

GOD'S BIG PLAN

God Creates Angels Colossians 1:15-17; Romans 8:37-39

Supporting Scriptures: Genesis 1:1; John 1:3; Nehemiah 9:6; Job 38:2-11
Job 1:6-12, 2:1-7; Ezekiel 28:13-18



Lesson Goals: To show that angels are created beings.
To show that Satan/demons disobeyed God and were punished because God hates sin.
To reinforce that God has always been and is the creator of all things.

Scripture Memory He created everything that can be seen and everything that can't be seen. Colossians 1:16b (NirV)

NOTE: Familiarize yourself so much with this story that it can be told as a STORY, not as "He said. . . She said" or read. But, to reinforce that these ideas are not your own, hold your Bible as you tell the story.

The Lesson: Now, let's review last week's story. Who can retell the story? (After allowing a student to retell the story, ask your group if anything was left out of the story or told differently.) Would anyone else like to retell the story?

Who was in the beginning? (God) What else was there in the beginning? (nothing) So, what does this tell us about God? (He doesn't have beginning; He has always been).

Who is God? (God is Spirit.) Can we see and touch God? (No) Where does God live? (heaven) Can we travel there by rocket or plane? (No) Does God stay only in heaven? (No, He's everywhere).

Does God love you? (Yes) What has He given you? (His story) How did God give us that story? (He shared the story with men who wrote it down.) Who is God's story for? (Me, and everyone else!)

God's story continues! We know from last week that no one else was with God in the beginning, but we did learn that God is three-in-one (Father, Son and Spirit). So, if there was no one but God, where did everything else come from?

Have you ever wondered about angels? Where do they come from and what do they do?

READ: Colossians 1:15-17 and Romans 8:37-39 (and hold the Bible in your hands throughout the story.)

While God was in the beginning, when there was nothing else, He decided to create angels! You and I don't become angels when we die and angels have not been around forever. God created them. He created them to be spirit, without a body. Sometimes, angels can be seen but most of the time they are invisible. God created different kinds of angels. There are regular angels and

then there are “chief” angels or archangels. There are also angels called seraphim and cherubim. Angels are even a little scary. God didn’t just decide to create a few angels, though. He created thousands and thousands and thousands of angels! But how could God create them and then create so many? He could do it because there is nothing too hard for God. God is more powerful than anyone or anything, even the angels. Angels live in heaven, but can travel from one place to another. God created angels to be messengers, to say what He wanted said, but angels also do other things. They guard and protect, and even fight if necessary. Angels worship God. To worship God means that they realize and tell God that He is a big God, that they were created and that He is the creator. We even know the names of some of those angels God created: Gabriel, Michael and Lucifer.

Angels do what God asks them to do! When they were created, they were perfect. But angels are not like puppets. Angels make a choice to obey God or not. And one of those angels, whose name we know, chose to go his own way. It was Lucifer. Lucifer means “morning star.” When God created Lucifer, he was beautiful. Lucifer was a very important angel. But Lucifer became arrogant and stuck-up. He decided that he would choose his own way and other angels followed him in his disobedience. Lucifer wanted to put himself in God’s place. But Lucifer is not God; he is a created being who chose to forget that God is all-powerful and in control of everything. When Lucifer did this and when the other angels followed him, God had to punish them. God is perfect and hates sin. Sin is choosing to go our own way instead of God’s way and deserves punishment. Lucifer’s punishment was that God kicked him out of heaven! God also kicked the other angels out of heaven, too. You may know the angel Lucifer by other names. He is also called Satan, or the devil. Lucifer is now known as Satan, which means “deceiver,” because he tricks people into believing lies. Satan is God’s enemy. Satan can still go into heaven, but when he does, it is not to sit on God’s throne. What Satan does is to ask God’s permission to do things. He wanted to be so important, but he forgot how important God is. And even though Satan tries to trick us, we can choose to do what Lucifer wouldn’t. We can choose to follow and obey God. He is the one who loves us and He is all-powerful!

Review: Now, let’s review what you have learned. Who can retell the story? (As with the previous lesson, ask your group if anything was left out of the story or told differently after allowing the first student to retell the story. This will help, in weeks to come, with story accuracy and retention.) Would anyone else like to retell the story? (Don’t pressure your students. Even if they are not confident enough to retell the story, they will have it reinforced as they listen again and again.)

