

# The Story Maker

## TRAINING



EQUIPPING CHILDREN TO KNOW & SHARE GOD'S STORY



“

A STORY CAN DO MORE  
THAN TEACH YOU.

*A story can  
transform you.*

SALLY LLOYD-JONES

# WELCOME TO THE STORY MAKER TRAINING

Based on *The Story Maker Film* and *The Story Maker Booklet*, this guide helps you explain God's rescue in Jesus to children. Children who know Jesus are some of the most passionate evangelists. They are positioned to reach their peers as well as the adults who know them best.

Whether you want to explain the gospel to your own children or the children you shepherd at church or school, this training is designed just for you! It walks through each part of God's Story and gives you tips for how you can share it with children at their level of understanding.

We cannot wait for more children to know the beauty of God's rescue in Jesus! Thank you for partnering with us in maximizing the reach of God's Story worldwide.

For the gospel,  
*Spread Truth*



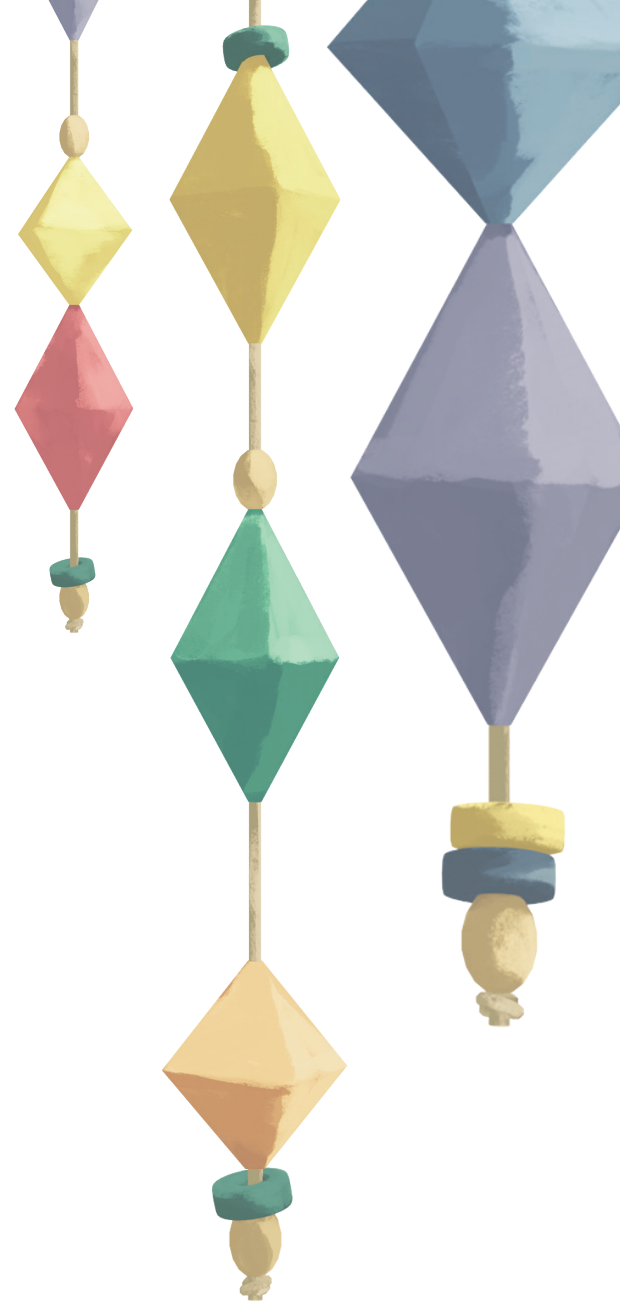
## TEACHING POINT

This guide is organized to help you effectively explain the beauty of God's Story to a child. Work through each section at your own pace. Alter the structure and approach for your setting and the ages of the children you are teaching. You could do one story point a day or one a week—whatever works best for helping your children grasp God's rescue in Jesus!



## ACTIVITY

Each lesson comes with several applicable activities to work through with the children if you would like. Some include downloadable content which can be found on [TheStoryMaker.com/Resources](https://TheStoryMaker.com/Resources). Samples can be found in the Appendix (p. 29).



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IT TAKES A  
*village*  
TO SAVE A SOUL.

LON ALLISON

# CREATION

How did it all begin?



# CREATION: Learning How It All Began

In addition to knowing the creation account, children must see that they are living in this part of God's true story, even today. We must share with our children that everything in the entire universe was made by God and that everyone is made in the image of God. We must help them see people through the lens of the gospel story. That is how we will spark in our children a desire to see all people find rescue in Jesus!

## Lesson 1: God

Every story has an author. Even the story of you and me and the whole universe has one: It's God! God is the author of everything we know and everything we haven't even discovered yet. He has no beginning and no ending—just like His love for you and me. Let's learn more about Him.

God is powerful, majestic, and always good. God pours never-ending love into everything He does. In love He hung the stars in the sky and leaves on the trees. And before He created anything, He lovingly planned for you to come into the world and to know Him. Our Creator King delights in everything He's made, especially you. We were made in the image of God. He created us with many of His own attributes and qualities. He gave us creativity, joy, love, reason, dignity, worth, morality, justice, kindness, intelligence, and more.

### TEACHING POINTS

- God is the all-powerful Creator King. (*Ps. 95:3*)
- God has no beginning and no end. (*Rev. 1:8*)
- God knew you before He created the world. (*Ps. 139:13–16*)
- God does everything out of love. (*1 John 4:7*)
- God delights in you as His creation. (*Zeph. 3:17*)

### KEY VERSES

“Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.”

**Psalm 90:2 ESV**

“Dear friends, let us continue to love one another, for love comes from God. Anyone who loves is a child of God and knows God. But anyone who does not love does not know God, for God is love.”

**1 John 4:7–8 NLT**

“God is love.”

**1 John 4:16 ESV**

“I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God.”

**Isaiah 45:5 ESV**

“You are the Lord, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.”

**Nehemiah 9:6 ESV**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Who is God?

*He is Creator King of everything.*

### How long has God existed?

*God has existed forever and ever.*

### How would you describe God's heart?

*God's heart is full of never-ending love.*

## BIBLE STUDY

Read Psalm 90:1–2, Psalm 18:30, and 1 Timothy 1:17.

### What did you learn about God in these verses?

*He is the King! God has no beginning and no end, God lives forever. God is eternal and immortal and invisible. He is perfect and never changes.*

Read Ephesians 4:6, Zechariah 14:9, and Psalm 95:3 and ask:

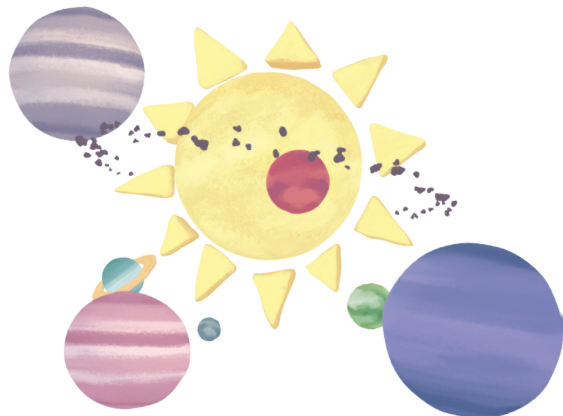
### Why is God the King of everything?

*Because God made everything, He is the rightful owner and ruler and King over all.*

### ACTIVITIES

Help the children process the concepts from the lesson by completing one or more of the following activities.

