

## **Week 1 Introduction**

References: Gen. 1:1, John 1:1-3, Zech. 12:1, Psalm 33:6, Isaiah 42:5, 45:18, Jeremiah 4:23, 10:12, 51:15

### Story Points:

1. Man wants to know how it all happened.
2. We put clues together to form our explanations-theories.
3. People have many clues.
4. To properly put all the clues together you must go to the One Who was there.

### Embedded Points:

1. Men are curious.

### Emphasized Points:

1. Clues can be put together and you can come up with different explanations.
2. Theories change over time.
3. To know something go to the Source.

### Visual Aids:

1. Clues for real event
2. US map
3. Fossil
4. Petrified wood

### Songs:

1. Who, Who, Who was There?
2. The Bible is the Word of God

### Story Sample:

How did it all begin? How did this happen? Was there always the earth and stars? What were things like millions of years ago? As we grow up we often ask these kinds of questions. Actually we like to try to solve problems. We like to look for the answers.

Let's say you come home from school and find that some of your things are a mess on the floor. Immediately you blame your younger brother. He must have gotten into your room and taken your stuff out and left it on the floor. But after a few minutes you realize that all the things that are on the floor are from the top shelf. Your little brother can't reach those things - so what happened? How did your stuff get onto the floor? You start looking for clues.

Or let's say you walk into the house and smell something really good! It smells like mom baked some of your favorite cookies. You go into the kitchen expecting to get a few of them. But you can't find any. There are no cookies that you can see. So what really happened? You start to look for clues. Is the oven warm? Are there baking dishes around? What happened to those cookies you smell?

Once you have the clues you then start putting the clues together to get an explanation or theory about what happened. Now here are some clues. Let's have four of you come up and look at the clues and tell us what happened. *(The clues should be from something that really happened to one of the children. For example: Eric broke his arm. But how did Eric break his arm? Give the four children these clues – "a ball, a buddy, the youth center, Saturday afternoon" Ask them to come up with a theory of how Eric broke his arm. Then have Eric come up to tell what really happened)*

This is what men have tried to do. They have tried to gather as many clues as possible and then put all the clues together and come up with possible theories of how it happened. Let's look at some of these clues.

One clue was found in north Texas in the 1940's, about 65 years ago. They found the bones of ancient sea creatures. They knew they were sea creatures because of the shapes of these skeletons. These skeletons are shaped much like the large fish and whales of today. Also, fossils of seashells were found nearby. These are more clues. Who knows what a fossil is? A fossil is the actual remains of plants or animals, preserved in the rocks of the earth's crust. *(show fossil)* Some believe that these fossils are millions and millions of years old. Is there an ocean near north Texas today? *(show USA map)* So how did the fossils of sea creatures and sea shells get to a place where there is no ocean?

We brought a clue with us today to show you something that is also very, very old. Has anyone here seen petrified wood before? *(show petrified wood)* Some believe that petrified wood is 225-250 million years old. It's hard to know exactly how old it is but it is a very interesting clue. Did you know that a tree could become a stone? How? Volcanoes erupted and the sides of mountains collapsed. The trees that were growing on the sides of the mountains were knocked down and buried under much dirt, rock, and molten lava. *(draw simple line drawing on board of this)* Over many years of rain the water trickled over, around, and through these dead and buried trees. The water contained minerals from the volcano and when the water flowed through the dead trees some of the minerals would replace the wood cells of this dead tree. This is called petrification. It takes a long, long, long time for this to occur. No one sees this happen with their own eyes or in their lifetime. *(\*\*NOTE - Petrification defined: is the process by which organic material is converted into stone or a similar substance. It is approximately synonymous with fossilization. Petrified wood is the most well known result of this process)*

There is a national park in Arizona called the Petrified Forest National Park. Let's look at the US map again. Peter, come and show us where Arizona is. John, what do we find in Arizona today? Is it a place full of lakes and rivers? No, it is a desert. What was Arizona hundreds of years ago when the wagon trains went across the US? It was desert, the same as today. What kind of trees do you find in a desert? Well, you only find short trees that mostly are the size of big bushes. You don't find trees like you would in a forest. So, how did a petrified forest end up in the desert of Arizona?

Some people look at these kinds of clues and ask these kinds of questions and then come up with explanations or theories on how these came to be. As we have seen this morning, you can put clues together and come up with different theories of what has happened and it can be far from the truth of what really took place. Today we can look at all the clues and come up with

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many theories. 200 years ago people looked at the very same clues and came up with different theories. And people will look at these clues in the year 2080 when some of you will be great grandparents and they might come up with yet different theories. Our explanations change with time. So to know what really happened we must refer to someone who was there when it happened and to something that does not change with time. Just like we saw when the four children were putting all the clues together. You must go to the one who was there to find out what occurred. That person knows where all the clues belong and how they fit together.

**Week 2**  
**The Bible**

References: Gen. 1:1, John 1:1-3, Zech. 12:1, Psalm 33:6, Isaiah 42:5, 45:18, Jeremiah 10:12, 51:15

Story Points:

1. Theories that were once held as fact are proven wrong.
2. Men are often wrong in their explanations.
3. The Bible is never wrong.
4. Men make mistakes in how they interpret clues but God is never mistaken.
5. God is the Creator. Only He was there in eternity.
6. He brought everything into being out of nothing.
7. He created.
8. To know what happened, go to God.

Embedded Points:

1. If you read and know the Bible you will understand many things.
2. God is unfathomable.
3. The human mind is too limited to comprehend creation.

Emphasized Points:

1. Clues can be put together and you can come up with different explanations.
2. Man's logic is not always reliable.
3. The Bible has the explanation.
4. To know something go to the Source.