Let’s see how much you remember! Who is the only one that has been around since the beginning? (God)

Where did all the angels come from? (God created them.) Why did He create them? (To serve Him and be messengers.) How many did God create? (Thousands.) Did they all choose to obey God? (No) Who chose to disobey? (Lucifer.)

Did God let Lucifer stay in heaven after he sinned? (No.) What did God do? (He punished Lucifer by kicking him out of heaven.) Is Satan God’s friend? (No. They are enemies.)

Planning for Next Week
Lesson 3 · God Creates the World
Genesis 1:1-2:15

PRESCHOOL LESSON

SING: "Praise Him, Praise Him"

SHARE: Who remembers what we talked about last week? God! When did God begin? He didn't, did He. God has always been around. God was in the beginning, when there was nothing else.

There isn't anything that God can't do and He decided to create angels! They are a little like Him. They are spirit. That means we cannot see them or touch them. Angels are a little scary and when God created them, He didn't just decide to create a few angels. He created thousands and thousands and thousands of angels! But how? He could do it because there is nothing too hard for God. God is more powerful than anyone or anything, even the angels. Angels live in heaven where God lives, and they can travel from one place to another. God created angels to be messengers, to say what He wanted said and to serve Him. Angels also do other things. They guard and protect, and even fight if necessary. Angels worship God. To worship God means that they tell God how big and amazing and wonderful God is. We even know the names of some of those angels God created: Gabriel, Michael and Lucifer.

Angels do what God asks them to do! When they were created, they were perfect. But angels are not like puppets. Angels make a choice to obey God or not. And one of those angels chose to go his own way. It was Lucifer. When God created Lucifer, he was beautiful and he was very important. But Lucifer decided that he would choose his own way, not God's. Other angels followed him in his disobedience. Lucifer wanted to put himself in God's place. But Lucifer is not God; he was created by God and chose to forget that God is all-powerful and in control of everything. When Lucifer did this and when the other angels followed him, God had to punish them. God is perfect and hates sin. Sin is choosing to do what we want instead of what God wants. Sin deserves punishment. Lucifer's punishment was that God kicked him out of heaven! God also kicked the other angels out of heaven, too. Lucifer's name was changed to Satan. Some people even call him the devil. Satan is God's enemy and he goes around trying to trick us into choosing to follow him and not God. But we have a choice. You can choose to follow and obey God. He is the one who loves you.

PRAY: God, thank you for loving me. Help me to follow and obey you.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- Memory Verse Activity - Review the memory verse by repeating the verse several times. Then, divide your group into two equal teams. Play “Bible Verse Volleyball” by tossing a beach ball or balloon across a net, imaginary or other wise. Have teams take turns saying the memory verse, one word at a time as the ball is tossed. After several rounds, assign each group a subject; “Everything that can be seen” and “Everything that can’t be seen.” As the ball is volleyed, allow each group to share something that would be a part of the subject assigned to them.
- Begin a “Creation Mobile.” Use an upside-down paper plate as the foundation of the mobile, and punch two small holes in the middle of the plate. Thread yarn through the holes to form a hanger. Allow your students to decorate the paper plate, encouraging them to label it with the name of God, Creator of all things. Provide small pictures of angel’s wings to represent God’s creation of angels. Hang these from the paper plate by threading yarn through another small hole at the edge of the plate. Save the mobile until next week, when other symbols of God’s creation will be added.
- Play “Simon Says.” Use this opportunity to talk about the many times a day people ask us to do things. Encourage your students to think about what they are asked to do, just as they process whether or not “Simon” says. Remind them that in real life, Satan goes around trying to trick them. Remind them to think about memory verses they have learned as well as Bible lessons learned. Encourage them to choose to follow only God, who loves them and cares for them.
- Continue to work on memorizing the books of the Bible. This week, work on the first five books of the Bible. These are difficult books to learn. Write the name of each book on a separate sheet of construction paper. Practice them in order many times. Then remove one and lay the others out on a table. Quiz your students to tell you which one is missing. Continue this several times. Then, “shuffle” the five sheets of construction paper. Again, lay them on a table and give your students the opportunity to put the books in order.
- Make origami angels.
- Provide word puzzles and coloring pages that go along with the lesson.