Lesson at a Glance

HE IS CREATOR

The UNIQUENESS of Jesus
LESSON 2

LESSON TEXT

Colossians 1:15-17

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- Using Colossians 1:15-17, the students will state that Jesus created all things.
- The students will identify at least two examples of creation that best show each of them personally the power of Jesus.
- The students will identify at least two examples of creation that each of them appreciates the most and express what his or her life would be like without these.

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each student:
- 1 sticker that can be written on (like a name tag)
- drawing paper
- clay
- 1 clear plastic "baggie"

For the teacher:
- universe and nature scene books (use the library)
- markers and crayons
- 1 copy of "Good News from the Kingdom"
- globe or map of the world
- large writing surface
- books with incredible pictures and facts about the universe
- 1 cardboard box
- 5 items or pictures of items created through Jesus
- small prize items (gum, candy or pencils)
- scissors
- variety of fruits and vegetables in an airtight container
- box of toothpicks
- cups and napkins for the class
- water for the class

Reproducible Pages:
- Page A, 1 copy for each student

LESSON PLAN

Getting Ready

Faithful Instruction
- Teacher Focus
- Teacher Tips

Preclass Activities: #1 "Yes/No" Game
#2 Pictures of Creation

Starting Up
- Welcome and Singing
- Opening Prayer
- Victories
- Good News from the Kingdom

Getting into God's Word

Story: The Great Universe
Scripture Study
Activity: Mystery Box Game

Getting It to Others

Scripture Memory: Colossians 1:16a
Weekly Challenge and Snack Time
Conclusion

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth.

Colossians 1:16a

GENERATION Preteens

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Getting Ready

Faithful Instruction

Teacher Focus

Pray before preparing the lesson. Read the scriptures (John 1:1-4; Colossians 1:15-17). Think of some examples of things in creation that most influence your life. Ask yourself, "Do I stand in awe of Jesus as the creator? How does my view of Jesus need to change, and how can I teach that change to my students?"

Teacher Tips

Jesus is the creator. No one else has ever created what he has created! Meditate on John 1:3 and develop your own convictions that you will share with your students as you teach them this week.

Preclass Activity 1

"Yes/No" Game

Materials Needed

For each student:

- 1 small sticker that can be written on (like a name tag)

Instructions

1. As the students arrive, place a sticker on each of their backs with the name of something powerful from creation.
2. The goal for the students is to correctly guess what the object is on the sticker on their back.
3. The teacher should tell them only that it is something powerful from creation, but no other clues.
4. The students may ask other students or the teacher only questions that would get a "yes" or "no" response to try to determine what the object is. In other words, the student could ask "Is it something in the sky?" but not "Is it something in the sky or on the ground?"

Preclass Activity 2

Pictures of Creation

For each student:

- drawing paper
- clay
- universe and nature scene books (use the library)
- scissors

For the teacher:

- markers and crayons

Preparation

1. Before the students arrive set up a table with plenty of markers/crayons, large drawing paper and modeling clay for each student.
2. Provide books and magazines with pictures of creation scenes in them.

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Getting Ready

Instructions

1. After the students have had a few minutes to try to guess the word on the sticker on their backs, direct them to the table with books.
2. Share with the students pictures from books, adding a personal favorite creation scene, telling why it is your favorite. Then, inspire students to share their favorite scene from creation.
3. Have the students draw and color a favorite scene from Jesus' creations or create a model from clay and name their piece of work.

Starting Up

Welcome and Singing

Call the students together in a circle. Welcome everyone by name, being sure to recognize anyone who is visiting. Let them know how glad you are to see them, and how much you looked forward to being with them. Sing a few great songs.

Opening Prayer

- *Who would like to say a prayer to start today's time together?* Let a few students lead the prayer. Encourage the students to mention missing students, special church activities, illnesses, people they want to share Jesus with and to be especially thankful for the chance to be together.
- Choose one student to share with the class what impressed him or her the most from the previous lesson.
- Choose a student to share an example from creation that most influences his or her life and to tell why.

