



LESSON 1 FOR LEADERS

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Because God Knows Me, I Am Known

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 2; Psalm 8

WORD OF WONDER: Exodus 15:11c

Read Psalm 8. I remember lying flat on my back in a field in Wisconsin. I had never seen stars like that before. I was on a camping trip with some college friends, far away from the electric light that sometimes obscures the night sky. We had played football earlier in the evening, but when darkness fell, we took time to be still and look up. The sky was so big, and I felt so small. Small, but not insignificant. What amazed me then and amazes me still is that the God who made all those wonders also took time to make me. He even knows my name.

I think everyone longs to be known. When I'm in a crowd, I feel such relief when I see a familiar face. A smile. A wave. One of those looks that says, "Come, sit over here." There's great comfort in being known—in realizing you matter to someone. Now read Genesis 2:7, 15, and 22.

Do you know that you matter to God? Not just in your past or on your best days, but right now as you prepare for this lesson. Maybe you feel insignificant at times, but the truth is God made you on purpose and is pleased to include you in His plans to bring about His kingdom on earth. God knows you, which means you are always known, always seen, and never just another face in the crowd.

—**Michael Rade**

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LESSON 1 FOR LEADERS GOD CREATES HUMANS

DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

God is the Creator and Lord of all things. The first people were Adam and Eve, who were appointed by God to tend His creation but eventually sinned against Him. Psalm 8 is attributed to David, the shepherd who God appointed as king over Israel.

WHAT?

God gave humans the authority to rule over and care for His creation. Psalm 8 marvels at this God-given task, along with the reality that the majestic God of heaven thinks about and cares for humans. We are known by God.

WHERE?

In Genesis 2, God places Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. The location of Eden remains a mystery, but the context suggests somewhere in Mesopotamia, where the Tigris and Euphrates rivers flow. Psalm 8 was likely written in Jerusalem.

WHEN?

According to Genesis 1, humanity was created on the sixth day of creation. King David ruled many years later, after God had formed a people from Abraham's family and later established them as the nation of Israel. David was the second king of Israel.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

God created people to know Him and care for His creation. Though humanity sinned and creation went awry, Jesus makes all things new again. He invites us to know Him and participate as children of God in His new creation work.



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

LESSON 1 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Curiosity Activity: Getting to Know You

We're going to get to know one another a bit better through some fun questions. When I say, "Go," you should find a partner to stand next to. Once you've all found someone, ask each other the questions I give you so you can all get to know some things about a new friend. Ask the following questions and give the kids time to respond:

- When is your birthday?
- What is your favorite color?
- What kind of ice cream is your favorite?
- What school do you go to?
- How many brothers and sisters do you have?
- What did you have for breakfast today?
- What do you like to do?

Play until they've answered all the questions.

Leader Tip: Invite kids to come up with their own questions to ask a partner!

Great job, everyone! This helped us get to know our friends a little bit better. In God's big story today, we're learning about how God created people and how He knows each of us. God knows everything about you, and He loves you so much. We'll learn today that because God knows us, we are known!



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Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **God, You know us and love us. Help us learn from Your Word today. And we pray that Your Holy Spirit helps us live for You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

God's Big Story

Pull out the Bible

Ask: What is this called? **The Bible**

Ask: Why is the Bible special? ***Because it is God's word. Everything in it is true. It really happened.***

Tell the Bible story

The Beginner's Bible, pages 13-17

Adam and Eve

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did God make the man from? *(the dust of the earth)*
2. What were the names of the first two people? *(Adam and Eve)*
3. What do you think it would have been like to see God create everything?
4. What are some of the most amazing things about God
5. How can you know that God cares about you?
6. What does it mean to you that God knows you?

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

Your glory fills me with wonder. You do amazing things.

—Exodus 15:11c



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LESSON 1 EARLY CHILDHOOD

Craft: Moon and Stars

SUPPLIES: black construction paper (1 sheet per kid), glue, star stickers, foil circle (1 per kid)



God created everything—He put the moon and the stars in the sky! Have you ever been outside at night and looked at all the stars? Invite the kids to answer. God created amazing things! He made all the stars in the sky, and He made the moon. Let's make a craft to remind us of what God has created.

Give every child a foil circle. Invite the kids to make the moon by slightly crumpling the foil and then straightening it out again to its circular shape. Allow the kids to glue their moon to a piece of black construction paper. Then invite the kids to make some stars in the night sky by using stickers or white crayons.

Take your pictures home to remind you that God created the moon and stars and that He also made you! He knows you and loves you.