- Download the **Truth or Trash card game** available at [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com).
- Download the **Bible Code worksheet** available at [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com).
- Download and print the **God coloring sheet** for each child. As the children color the picture, have each one summarize *Lesson 1: God out loud* and in their own words.



## Lesson 2: Creation

In Lesson 1: God, we learned all about who God is. We discovered that God is our Creator King and that He made us in His image! We also learned that God loves us so much, and He does everything out of love. Today we are learning about everything God created! Imagine you are walking in His lush garden called Eden. Look up at the towering trees overhead, swaying gently in the cool breeze. See the sun shining through the leaves, up in the bright blue sky? All around is a rainbow of flowers in bloom, their sweet scent filling the air and beckoning little bees. See the animals? Lions and bunnies, horses and alligators—so many creatures of all shapes and sizes and patterns! Do you feel the cool grass between your toes? And the joy in your heart? God did all of that. Let's learn more about God's Creation.

Everything you see know came to be because God said so. He knows every star, moon, and planet in every galaxy—because He made them. He made the earth and all the animals, and He made the first people—Adam and Eve—in His image. He knows every person who ever existed, including you and me. God did not make any one of us ordinary. We are all created with special gifts and talents that God gave us. Every one is of great value to God. With great joy He created everything! He lovingly shared it with Adam and Eve and gave them the responsibility to take care of His Creation.



### TEACHING POINTS

- God created you and me and loves us. (*Ps. 139:1–18*)
- God created us in His image. (*Gen. 1:27*)
- God made every creature different and delightful. (*Gen. 1:20–25*)
- God created people in a very special way, and we are all equal and valuable. (*Matt. 10:29–31*)



### KEY VERSES

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”

**Genesis 1:1 ESV**

“I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place.”

**Psalms 8:3 ESV**

“The Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.”

**Genesis 2:7 NIV**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Name a few things God created.**

*Trees, animals, people, sky, water, etc.*

**What was the best thing in God's Creation?**

*People.*

**Knowing that God uniquely made each of us and values His Creation, how should we treat each other?**

*With love, care, dignity, and respect for all people—regardless of color, race, nationality, wealth, age, or other factors. God loves everyone and we should too.*

**What qualities do you have that reflect God's image?**

*God's kindness, love, creativity, intelligence, joy, forgiveness, patience.*

## BIBLE STUDY

Read Genesis 1 & 2 about the six days of Creation.

Read Job 38:4–38 and discuss:

**What did you learn about God's power and authority over all Creation?**

*God rules over all of Creation. Everything and everyone obeys Him.*



## ACTIVITIES

Help the children process the concepts from the lesson by completing one or more of the following activities.

- Make a list of actions that can show God's love and acceptance to others.
- Challenge each child, as an image bearer of God, to make a plan of how they can include and encourage every student in their classroom this year.
- Download our **Nature Walk Scavenger Hunt worksheet** available at [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com).
- Download a **Creation word search** available at [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com).
- Download and print the **Creation coloring sheet** for each child; as the children color the picture, have each one summarize *Lesson 2: Creation* out loud and in their own words.



## Lesson 3: Harmony

In *Lesson 2: Creation*, we took a walk through Eden and saw all that God had made: flowers and trees, the sky and the stars, Adam and Eve, and all the animals. God created everything to work together perfectly! The grass was always green and the flowers were always blooming. All the animals were roaming about together, in perfect peace and friendship—not like our zoos that keep animals separated from each other. Eden was a place of joy and peace, with every creature living together in perfect Harmony. Let’s learn more about the Harmony of Eden.

God made the world perfect. And everything God made worked together perfectly, in Harmony. Adam and Eve loved each other and God in perfect peace and joy. There was no fear, sickness, or guilt; everything was how it was supposed to be. God gave Adam and Eve a job: to take care of the whole Earth! God gave them just one rule to obey—there was a certain tree they were not to eat from. Otherwise, they were free to live, explore, enjoy, and worship the King!

### TEACHING POINTS

- In Eden, every creature was at peace with each other: Humans and animals lived together as friends.
- You could pet a tiger or a crocodile without getting hurt!
- You didn’t have to worry about anything because the whole world was working perfectly as God made it to.
- They were created to worship, obey, and enjoy God forever. (Rev. 4:11)

### KEY VERSES

“God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good.”

**Genesis 1:31 NASB**

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the Lord God commanded the man, ‘You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat it you will die.’”

**Genesis 2:15–17 NIV**



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### What was it like to live in Eden?

*It was peaceful and full of amazing things to see and explore. It was perfect. There was no sickness, no animals to be scared of, no storms, etc.*

### What is it like when things are “in harmony” at home?

*Everyone works together, putting the needs of others before ourselves.*

### How can you help your family live in Harmony?

*Help around the house, obey our parents, get along with siblings.*

## BIBLE STUDY

Read Genesis 1:31 and ask:

### What was God’s reaction to all He made?

*He called it very good and was completely satisfied.*

Read Colossians 3:12–15 and ask:

### What do these verses say we should do to live in Harmony?

*We should treat others with compassion, kindness, gentleness, and patience. We should forgive others. We should love everyone.*

### ACTIVITIES

*Help the children process the concepts from the lesson by completing one or more of the following activities.*

- Have the children complete a puzzle together. Ask them to compare the way the pieces fit together perfectly to the way that creation fit together perfectly.
- Try a three-legged race, then discuss with the children how cooperation and teamwork affected the race.
- Download and print the **Harmony coloring sheet** for each child. As the children color the picture, have each one summarize *Lesson 3: Harmony* out loud and in their own words.



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*There is a God, but not  
like the other gods.*

YOU ALREADY KNOW WHAT HE'S  
LIKE—WELL—HE IS LIKE JESUS!

N. T. Wright



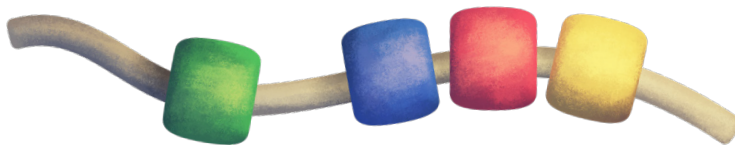
## CREATION CHAPTER REVIEW

### Sharing God's Story

- Show the children the first three hand motions for *The Story*. You can prepare beforehand, using the video at [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com), or can share the video with the children.
- Have the children tell you about how everything began in their own words, covering **GOD**, **CREATION**, and **HARMONY**.
- Using the gospel-sharing bracelet included with this book, teach the children how to start a gospel conversation in their own words. (You can find a video at [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com) to help with this.) As an example, a conversation might start something like this:

*I just got this bead bracelet that tells the best story I've ever heard—want to hear it? This first bead is green because it's for everything that has ever been created in the whole world—animals, planets, trees, and the first people, Adam and Eve. God created everything in the universe because He's good and loving and kind. And He's the King of everything, even you and me. He created it all to be perfect and work together perfectly with no problems or troubles or sadness. At creation, everything was great and Adam and Eve loved God and each other and the whole world was full of love and happiness.*

- Have the children practice sharing this part of *The Story* using their bead bracelet.
- Close this section on Creation by singing together! Visit [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com) for the link to “This Is My Father’s World” from Getty Kids Hymnal.



# FALL

What went wrong?



# FALL: Learning What Went Wrong

The introduction of sin and disobedience changes everything in the Garden of Eden. The devil, also called Satan, is God's enemy. He used to be the angel Lucifer. The Bible tells us in Ezekiel 28 that Lucifer was perfect, full of wisdom and beauty. But somehow pride led him to believe that he was equal with God! But he decided he didn't want to obey God anymore. When he did that, God cast him out of heaven forever. This was the beginning of Satan's reign on earth that continues today as he lies and manipulates us into rebelling against God. Our children need to understand that they are still living in this story right now and its why bad things happen. (We invite you to read our article titled "Why Children Need Sad Stories" on *TheStoryMaker.com* page). It can seem overwhelming and hopeless, but that isn't the end of the story!

