



UNIT 1 | SESSION 3

CREATION GLORIFIES GOD

PSALM 19

CHRIST CONNECTION:

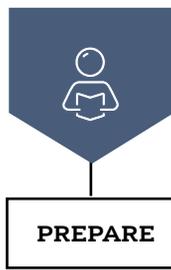
All of creation shows how great God is. Jesus is God. Jesus is the best way we can know how great God is.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Why did God create everything? God created everything for His glory.

KEY PASSAGE:

Psalm 19:1



YOUR HEART TO TEACH

LEADER Bible Study

In the first two sessions of this unit, we have seen a common thread of God's glory. God created everything, including people, to display His glory. In this session, we want to make sure that our preschoolers understand what that means. What is God's glory?

God's glory can be thought of as God's greatness. The Bible often uses the picture of a brilliant white light when it comes to God's glory. When Moses came down from Mount Sinai after spending time with God, his face shone. When Jesus was transfigured, He shined like a brilliant white light. And when Paul encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus, he saw a blinding light. Such an intense light helps us understand how pure and powerful God's glory is.

But we don't just see God's glory revealed in bright light. In this session, we will look at a Psalm that King David wrote many years after Adam and Eve. David used creation to speak of God's glory. For David, it was easy to see God's glory—at least its fingerprints—all around him.

If you have ever looked up into the heavens on a clear, dark night, maybe you have sensed it too as you consider all the stars that cannot be counted and think that each is a giant sun, like ours—only our sun is relatively modest in comparison—and that

they stretch over billions and billions and trillions and trillions of miles. And that is just what we can see!

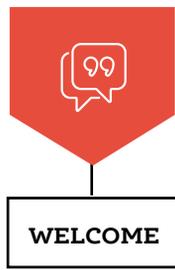
- Or maybe you have caught a glimpse of God's glory as you looked over a stunning mountain range or walked on a beach. Creation is full of beauty, wonder, and power—all of which hints at the greater beauty, wonder, and power of the Creator who made it all. God is glorious indeed.

But one of the greatest ways we can know of God's glory is that the Creator who made everything not only made us too, but wants to have a friendship with us. That is why He gave us the Bible—so that we might come to know Him, love Him, and live for Him.

As you teach, seek to leave your preschoolers in awe of how big and how good and how loving God is.

TERMS TO KNOW

Glory: God's glory is His greatness and is often described in the Bible as a brilliant white light. That picture is used to show how pure and powerful God's glory really is.



WELCOME Preschoolers

Set out supplies to engage preschoolers as they arrive. Play music as you welcome preschoolers. Greet children by name at eye-level. Follow your church's security procedures.

1 ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead preschoolers to complete "See His Glory!" on the activity page.

SAY “ You found the letters that spell the word *glory*. *Glory* is an easy word to say, but explaining what *glory* means is not that easy. We've been learning from our big picture question that God created everything for His *glory*. Our key passage also talks about God's *glory*. We will learn more about God's *glory* in today's Bible story. ”

2 SESSION STARTER

Use one or both of the following options to engage curiosity about today's Bible story.

TELL FAVORITE SONGS



Invite preschoolers to take turns telling the group their favorite song about God. Encourage children to sing part of the song they named or lead the group in singing.

SAY “ We sang songs about God. Today's Bible story is a song about God. A king named David loved God, so he wrote a song to celebrate how great God is. ”

MAKE GLOWING STAR PICTURES

Guide children to lay a sheet of black or dark blue construction paper on a thick towel. Demonstrate how to use a dull pencil to poke holes in the paper. Hold up the punched paper in front of a flashlight to reveal a starry sky. Invite preschoolers to make their own starry sky pictures. Write the key passage with a white crayon on each child's artwork.

SAY “ Your pictures remind me of a clear night sky! In today's Bible story, a king named David wrote a song about God. He said what we see in the night sky tells us about God. Listen to the story to find out what the sky shows us about God. ”

3 TRANSITION TO LEARN

Gain preschoolers attention by showing the countdown video, turning the lights off and on, or clapping a simple rhythm for children to copy. Invite preschoolers to pretend to be either the sun, moon, or a star as they transition to Learn. Children may hold their hands in a circle above them or in front of them to be the sun or moon and outstretch their arms to be stars.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

LEARN the Bible Story

1 INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Invite preschoolers to tell you things that they can see in the sky.