Victories

Take the time to have the students share about the challenges they were given at the end of last week's class. *Did everyone complete their challenge? How did it go? What fears did you face as you met the challenge to put the lesson into practice? How did everyone do with having consistent quiet times? Who would like to share something they learned?*

Praise and encourage all the students' efforts, especially noting any area of significant growth. Offer help and suggestions so they can have even more victories in the coming week.

Good News from the Kingdom

Materials Used

For the teacher:

- one copy of "Good News from the Kingdom"
- globe or map of the world

Instructions

Now let's take a few minutes to share "Good News from the Kingdom." Be excited as you read about what is happening around the world. Have a globe or map ready to point out the location as you share.

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Getting into God's Word

Story

The Great Universe

Materials Used

For the teacher:

- large writing surface
- books with incredible pictures and facts about the universe

Preparation

Write out some of the numbers in "The Great Universe" story so the students can see how long they are.

Instructions

Read aloud the following story of "The Great Universe":

Did you know that the Earth is 93 million miles from the Sun, the star at the center of our solar system? Pluto, the outermost planet in our solar system, is only 39 times that far, or roughly 3.67 billion miles. It takes light, traveling at a speed of 186,000 miles per second, 4 years and 4 months to reach the earth from Alpha Centauri, the next closest star to the Earth. Our solar system surrounds one of the 100 billion stars in our galaxy, the Milky Way, and there are literally billions of galaxies in the Universe, some 10 times larger than the Milky Way. Astronomers estimate that the Universe is 25 billion light years across, which is roughly 146,642,400,000,000,000,000,000 miles. Anyone for a road trip to the edge of the universe? From one end to the other, driving 70 miles per hour without stopping, would only take 239,142,850,000,000,000 years! Are you impressed?

NASA spends billions of dollars every year on space exploration and the development of spaceships like the space shuttle. Man has gotten only as far as the moon, and automated spacecraft have only begun to reach the edge of our solar system! When you consider all of these things, we are only able to stand in awe of creation and its creator(s), God and Jesus.

The Bible says in John 1: 3 that "all things were made" through Jesus, and that "without him, nothing was made that has been made." It is incredible and challenging to our current view of Jesus to understand that Jesus was just as much a part of creation as his Father, that Jesus was and is the creator! This fundamental truth is difficult for us to grasp, but our goal during this week's lesson is to start to understand and be inspired by it.

Scripture Study

From the above story, lead into reading Colossians 1:15-16a.

What is God trying to teach us in verse 15a? (God and Jesus are one.)

Who made all things? (Jesus)

Share some amazing facts about the universe you have discovered yourself along with some of the facts listed below:

- The Earth is 93 million miles from the sun.
- Pluto, the outermost planet in our solar system is 3.67 billion miles from the sun.
- Light travels at a speed of 186,000 miles per second.
- Our solar system surrounds one of the 100 billion stars in our galaxy, the Milky Way.
- There are several billion galaxies in the universe, some of which are 10 times the size of the Milky Way.
- The universe is 25 billion light years across, or roughly 146,642,400,000,000,000,000,000 miles.
- It would take 239,142,850,000,000,000 years to drive across the universe going 70 mph without stopping.

To impress the students with these facts, you may want to have them write out the huge numbers and try to figure out how to say them; for example, 25 billion light years equals over 146 sextillion miles.

Jesus has incredible power to have created the universe! Let's think of some of the most powerful things that man has created and compare them to Jesus' creation.

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Getting into God's Word

Write the list below on large paper. Ask the students to give other ideas.

Man	Jesus
space shuttle	the Galaxy
atomic bomb	tornadoes volcanoes earthquakes
Empire State Building	Grand Canyon mountains
rock music	love changed lives
cure for polio cure for measles cure for whooping cough	healed people

How does man's creation compare to Jesus' creation? (There is no comparison; man's creations are nothing compared to Jesus'!)

Read Colossians 1:15-17.