Visual Aids:

1. Flashlight and globe
2. Pictures of Orion & Pleiades
3. Picture of the horizon

Songs:

1. Who, Who, Who was There?
2. The Bible is the Word of God
3. Read the Bible
4. Whatever God says is true

Story Sample:

Last week we began with the questions men ask. We ask, "How did it all begin? How did this happen? What was the earth like millions of years ago?" "How did sea shells end up in Texas or when was there a forest in Arizona?" Today, I would like to share with you some other questions:

"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?  
Tell Me who set its measurements?  
Tell Me who stretched the measuring line over it?"

Tell Me if you know when the morning stars sang together..?  
Tell Me who hedged in the sea?"  
(Job 38:4-8)

Who do you think asked these questions? God. That's right. God asked these questions. Many, many years ago in the Old Testament, Job and his three friends were having a discussion. This discussion went on and on and on. It actually fills 37 chapters in the Bible. I don't think any of us could sit for as many days as these four did and talk and talk and talk. And they all talked as if they really knew. They talked as if they were the authorities on the subject. They talked as if they were the ones with all the answers. Then after such a very long talk God came in to merely ask a few questions. And within a few minutes of His questions it was clear that only God knew, only God was the authority. No one, not you, not me, not people who lived on this earth so many years ago were there when God laid the foundations of the earth. You see, sometimes we think we know soooo much. In our science books, in the nature films, and in museums we can find gobs of explanations. And a lot of them appear to be correct. BUT who can say anything to God's questions? When we hear His questions we are all humbled to admit that all we know is very little. What God knows is without limit. His understanding and knowledge is boundless. God knows the full truth. Man only has a partial and very limited understanding. Here are a few other interesting questions God asked Job:

"Have you ever caused the dawn to know its place?  
Have you entered into the springs of the sea?  
Where is the way to the dwelling of the light?  
Can you fasten the bands of the Pleiades or loosen the cords of Orion?"  
(Job 38:12,16,19,31)

We all know that dawn comes at the first part of the morning. We know that and we enjoy the dawn, the end of night. But God is the One who caused the dawn to be at that time. No man could arrange the earth and sun in such a way to cause the dawn. (*Show pictures as you speak this*) And you and I can see the Pleiades and see Orion, the star constellations, in the sky but no man can change how those stars are arranged. We only see and enjoy. God sets them in certain patterns. He can change that arrangement, too. You see over and over again God is the authority.

He alone is God. There is none higher, wiser, or greater than He. And since He is the authority, His Word is true. Whatever God says in the Bible is true. We can rely on it. And this is what Christians do. They believe in God's Word. They know that God's Word is true. There will never be an error in what God has said. Of course the Bible was not written to explain the universe but there are things about the universe found in God's Word. There are things about God's creation in His Word.

Now let's take a look at some things concerning the universe that are found in the Bible. One very easy example of a mistaken theory is the theory that the earth was flat. In the 1400s educated people all believed that the earth was flat. They took this for a fact. Actually you were considered stupid or foolish if you did not believe the fact that the earth was flat. Now today, we know that was a BIG MISTAKE! (*show picture of the horizon*) If you look at this picture of the horizon it does look flat. And people saw the flatness of the horizon and said that the earth must be flat. This was their way to explain what they saw. Today we can easily prove that the

earth is round. But isn't it something that an explanation or theory that so WRONG was considered as a fact? They absolutely thought that the earth was flat. They were sure you could sail off the edge of it. Now, that may seem silly to us today but it shows how easy it is to be wrong.

There are two ways that they should have known that the earth is round. First is that the Bible says so. In Isaiah 40:22 it says the circle of the earth and in Proverbs 8:27b it says He inscribed a circle upon the surface of the deep (*the face of the whole earth*). Then in Matthew 24 you have the matter of time zones, which can only occur because the earth is round. (*use a globe & flashlight*) There it says that as two are sleeping, another two are grinding and another two are in the field. So the two here on earth are at the noon of the day and they are working in the field. But down here on the earth's globe it is morning and two are grinding at the mill. And on the other side of the globe it is still night, so two are sleeping.

If men had read the Bible they would have known without a doubt that the earth was not flat. Remember we said that God's Word is the authority and here is a fact that we find in the Bible long before men could prove it.

The second way they could have know that the earth was round was by observation of God's creation. When you look up at the sky in the day you see the \_\_\_\_\_(*sun*). And at night mostly you see the \_\_\_\_(*moon*). Are they both flat? No, round. They are both round. Do you look up and see anything flat? No, nothing is flat. So men should have considered that the earth would also be round just like the sun and the moon.

So man can be wrong, very wrong, but the Bible can never be wrong. Many brilliant men have made mistakes in what they think are facts. But God has never made a mistake.

So the best way to know what happened is to ask the one who was there. Only God was there.

### Week 3 Time

References: Gen. 1:1, John 1:1-3, Zech. 12:1, Psalm 33:6, Isaiah 42:5, 45:18, Jeremiah 10:12, 51:15, Job 38:4-7

Story Points:

1. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
2. Even time was created by God.

Embedded Points:

1. Time was created by God.
2. God is eternal.
3. Man is a part of time.

Emphasized Points:

1. God has always existed.
2. God created time for man.
3. Whatever the Bible says is true.

Visuals:

1. Time line
2. Genesis 1:1 on a poster
3. Diamond ring

Songs:

1. God Made the Universe
2. Whatever God Says is True

Story Sample:

To understand the Bible, we need to know about time. Let's start with today and move backwards. Joshua, can you tell me what time it is right now? That's right – it's 10:45. (*mark on time line – you will be moving from right to left*) Now, when did you get here? 10:00? Let's put that right here on the time line. So that is a period of time, right? That is 45 minutes. That's not very long, is it?

