:** This is a chance for each of you to write a poem, rap or song from God to yourself. This is for you and for you alone. What would God say in a poem, rap or song if He was writing it to help you? You can be very honest and transparent, because no one else will see it. This will be a way for you to see how you think God views you.

\* Give the students the option to write their names on their papers and drop it in a box with their small group leaders.

\* What you're going to have here, if they are honest, is a bunch of kids showing what their thoughts of God and Christianity are. Most of their poems will probably be negative, or have a negative bent because kids feel that, because God can see all of their dirt, God only looks at all of their dirt.

## WHEN WE THINK ABOUT OURSELVES WHAT'S THE FIRST THING THAT COMES TO MIND?

Many of us think about what's wrong with us. When we look in the mirror in the morning, and the first thing we think of is the same thing we think of throughout the rest of the day: "What's wrong with me? How can I fix it or hide it? Will everyone know how messed up I am?" What's funny is that how we view ourselves is normally how we think God views us.

## WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT WHAT GOD WANTS FROM PEOPLE, WHAT'S THE FIRST THING THAT COMES TO MIND?

When we answer this question we tend to think about all the ways we've messed up and how we need to "do better." This tells us that we have a tendency to look at God as a boss more than as a Father: He has stuff for us to do, and as long as we do it well we are fine, but if we don't do it or don't do it well, then we're not fine. What if this is not the way God wants us to view Him at all? If we view God as a boss, we might spend all of our time trying to impress Him by doing good things. For most of us, we think that doing good things for God is what being a Christian is all about, but that is not all we are created for.

**LETS TAKE A LOOK AT A MUSIC VIDEO ABOUT CREATION.**



## IN FOCUS

### Compliance vs Conversation

20 minutes

## THE WORLD

### Created for Compliance

Gen 1

## MAN

### Created for Conversation and Closeness

G  
O  
D  
W  
O  
R  
L  
D  
M  
A  
N

## MUSIC VIDEO /// CREATION

**Leader:** At the core of today's lesson is the fact that, in the Bible, humans are highlighted as God's special creation. They are created for a relationship that glorifies God. God's interaction with human beings is an intimate and thoughtful process.

As we look through the days of creation, we see how God moves through each day quickly. He speaks; light is created. He speaks; waters separate. He speaks; land appears. He speaks; birds fly and fish swim. He speaks; land animals roam. He creates all these things, but He doesn't interact with this creation. He simply commands things to happen and they do. Nature and animals were made out of commands and for compliance. God is pleased, but He has not created these things for relationship with Him.

As we look at scripture there is something different in the way that **GOD CREATES MAN, WHICH SHOWS THAT HE WANTS SOMETHING MORE THAN JUST COMPLIANCE.** When God is getting ready to make man, God does a few things:

1. God doesn't just breeze through the creation of man the same way that he did before. God slows down. Not only does God slow down, but instead of talking AT man, God talks TO and WITH man. God is not concerned with man just following His rules; God wants to talk to man, to get to know him, and for man to know Him.
2. Not only does God want to have a conversation with us, but God wants to be close to man in a way that He is not with the rest of creation. Look at Chapter 2:1-3 as it tells the story of creation from a different angle. Notice how, with the rest of Creation, God speaks from far off and everything is created. In Chapter 2:7, it tells us that God forms man from the dust of the earth and then breathes into his nostrils. The picture that's painted here is that God doesn't want to bark orders at man. He wants to get close to us and be involved with every detail of our lives. This is what brings glory to God.
3. God waits until the end of creation to make man. In the same way that a father would get a room ready in preparation for the coming of his newborn child, God created the world first so that it was ready when He created man. This is to show man that God is going to take care of all of his needs.

Let's hear the story of someone who found her identity and purpose in a relationship with God.



## TESTIMONY VIDEO /// SARAH

## CLOSING THOUGHTS

10 minutes

Questions for Application

**\*SOME SAMPLE ANSWERS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THIS FIRST LESSON TO GUIDE YOU IN YOUR RESPONSE TO EACH QUESTION.**

## LEADER

Before we leave, take the last 10 minutes to discuss some questions with your small group.

## SMALL GROUP LEADER

1. What does God's way of creating man and preparing the world for man show us about how God views human beings? Does knowing that God created you to have a relationship with Him change the way you view God?

**POSSIBLE ANSWER: IT TELLS US THAT WE ARE SPECIAL TO GOD AND THAT WE ARE WORTH HIS TIME. WE ARE VALUABLE.**

2. If all of this is really true and God made all humans with this sense of worth, how does this change your opinion of someone you don't like much? Why?

**POSSIBLE ANSWER: IF GOD SAYS ALL PEOPLE ARE VALUABLE, THEN I SHOULD BELIEVE THAT AS WELL AND TREAT PEOPLE BASED ON HOW GOD VIEWS THEM.**

3. What type of relationship is God desiring to have with you? What are some things you can do in order to make your relationship with God a more intimate one?

**POSSIBLE ANSWER: GOD WANTS TO HAVE A PERSONAL, INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH PERSON ON EARTH.**

You can: **1)** Read and study the Bible. This will help you get to know God's thoughts and personality better. It's kind of like someone telling you all about their life. **2)** One of the best parts of being in a relationship is that both people communicate with each other. It's a two way street. Praying to God helps keep the lines of communication open. **3)** You can develop good relationships with people who have their own relationship with God. We all need solid people who love God around us to help us walk through life. This can be a leader or a friend your own age.

## CLOSING PRAYER

5 minutes

## SMALL GROUP LEADER

During the next 8 weeks we will be meeting as a small group and one thing we can do for each other is pray with each other. Does anyone have any prayer requests they would like the group or myself to pray about?

\* If no one is opening up you can suggest that the students write down their requests and place them in a basket for you to pray for later. Don't forget to remind them every week that you are praying for them.

\* Following the prayer, remind the students that you or any other leaders are available to answer questions or discuss the lesson. NOTE: This may be a great opportunity to share the gospel message with these students.

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