## Lesson 1: Disobedience

Satan, a rebelling angel that disobeyed God, whispered lies to Eve. He said eating the forbidden fruit would make them like God. So Adam and Eve decided to trust his words instead of God's, and they took the fruit that God told them not to eat, and they ate it. With one bite, they found out that Satan was lying all along, just to trick them into rebelling against God's one rule. Their choice broke God's heart, and it set in motion the death and sadness that God warned them against.



### TEACHING POINTS

- Satan hated God and wanted to ruin everything God made. (II Cor. 4:3-4)
- Satan told lies so Adam and Eve would disobey God's one rule. (Gen. 3:1)
- God gave them this one specific rule to teach them to trust His word. (Gen. 2:16-17)
- Adam and Eve chose to listen to Satan's lies instead of God's truth. (John 8:44)
- Their disobedience revealed that God was telling the truth and was watching out for Adam and Eve. (Gen. 3:11-13)
- Satan continues to tell lies today, so that we will also disobey God and hurt His heart. (John 8:44)



### KEY VERSES

"Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made.

He said to the woman, 'Did God actually say, "You shall not eat of any tree in the garden"?' And the woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate."

**Genesis 3:1-6 ESV**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### What did Adam and Eve do wrong?

*They ate from the tree God commanded them not to eat from. They broke His one rule. They doubted and did not trust Him.*

### Can we hide our sin from God?

*No, because He sees everything.*

### Adam and Eve's sin created brokenness in our world. What kind of things do you see today that are a result of our world being broken?

*Crime, sadness, divorce, hurricanes, tornadoes, selfishness, illness, racism, bullying, school shootings, etc.*

## BIBLE STUDY

Read John 8:44 and ask:

### Who is Satan or the serpent?

*A rebelling angel that disobeyed God.*

Read James 1:13-15 and ask:

### Why are we tempted to sin? Does God tempt anyone?

*We are tempted to sin when our own hearts desire anything apart from God. No, God does not tempt us.*

Read James 1:22-25 and Proverbs 3:5-6 and ask:

### What should we do when we hear God's Word?

*We need to do and trust what God's Word says.*



## ACTIVITIES

*Help the children process the concepts from the lesson by completing one or more of the following activities.*

- Play a game of Telephone to show how easily we get messages mixed up and confused. Help the children understand the importance of knowing God's Word specifically for themselves.
- Download and print the **Disobedience coloring sheet** for each child; as the children color the picture, have each one summarize *Lesson 1: Disobedience* out loud and in their own words.

## Lesson 2: Consequence

As we learned in our last lesson, Adam and Eve grabbed a piece of that forbidden fruit. With Satan’s lies filling their ears, they put the fruit to their mouths and took a bite. After that one bite, suddenly everything was different. They knew things they hadn’t known before—and it wasn’t nearly as satisfying as they had hoped or as that serpent had implied. What had they done?

Imagine Adam and Eve standing before the tree God told them not to eat from. The serpent had quickly slithered away, pleased with his victory. Adam and Eve did gain knowledge with their choice—now they knew disharmony, meaning things didn’t work together. Everything that had been perfect was now terribly wrong. They could feel the disharmony with God, creation, each other, and inside themselves. So when God came to them, they hid in shame. They knew they had broken God’s rule and His heart.

Because of their disobedience, a Consequence was required. They would be removed from God’s garden—their close friendship with Him was broken. They would have trouble in life—their work and relationships would be marked by pain. They would face death—permanent separation from God, who is life everlasting.

Because of sin, every person who has ever lived has had to face sickness and trouble and eventually, death. Because of our own sinful choices and rebellion, we are separated from God...unless something is done to make it right again.

### TEACHING POINTS

- Adam and Eve sinned by disobeying God’s command, and sin destroyed the perfect harmony God had created. (*Gen. 3:14–16*)
- Every sin has a Consequence. (*Rom. 6:23*)
- Adam and Eve’s consequences included being removed from the garden, broken friendship with God, troubles, sadness in life and death. (*Gen. 3:23*)
- When we sin, there are similar consequences: broken friendship with God, troubles, and sadness. (*John 16:33*)

### KEY VERSES

“Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.”

**Genesis 3:7–8 ESV**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, what did they do next?**

*They hid from God in shame.*

**How do we hide from God when we’ve disobeyed Him?**

*We lie about our actions, we blame others, and we don’t talk to God.*

**Our actions have consequences—sometimes good, sometimes not good. What are the consequences when you do what you’ve been asked? What are the consequences when you fight with your siblings or refuse to share? How do you feel when you’ve been mean or selfish?**

*That bad feeling inside is guilt and shame that points out your sins to you. We all sin by what we say, think, do, and fail to do.*

## BIBLE STUDY

Read Isaiah 64:4–7 and ask:

**How does God feel about our sin?**

*God is hurt by our sin.*

Read 2 Timothy 3:16 and ask:

**How do we learn what is right?**

*We look to the Bible to learn the difference between right and wrong.*



## ACTIVITIES

Help the children process the concepts from the lesson by completing one or more of the following activities.

- Turn to the photo on page 9 and ask: *What might this girl be sad about? How does her sadness make you feel? How could you help?* This is an opportunity to encourage the children to discuss difficult family situations, divorce, scary things on the news, school shootings, illness, and so on that might be happening in their lives.
- Share a personal story about rules and consequences to help the children understand the point better.

## Lesson 3: Need

That terrible serpent Satan told Adam and Eve lots of things but left out many details about how everything would change. He didn't tell them that they could never fix what they had done. They now felt lots of new emotions—they were sad and scared and alone. And they had no idea what to do next.

When God called out for Adam and Eve, He already knew what they had done. But He loved them still. He called them out of their hiding place among the trees, and He explained what was happening and why. Adam and Eve were the first to sin, but if we were in that garden, we would have chosen the same thing. And we have, in our ways, chosen to disobey God too. That's why we have the same desperate need that Adam and Eve did. We were made to live in harmony with God, but sin has separated us from Him and we have grown further and further apart from Him. Our need for God has never changed. We continue to need His guidance, wisdom, comfort, and hope. But most importantly, we need His forgiveness. We need harmony restored—with God and creation and each other and ourselves. But we have no way to help ourselves. We Need help from God to call us out of our hiding places and restore us.



### TEACHING POINTS

- Every person has chosen to disobey God so every person is separated from His love and life. (*Rom. 3:23*)
- Like Adam and Eve, we need rescue from the consequences of our sin. (*Gal. 1:4*)
- We need to be restored to a relationship with God. (*Acts. 3:19–21*)
- We need forgiveness for our rebellion. (*Acts 2:38*)
- We need harmony with God and others, within ourselves and the world. (*Rom. 15:5–6*)



### KEY VERSES

“Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.”

**Romans 5:12 ESV**

“The entire world is guilty before God.”

**Romans 3:19 NLT**

“None is righteous, no, not one.”