Now, let's go to a longer period of time. Cindy, when were you born? Okay, let's put that on our time line right here. So that's longer than 45 minutes, isn't it? Now we have 10 years of time. And I was born in XXXX, so we'll put that here. That's an even longer period of time. And my mom (or dad) was born in XXXX, so that's even longer!

Now, let's go back REALLY far. Remember last week when we talked about people believing the world was flat? Can anyone remember when that was? Let's put that on our time line. That was really a long time ago. (*Add other times in history that keep going farther back*) Now, according to the Bible, Adam was created 6000 years ago. So let's put that way over here on our time line.

*(Show diamond ring)* Do you see this diamond? Can anyone tell me how long it takes to create a diamond? It takes 1-4 MILLION years of pressure for a piece of coal to become a diamond. So let's put this on our time line. And what about the universe, how old is it? Well, from the clues the scientists have, it would seem that the universe is 4 ½ BILLION years old. *(Put it on the time line)* Wow! We are really going back a long way aren't we?

But what else does the Bible say about time? There is a big clue in the first verse of the Bible. Do you know that the very first verse in the Bible talks about time? So to find out what God says about time, we need to go to the first book of the Bible, the book of Genesis. Genesis means origin. Verse one says "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." *(write it or have it on a poster)* So let's put "beginning" here on our time line. *(place at very beginning of time line)* So, in the beginning of the Bible, we have the beginning of time.

But what was there before that? If the Bible says that God created "in the beginning", then that must mean that He was there BEFORE the beginning. So what would that mean? Now, we want to know about something that took place before time and before space. WOW! When was that? When was before time and before space? *(point to the space to the left of the time line)* We call that eternity past. And what was there in eternity past? Nothing. Not one created thing was there. There was no person, no place and no thing in eternity past. WOW! Our minds cannot even imagine that. Only God was there in eternity past- God and nothing else. That is why God is the Creator. He brought everything into being out of nothing.

So way back here there was only eternity past. Then God did something - He caused there to be a beginning, a beginning of time. Before the beginning of time God was there. Was anything else there? NO! Not yet. Then God did something - He created. What did He use to create? What do you think? During this next week, ask your parents about what they think, and ask your friends too.



## Week 4 The Heavens (1)

References: Gen. 1:1, John 1:1-3, Zech. 12:1, Psalm 33:6, Isaiah 42:5, 45:18, Jeremiah 10:12, 51:15

### Story Points:

1. Find out what God says about creation.
2. At first there is eternity and God - nothing else.
3. God created.

### Embedded Points:

1. The universe is awesome.
2. God is unfathomable. He created something out of nothing.
3. The universe causes man to reflect upon God the Creator.

### Emphasized Points:

1. Go to the Bible.
2. Only God can create.
3. Men have marveled at the created universe.

### Visual Aids:

1. Gen. 1:1 on poster
2. A time line
3. Popsicle sticks, glue stick, clay
4. Magnet and paper clip
5. Book
6. A globe
7. Picture of our solar system which resembles Newton's model

### Songs:

1. Who, Who, Who was There?
2. God Made the Universe
3. In the Beginning the Triune God created (Hymns Jr.)

### Story Sample:

So to find out what God says about it we need to go to the first book of the Bible, the book of Genesis. Genesis means origin. Verse one says "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (*write it or have it on a poster*) This is such a short sentence but it is loaded. (*use time line*) So way back here there was only eternity. Then God did something - He caused there to be a beginning, a beginning of time. Before the beginning of time God was there. Was anything else there? NO! Not yet. Then God did something - He created. What did He use to create?

Well, nothing. There was nothing there. He created out of nothing. Let's say you give me a bunch of popsicle sticks and some glue (*have those items*) I can make something. We could make a birdhouse. And if you gave me some clay (*have some there*) I could form a cup. I can

make, I can build, and I can form things. But if you give me nothing all you will get back is nothing. But God was there in the beginning with nothing else and then He created. He brought things into being. He brought things into existence out of nothing! If you say, "Auntie Elaine, I don't understand how He would make something out of nothing." I would say that it is too marvelous for my small brain, too. This is why God is called the Creator. Only God brings things into existence out of nothing.

More than 300 years ago when there were people who still believed the earth was flat, there was a very important scientist, whose name was Isaac Newton. He became so important because he discovered things about this universe that nobody else knew. He discovered that the whole earth is a giant magnet. Do you know what a magnet does? (*hold magnet above a paper clip to show how it draws it out of your hand.*) That is why everything falls to the ground. (*Drop the book*) Why does the book fall to the ground, instead of floating up in the air? This is gravity, and this is what Isaac Newton discovered. This is why the people on the bottom of the earth (*show globe*) don't drop off into space. He found out that there is gravity in the universe. That is why the stars and planets move around the sun in a very specific way. He invented a special telescope, called a reflecting telescope, because he was interested in seeing very, very far into the space/universe. He wrote two books that taught people of the world about the universe that we live in. Isaac Newton was called the most influential scientist who ever lived. Here is a story about this great scientist.

