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Introduction

Bible Treasures: Genesis to Ruth is a children's Bible storybook written specifically for kindergartners, though children of many ages will enjoy the familiar stories and accompanying pictures. As the title implies, this book focuses on stories found within the books of Genesis through Ruth. Characters such as Adam, Eve, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, Ruth, and others are brought to life within these pages.

Bible Treasures is based on a thirty-six week school year. Each week consists of four Bible lessons and one review lesson. While this may seem like a lot of stories for young children, this format is intended to provide the children with a comprehensive, chronological overview of the Bible books of Genesis through Ruth. The stories naturally follow one another and are short enough that they can easily be re-read as often as your child desires and your time allows.

Each weekly lesson also includes two questions about the Bible story, one thought question, a Bible memory verse, and a question from the *First Catechism* (copyright© 2003, Great Commission Publications). The story questions are easily answered in one or two words. The thought questions are meant to promote thought and discussion between you and your child. The memory verses and catechism questions are meant to be memorized by your child in order to help hide God's word and truth in his or her heart. Teachers and parents are encouraged to review the Bible verse and catechism question each day to help their child memorize more quickly.

A review lesson is provided at the end of each week. This lesson reviews the Bible verse and catechism questions from the week. This review will also, as the weeks pass by, begin including catechism questions from previous lessons to help your child review. A fun craft or activity, meant to help students review some of the week's Bible lessons, is also provided in the review lesson at the end of each week.

A short answer key is provided at the end of the book. The answers correspond to the questions listed at the end of each Bible story. No answers are provided for the thought questions, as they are meant merely to help guide discussion.

Amber Bennett



Unit 1 Creation

LESSON 1

Who Made the World? Part I

Genesis 1:1

How old are you? Perhaps you are five years old, or six. Do you know what it means when you say that you are six years old? It means that God made you about six years ago. That is not a very long time.

Your father and mother were alive many years before that. Maybe your mother is thirty years old. That means that God made your mother about thirty years ago. Maybe your grandparents are sixty years old. Sixty years is a long life; but there was once a time when even your grandparents had not been made. If your grandparents' lives seem long, they are short compared with the time that happened before God made them.

God made the world such a long time ago that no one can tell you exactly how long ago the world began. God made the first man as many as six thousand years ago. For thousands of years there have been men, women, boys, girls, and little babies in this world. Only God knows exactly when they began to live.

There was once a time when there were no people at all in the world. There was just a world, without men and things that men made, like houses and roads. There were trees and animals, but there were no people.

A very long time ago, there was not even a world. Think of it: no great, big, beautiful world! There was only emptiness. That was before God made the world.

Yet there was something in that faraway time before anything at all was made. God was there; but if God made the whole world, then who made God?

No one made God. God has always been alive. Forever and ever and ever, God has lived. It is hard for us to understand that God never began to live; but it is true. We know that every man and woman in the world was made by God. Our lives began when God made us; but God's life had no beginning. There has never been a time when there was no God, and there will never be a time without God. People grow old. They change, and they die. God, however, will never die; and He will always be the same. He will go on and on forever. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever; God is eternal (Hebrews 13:8, 1 Timothy 1:17).

Questions:

1.	Who made God?	-
2.	Will God ever die?	

Thought Question:

Why do you think God made the world?

Catechism:

Question 1: Who made you?

Answer 1: God

Memory Verse:

LESSON 2

Who Made the World? Part II

Genesis 1

God is very wonderful and very great. He can do many things that we cannot do. We can only be in one place at a time. If we want to be in some other place, we have to get up and go there. God is so wonderful that He can be everywhere in the world at the same time. If we go into the deepest ocean, God is there. If we fly up into the sky, God is there. God is everywhere.

God sees us all the time. He knows everything that we do. He hears every word that we speak. He even knows the thoughts that we have in our minds. We cannot hide from God. If we do wrong, God knows it, even if we have not told anyone. He also knows when we have tried to be good and to please Him, even if no one else in the world knows.