**Romans 3:10 ESV**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Do you know someone who has NEVER done anything wrong?**

*Every human who has ever lived has sinned. Only Jesus was without sin.*

**God made everything perfect but now things are not perfect: Name a few things that are not right in the world and make you sad.**

*Bullies, being lonely, when things aren't fair, etc.*

## BIBLE STUDY

Read Deuteronomy 4:29–31 and ask:

**How does God respond to His people when they call on Him?**

*God is merciful and will not leave you, or forget His promise.*

Read Hebrews 11:1–6 and ask:

**What is faith in God all about?**

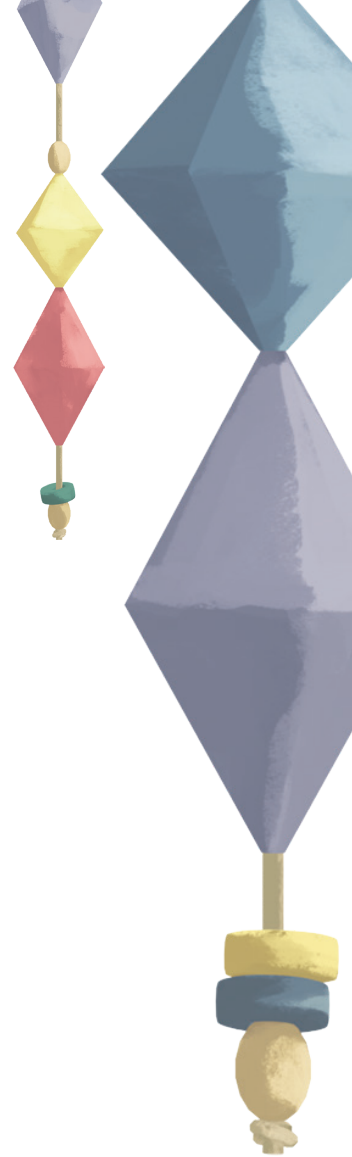
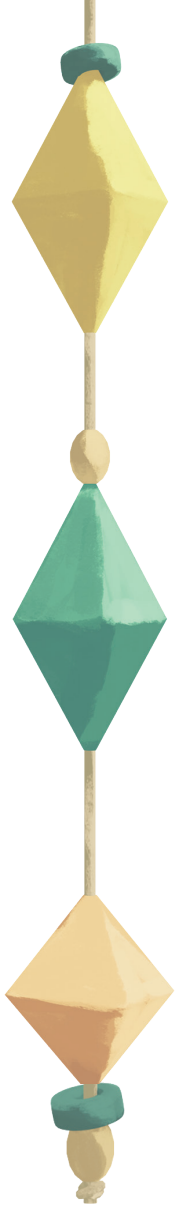
*Faith in God means that we trust His goodness to rescue us and meet our every need.*



## ACTIVITIES

*Help the children process the concepts from the lesson by completing one or more of the following activities.*

- Name a few things you can't do alone, where you need someone's help.
- Download and print the **Need Matching worksheet**.
- Download and print the **Need coloring sheet** for each child. As the children color the picture, have each one summarize *Lesson 3: Need* out loud and in their own words.



## FALL CHAPTER REVIEW

### Sharing God's Story

- Show the children the next three hand motions for the *The Story* Fall section, as well as review *The Story* hand motions from Creation. You can prepare beforehand, using the video at [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com), or can share the video with the children.
- Have the children tell you about what went wrong in their own words, covering **DISOBEDIENCE**, **CONSEQUENCE**, and **NEED**.
- Using the gospel-sharing bracelet included with this book, teach the children how to start a gospel conversation in their own words. (You can find a video at [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com) to help with this.) Start from the beginning with the green bead, and add the blue bead.

*The second bead is blue, because it represents God's sadness about Adam and Eve's disobedience. Even though God made everything perfect in the beginning, it didn't last—that's why we have sad things happening now. Creation got messed up when God's enemy tricked Adam and Eve into disobeying God's one rule to not eat fruit from a certain tree. They disobeyed, and sin came into the world and messed everything up, even breaking the friendship between God and Adam and Eve. Sin causes everything bad in the world—all our trouble and sadness. And that's also why we can't live forever. We need to be rescued from it all because we can't fix it.*

- Have the children practice sharing this part of *The Story* using their bead bracelet.
- Close this section on the Fall by singing together! Visit [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com) for the link to "Mercy Is More."



# RESCUE

Is there any hope?



## RESCUE: Learning about God's Rescue

The perfection of Creation has been replaced with the brokenness of the Fall. But if you look closely, you see that God plants a seed of hope as He explains the consequences of sin to Adam and Eve. The promise made is that God will one day set everything right again. In this section, children need to understand that God has not abandoned His creation to death and darkness. It's crucial to see that God provides the rescue that every person needs but no person can accomplish. Rescue is found in Jesus alone.

### Lesson 1: Promise Made

Our story picks up again in the garden, with Adam and Eve standing before God. Everything looked and felt different after eating that fruit, heavier now with sin at work in their hearts and in the world. God explains the consequences of their rebellion: Sin now separates them from Him—their source of life—causing hardship and heartache. Eventually, they will face death. If only this one choice could be undone! Into this sadness and sorrow caused by sin, God made a promise: One day, everything would be made right again. One day, someone would come to rescue them from sin's curse. Adam and Eve's hearts skipped a beat—could it be true? Was there hope for them?

God confronted Satan with a promise for all mankind, that he would be defeated and that a rescuer would come (Jesus), who would not only provide salvation for Adam and Eve, but for all who will trust Him. This promise was their only hope. God's promise was their rescue, their anchor as they made their way through a world now heavy under the weight of sin. (*The Old Testament contains over 300 promises of a Savior coming.*)



#### TEACHING POINTS

- Adam and Eve—and all people since—have no way to escape sin's consequence. (*Isa. 59:2*)
- God promised Adam and Eve that one day someone would rescue them from sin's curse. (*Isa. 9:6-7*)
- God's promised rescue from sin is the only hope we have. (*1 Pet. 1:3-6*)



#### KEY VERSES

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

**Isaiah 7:14 ESV**

"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

**Matthew 1:21 NIV**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Why did God look for Adam and Eve?**

*He loved and cared about them.*

**How did God promise to make everything right again?**

*God would send His Son, Jesus to rescue us.*

**Why do you think God promised to rescue us?**

*Because He loves us, and He's the only one powerful enough to help us.*

## BIBLE STUDY

Read Isaiah 53 and ask:

**Who is the servant this passage describes?**

*This passage describes the coming of Jesus that God promised. He is our rescue.*

**Why would Jesus be pierced and crushed?**

*Jesus would be pierced for our rebellion and crushed for our sins (v. 5).*

**What happened through His pain?**

*We were made whole and could be healed. He took the punishment for our sins.*

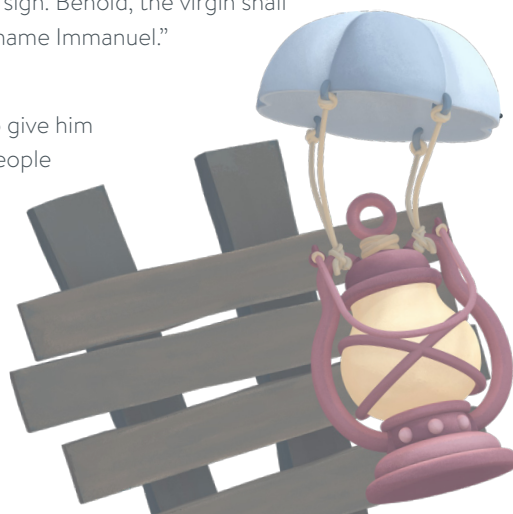


## ACTIVITIES

Help the children process the concepts from the lesson by completing one or more of the following activities.

- Have the children plant grass seeds in a cup of dirt to demonstrate the way God planted a seed of hope by promising that one day a rescuer would come. Even though they have to wait for it to sprout and grow, there are things happening below the surface.