Who holds our universe together? (Jesus)

Ask the following discussion questions:

1. *Can you think of anyone who physically even holds part of our world or universe together?*
2. *Is there anyone like Jesus?*
3. *What is one thing in creation that you would miss the most if God and Jesus had not created it? Why? Name another thing you would miss. Why?*
4. *How does that make you feel toward Jesus?*

Activity

Mystery Box Game

Materials Used

For the teacher:

- 1 cardboard box
- 5 items or pictures of items created through Jesus
- small prize items (gum, candy or pencils)

Preparation

1. Keep the creation items out of sight of the students.
2. Place one of the items created by Jesus in the box, being sure the students do not see it.

Instructions

1. Divide class into two teams.
2. The first student on Team A asks a "yes" or "no" question about the created item in the first box. You give the correct response.
3. The student consults with other team members to make one guess naming the creation in the box.
4. Each team takes turns until one team guesses correctly.
5. The team that guesses correctly will begin the questioning on the next item.
6. Replace the object in the box with another picture or object without allowing the students to see, and continue the game with the other four items.
7. The team that correctly guesses the most items wins. You may want to give the winning team a small prize like gum or pencils.

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Getting It to Others

Scripture Memory

For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth.
Colossians 1:16a

Materials Used

For each student:
- 1 clear plastic "baggie"

For the teacher:
- variety of fruits and vegetables in an airtight container
- box of toothpicks
- cups and napkins for the class
- water for the class

Reproducible Pages:
- Page A, 1 copy for each student

Instructions

1. Give each student a copy of Reproducible Page A (sphere-shaped picture of the world).
2. Ask them to write one word in each blank "puzzle" piece until they have their entire memory verse on the world.
3. Have the students write the scripture reference (Colossians 1:16a) on the back of the globe in large letters.
4. If time permits let the students cut their puzzle pieces out and try to put the puzzle back together. (If they do cut out the puzzle pieces, have them also cut out the "Weekly Challenge.")
5. Provide clear plastic baggies for them to keep their puzzle pieces and "Weekly Challenge" in. (Be sure to have a few master copies in case they need a model to remind them of the original.)

Weekly Challenge and Snack Time

If your students bring a snack, allow them to eat it along with the snack you have prepared. As the group eats the fruits and vegetables and drinks the water, talk with the students about how even the food that we eat was created through Jesus and was made for us to enjoy along with all of his creation. (Talk about their favorite foods created by Jesus!)

The Challenge: Instruct the students to write down each day one powerful thing Jesus created that affected their day and one thing (from their day) that Jesus created that they would miss had he not created it.

Conclusion

End the class with a prayer about being more grateful to Jesus for creation!

Weekly Challenge

Write down each day one powerful thing Jesus created that affected your day and one thing (from your day) that Jesus created that you would miss had he not created it.

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Lesson at a Glance supplement

HE IS CREATOR

The Uniqueness of Jesus
LESSON 2
(SUPPLEMENT)

LESSON TEXT.

Psalm 139; Acts 17:24-28; Genesis 1:26; Isaiah 64:8

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- Using Isaiah 64:8 the students will show that Jesus created us and therefore is worthy of our respect.
- The students will see that Jesus, their creator, takes a personal interest in their lives.
- The students will state why they should be secure with who they are, because they are created in God's Image.

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each student:
- modeling clay or Play Doh
- paper
- pen or pencil

For the teacher:
- newspaper
- tape
- book, magazine articles about the human body

Reproducible Pages:
- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page C, 1 copy for each student
- Page D, 1 copy for each student

LESSON PLAN

Getting Ready

Faithful Instruction
- Teacher Focus
- Teacher Tips

Preclass Activity: Face Mold

Starting Up
- Welcome and Singing
- Opening Prayer
- Great News Sharing

Getting into God's Word

Scripture Study

Activity: The Incredible Human Body

Optional Take-Home Activity: Creation Diorama

Getting It to Others

Scripture Memory: Colossians 1:16a

Weekly Challenge and Snack Time

Conclusion

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

For by him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth.

