

Step By Step Through The Bible With Children

**"All thy children shall be taught of the LORD;
and great shall be the peace of thy children."**

(Isaiah 54:13)

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Lesson 4 -

THE CREATION STORY

The teacher should read carefully, several times, the first chapter of Genesis before reading this lesson. Have clear in your own mind GOD's work for each day. Notice the progression, first light, then life, then fruitfulness in nature, all the result of GOD's spoken Word.

Later on GOD sent JESUS CHRIST, the Incarnate Word who brought light, life, and fruitfulness into a world of spiritual darkness. Now we are dependent upon GOD's written Word for spiritual light, life and fruitfulness in our lives.

Our memory verse has to do with this Word. Read it in Psalm 119:130 and memorize it perfectly before teaching it to the class. It is the entrance of this written Word of GOD (or Word of Life) that enlightens the hearts and minds of children. It is believing the Word, or receiving it into their hearts (John 1:12) that produces life (spiritual life). It is obeying the Word that results in fruitfulness.

There is danger of teachers and parents expecting mature fruit immediately from young Christians. The Word is the Seed. It takes time for seed to produce fruit, it must be cultivated, watered, and then comes the waiting.

GOD has promised us that His Word shall not return unto Him void, but it shall accomplish that which He pleases (cf. Isaiah 55:11).

STORY

Our story today is in Genesis.

Genesis means beginnings. Shall we look for it away back here (open Bible towards the back)? No! It is the first book in the Bible and it tells of the beginnings of all things.

Let us say Genesis together. "Genesis." Where is Genesis found? Yes. It is the first book in the Bible.

About what does it tell us, William? "It tells of the beginning of all things."

First of all it tells us, "**In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth**"

You may listen carefully while I say it again, then you may say it with me. (Teacher repeat Genesis 1:1). Now all together. And again. Mary you may repeat it for us. Would some one else like to say it alone?

GOD made the earth perfect and beautiful, just as He does all things, but sin spoiled the earth and it lost the lovely beauty which GOD gave it when He said that it was "**very good!**"

Because of Adam and Eve, The earth lost its light, and glory, and all the living creatures began to groan, and water and the darkness of sin covered the earth.

It was sin that spoiled GOD's earth, and because sin must be punished, GOD took His light and glory away from the earth and left everything under it's curse.

But in the beginning, before Adam and Eve sinned, the voice of GOD rang out, and said, "**Let there be light: and there was light.**" "**And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And GOD called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day**" (Genesis 1:4, 5).

"**And GOD said, Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters,**" so GOD lifted some of the waters that covered the earth away up high to make the clouds, and in between the waters above and the waters on the earth He made the firmament or air where birds, animals and people were to live. "**And God called the firmament Heaven. And the evening and the morning were the second day.**"

"**And GOD said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together . . . and let the dry land appear: and it was so. And God called the dry land Earth; and . . . the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.**

"**And GOD said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb . . . and the fruit tree . . . whose seed is in itself, . . . and God saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the third day.**"

"**And GOD said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: . . . And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day (who can tell us what it was? Yes, the sun.), and the lesser light to rule the night: (And what was that? The moon.) He made the stars also . . . And God saw that it was good. And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.**"

GOD was preparing a beautiful home for man. The sky was the roof, the grass was the carpet,

the trees the partitions, and the sun, moon, and stars were the lights.

GOD made the home before He created life. When everything was ready He said, "**Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life,**" and fowl to fly above the earth, and GOD created the tiny little fish as well as the great whales and all the birds, small and great, each after their kind, and GOD saw that it was good and He blessed them, saying, "**Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth. And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.**"

"**And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so, . . . and GOD saw that it was good.**"

"**And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion (or rule) over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.**"

"**So God created man in his own image, in the image of GOD created he him; male and female created he them.**"

GOD the Great Life Giver loves to give life - life for the water, life for the air, and life for the field, then best of all, He gave to man, the image and likeness of His own life.

You see the One, who is Himself Light and Life was able by His *Spoken Word* to bring the earth which was spoiled by sin, back to light and life and make all things new.

Boys and girls, as well as grown folk, have been spoiled by sin, in very much the same way as the earth was spoiled, and they too are in darkness, without life, and unfruitful.

GOD also has a Word for all who are in sin and darkness. That Word is Light. All who *hear* about JESUS who died and rose from the dead to save sinners, have light - heavenly light. All who *believe* GOD's Word about JESUS the SAVIOUR, and *receive* Him into their hearts, have life - eternal life, And all who learn to *obey* GOD's Word will bear good fruit - the fruit of the Spirit - love, joy, and peace (Galatians 5:22, 23).

So you see, children, just as GOD's Word, "**Let there be light,**" brought light out of darkness, and life and fruitfulness, and made of it a beautiful home or temple in which Adam the lord of the earth was to dwell, so our hearts become a temple in which the LORD of Glory comes to dwell, so we are no longer children of darkness but children of the light.

There may be some one here today who did not know that he or she is in darkness, but knows it now because GOD's Word says we are all in darkness, and we all need JESUS, the true light.

Is there a boy or girl here who has never told JESUS that he or she believes the Gospel story, but who wishes to receive Him as his or her Saviour? Yes, I see two hands.

These children do not look bad to me, but GOD's Word tells me that their thoughts, words, and

deeds are wrong, and that JESUS died for them. Children, do you believe that you are sinners and that JESUS died to save you?

Then you may bow your heads and repeat these words after me. "JESUS, I now take Thee into my heart because I believe that Thou didst die that I might live. Amen."

These children do not look any different to me now, but if they have really meant the words they have said to JESUS, I know that they have a wonderful, new, never-dying life, because the Word of GOD tells us to believe and we shall live.

We will bow our heads while we thank GOD for salvation in CHRIST JESUS. "Dear Heavenly Father we thank Thee for sending JESUS to die on the cross for sinners and that JESUS said, '**Suffer (let the) little children to come unto me.**' We ask Thee to save every child here, In JESUS' name and for His glory we ask it. Amen."

Lesson: Genesis 1.

Memory verse: Psalm 119:130.

NOTE TO TEACHER: *An inexperienced teacher cannot give all of this story, Make some part of it your very own and tell it, as you believe it with all your heart. At first you may not be able to hold the attention of the class more than five minutes; if so, do not keep talking for twenty. Teaching is an art and like all arts, it requires much patience and practice.*

STORY ILLUSTRATED: As you tell the story, place objects upon your board to illustrate the work of the six days as follows: For light, cut from yellow tissue paper a circle 12 inches in diameter. At the proper time in your lesson, place the circle of light about in the center of the board.

Out of brown paper cut an outline map of North and South America and paste it upon a circle cut from blue paper, to represent land and sea. Make two or three trees of various shapes, sizes, and colors, by folding the paper and first cutting an irregular trunk two or three inches in length, then spread out to make the branches or body of tree any shape you wish.

Out of heavier paper of orange color cut a small circle for the sun. From light yellow cut a crescent for the moon. From silver or gold paper make four or five stars, or buy stars about one inch in diameter. From pictures, trace off the outline of a fish, bird, and a lamb to represent animal life. Have everything ready before your class, so no time is lost. Another interesting way to illustrate the work of each day is to make a circle for each day, showing GOD's work day by day. On the seventh circle print the word REST. Hang the circles in a row, so at the close of the lesson all are in view. See Larkin's *Dispensational Truth* for suggestions.

Make your patterns out of paper and adjust them on the black background until you have the right size and shape for each object, then cut from colored paper.

~ end of chapter 6 / Lesson 4 ~