Download and print the **Rainbow of Promises craft** to create a fun rainbow full of God's promises to us.



## Lesson 2: Promise Kept

God planted a seed of hope into Adam and Eve's story: He promised to one day send a rescuer who would save them from their sins. Who would that rescuer be? And when would that rescuer come? God kept His promise in a way no one expected. The rescuer was God Himself! Generations after Adam and Eve, at just the right time, an angel visited a young woman named Mary and let her know that the rescuer was on the way. God would make Himself a baby, born to Mary, and she would name Him Jesus. Jesus was the promised Messiah, the Savior of the world!

Just like us, Jesus grew up and lived out all kinds of stories. When Jesus was 12 years old, He taught in the synagogue and amazed everyone with His wisdom. He learned to be a carpenter, just like his earthly father, Joseph. Jesus had a life very much like us! But unlike us, Jesus never sinned and always loved Father God. When Jesus was a grownup, He started teaching about God's Story and did amazing things called miracles to prove He was God. Jesus' purpose on earth was to pay for the sins of all mankind. He took our place and took the punishment for our sin. Some people didn't believe Jesus was God's son, so they lied to get Him in trouble and have Him killed on a cross. Jesus could have stopped them, but He didn't. Because He loved us so much, He chose to die for our sins. No one took His life, He gave it up for you! This was the rescue God had in mind from the beginning, the Promise Made to Adam and Eve.

But death couldn't stop the rescue of God! Three days later, Jesus came back to life, proving His life was bigger than sin and death. Today, Jesus is sitting in heaven next to God and is King over everything.



### TEACHING POINTS

- God kept His promise to rescue Adam and Eve—and us. (*1 Pet. 1:3–6*)
- Jesus was born to Mary; Mary and Joseph were Jesus' earthly parents. (*Luke 2:16*)
- Jesus taught people about God's love and proved He was God through various miracles. (*Matt. 8:14–17*)
- Jesus is fully God and fully man. (*John 1:14*)
- God loves us so much He rescued us from death by facing death for us and overcoming it. (*John 3:16*)
- God's Promise Made became His Promise Kept in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.



### KEY VERSES

"For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves."

**Colossians 1:13 NIV**

"Jesus gave his life for our sins, just as God our Father planned, in order to rescue us from this evil world."

**Galatians 1:4 NLT**

"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said."

**Matthew 28:6 NIV**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Where is Jesus now?

*He is seated on His throne in Heaven with God Almighty.*

### Jesus had done many miracles that proved He was God. So why didn't He rescue Himself?

*Because He loved us so much. Jesus' death on the cross and the shedding of his blood was the only way to pay for our sin. It was God's plan from the beginning.*

### Why is Jesus' resurrection so important?

*Because it shows that He has power and victory over sin and death.*

## BIBLE STUDY

Read Hebrews 12:1–2 and ask:

### How did Jesus prove that He was God's promise to us?

*Jesus "endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne" (12:2).*

Read Ephesians 2:8–10 and ask:

### God lavished us with this amazing gift. How can we share that gift to others?

*We should give them the Good News of Jesus and serve others with kindness, love, acts of service, and gentleness.*



## ACTIVITIES

*Help the children process the concepts from the lesson by completing one or more of the following activities.*

- Download and print the **Promise Crossword puzzle**.
- Download and print the **Promise Kept coloring sheet** for each child. As the children color the picture, have each one summarize *Lesson 2: Promise Kept* out loud in their own words.
- Choose a person in need, a charity, or a missionary. The children can save their change for a certain period of time and then bring it in to donate.



*Look closely.*  
God planted a seed of hope.

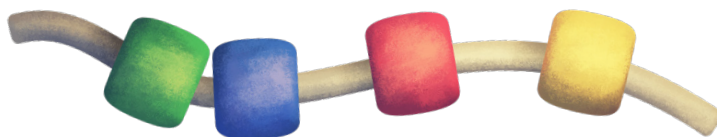
## RESCUE CHAPTER REVIEW

### Sharing God's Story

- Show the children the next two hand motions for the *The Story* Rescue section as well as review *The Story* hand motions from Creation and Fall. You can prepare beforehand, using the video at [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com), or can share the video with the children.
- Have the children tell you about how they can have hope in their own words, covering **PROMISE MADE** and **PROMISE KEPT**.
- Using the gospel-sharing bracelet included with this book, teach the children how to start a gospel conversation in their own words. (You can find a video at [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com) to help with this.) Start from the beginning with the green bead and blue bead and add the red bead.

*The third bead is red to represent Jesus' blood shed for our sins. Because we can't fix sin on our own, God promised to rescue us because He's good and loving and the King of everything. He made a promise that one day a rescuer would come. His promise came true in Jesus, who was God and Man all at once. Jesus grew up like us, and when He was grown up, He started teaching everyone about what He would do one day. Some people didn't like Him, so they lied and got Him in trouble. Jesus was punished, nailed to a cross, and He died. His friends buried Him and were really sad. But three days later, Jesus came back to life! He's more powerful than sin and death, and that's why we can be rescued from sin.*

- Have the children practice sharing this part of *The Story* using their bead bracelet and the hand motions.
- Close this section on the Rescue by singing together! Visit [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com) for the link to "Jesus Paid It All."



# RESTORATION

What does the future hold?



# RESTORATION: Learning about the Future Restoration

In Jesus, God's Promise Made became His Promise Kept, and that sets the stage for the Restoration! God promises that one day He will make All Things New, when all of creation is restored to His original design. Harmony, joy, and peace will reign in the new heaven and the new earth. And all who are redeemed by Jesus will be Forever with God, enjoying fellowship with Him and all of creation for all eternity.

Children need to understand the promise of God's Restoration at their level. Be sure to stress the joy of All Things New and Forever with God, as well as the ready invitation that God extends to them, even today, to be renewed by placing their faith in Jesus.

## Lesson 1: All Things New

God's rescue in Jesus is everything creation has longed for since Adam and Eve first sinned in Eden. Because of Jesus, God's promise to make All Things New is possible! It starts when you place your faith in Jesus—your heart is made new! Now cleansed from sin, you have a new and forever friendship with God. But that's just the beginning. Right now, Jesus is in Heaven, preparing a new home for all who trust in Him. What will Heaven be like? Look down—the streets are glimmering gold! Look around—the walls are dazzling with jewels and gems like a rainbow! Look up—everything is brilliantly bright with the glory of God! But that's not all. All the sadness and sorrow and trouble and disappointment and pain and fear? It will be completely gone, because Jesus has conquered sin forever! Instead, we'll experience perfect joy, happiness, goodness, and freedom. Everything will be new: perfect weather, perfect relationships, perfect peace inside your heart. It will be better than anything we've ever experienced!

### TEACHING POINTS

- God gives us a new heart that is redeemed from sin so we can learn to love and obey Him. (*Gal. 2:20*)
- One day, God will redeem creation from sin's curse—there will be perfect weather, and all creatures will live together in peace, without decay, death, or destruction. (*Rev. 22:3–5*)
- One day, God's people will not have sadness, pain, or fear. God's people will live in perfect joy, happiness, goodness, and freedom in the new Heaven and new earth. (*Rev. 21:4*)

### KEY VERSES

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth...God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

**Revelation 21:1, 3–4 ESV**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### What happens when God rescues you in Jesus?