SAY “ Today’s Bible story is a song that a king wrote about God. He said that every day and every night what we see in the heavens tells us about God. ”

2

LEARN ABOUT THE BIBLE

SAY “ Another name for the Bible is God’s Word. We say the Bible is God’s Word because it is God’s words to us. The last two weeks, we heard from the Book of Genesis how **God created everything for His glory**, including us. That’s a big, important idea that we want to understand, so to help us do that, we will look at what a king wrote about God’s glory in a song from the Book of Psalms. Genesis and Psalms are both in the Old Testament part of the Bible. ”

TELL THE BIBLE STORY

Tell the following Bible story using the provided storytelling tips or show the video. Use the bold version of the Bible story for younger preschoolers.

3

CREATION GLORIFIES GOD

King David loved God. He wrote a psalm, or song, to celebrate how great God is. This is what he wrote:

“The heavens show us the glory of God—how great He is. When we look up into the sky we can see what God made. Every day and every night what we see in the heavens tells us about God. The heavens don’t use words, but they show us. And everyone in the world can see.

“We can see God’s glory in the sun coming up every morning and then going down at the end of the day. Everyone and everything can feel the sun’s warmth.”

David also wrote,

“God’s words to us are perfect. They give us new life. We can trust them. God’s words to us are right. God’s words to us make our hearts glad. God’s words to us are worth more than the purest gold! God’s words to us are sweeter than the sweetest honey. God’s words help us. They warn us of what not to do and when we obey them, we are rewarded.

“Who can remember all of the times he disobeyed God? Sometimes we disobey God without meaning to or knowing we did. But God can forgive us of everything. And God can help us not to disobey Him. We should want everything we say and think to make God happy.”



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

4 CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY “ All of creation shows how great God is. Jesus is God. Jesus is the best way we can know how great God is. ”

5 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

SAY “ God is so great! We don’t have to look hard to see that is true. God’s glory is all around us—in everything He made! We see God in His creation and in His words to us in the Bible. Most of all we see God’s glory in Jesus, God the Son. ”

6 PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE

Before the session, cut out several stars from yellow construction paper and write part of the key passage on each one. Tape the key passage stars around your room.

Place the key passage marker at Psalm 19:1. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Read the key passage aloud. Guide preschoolers to repeat the key passage using the motions you created in the first session. Dim the lights and lead preschoolers to take turns shining a flashlight on the ceiling at each part of the key passage as you lead the group in saying the words.

SAY “ Our key passage comes from what King David wrote in his song about God. Creation tells us about God, but it doesn’t use words. What God made shows us what God is like, and everyone in the world can see. ”

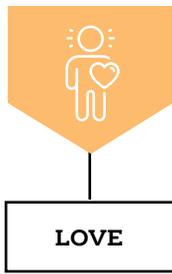
Sing the key passage song, “Psalm 19:1.” You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

7 LEARN THE BIG PICTURE QUESTION AND ANSWER

SAY “ This is the last week for our big picture question. Do you remember the answer? **Why did God create everything? God created everything for His glory.** God’s glory is His greatness. All of creation shows God’s glory. Jesus is God. Jesus is the One who shows God’s glory more than anyone or anything. ”

STORYTELLING TIPS

Sing the story: Before the session, practice singing the parts of the story that describe what David wrote in Psalm 19. You may also consider inviting someone who sings to visit your group and sing the story.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God because of what we learned

1 PRAY

Invite preschoolers to close their eyes and think about God as they talk with Him.

SAY “ God, thank You for Your creation that shows Your glory all around us. Help us think about You as we look at the things You made and hear Your truth in the Bible. Most of all, thank You for Jesus, Your Son, who is the best way we can know how great You are. Help us turn away from our sin and follow Him. Amen. ”

2 TALK

Show the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

SAY “ What was your favorite part of today’s Bible story? ”

SAY “ What did you learn about God in today’s Bible story? ”

SAY “ Name something God created that reminds you of how great He is. ”

SAY “ **Why did God create everything? God created everything for His glory.** ”

3 LOOK AT BOOKS ABOUT THINGS GOD MADE

Gather an assortment of books that feature pictures of things God made, such as nature, animals, and humans. Set out books for preschoolers to browse. Invite preschoolers to say sentence prayers to praise God for His creation as they notice a picture. Be prepared to offer suggestions, such as “God, I see Your glory in this mountain You made.” “God, this otter shows me how You care about everything You made.” “God, this person You made reminds me that You sent Your Son to save people from sin.”

SAY “ Everything God made tells us about Him. All of creation shows how great God is. We can praise God for His creation. Most of all we can praise God for Jesus. Jesus is God. Jesus is the best way we can know how great God is. ”