*Sir Isaac Newton had a friend who, like himself was a scientist. Newton was a Christian and loved the Lord Jesus Christ. However, his friend was not a Christian. He didn't even believe that there was a God! Newton had spoken to his friend many times about how God had created a wonderful universe. Each time, though, his friend would shake his head saying, "No," and reply that the universe "just happened."*

*Newton had finished the design of a scale model of our solar system. A very skilled craftsman then built it from Newton's plans. In the center was a large ball made of brass which represented the sun. Revolving around this sun were smaller balls attached to spokes of different lengths. These balls represented the planets, and the spokes placed them at the proper distances from the sun. All of these balls, representing Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune, were in their proper order. (Today we know that the planet Pluto is also in our solar system, but Newton did not know this.) These balls were all geared together so that when a crank on the front was turned, they all moved in their orbits around the sun. (show picture of our solar system)*

*One day Newton was in his study reading when his friend came to visit him. His friend saw the model and instantly recognized what it was. As he slowly cranked the model he studied it closely. He said to Newton, "This is tremendous! Who made it?"*

*"Nobody," Newton answered without looking up from his book.*

*His friend turned to him with a confused look and said, "You must not have heard me. I asked, 'Who made this wonderful model?'"*

*Looking up, Newton said with a perfectly straight face, "Nobody made it. Those balls and gears just appeared and put themselves together!"*

*His friend, now quite upset, said, "You must think I'm a fool! Of course somebody made this! He's a genius, and I'd like to meet him!"*

*Newton set his book aside and slowly walked across the room to his friend. As they stood in front of the model, Newton explained to his friend, "This model is just a poor imitation of our wonderful universe. You know the laws and the precise order which govern our universe. I can't seem to convince you that this model, does not have a designer or a maker. However, you have said many times that the solar system, which this model represents, 'just happened.' Now tell me, is that the logical conclusion of a scientist?"*

*Newton's friend quickly understood how foolish he had been. He realized that there had to be a Master Designer and Creator for everything! It wasn't long after accepting the thought that God was the Creator that he also accepted His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, as his Savior.*

And just like Sir Newton and so many others we know that it is so clear from the Bible and from the creation itself that God is the Master Designer of the universe. He is the great Creator!

## Week 5 The Heavens (2)

References: Gen. 1:1, John 1:1-3, Zech. 12:1, Psalm 33:6, Isaiah 42:5, 45:18, Jeremiah 10:12, 51:15, Job 38:4-7

### Story Points:

1. There is a difference between created and made or formed.
2. God is the Creator. Only He can create.
3. He brought everything into being out of nothing.
4. He created the heavens. He stretched them forth.
5. God created in an orderly way.

### Embedded Points:

1. His work displays His wisdom.
2. His work displays His attributes.

### Emphasized Points:

1. God created the heavens and all the things in them.
2. He stretched them forth.
3. Man stands in awe of what he sees.
4. The universe proves God's existence.

### Visual Aids:

1. Slides or over-lays of pictures of the heavens
2. Quotes concerning the heavens
3. Globe
4. Elastic band

### Songs:

1. Who, Who, Who was There?
2. God Made the Universe
3. In the Beginning (Hymns Jr.)

### Story Sample:

So let's go to the first book of the Bible, the book of Genesis. Verse one says, "In the beginning God created ..." (*write it or have it on a poster*) Then God did something. He created. What did He use to create? God was there in the beginning with nothing else and then He created. He brought things into being. He brought things into existence out of nothing! If you say, "Auntie Elaine, I don't understand how God could make something out of nothing"... I would say that it is too marvelous for my small brain, too. This is why God is called the Creator. Only God brings things into existence out of nothing.

Then it says what He created. (*add to verse*) He created the heavens. What are the heavens? (*Point to the heavens.*) And that is right. But aren't the heavens down, too? (*use a globe*) So if I am standing here on the earth in the United States, the heavens are up. And if I am standing here on the earth in New Zealand, the heavens are down, too. But where do the heavens start?

Well, it starts in the sky and goes as far as you can see - where the sun, moon and stars are. Do the heavens stop there? No, they go on and on and on because God stretched (*with the action*) forth the heavens. (*have 2 children come up - a short one and a tall one*) Now, if Rand (*a 5 year old*) stretches something it can only be this long. But if Sam stretches something it is two times as long. And if Mr. Hage stretches something it will be the longest by far.

But God not only created the heavens; He also stretched forth the heavens. And how far did God stretch them? Well, there are a lot of questions that I cannot answer. But I know that God stretched the heavens so far that they are still expanding. Our universe today is still expanding. How do I know? How can I be sure? Because God's Word says so. Of course, with all the recent scientific instruments men now have discovered what the Bible already said. Man with all his investigations into space is still nowhere close to finding even the center of the heavens. We call the heavens the universe. (*show 1 or 2 pictures of universe with galaxies*) Isn't it beautiful! Isn't it awesome! God created it. This is His handiwork. And this is why man from the earliest times has been in awe of the heavens. They are vast, they are immense, and they are beautiful!! None of us could have ever dreamed to make the universe!

***Show slides of universe (planets, comets, etc., as the next quotes are read.)***

In the Old Testament King David said, "When I consider the heavens, the work of Thy great hand, what is man...." David and others throughout human history have gazed up into the heavens and seen how vast, how immense, and how beautiful they are!! It makes us seem soooo small in comparison. None of us could have ever dreamed to make the universe!

And the famous scientist we spoke about last week, Sir Isaac Newton, wrote:

"This most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful Being. This Being governs all things . . . as Lord over all, and on account of His dominion He is to be called Lord God, Universal Ruler."

So our solar system and the entire universe, filled with all the planets, stars and comets, was created by the counsel of God. He governs all things and is Lord over all. He alone is the Universal Ruler. And when we see His universe we stand in awe.

And that is not all that is in the heavens. What did God create after He stretched forth the Heavens? (*they guess*) He created the stars. Anything else? (*they guess again*). Who remembers the song: "In the beginning the Triune God created the heavens and the earth, the angels sang for joy to see the things God has made". Right – certain living things were created in the heavens before the earth was created. This includes the angels. How do we know the angels sang for joy? The Bible tells us so. Job 38:7 tells us that the "morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy!" WOW, what a story of creation! We have the stretching forth of the heavens, the certain created things (morning stars and sons of God) singing and shouting for joy. They are all so joyous because of the beautiful building of the earth.

