



## Preschool Curriculum (4K / 5K)

August 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### God is Eternal

### Lesson 1

**Divine Attribute:** God is Eternal

**Heart Response:** Be Amazed

**Memory Verse:** "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." Hebrews 13:8

**Points of Emphasis:**

- 1) God is eternal. He has always existed and He always will.
- 2) God is always with us and He cares for us.

#### **Center Time:**

**Saturday 5:40-6:00PM**

**Sunday 8:40-9:00AM**

**Sunday 10:40-11:00AM**

To help you and the children in your room transition into class with as much order as possible, we would like you to use a center format at the beginning of each service. Please set up three centers in your classroom to allow children options of activities from which to choose. Ideas could include, but are not limited to:

1. Read books on the floor.
2. Color at a table.
3. Play with blocks on the floor.
4. Play with puzzles at the table.

This time should allow at least one teacher to greet the children while another teacher (or 2) plays with the children. It should also allow the children time for structured free play before beginning the more intentional opening activities below.

#### **Opening Activity:**

**Saturday 6:00-6:10PM**

**Sunday 9:00-9:10AM**

**Sunday 11:00-11:10AM**

*The following activity is provided to help you keep order in your classroom and allow the children to play in ways that will engage them in the lesson content from the moment they arrive in the class. As the teacher of your class, you have a small but important window of time to come alongside the parents of these children in teaching them about God.*

#### **Decorate Memory Verse Cards:**

- Supplies:
  - 1 memory verse poster (per classroom)
  - 1 memory verse card (per child)
  - Assorted stickers
  - Magnetic sleeves

Have children sit at a table and decorate their memory verse cards. If you have a new child, give him or her a magnetic sleeve to place the card in at home.

### **Animal Creations:**

- Supplies:
  - White paper
  - Crayons

Using crayons and white paper, have children color pictures of animals and plants and people they love. Tell them that today they will be learning about God making all of these things.

As the children are working, ask them who made each picture. Emphasize the fact that they came in and made the “creations” and that the pictures were not here before the children came. When you transition to Bible time, take a sample of the pictures that the children created. This will be your illustration for Bible time.

### **Big Group Time:**

**Sunday 9:10-9:40AM**

**Sunday 11:10-11:40AM**

*Please talk to your class about the purpose of this time...to have fun worshipping God together. Help give your class practical ideas of what this means (obey the leaders up on the stage, sing and praise God with a happy heart, keep your hands to yourself, etc.). Teachers, you are crucial in helping create a peaceful, orderly environment to worship God during this time. Thank you for your help!*

**\*\*NOTE: On Saturday nights, Big Group time is at the end of class.\*\***

### **Bible Story:**

**Saturday 6:10-6:25PM**

**Sunday 9:40-9:55AM**

**Sunday 11:40-11:55AM**

**\*\*Note to teachers:** *It is important to be especially animated when telling Bible stories to children this age.*

### Supplies:

- Memory verse poster
- Picture that child made during the opening activity
- Picture of Earth
- Creation pictures

Say, **“Before we begin our story today, let’s say our memory verse together... Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. Hebrews 13:8.”** Say the verse together 1-2 times before beginning the story. Utilize the poster in your room to read the verse or read it directly from your Bible.

**Did you like making the pictures today? When you came today, were these already made?** *(Hold up child’s picture – then shake your head “no”)* **You “created” these pictures.**

**Today we are going to hear about God creating something very special. Let’s sit quietly and listen to this story in the Bible...**

*(Pick up the picture of the Earth.)* **This is the Earth. It is where we all live. Did you know that it has not always been here? Did you know that people have not always been here either? But Someone has been here even before the Earth - even before people. Who do you think that is? (Allow time for answers) Yes! It is God!**

**God is eternal. And eternal means that there is no beginning and no end to something. God is eternal. Can everyone say “eternal?”** *(Let children repeat)*

**God has always lived. No one had to make Him. He has always been here. He is eternal.**

**In the first part of the Bible, we learn about God making the world and everything in it. The very first verse says, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”**

**Did you know that God made everything out of nothing? Can we do that? Can you say “here is an animal” and it just happens? No! But God can and He did speak to create the world. He is amazing!**

**Let me tell you about the days God created everything.** *(Use corresponding creation pictures with each creation day.)*

**Everybody put up one finger.** *(Hold up finger to demonstrate for children)* **On the first day, God made light. When it’s light out, what is it called? That’s right – day! And what is the darkness called? Night!** *(Show the day/night picture)*

**On the second day** *(hold up 2 fingers), God made the sky.* *(Show sky picture)*

**On the third day** *(hold up 3 fingers), God made land and sea and plants.* *(Show land/sea/plants picture)* **Do you like big trees to climb or flowers to pick?**

**On the fourth day** *(hold up 4 fingers), God made the sun, the moon and the stars.* *(Show sun/moon/stars picture)* **When do you see the sun? When do you see the moon and stars?**