God is wonderful in another way, too. He knew from the beginning everything that is going to happen in the world. We do not know what is going to happen tomorrow. That is because our minds are so small. God is so great that He knows everything. He knows what is going to happen not only tomorrow, but all the time until the very end of the world. God knows what will happen, even after the world has passed away.

God is perfectly good, too. You are sometimes good and sometimes naughty. You are not perfectly good, are you? Your friends are sometimes good and sometimes naughty. None of them is perfectly good. Even your mom and dad are not perfectly good. God, however, is so perfectly good that He cannot do anything wrong. Everything that God does is right.

God is also very loving. He loves His children more than anyone else in the world loves them. God also takes care of His children and is always near them. God never sleeps. All night long, when His children are sleeping, God is watching over them and caring for them. He keeps their hearts beating, and He keeps them breathing, even when they are asleep. He cares for His children day and night.

God wants you to love Him, too. You can talk to God. He will hear you. He loves to have children talk to Him. You can say to Him, "Dear God, I love You for loving me so much, and for taking care of me all the time. I thank You for making me."

If we love God and tell Him that we know we are not perfectly good, He will forgive us for our sin. He knows that we are not perfectly good; but He sent His Son Jesus to die for our sin. That way God can bring His children home to live with Him in heaven.

God lives in heaven. Heaven is more beautiful than any place you have ever seen. It is more beautiful than you can ever imagine. There is no sickness or sadness in heaven, but all is joy and happiness. There are no tears or crying. There is no death. There is no dark night in heaven; but it is always bright, beautiful day. Those in heaven do not need the light of the sun, for the glory of God makes it brighter than the sun. So if we love God and have been forgiven, then we will go to live with God in heaven after we die.

Questions:

1. Where is God?

2. Where will God's people go after they die?

Thought Question:

When can you talk to God?

Catechism:

Question 1: Who made you?

Answer 1: God

Memory Verse:

LESSON 3

Angels

Genesis 2:1, Luke 2:8-20, James 2:19, Jude 1:6

A long time ago, God made the angels to live with Him in heaven. Angels are not like people. They are much stronger than people and can do many things we cannot do. They can go wherever God sends them. Sometimes they even come down from heaven to this earth.

Angels were created by God to be perfectly good. After God created them, some of them chose to follow a wicked angel named Satan. These angels became evil and are now called demons or devils. The angels that followed God are still called angels and are still perfectly good.

The good angels love God very much. They spend all their time loving God, praising Him, and doing what He commands. There are a lot of angels, more than we can count.

Some of the angels are called archangels because they are greater than the rest. God told us that the name of one of the archangels is Gabriel. Gabriel has been sent down to earth several times. He was sent to Mary before Jesus was born to tell her that Jesus would be God's Son (Luke 1:26).

And when Jesus was born, the whole sky was filled with angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" (Luke 2:14).

The Bible tells us that God sent angels down to earth at least twenty times. And the people who love God will someday go to heaven and see the angels and hear them sing of God's glory because they love God.

The demons, however, do not love God. They hate Him. When the demons sinned against God, He threw them out of heaven. These demons are cruel and love to cause suffering. They do not want people to love God. They do not want people to go to live in heaven with God when they die. They know that people are weak and have sinful natures that want to disobey God. So demons try to tempt people into sin.

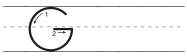
God wants people to obey Him and love Him. We need to ask God to help us love and obey Him because we cannot do it by ourselves. God is much stronger than all the demons put together. He can help us be obedient if we ask Him.

Questions:

1. What perfectly good beings live in heaven with God? _____



2. Who is stronger, God or all the demons in the world?



Thought Question:

How can you obey God?

Catechism:

Question 2: What else did God make? **Answer 2:** God made all things.

Memory Verse:

LESSON 4

Creation

Genesis 1

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). This is the very first verse of the Bible. Without the Bible, we would not know who created the world.