Since we have been seeing pictures of the universe, maybe we should try to show you a picture of an angel. Well, this brings up a very good point. We are not going to try to do that because the Bible doesn't say exactly what angels look like. Any painting or statue that someone makes

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is just someone's imagination of what they think an angel might look like. Those images the Bible calls "graven images" and, sorry to say, some people even try to worship such things. Terrible! We stay away from all that kind of thing.

So now in the story of creation we have: God, time, space, created living things that observed the creation of the earth. What do you think is next? (*the earth*). What a marvelous Creator! We need to praise Him, give Him thanks, and care for Him as the creator of the universe! (Zech.12:1, ftnt. 1:2)

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Lucifer-one of the earliest angels – (Isaiah 14:12, ftnt.)\*\*\*NOTE - this information is for the story giver, not for the presentation of the story.

## Creation Week 6 The Earth (1)

### Story Points:

1. He is the Master Craftsmen. His work is fine, detailed and intricate.
2. He built it with foundations, bases, measurements and a cornerstone.

### Embedded Points:

1. Seeing the earth cause a reverence for God.
2. His work displays His wisdom.
3. His work displays His attributes.

### Emphasized Points:

1. God is not haphazard. He is orderly.
2. God's creation of earth shows He is orderly.
3. Men have marveled at the earth.

### Visuals:

1. Chart or poster for Gen. 1:1
2. Globe
3. Tape measure, yard stick
4. Pictures of the earth in the solar system
5. Picture of the Golden Gate Bridge

### Story Sample:

So let's go to back to the first book of the Bible, the book of Genesis. Verse one says, "In the beginning" (*write it or have it on a poster*) so we know that at some time there was a beginning of time as we know it. In eternity past, which cannot be measured, God placed time, something which we measure.

Now let's add the next part of that verse. Can anyone tell me the next two words? That's right – "God created". (*write it or have it on a poster*) So we also know that God created something out of nothing. Isn't that too much for our limited human minds to understand?

But what did He create? Sarah, what are the next two words? (*write "the heavens on the poster*) Yes, he created the heavens. The last two weeks we've seen some pretty fantastic pictures of the universe, haven't we? And we've heard some wonderful verses in the Bible about the heavens. And we've even read a story and quotes by a very famous person about the universe. We can all agree on one thing – GOD created the heavens!

So let's go on now to the next three words. Carlos, what would those words be? Yes, "and the earth" (*write on poster*) so the earth was also created by God. It was all a part of God's master plan. And no one plans better than God.

Do you remember the verses from the book of Job? I especially liked three of the questions that God asked. He asked:

“Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?  
Tell Me who set its measurements?  
Tell Me who stretched the measuring line over it?”

Who can tell me what a foundation is? When someone builds a house or building, how do they begin to build? That’s right, they start with the foundation. First they test the ground to make sure it is strong enough to support the building, then they level the ground and set up a framework, and then pour the cement. And this is the foundation. Once this is laid, the rest of the building can be built. But the whole building depends on a proper foundation being put down first.

So, in the beginning, God laid the foundations of the earth. Were we there? NO! But God was! He set the heavens in the right order to support the earth. He set up the proper framework so that the earth would be just where it belonged. And then He created the earth.

*“Tell Me who set its measurements?”* What does this mean? Who can tell me what comes even before the foundation of a building? Yes, the plan. Today, an architect or builder would call it the blueprint. Someone has to have the idea for the building and set down all of its measurements. He has to measure exactly what he wants and put it on paper so that it will be built in the best way.

So God is the best Architect! He set all the measurements for the earth perfectly. Do you know that He even set the axis of the earth at 23 degrees. *(use globe to explain)* This is the perfect angle for the earth to exist, to give the proper amount of sun each day, the seasons, the best climate for maintaining life. If it were any other angle, life could never survive. Could we come up with such a plan? NO! But God did!

*“Tell Me who stretched the measuring line over it?”* Who knows what a measuring line is? Well, today we use a tape measure to measure things out. *(show tape measure and have a child help measure something in the room)* Do you think we could measure the heavens or earth with this little tape measure? No way! Only God can measure the whole universe!

God measured out the whole universe so that the earth would be in just the right place. *(Show pictures of the earth in the solar system)* Do you know that the earth is 93 million miles from the sun? And the sun is one million times larger than the earth? So if the earth were any farther from the sun, it would be too cold for life to survive; and if it were any closer to the sun earth would be too hot to support life! So God did the best job of measuring! He’s the Master Craftsman!

Let’s look at an example of something that **man** has done which took much measuring, designing and construction. *(show picture of the Golden Gate Bridge)* As you can see it is a picture of a bridge, but not just any bridge. Do you know the name of this bridge? *(Golden Gate)* When this bridge was built it was the largest suspension bridge ever built. Many thought that a bridge could not be built over the Golden Gate Straights, which is the entrance to San Francisco harbor, because the large ships which enter the harbor would require a very high bridge. But a design was planned that made it possible to build and the engineers determined



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the method and materials needed. With the proper materials and close attention to construction, the bridge was built in four years. The bridge is 1.7 miles long and the span between the towers is 4200 feet which is over  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile. The two towers are 746 feet tall and from the bridge to the water is 220 feet. The cables that hold the suspension bridge up are 36" in diameter. (*show yardstick*) This is very thick, isn't it? The Golden Gate Bridge is known all around the world because it was such an achievement to build. It took much designing, measuring and attention to construction details to successfully build this bridge. When we look at this bridge, we marvel at the ability to build such a bridge. But when we look at the earth and our environment including the many natural wonders, we realize that God is still the **best** master craftsman and builder.