**On the fifth day** *(hold up 5 fingers), God made all kinds of fish and birds.* *(Show fish/birds picture)*

**On the sixth day** *(hold up 6 fingers), God made animals. Do you have a favorite animal? I love \_\_\_\_\_!* *(Let the children share about their favorite animals if time permits)* **God also made His most special creation. He made people!** *(Show animals/people picture)* **We are all here today because God made us!**

**And finally, on the seventh day** *(hold up 7 fingers), God rested. God had made the whole world. God made that day holy because He rested from His work.*

**Remember the pictures that we made at the beginning of class? You made them right? The paper did not look like this before you came. You created these things.**

**God is the one who created everything in the world. You are here because God made you!** *(Point to all of the children in the circle)* **And so is everything else God made. And do you know what? God is still here! He still cares about His creation, and mostly about people! He is still “the same yesterday, today and forever.” That means that He cared long ago when He made everything. He cares about you right now in this class. And He will still care for you leave church today, and next week, and your whole life!**

**We can talk to Him because He is near. Let’s pray together and thank Him for loving us and creating this amazing world!**

**Dear God, we are so glad You are eternal. Thank You for making the whole world! Thank You for such beautiful things to enjoy and for being near us. We are amazed at how big You must be to do all of this and we are also amazed at how much You love each one of us. Help us to love You more every day. Amen.**

**Activity Time:**

**Saturday 6:25-6:35PM**

**Sunday 9:55-10:05AM**

**Sunday 11:55-12:05PM**

*Reminder: This time is a wonderful opportunity to ask the children review questions...even if you have already done this once before. You could also use the time to model spontaneous prayer or to repeat the memory verse with your class. The opportunities abound when working with such young children...seize them!*

**Craft: “God is Eternal” Train**

- Supplies:
  - 1 Train engine cut out with “God is Eternal” (as well as memory verse) written on it
  - 3 Train cars with “Long Ago”, “Now” and “Forever” written on them
  - Tape

Allow the children to color the pieces of their trains beginning with the engine. Next have the children color the “Long Ago” train car and talk about God creating everything (how God came before the sun, the Earth, the puppies, etc.).

Connect the engine and “Long Ago” car with tape as you have the children color the “Now” train car. Talk to the children about how God is with us now.

Last, have the children color the “Forever” train car and talk to the children about how God is with us when we leave church today, when we wake up tomorrow and the next day too. Remind the children that God is eternal as you help them connect the entire train together.

**Snack & Review Time:**

**Saturday 6:35-6:45PM**

**Sunday 10:05-10:15AM**

**Sunday 12:05-12:15PM**

*Please wash the children’s hands before snack time and say a prayer thanking God for the food. As they are eating their snack, please take time to go over the review questions.*

Teacher tips: The review can be addressed throughout the remainder of class time formally in another seated session or informally during craft or free play time. Use your discretion based on class dynamics, but **please address the review questions in some way.**

1. **Who made you?** (God!)
2. **Can you create the Earth? The moon?** (No!)
3. **Who made everything?** (God!)
4. **What came first, God or the things in creation?** (God!)
5. **Is God with us now?** (Yes! God is eternal.)
6. **Will God be with us tomorrow?** (Yes! God is eternal.)

**Big Group Time:**

**Saturday 6:45-7:10PM**

Please talk to your class about the purpose of this time...**to have fun worshipping God together.** Help give your class practical ideas of what this means (obey the leaders up on the stage, sing and praise God with a happy heart, keep your hands to yourself, etc.). You are crucial in helping create a peaceful, orderly environment to worship God during this time. Thank you for your help!

**\*\*NOTE: On Sunday mornings, 4K/5K Small Groups go to Big Group at the beginning of class.\*\***

**Additional Activities**

If time permits, you may do the activity below or choose one of the activities listed at the beginning of the lesson to wrap up your time with your class.

**Game: “Creation Chairs”**

Set up chairs in a circle with one less chair than child. Have children walk around in a circle singing the following song. When the song is over, everyone must find a chair to sit in. Whoever cannot find a chair must call out something that God made. Continue game until everyone has had a chance to say something that God made.

*(Tune of London Bridge)*

**Can you tell me what God made?  
What God made? What God made?  
Can you tell me what God made?  
God made all things good!**

**Activity: “Creation Coloring Sheets”**

- Supplies:
  - Coloring Sheets
  - Markers, crayons

Give each child 1-2 coloring sheets found for them to color. As they are working, ask questions about what they are coloring (what kind of animal, where does it live, what does it eat, etc.) Then explain that God made all the animals and God also made us too!

**Parent Pick Up**

When parents arrive, one leader should greet them at the door, instead of letting the parents come in. Let them know if there were any issues or praises with their child. Make sure the child gets all of their take home materials.

**Reminder for Sunday services on Pelham Rd:** Children who stay for two services will go to (or come from) Quest (Base Camp). This may be noted on the child's check-in slip, but there may be exceptions. First service Small Group Leaders who teach these children should escort their children to Quest no earlier than 10:35. Second service teachers should be in the classroom ready to receive their children by **10:35**.

***Comments on the Lesson? What worked and didn't work? Please write your comments on the pad provided in the room. And hand the sheet to your coach or staff person.***