Do you know what the word *created* means? It means that God made the world out of nothing. When a man makes a house, he must first have wood and nails to build it and some glass for the windows. If he does not have the materials to build the house, then he cannot build the house.

However, God does not need materials to create things. He made the world out of nothing at all; and He made it in six days. When God spoke, the world began.

At first, everything was very dark. However, on the first day of creation, "God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good" (Genesis 1:3–4). And God separated the light from the darkness. The light was called Day and the darkness was called Night. That was the very first day. And it is still God who, every day, sends the sun so that we can wake up to work and play. He also sends the darkness every night so we can sleep.

On the second day, God separated the waters and created the sky with its clouds. And on the third day, God made dry land, which He called Earth. All the water was called Seas. Then the earth was ready for things to grow on it. So God created all kinds of trees and grass and flowers to grow on the earth.

Next, the earth needed more light for the day and for the night. So God created the burning sun to shine during the day and the shining moon and stars to shine at night.

The first animals God made were the fish and the birds. They were created on the fifth day to live in the seas and fly in the air. Big and little fish began to swim around, and birds began to sing in the trees.

On the last day of creation, God made all the animals and creeping things. Lions and tigers began to pounce, and herds of cows and sheep fed in the earth's meadows. Goats and deer climbed up mountains, while rabbits chased through the grass. Bears tramped through forests, and monkeys swung through the trees. Huge elephants, tall giraffes, and tiny kittens—they were all made by God. And at the very end of the day, God created people.

Finally, on the seventh day, God rested. He blessed the seventh day and made it holy (Genesis 2:3a). God wanted His people to rest on the seventh day, too. Back then the day of rest was on Saturday; but after Jesus came to earth, died on the cross, and rose from the dead on Sunday, the day of rest changed. That is why Christians set aside Sunday, the first day of the week, for going to church and resting. Sunday is a holy day, a special day for worshiping God.

After all the work of creating the world, God looked at everything He had made. "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good" (Genesis 1:31).

Questions:

1	How many days did God take to create the world?		 ()	_		_		 _	 _		_	 	-	_
ι.	now many days and dod take to create the world:	_	_	_	_		_		_			_		 _		_

2. What day do Christians set aside to specially worship God?



Thought Question:

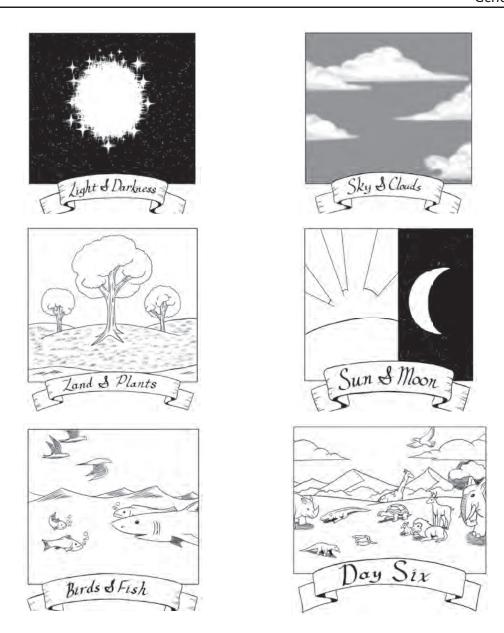
Which of God's creations are you most thankful for? (Here are some things to be thankful for: water, light, air, clouds, land, sun, animals, food.)

Catechism:

Question 2: What else did God make?

Answer 2: God made all things.

Memory Verse:



LESSON 5—REVIEW

Memory Verse:

Genesis 1:1

Catechism:

Question 1: Who made you?

Question 2: What else did God make?

Activity Unit 1: A Creation Scroll

Draw a picture of what God created on each day of the six days of creation on the scroll on the following pages. For the seventh day, draw a picture of your family worshiping.