Colossians 1:16a

GENERATION Next
Preteens

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Getting Ready

(Supplement)

Faithful Instruction

Teacher Focus

Jesus is our Creator and therefore worthy of our love and respect. Are you thankful to Jesus for your body? What specific strengths / talents has he given you? (athletic abilities, music or artistic talents, scholastic abilities, etc.?) How do even your weaknesses help you appreciate Jesus? Review Psalm 139. Your personal gratitude to Jesus and security with who he made you to be will be invaluable in this lesson! (This age group compares themselves so much to the world's definitions of "beautiful," "successful," "popular," etc. rather than to God's image of these things.)

Teacher Tips

Pray before preparing this lesson. Review the amazing facts about our bodies on Reproducible Page B. You may want to research some other incredible facts to share with your class. The goal of this lesson is to help the students grow in their love and respect for Jesus as their creator. Make sure you communicate the love that God and Jesus must have for each of us personally and how that should make us love and respect them in return.

Preclass Activity

Face Mold

Materials Used

For each student:
- modeling clay or Play Doh

For the teacher:
- newspaper
- tape

Preparation

1. Before class begins, you will need to tape newspaper to a table or lay out several sheets in a large area.
2. Place on the table enough modeling clay for each student.

Instructions

1. Have each student use the modeling clay to make a model of his or her face.
2. When class is ready to begin, have the students put their model aside to be referred to at the end of "Getting into God's Word."

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Getting Ready

(Supplement)

Starting Up

Welcome and Singing

Call the students together in a circle. Welcome everyone by name, being sure to recognize anyone who is visiting. Let them know how glad you are to see them, and how much you looked forward to being with them. Sing a few great songs.

Opening Prayer

Open with one of the students praying for one to two minutes thanking God that they are created in God's image and that Jesus always takes a personal interest in each of their lives.

Great News Sharing

Allow several minutes for the students to share great news about their lives. This could be about a family member who became a disciple, someone healed from an illness, someone studying the Bible, great grades, etc. Remind the students to be brief so that as many as possible can share.

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Getting into God's Word

(Supplement)

Scripture Study

Direct students to the center of the room and form one large circle. Impress the students with some amazing facts about the human body (see Reproducible Page B). Have fun with the facts you share and encourage the students to share any incredible facts they may know.

Have the students pair up and list the ways described in Psalm 139 that show them how God has searched them and knows them, e.g., he knows when they get up and when they lie down.

Bring the students back together to form a large circle again. Have the students share what they learned. Talk about how incredible it is that even though there are so many people on the earth, God cares enough about them individually to be personally involved in their lives. Help them understand how special they are to God and to Jesus.

Read Psalm 139:6 and Acts 17:24-28. *According to these scriptures, why has God ordained or planned all the days of our life?* (Because he wants a relationship with us.)

Read Acts 17:28. *What does this scripture mean?* (We are God's children. We were created to be with him and to have a relationship with him.)

Direct children back to their clay faces. *How easy was it to make a model of your face?* (Not easy at all!)

How does that make you feel about God? (He is all powerful and amazing!) *Is he worthy of our respect and admiration?* (Absolutely! Someone that loved us so much and knows us so well is worthy of everything we can give!)

Have a student read Genesis 1:26. *Imagine again the time, creativity and love that it took to create you in God's image.*

Read Isaiah 64:8. *What does it mean that God is the potter and we are the clay?* (that we are totally under his loving control and totally dependent upon him)

How then should we feel about God and Jesus as our creator(s)? (should make us secure and trusting; respectful and loving in return for the love God showed us)

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GETTING INTO GOD'S WORD

(SUPPLEMENT)

ACTIVITY

THE INCREDIBLE HUMAN BODY

MATERIALS USED

For each student:
- paper
- pen or pencil

For the teacher:
- book, magazine articles about the human body

Reproducible Pages:
- Page C, 1 copy for each student

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Give each student a copy of Reproducible Page C.
2. Ask them to look through the articles and write down on their sheet some incredible facts about the human body that impress them.
3. Have the students share the facts that they wrote down and briefly explain why they were impressed.

