

Bible background

Genesis 1; Genesis 2:19-24; Genesis 4:1-16

Aim of lesson

- (a) To show that God made everything, thus providing for all man's needs before creating man.
- (b) To explain Cain's wrongs and how we can learn from him.

Preparation required

Pictures of the world and of creation could be useful. You may also need plasticine to make Adam (and Eve) and colouring materials.

Suggested outline of lesson

1. Explain reasonably briefly about creation and what a perfect world God created for man to inhabit.
2. If you want to make Adam and Eve out of plasticine then do so, explaining that they were the first parents and God wanted them to have children.
3. Explain the sort of jobs they all needed to do in order to provide for themselves and how they would help each other as we should. Go into details of Cain and Abel's jobs using the activity sheet and letting the children follow the various pathways with a pencil from the jobs until they arrive at Cain and Abel.
4. Explain why God was not pleased with Cain, but that Cain reacted in the wrong way by not trying again. This can be a lesson to us all; we should say sorry and do better next time. Continue with Cain's plan to kill Abel and his lies to God, emphasising how wrong he was to lie about what he had done. God knows everything and we cannot deceive him, he is always ready to forgive us.
5. Tell the children how Cain was sent away, leaving Adam and Eve very unhappy; Abel was dead and Cain banished. They went on to have more children and become grandparents and great-grandparents, etc.

Alternative activities

1. Draw /stick pictures of parts of the world the children like e.g. holiday places, home, park etc. to link in with the prayer in the lesson notes.
2. Sort pictures, drawn or cut from magazines, into 2 groups; Abel's offering / Cain's offering. Use labels showing either a tick and a cross or a happy face and a sad face to show which offering God wanted.
3. Make a collage picture of fruit/vegetables, cereals etc and sheep/lambs. Use as many different textured materials, papers, fabrics as possible.
4. Create very simple family trees for the children by getting them to draw pictures of grandparents, parents, siblings on small pieces of paper and then sticking them on to a pre-cut cardboard tree shape. You could add a label to the trunk; 'Thank you God for my family'.
5. Give each child a large sheet of paper and ask them to draw their family or ask them to make their family out of Plasticine.

Relevance to the children's lives

God created our great, great, great..... grandparents and so we were made. We must learn to say sorry when we do wrong and try again.

Prayer

Ask the children to say thank you to God for a part of the world they like.

Verse

'From one man he made every nation of men.' Acts 17:26.

Song

We love God

Musical notation for the song 'We love God' in C major, 4/4 time. The notation is divided into three staves. The first staff is labeled 'Chorus' and contains the melody for the first line of the chorus. The second staff is labeled 'Verse' and contains the melody for the first line of the verse. The third staff contains the melody for the second line of the verse. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: C, F, C, G7, C, G7 for the chorus; C, F, C, F, C, G7, C for the first line of the verse; and F, C, F, C, G7, C for the second line of the verse.

Chorus: We love God, we all love God,
And God loves us;
Yes, God loves us.

Verse: He made this beautiful world;
He made the animals too.
But the best thing of all
He made me and you.