*A new creation has come, the old has gone away. Jesus paid the price for our sin, and we are now clean.*

### What will you be happy to leave behind in the Restoration?

*Sadness, being lonely, being scared, etc.*

### What will Heaven and earth be like?

*It will be like the garden of Eden, but even better.*

### Who will be with us in the new Heaven and new earth?

*God, Jesus, His servants.*

## BIBLE STUDY

Read Revelation 21:10–27 and ask:

### What is this describing?

*The New Jerusalem, an incredible city, that will have people from every tribe and nation there.*

### What is the Lamb's Book of Life?

*It is a list that God has kept of every person who has accepted Jesus as Savior. Only those recorded there will enter Heaven and the new earth.*

## ACTIVITIES

Help the children process the concepts from the lesson by completing one or more of the following activities.

- Ask the children to share what part of the new Heaven and new earth they are most excited about.
- Download and print the **Heaven Treasure Hunt worksheet**.
- Download and print the **All Things New coloring sheet** for each child. As the children color the picture, have each one summarize *Lesson 1: All Things New* in their own words.



## Lesson 2: Forever with God

The saddest thing about Adam and Eve's sin is that it brought spiritual death, breaking their special life-giving friendship with God. That brokenness lives in every human heart, and that's why God promised to one day restore life to us through Jesus so we might be Forever with God, just like He meant us to be.

Being Forever with God starts the moment you place your faith in Jesus. But that's just the beginning! One day, when this life is done, we will be with God forever. We will see God face to face and worship Him as He sits on His throne. And that's when the light of God's love will be with us and light up the world forever.

### TEACHING POINTS

- Adam and Eve's sin brought spiritual death and broke their friendship with God. (*Gen. 3:23*)
- Spiritual death and broken friendship with God is the same for every one of us. (*Eph. 2:1-3*)
- God promised to restore the relationship with Him that was broken. (*Isa. 9:6*)
- Being Forever with God means that one day we will see Him face to face. (*Rev. 22:3-5*)
- One day, we will live with God and walk with Him in perfect love and friendship. (*Rev. 22:3-5*)
- One day, we will worship and obey God before His throne. (*Rev. 22:3-5*)
- One day, the brilliance of God's love will light up the world forever. (*Rev. 22:3-5*)

### KEY VERSES

"No longer will there be a curse upon anything. For the throne of God and of the Lamb will be there, and his servants will worship him. And they will see his face, and his name will be written on their foreheads. And there will be no night there—no need for lamps or sun—for the Lord God will shine on them. And they will reign forever and ever."

**Revelation 22:3-5 NLT**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**What do you think the best thing about Heaven will be?**

*Worshiping Jesus with believers from all over the world.*

**What will Heaven look like?**

*Like a precious jewel, grand walls and gates, a city of gold, decorated with precious stones and gems, bright with God's glory.*

**How can we trust God's promise that we will be with Him forever?**

*Because God is always with us, and He loves us. He doesn't break promises.*

## BIBLE STUDY

Read Romans 8:20-39 and ask:

**Why has all of creation been groaning?**

*Because of the weight of sin and brokenness from the curse of sin.*

**What sort of things does God work for our good?**

*All things! He is redeeming us and all creation so we will be Forever with God.*

**What will separate us from God's love?**

*Nothing can separate us from God's love.*



## ACTIVITIES

Help the children process the concepts from the lesson by completing one or more of the following activities.

- Ask the children to describe what it will be like to be with God and other believers from around the world forever.
- Download and print the **Forever with God coloring sheet** for each child. As the children color the picture, have each one summarize *Lesson 2: Forever with God* in their own words.





IMAGINE TRUSTING  
AND KNOWING  
*God's love completely.*

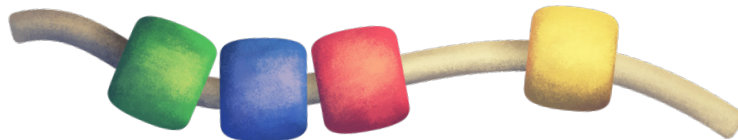
## RESTORATION CHAPTER REVIEW

### Sharing God's Story

- Show the children the next two hand motions for the *The Story* Restoration section as well as review *The Story* hand motions from Creation, Fall, and Rescue. You can prepare beforehand, using the video at *TheStoryMaker.com*, or can share the video with the children.
- Have the children tell you about what does the future hold in their own words, covering **ALL THINGS NEW** and **FOREVER WITH GOD**.
- Using the gospel-sharing bracelet included with this book, teach the children how to start a gospel conversation in their own words. (You can find a video at *TheStoryMaker.com* to help with this.) Start from the beginning with the green bead, blue bead, and red bead and then add the final yellow bead.

*The fourth bead is yellow to represent that one day all things will be made new and we will spend forever with God. Because Jesus conquered sin and death, we can be special friends with God again—we will get to be with Him forever and ever! And one day, God will make everything in the whole world perfect again with no more sin or sadness. It's going to be awesome.*

- Have the children practice sharing this part of *The Story* using their bead bracelet.
- Close this section on Restoration by singing together! Visit *TheStoryMaker.com* for the link to “Crown Him with Many Crowns.”



## SALVATION: Helping a Child Know and Share Rescue with Jesus

After you've reviewed all the elements of God's Story, be sure to give the children the opportunity to receive forgiveness and rescue. Ask these questions to gauge the child's understanding. If there's any confusion, simply go back to that section and review those concepts again.

### 1: Do you understand?

- God is Creator of all things.
- We are made in the image of God.
- We are separated from God because of sin and rebellion.
- Jesus came to die for our sins.

### 2: Are you willing to say you are sorry for your sins and turn away from your sins to Jesus?

- Tell Jesus you are sorry.
- Ask Him to forgive you.
- Turn from doing wrong to doing right.
- Thank Him for dying for your sins.

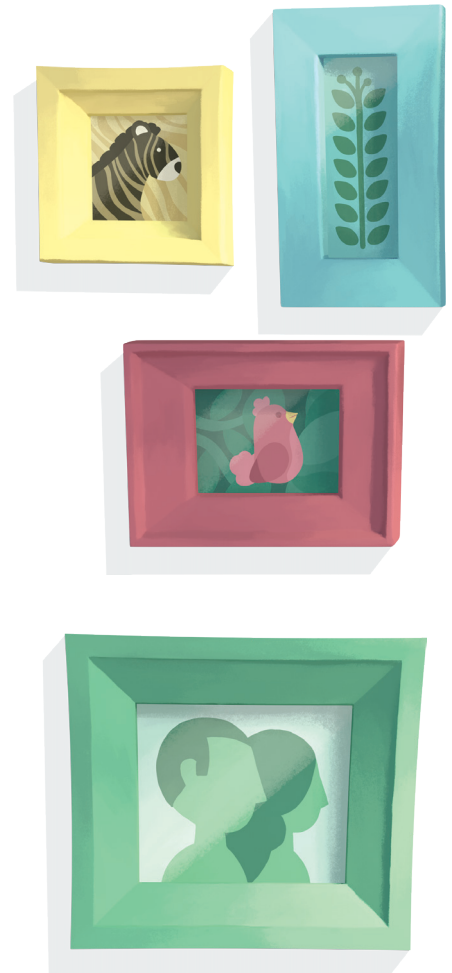
### 3: Do you accept Jesus as God's rescue for sin? Here's how to tell God you want to be with Him forever!

- Invite Him into your life to be your King—to follow, love, and trust Him.
- You might pray this prayer: ***“Dear Heavenly Father, I know that I am a sinner. Please forgive me. I know my sins separate me from You forever. I believe Your Son, Jesus, died for me. Thank You for loving me and for giving the gift of Jesus. I want Jesus to come into my life and be my Savior and friend. I want to follow Him and obey Him. In Jesus' name, Amen.”***

“

Thank you so much for going through The Story Maker Training. We trust the children in your family, Sunday school, or VBS understand God's story and their place in it. Our desire is to develop 'little evangelists' who will take the Good News of Jesus to their friends.