## Week 7 The Earth (2)

### Story Points:

1. He is the Master Craftsmen. His work is fine, detailed and intricate.
2. He hung the earth in the heavens.

### Embedded Points:

1. Seeing the earth causes a reverence for God.
2. His work displays His wisdom.
3. His work displays His attributes.

### Emphasized Points:

1. God is a master craftsman – he hangs the earth on nothing.
2. He creates the laws of nature.
3. Only God can do such a work on the earth.

### Visuals:

1. Chart or poster for Gen. 1:1
2. Pictures of the earth in space
3. Different types of balls (softball, tennis ball, plastic golf ball with holes in it)
4. Diagram of water cycle

### Story Sample:

So *(child's name)*, can you write Genesis 1:1 on the board for me? Very good. "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the EARTH."

Last week we saw that God is really a master craftsman. He laid the foundation of the earth and set its measurements. We found these facts in the book of Job. There are so many good verses in Job about God as our Creator, so I would like to share some more of them this week also.

In chapter 26, verse 7, it says "He hangs the earth upon nothing." Upon what? NOTHING! How do you think that is possible? *(Show picture of earth in space)* Doesn't it look like it is just hanging there? How did God do that anyway? *(Child's name)*, come here and see if you can hang this ball on nothing. *(As ball drops, say)* That didn't work did it? Maybe the ball was too heavy. Let's try something lighter. *(Try this with the tennis ball. As the ball drops, say)* That didn't work either did it? Maybe it's still too heavy. So let's try something even lighter. *(Use plastic golf ball)* Oops! That even fell. We can't make this tiny little ball hang on nothing! But God hung the earth on nothing. This ball only weighs a few ounces and we can't hang it. Yet the earth weighs 5.978 sextillion metric tons, and God hung it on nothing! I can't even imagine how heavy this is, but let me write it on the board for you *(write 5,978 followed by 18 zeros)* that's a lot of zeros! God is really good at what He does, isn't He? Man can write many reasons for why the earth hangs in space, but man could never do such a thing all by himself.

In chapter 38:33 God asks Job "Do you know the laws of the heavens? Do you establish their rule on the earth? Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of water would cover you?"

*(Child's name)*, do YOU know the laws of the heavens? I don't! *(Another child's name)*, do YOU establish their rule on the earth?" I don't! *(Another child's name)* can you shout to the clouds to cause a flood? I can't! Now, we might know ABOUT some of the laws of the heavens but we did not create them. For example, let's look at the water cycle. This is a law of nature. *(Draw diagram on board as you speak)* 71% of the earth is covered with water. So what happens to the water? The water starts here in the ocean, then the sun shines on the water and it evaporates, which means it turns into a vapor and goes up into the air. When that vapor gets cold, it turns into liquid. This is how the clouds are formed. When the clouds are too full of water, they turn to rain, hail, or snow, depending on how cold it is. Some of this moisture lands on earth, some in rivers and lakes, and some runs down to the ocean. Then the whole cycle begins all over again. Now, we might be able to explain the water cycle and even draw a picture of it, but could we create it? No way! Only God could do such a thing! This is a marvelous thing in creation that God created water to maintain life.

Finally, in verse 18, God asked Job:

"Have you comprehended the full expanse of the earth? Declare it, if you know it all." God is asking Job if he really understood EVERYTHING about the earth. He even told him to declare it, if he knew it all. I couldn't do that, for sure, could you? There is just too, too much to know about earth. Even the smartest scientists and teachers would admit that they can't know it all. I think God knew all along that Job didn't know it all. And I think God knows that we don't know it all. Only God knows it all.

## Week 8 The Gap

References: Gen. 1:1 & 2, Jer. 4:23, Isa. 24:1

### Story Points:

1. Go to the Bible to understand the story of creation.
2. Every word in the Bible counts.
3. God created the heavens and the earth BUT something terrible occurred which changed the condition of the creation.
4. The earth was full, perfect and in light. It became empty, a waste, and in darkness.
5. There is a long period of time between Gen. 1: 1 & 2.
6. An angel rebelled against God and the inhabited earth joined his rebellion.
7. God judged this rebellion using cataclysmic events which caused the ice age.
8. The clues which we talked about earlier come from this.

### Embedded Points:

1. No word in the Bible should be taken lightly.

### Emphasized Points:

1. What the Bible says counts.
2. "BUT" is an important word in understanding the story of creation.
3. God did not create the earth empty, waste and in darkness.

### Visual Aids:

1. Part 1 and 2 on the board with a huge "BUT"
2. Picture of full and empty bowl
3. Picture of dress before and after ink ruined it

### Songs:

1. Who, Who, Who was There?
2. The Bible is the Word of God

**(\*\*\*NOTE- Do not share more than the story states concerning the fall of Lucifer. We have been very careful in what we present. The whole emphasis of the week is "BUT". The paragraph concerning Satan's rebellion is only to give the most needed facts of the story.)**

### Story Sample:

Now some of you are wondering what we are going to do with those clues we talked about a few weeks ago. God has created the heavens and the earth but we still don't know how to explain the seashells found in Texas or the forest in the middle of the Arizona desert. How do they fit in?

For this we need to go to the Bible and see exactly what God says. Some people go on and on and on and on and on when they explain how something happened. I am afraid you could nearly take a little nap and not miss much of their thoughts about the beginning of time. But

that is not the way God is. He makes every word count. So we have to pay attention to every word. Let's go to Gen. 1:1&2. (*write this on the board*)

### Part 1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

### Part 2

**But** the earth became waste and emptiness and darkness was upon the surface of the deep.

In these lines God tells us sooooo much! You have to know a little bit about the English language to understand these lines. In part 1 (*underline as you talk*) God created the heavens and the earth. God did not tell us how long it took Him to do that. Nor does He tell us how much time went by before He created the earth. This summer we have spent seven weeks just on Part 1. But the story does not stop here. We need to go on to Part 2.