OPTIONAL TAKE-HOME ACTIVITY

CREATION DIORAMA

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Give each student a copy or Reproducible Page D to take home so they can make a creation diorama if they desire.
2. Ask those who do make dioramas to bring them back next week to class and show the other students.

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He is Creator

Getting It to Others

(Supplement)

Scripture Memory

For by him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth.
Colossians 1:16a

Instructions

1. Go around the room and have each student say one word of the memory verse until the whole verse is said (including the reference).
2. Repeat as many times as needed so that each student has a chance to say a word.
3. If a student doesn't know the correct word, pass to the next student until someone knows it.

Weekly Challenge and Snack Time

If your students bring a snack, allow them to eat while you all discuss the challenge for the week. (The challenge was for each student to write down daily one powerful thing from creation that affected their day and one thing from creation that they would miss if Jesus had not created it.)

Discuss how studying out the incredible human body has helped the students appreciate the fact that God through Jesus created us and that he wants each one of us to decide to be a follower of his.

Conclusion

Close with a prayer focusing on their friends that they would like to see come to church with them.

Weekly Challenge

Write down each day one powerful thing Jesus created that affected your day and one thing (from your day) that Jesus created that you would miss had he not created it.

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REPRODUCIBLE PAGE A

MEMORY VERSE PUZZLE

For by him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth.

COLOSSIANS 1:16A

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Write down each day one powerful thing Jesus created that affected your day and one thing (from your day) that Jesus created that you would miss had he not created it.

Core/Getting It to Others/1 copy for each student

GENERATION Preteens

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CorSup/CentrNam/1 copy for each student

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REPRODUCIBLE PAGE B

AMAZING FACTS ABOUT OUR BODIES

- The total area of skin is more than 18 square feet. If you could lay out your skin, it would cover the floor of a small room!
- No two people have the same fingerprints, not even identical twins!
- A full-grown person has 206 bones! How many can you count?
- You have over 600 muscles in your body!
- Your heart is the size of your closed fist. Have the students make a fist to get the idea.
- The heart pumps 2,000 gallons of blood a day. The average bathtub holds about 35 gallons. That is more than 57 bathtubs worth of blood per day!
- The average person has 60,000 miles of blood vessels! That is enough to circle the Earth more than twice around!
- The digestive tract is 30 feet long.
- The human eye is able to see 8 million shades of color.
- Most human beings are able to distinguish 4,000 scents.
- The nerve messages travel 250 miles per hour from your brain to your body.
- The biggest muscle you have is the one you sit on!
- When you sneeze, air moves out of your nose at over 100 miles per hour!
- The smallest bone of your body, called the stirrup, is in your ear and is about 0.08 inches (or 2 mm) and is small enough to sit on top of the letter ‘u.’

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Reproducible Page C

Impressive Facts about the Human Body

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REPRODUCIBLE PAGE D

CREATION DIORAMA

Optional Take-Home Art Project

ART PROJECT

A diorama is a miniature scene that is placed in a box. The view can be from the top (bird's eye) or from the side. A piece of paper with a background scene on it can be glued to the back of the box (when making a side-view diorama). For protection, cellophane can be put over the top and taped on the sides. Most of you have made dioramas in school, and you have a good idea of how to express your ideas through this format.

The object of the diorama is for you to show some of you favorite aspects of Jesus' creation. These may include, but are not limited to: leaves, bark, flowers, feathers, drawings, photos, magazine pictures, etc.

MATERIALS USED

- shoe box, hat box or shirt box
- tissue or wrapping paper to cover boxes
- adhesive or glue
- various art supplies—paints, markers, leaves, flowers, magazines, glitter, toothpicks, strings, etc.
- cellophane
- tape

If you choose to make a diorama this week, bring it next week to share with the class.

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