JERRY MCCORKLE  
FOUNDER OF SPREAD TRUTH





MAKE GOD'S STORY KNOWN.

*Share it.*

## **CELEBRATION:** Whenever a child receives rescue in Christ, be sure to celebrate it!

Review the following truths then download and print the certificate for them to complete.

### **YOU ARE A CHILD OF GOD**

“But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”

*John 1:12 ESV*

### **YOU ARE MADE NEW**

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come.”

*2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV*

### **YOU ARE FORGIVEN**

“He has taken our sins away from us as far as the east is from west.”

*Psalms 103:12 NCV*

### **GOD HAS A PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE**

“‘For I know the plans I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future.’”

*Jeremiah 29:11 NIV*

Download and print the full-sized certificate from [TheStoryMaker.com](http://TheStoryMaker.com) resource page.







## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

You are a frontline partner in our Children's Outreach Initiative.

We want you to be fully equipped and prepared to make God's Story known to children so they can then share it with others. Our Story Maker Program is designed to accomplish this mission!


Through the generosity of our donors, we are able to create tools that support our missional programs. Donor support offsets the costs we incur to develop and produce tools and resources, including these for *The Story Maker*:

*The Story Maker Film*  
*The Story Maker Storybook*  
*The Story Maker Booklet*  
*The Story Gospel-Sharing Bracelet*  
*The Story Maker Coloring Book*  
*Certificate of Salvation Reminder*

**These items and many more can be found on our store website at [Store.SpreadTruth.com](https://Store.SpreadTruth.com).**

Contact us for more information about how we can support your outreach efforts. We are here to help you effectively share the Good News of God's rescue in Jesus!

As a nonprofit organization, we depend upon donors like you to help us connect everyone, everywhere with God's Story. Your gifts of support transform hearts and lives throughout the world. Learn more about our work and how you can partner with us at [SpreadTruth.com](https://SpreadTruth.com).



# The Story Maker

## APPENDIX

A List of all downloadable worksheets for lesson  
activities available at  
[TheStoryMaker.com/Resources](https://TheStoryMaker.com/Resources)

# Creation

## Lesson 1: God

<b>Truth!</b> God created the world through the Holy Spirit, who is God's power and presence. He is the one who made everything that we see and feel.	<b>Truth!</b> God created the world through the Holy Spirit, who is God's power and presence. He is the one who made everything that we see and feel.	<b>Truth!</b> God created the world through the Holy Spirit, who is God's power and presence. He is the one who made everything that we see and feel.	<b>Truth!</b> God created the world through the Holy Spirit, who is God's power and presence. He is the one who made everything that we see and feel.
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Truth or Trash Card Game

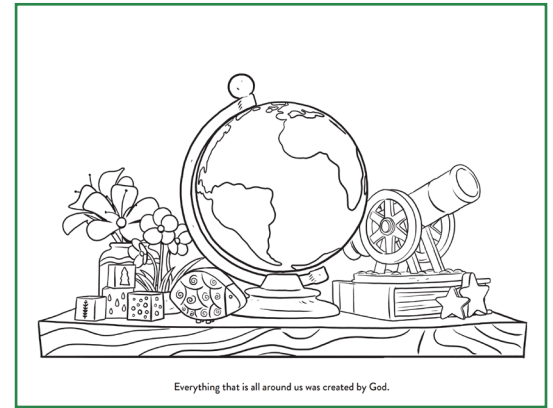
**Creation**  
Lesson 1: God  
Bible Code Worksheet

**Creation: Day 1**  
Use this code to find out what God created on the first day of creation.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

20 8 5 14 7 15 4 19 1 9 4 12 5 20  
20 8 5 18 5 2 5 12 9 7 8 20 1 14 4 20 8 5 18 5  
23 1 19 12 9 7 8 20 1 14 4 7 15 4 19 1 23 20 8 1 20  
20 8 5 12 9 7 8 20 23 1 19 7 15 15 4 1 14 4 7 15 4  
19 5 16 1 18 1 20 5 4 20 5 4 12 9 7 8 20 6 18 15 13  
20 8 5 4 1 18 11 14 5 19 19  
7 5 14 5 19 9 19

Bible Code Worksheet



Coloring Sheet

## Lesson 2: Creation

**Creation**  
Lesson 2: Creation  
Nature Walk Scavenger Hunt

Let's Explore God's Creation!

<input type="checkbox"/> green leaf	<input type="checkbox"/> brown leaf	<input type="checkbox"/> pine cone	<input type="checkbox"/> mushroom
<input type="checkbox"/> log	<input type="checkbox"/> stick	<input type="checkbox"/> tree stump	<input type="checkbox"/> moss
<input type="checkbox"/> seed pod	<input type="checkbox"/> twig	<input type="checkbox"/> spider	<input type="checkbox"/> rocks
<input type="checkbox"/> acorn	<input type="checkbox"/> tree hole	<input type="checkbox"/> ant	<input type="checkbox"/> flowers
<input type="checkbox"/> tree roots	<input type="checkbox"/> insect	<input type="checkbox"/> fern	<input type="checkbox"/> grass

Nature Walk Scavenger Hunt

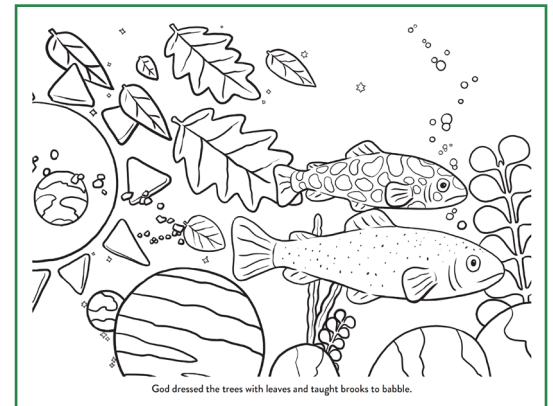
**Creation**  
Lesson 2: Creation  
Creation Word Search

6 Days of Gods Creation  
Look to find all the words in the word bank!

A D G D O Y J B R M I R Q Q B  
I N J B X C N D X A J H S Q A I  
L D U L Q L Y I W B L P S S Q R  
Z S P W V L N Y C N A B E D  
E S T E Y X T R E E S N N U S  
W O M A N R F Y Y Y M O O N C D D C  
A D F K S S O A Z X W F B F R  
L N U V R K Q S D W M E I X R  
A O I C P N T T Y U J X B S B  
M I J D A Y L K U I I J Z X D  
S C G B B N L S O A A H H X J K  
Y F D L S E A U H N T T S

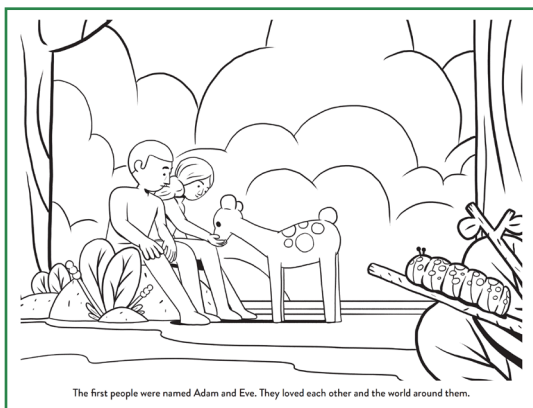
LIGHT DAY NIGHT SKY  
LAND SEA PLANTS TREES  
FRUIT SUN MOON STARS  
FISH BIRDS ANIMALS MAN WOMAN