Part 2 begins with "But" (*circle this word*).

Here are some examples using the important word "BUT":

1. I was getting an "A" in math, BUT when I took the final test, I failed it.
2. I was doing so well rollerblading down the street, BUT I crashed into a pole.

In these sentences things were going really good BUT then something happened and it all went bad. They are just like the story of creation. Everything was really fine in Part 1 then something happened. The BUT means things changed. Something happened to God's creation to make it become waste, empty, and dark. (*circle these words in Part 2*) In the Bible both Jer. 4:23 and Isa. 24:1 state that God did not create the earth waste and empty. So here in Part 1 is God's beautiful creation. Out of nothing He created the magnificent heavens and the marvelous earth (*point to part 1*). But by here (*point to part 2*) it became waste, empty and dark. The word "empty" is easy to understand. The bowl is full of fruit. (*show picture of bowl full*) We see bananas, apples, oranges, grapes. Now the bowl is empty. (*use 2 pictures*) The bowl was full, BUT it became empty.

So in Part 1 the earth was full of things - lots of plants, animals and other creatures. Then in Part 2, it became empty - no plants, no animal, no living creatures. The earth was full BUT it became empty.

When something becomes ruined it becomes a waste. Auntie Girina had a lovely white dress. She really enjoyed wearing it. BUT it was put into the washer with other dirty clothes and in one shirt pocket was a red ink pen. When she took out the load of clothes the dress was covered with red ink stains. It was ruined. It became a waste. At one time she could wear the dress BUT it became a total waste. It was ruined.

The earth was perfect in God's creation BUT it became a waste. From this we can tell that the 2 words, waste and emptiness, show that a tragic change has taken place in God's creation.

In the Bible we have these 2 parts. (*refer to the board*) And there is a space, a long period of time between Part 1 and Part 2. Only God knows the how long it was. We know that there is a

gap, a very long period of time between part 1 and part 2. In one way we know a lot about what went wrong during this long period of time.

From the Bible we know that something drastic happened. An angel rebelled against God during this time. In this rebellion all the living beings that inhabited the earth joined Satan to rebel. Because of this rebellion against God, God used cataclysmic events, really big changes, to judge all the earth. The book of Job tells us God shook the mountains and the earth. The calamity came so swiftly that the mountains were overturned unnoticed. God even altered the position of the stars! Because of God's judgment the sun disappeared completely and the stars no longer shined. The earth was plunged into darkness. Without the sun shining there was no heat. This led to the glacial epoch (ice age) on this earth. Then after a long period of time the ice gradually melted. This may be due to how hot the earth's core (center) is. But the sun and the stars still were sealed up - they were not shining.

So In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

**But** the earth became waste and emptiness and darkness was upon the surface of the deep.

What an incredible story God tells us in His Word!

## Week 9 Genesis, Geology and the Gap

References: Gen. 1:1 & 2

### Story Points:

1. There is a gap of time between the creation and it becoming waste, empty, and with darkness.
2. Fossil and prehistoric remains come from this long period of time.
3. God created man; we did not evolve.
4. We believe the Bible.
5. Prehistoric animals and "early man" were before Adam. They have nothing to do with God's creation of Adam.
6. Men have created "Godless" explanations of fossils and evidence of pre-Adamic things. They leave God and His Word out.
7. We must never do this or accept these Godless theories.
8. We are in Christian families. We believe God and His Word.
9. To say we evolved is wrong. We do not agree with this notion. God created Adam.
10. Nothing "just happened" to create us, or the things of the universe, or the earth.
11. God is the great Creator.

### Embedded Points:

1. Man's explanations without God are foolish.

### Emphasized Points:

1. God's Word is true.
2. We did not evolve.
3. God is the Creator.

### Visual Aids:

1. Time line
2. Fossils or pictures of fossils

### Songs:

1. God Created
2. The B-I-B-L-E
3. Whatever God Says Is True

### Story Sample:

Last week we talked about the gap of time between Part 1 and Part 2. *(have it on large sheet of paper)* And we heard the story of what occurred during this gap of time. *(draw time line on board-do not put the X with creation of man yet)* Here is the creation of heavens and earth. Here it becomes waste, emptiness with darkness. And there is this huge period of time, maybe millions or billions of years. *(put circle on time line)* There is a huge gap in time here. The seashells found in Texas and the forest of petrified wood in Arizona all come from this gap in time. So many fossils that we have discovered come from this gap in time. The earth was full of

living plants, animal and creatures. When God judged the rebellion every kind of life on the earth died and became the fossils we have discovered.

We have spent eight weeks this summer just to get to this point in the story of creation. (*point to 2<sup>nd</sup> X on time line*). There is another ten-week story on what happens after this. But we don't have time to tell it this summer so we need to zoom ahead on our time line to the creation of man. There is another huge amount of time before we come to the creation of man so let's put it here. The Bible says that God created man. So I know that this is true. I did not start as a monkey and then develop into a man. No, the Bible tells me clearly that God created man. It does not say that He created apes and that these apes eventually became men. I believe the Bible. I believe God - so Adam, man, was created here.

Well, what do we do with the dinosaur bones that have been dug up? They belong here (*point to the gap on time line*). And what do we do with all those skulls of creatures who look a little bit like a man? They also belong here in this gap of time. There were lots of animals and living creatures on the earth when God judged the rebellion. All the bones of these creatures that people call "early man or prehistoric man" belong here. Adam was created here. These creatures lived on the earth way back here. They are before Adam, before God created Adam. What should we call these bones and skulls that people call "early man or prehistoric man"? I am not sure to what race they belong. The Bible does not tell me that. But I am certain that they were not men like you and me. Yes, in some ways these creatures looked a little like Adam. Their bones have been found in archeological digs all over the earth. Yes, there were creatures such as these BUT they have nothing to do with Adam. It is so clear from the Bible.

