

**Lesson 1 - First Sunday of Ministry Year**  
**September**  
**God Created**

**Preclass Prep**

- Prepare the classroom seating, being sure to accommodate wheelchairs. Use the form of a U if possible. Try to allow plenty of space between each student for staff to come alongside them. A small U works well for a few students.
- Prepare list of sentences for "That's Me" game such as: "I have a cat." "I have a brother." "I don't like carrots." Or plan to use those given with this lesson.
- Post colorful creation visuals around room if possible.
- Have creation coloring sheet ready to hand out.
- Prepare a sample craft in advance for demonstration. Complete all prerequisite steps for student crafts so students can finish it in class. Set out necessary items in classroom.
- Bring a large, impressive "C" to use as a visual during the lesson.
- Set up TV/DVD for video segment during lesson.
- In large letters, print the word "creation" with Bible Truth on the board in the front of students.
- Have temporary name labels available for each student.
- Prepare volunteers to greet each parent or caregiver. Instruct staff on Information Form.
- Prepare song transparencies and set up overhead.

**Bible Truth Being Taught**

God created everything that exists including the earth, angels and people. Everything God created was perfect. There was no sickness or death.

**Suggested Scripture**

Genesis 1:1  
Genesis 1:31  
Acts 17:24-28  
Psalm 24:1, 2

**Accommodating Learning Styles & Disabilities**

During "That's Me" icebreaker, those students who have mobility issues may hold up a "That's Me" paddle or shout out instead of jumping up to answer.

**Welcome and Opening Song (5 minutes)**

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

Open with an enthusiastic, friendly welcome to all. Create warm, welcoming environment.

**Singing (5 minutes)**

Introduce "It's a Beautiful Day" (use transparency) (See Resource List)

**Interactive (5 minutes)**

Play icebreaker game: That's Me!

Say to students: Pretend you are a piece of popcorn. We just put you in the popcorn popper. Whenever I say something that is true of you, jump up quickly and say, "That's me!". Teacher reads sentences one at a time from prepared list. Try to observe students.

### **More Music or Miscellaneous (5 minutes)**

Introduce "Then God Got Busy" (use transparency) (See Resource List)

### **Main Teaching Points (10 minutes)**

1. Wonder with them how everything began. Allow one or two comments if desired.
2. The Bible gives us the answer: Read Genesis 1:1 or have student read it.
3. Play no more than 5 minutes of the beautiful "God of Wonders" DVD to turn their thoughts to creation. (See Resource List)
4. This is a glimpse of God's beautiful world that we enjoy every day. Who likes to go out into nature? (allow 1-2 responses according to time restraints)
5. God created the earth, space, everything in earth and space, the angels, and people.
6. Everything that God made was good. He did not make any mistakes.
7. There was no sickness or death when God first created, but we know there is now. We'll be talking about what happened to God's awesome creation later.
8. Holding up the large "C": Today I brought this large C to class. Why do you think I brought it? I want it to remind you that God created everything that exists and His creation was very good.
9. Next Sunday we're going to see that God had a clear order in His creating, and that God created the heavens and the earth in six days. We'll also see how special we are to God.

Will you close your eyes with me for a minute so we can shut out the room and talk to God? I will pray this time, but sometimes in future Sundays I will give you a chance to pray too.

### **Transition into craft (5 minutes)**

Today the students will be creating their own C's that they can take home with them. Provide a heavy cardstock or wooden C for each student and a variety of decorating items with glue. Pair or group students with individual staff for completion of craft. Staff will reinforce idea that the C stands for God's creation. Add yarn for hanging if desired.

### **Complete craft (20 minutes)**

Students may paint, color, draw on, glue beads or colored tissue scraps, etc. As students finish, give them a creation coloring sheet with colors or washable markers.

### **Transition into prayer time and closing prayer (10 minutes)**

Bring students back into main circle for prayer requests and closing prayer. Choose your most workable format for prayer requests. One suggestion is to have a volunteer move around the room during craft time and write down individual requests. This staff then closes the class with prayer.

**Announcements and prep to leave ( 5 minutes)**

Have students hold up their craft projects. Be sure each student has his/her own. Assemble all individual items such as coloring pages, coats. One staff stands at the door to oversee leaving. Staff mingle and give hugs while parting and welcome students back.

**THAT'S ME!**

Suggested sentences for game: (add or delete as time permits)

I have a dog for a pet.

I love ice cream!

I have a sister or sisters (brother or brothers).

I live in a group home.

I have my own Bible.

I have a lot of friends.

I want to learn about God.

I enjoy music a lot!

I have lived in another state.

I have a cat.

I love pizza!

I go to work (school) every day.