Creation Word Search



Coloring Sheet

## Lesson 3: Harmony

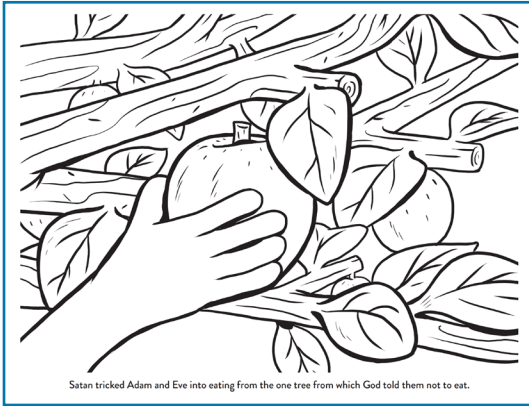


Coloring Sheet



# Fall

## Lesson 1: Disobedience



Coloring Sheet

## Lesson 3: Need

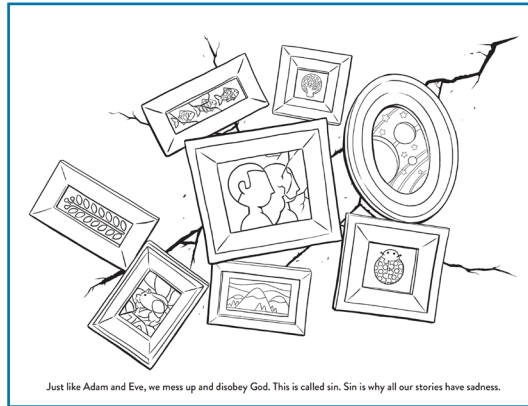
**Fall**  
Lesson 3: Need  
Need Matching Worksheet

*The StoryMaker*  
TRAINING

What Do We Need?  
Match the things that need each other to work like the example below!

CAR	STAPLES
CELL PHONE	THREAD
TELEVISION	JESUS
PLANTS	AIR
FISH	BATTERY
NEEDLE	ELECTRICITY
STAPLER	SUN
BALLOON	GAS
PEOPLE	WATER

Need Matching Worksheet



Coloring Sheet

“  
Every one of our  
relationships  
has been decimated  
by sin.

TIMOTHY KELLER


# Rescue

## Lesson 1: Promise Made

**Rescue**  
Lesson 1: Promise Made  
Rainbow of Promises Craft

*The StoryMaker*  
TRAINING

God's Rainbow of Promises  
Let's make a rainbow full of God's promises to remind of us of what He does for us.



A vertical rainbow with seven colored stripes, each containing a Bible verse. From top to bottom: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, dark blue, and purple.

- I have good plans for you. Jeremiah 29:11
- I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28
- I will never leave you. Hebrews 13:5
- I am the good shepherd. John 10:11
- God listens to us every time we ask Him. 1 John 5:15
- Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved. Acts 16:31
- Do not be afraid for I am with you. John 10:11

Rainbow of Promises Craft

“

THE BIBLE IS ONE LONG AND  
DETAILED ANSWER TO ONE SHORT  
AND CRUCIAL QUESTION:  
**Who is that seed who was  
promised to come?**

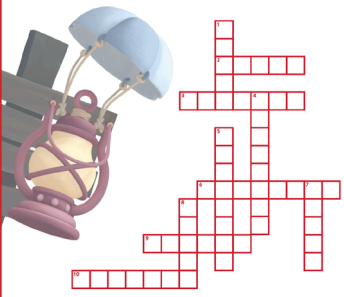
GEORGE ROBINSON

## Lesson 2: Promise Kept

**Rescue**  
Lesson 2: Promise Kept  
Promises Kept Crossword

*The StoryMaker*  
TRAINING

The Promises of God Crossword



A crossword puzzle grid with a small illustration of a lantern and an umbrella on the left.

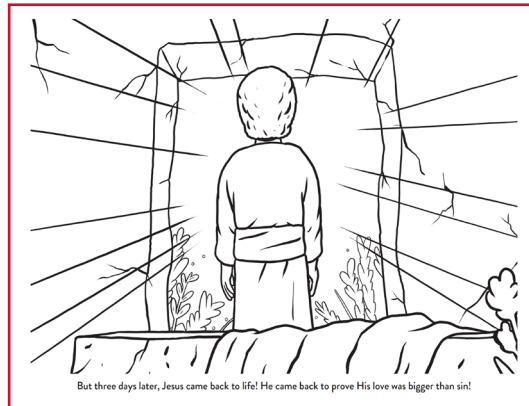
**Across**

- 1. Brought into a new family. Ephesians 1:5
- 2. The Spirit of the Lord provides this. 2 Corinthians 3:17
- 4. Christ gave us this. Philippians 4:14
- 8. Call of Jesus for this. Psalm 50:15
- 10. These are new every morning. Lamentations 3:22-23

**Down**

- 3. We were left with this gift. John 14:27
- 4. We have been rescued from this. Colossians 1:13-14
- 6. God is ..... 1 John 1:9
- 7. I must ..... Him to receive His help. Psalm 37:5
- 9. He never sinned. 2 Corinthians 5:21

Promises Kept Crossword



Coloring Sheet



# Restoration

## Lesson 1: All Things New

**Restoration**  
Lesson 1: All Things New  
Heaven Treasure Hunt



### Kingdom of Heaven Treasure Hunt

Having hidden candy all over the room (or maybe the playground or another free room), allow the children to find what they can and bring it back to the table.

Let them look around at each other and notice that some have more than others.

Sit down with the children with the basket of candy in your lap. Find the child who has the most candy.

Say to him —

**Congratulations. You found a lot of treasure. That means you're fast and competitive and you have a good eye. Does that mean you're a good Christian?**

A little confusing, but see if they get the gist: Being a gifted competitor and being a good Christian are two different things.

**To be a good competitor, you have to be fast and determined and strong. To be a good Christian, you have to be giving and kind. You are supposed to treat others the way you want to be treated because that honors God. Now let's see how good a Christian you are.**

Find the child who got the least amount of chocolate. Point him out. Say to the child with the most:

**Would you like to give a piece of your candy to (other child's name)?**

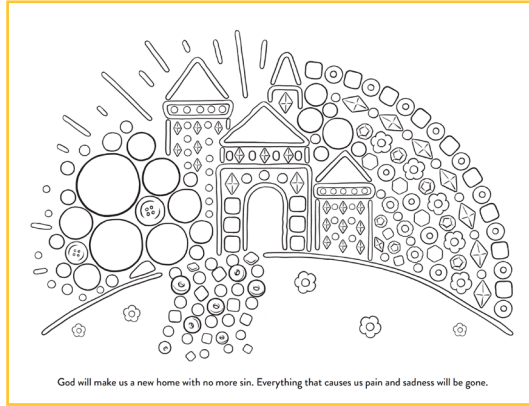
He should most certainly comply to giving one piece.

As soon as he does, reach in the basket that is in your lap. Give him a piece from there so that he has both given and received.

Find another child who did not find as much.



Heaven Treasure Hunt



Coloring Sheet

## Lesson 2: Forever with God



Coloring Sheet



“

This God, so filled with love, longs  
to have others join his community.

HE MADE CREATURES AND CREATION TO SHARE  
IN HIS OWN COMMUNITY OF FATHER, SON, AND SPIRIT.

*ROBERT E. WEBBER*





# The StoryMaker

EQUIPPING CHILDREN TO  
**KNOW & SHARE**  
GOD'S STORY