Men in modern times have discounted the Bible and have come up with their own explanations of dinosaurs and prehistoric man. Since they decided not to believe in God and decided not to take God's Word they had to come up with their own explanations when they dug up the bones and the skulls. They came up with "Godless" explanations. They decided to leave God out. This is the most tragic thing. We must always have God and take His Word. And just like years ago when people believed that the earth was flat, people today really think that they evolved from something else. You see how wrong theories can be. What intelligent person, whether a teacher or friend would ever tell you that today the earth is flat? NO ONE would speak such a foolish thing. Yet so many teachers and friends accept that man evolved from something. Instead of admitting that God created man they have said that men evolved. To accept this theory is to deny God and God's Word. As Christians and as children in Christian families we believe God and take His Word as the truth. It is so good to sing..."God created..."!

So what about all those science books and science films which say that men evolved or that there is a missing link? Well, we must honestly say that they are wrong. They put the clues together without God and they came up with many man-made theories that leave God out. We cannot agree with this. We cannot accept such explanations. God is the Creator. This does not mean that we stand up and argue with the teacher in school but when we read these foolish theories and hear these explanations, we know that this is man's foolishness.

When Auntie Elaine was in high school she took a lot of difficult science classes. And in one class they studied the theory of evolution. Now, at that time Auntie Elaine had not read much of the Bible and she had not heard the story of God's creation like we have this summer but she did know God. She had received the Lord and read the Bible a little bit. So in these classes she could speak for the Lord. She did not argue with others but she let everyone in the class know



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that she knew that God created man. And that all the "prehistoric men" came from a gap in time. Even as a young girl she could speak this much to her teacher and friends.

As you go through school you will hear and read and see many things that try to convince you that the universe around us just "happened" and that there is no creator at all. You will hear that the universe just "happened" and that we all came from apes. This is to take God out of the explanation of what we see around us. We are those who know God, believe His Word and know the true story of His creation. God is our great Creator.

We believe His Word and we appreciate His marvelous creation!

## Week 10 God's Brooding & Restoration

Reference: Genesis 1:1-2

Story Points:

1. God created the heavens and earth.
2. Satan rebelled.
3. God judged His creation.
4. God brooded over the face of the waters.

Embedded Points:

1. God is the Creator.
2. God judges rebellion.
3. God never gives up on His creation.

Emphasized Points:

1. God never gives up on us.
2. God loves His creation.
3. The clues all lead to God.

Visuals:

1. Picture of brooding hen
2. Samples from previous weeks (petrified wood, fossils, etc.)

Songs:

1. I Love the Bible, The Word of God
2. The Bible is the Word of God

Story Sample:

This week we come Genesis 1:2b: "And the Spirit of God was brooding upon the face of the waters". Yes, the earth was completely covered with water – deep, deep water. The entire planet was covered with darkness and water. All of the earth was under God's judgment. *(it is important to be sure they have a grasp of the content of weeks 8 & 9)* Who can tell us about last week's lesson?

Even after God judged the earth with all these great catastrophes, God would not give up on the earth. "The Spirit of God was brooding." What does brooding mean? He was like a brooding hen! What is a brooding hen? *(Show pictures of brooding hen)* It is a chicken taking care of its eggs – expecting some to hatch. This is to bring forth life. God came as the Spirit and brooded over the face of the deep, wanting something to be living once again on planet earth! So now the earth was like a nest and God was like a hen warming it all up so that life could be brought forth. Our God never gives up and will never be defeated. And that is why we are all here today.

So:

1. Gen. 1:1 is a record of God's Original creation. It was perfect!
2. Then comes the GAP & Satan's rebellion. No one knows how long – it could be thousands, millions or even billions of years. The Bible does not say.
3. Gen. 1:2a is a record of God's judgment on the earth. Who remembers why? (*"BUT" the earth became...*)
4. Gen. 1:2b-Gen. 2:3 refers not to God's original creation but to God's restoration of the damaged universe, plus His further creation, in six days. (Gen. 1:2, ftnt. 4) Who knows what restoration means? Some people buy really old houses or cars that are all beat up and they fix them up. That is to restore it. So God restored the damaged universe. He also created many new things we see in Gen. 1:3-2:3. Can anyone name any of these things? (*Any of the items from the six days of creation – light, plants, animals, etc.*)

Wow! Who can understand all of this! This is big news! The six days of creation are the result of God's brooding over the face of the deep! This is incredible! All of the millions of items in the six days were part of the recreation of God. All the millions and millions of items from day one to day six of the recreation were for man. What day was man created? He was created on the sixth day. This recreation started about 6,000 years ago. We should know that the six days of creation are six 24-hour periods, just like today. This is one revolution of the earth. Gen. 1:5 says that, "There was evening and there was morning, one day." (*Collected Works of Watchman Nee, volume 3, pg. 32*)

So now we have put together so many clues. Let's try to remember some of them. (*Dinosaur bones, fossils, petrified wood, the petrified forest and its location, humanlike skeletons and skulls, sea fossils found in North Texas – show some of the samples from the previous weeks*) We have also looked at verses in the Bible and have seen that the Bible has an explanation for all these different things that happened so long ago. Let's thank the Lord for such a wonderful book. (*Sing "I Love the Bible, the Word of God"*)

We hope that this summer we have given you a good understanding of God's original creation, the gap, Satan's rebellion, God's judgment, God's brooding, and God's restoration and His recreation.

We never want any of you to believe something that makes you think that the Bible is wrong. Remember, sometimes people just misunderstand the Bible, or sometimes their theories are mistaken. The Bible is 100% accurate – all the time – about everything. It is God's Word – it can't be wrong! Any questions?