

## Unit 1: Masterpiece

### Faith Focus: God is creative.

*We are God's accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do good things. (Ephesians 2:10)*

## SESSION 4

### GROW IN FAITH

#### God Creates Helpers—Genesis 2:5-23

This week's Bible story comes from the second account of God creating humans, where you might notice more detail and explanation of God's creative process. God uses breath to give life to the first human. But God doesn't stop there. Out of the rich soil comes sustenance for the earth as plants grow and the waters flow. Then God asks the human to care for the land. This is a big job, so God provides the first human a helper. Together, they will be the first caretakers of God's earth. Children might notice this story is different from the first Genesis account or ask why there are two stories. Scholars say this is because there are many retellings of the Creation and the beginning of the world. It's a lot to make sense of. However, it's helpful for us to hear the many ways God's creativity led to us. Most important, God recognized our need for relationship and helpers. Together, we get to care for one another and the world.

- Explore how children might be creative with others.
- Help children understand there are two tellings of God's Creation.
- Help children notice creativity around them.

### SESSION OUTLINE

#### COME TOGETHER

Prepare to Learn  
Faith Focus—God Is Creative  
Care and Help  
(Matching)

#### FAITH CONNECTIONS

Read the Story  
Big Faith Video  
Faith Response

#### FUN WITH FAITH

Encourage Helpers  
(Art)  
How to Be a Helper  
(Collaboration)  
Help Your Church  
(Service Project)

#### SHARE YOUR FAITH

Big Faith Idea—Faith in God

### SUPPLIES

crayons  
colored pencils  
markers  
scissors  
bandages  
construction paper  
posterboard  
any materials needed for  
"Help Your Church" activity  
(p.33)  
TV and DVD player or  
streaming device

# COME TOGETHER

## Prepare to Learn

**Supplies:** All-Ages Class Pack, Activity Sheets, Activity Stickers

**Prepare Ahead:** Set up your area with supplies and activity pages needed for today's session. Display the Unit 1 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 10 & 15), Unit 1 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 2 & 23), and Unit 1 Faith Response Poster (Class Pack—pp. 11 & 14) to use later in the session.

- As children arrive, invite them to join you in a circle.
- Give each child a copy of the "Fall Sticker Page" (Activity Sheets—p. 29) and their own set of Activity Stickers. Have children place the hands sticker on the Session 4 space.

**SAY:** We are learning about God's creativity. God created the world and everything in it. After God created everything that exists, God knew God needed helpers to care for God's creation.

**ASK:** How do people care for the creation? for plants and animals?

## Faith Focus—God Is Creative

**Supplies:** All-Ages Class Pack, crayons

**Prepare Ahead:** Display the Unit 1 Faith Focus Poster (Class Pack—pp. 2 & 23). Photocopy "Helpers All Around" (Leader Guide—p. 34) for each child.

- Show children the Unit 1 Faith Focus Poster.

**SAY:** Our faith focus for today is "God is creative." You are also creative when you find ways to help care for creation and help people in need.

- Give children a copy of "Helpers All Around." Direct them to color in all the images of people helping.

**ASK:** Are you ever a helper like the people in the picture?

## Care and Help

**Supplies:** Activity Sheets, scissors

**Prepare Ahead:** Tear out the "Care and Help Matching Cards" (Session 4 Activity Sheet) for each child.

**ASK:** When you see someone who needs help, do you always know what they need? How do you know when to help someone?

- Let the children cut out the matching game cards along the heavy red lines and then play the game by matching the helper to the need.

**ASK:** What was it like to match the helper to the need? What made it easy or hard?

# FAITH CONNECTIONS

## Read the Story

*Supplies: CEB Bible storybook*

- Invite the children to join you in a circle.
- Read the story from Genesis 2:5-23 in your favorite CEB Bible storybook.

**ASK:** What kinds of helpers did God need to care for creation? What were the jobs the helpers had to do? Why do you think God created a helper for the first human?

**SAY:** All parts of creation are important, from the tiniest insects to the largest animals to human beings. We are all a part of God's beautiful creation, and we can help each other take care of it!

## Big Faith Video

*Supplies: Big Faith DVD, TV, DVD player or streaming device*

- Watch the Session 4 video on the Big Faith DVD or via your Amplify Media subscription.
- Share the questions on the screen with the children. You may also choose to add your own questions. Give children time to share their responses and ideas.

**SAY:** God gives us caring hearts and thoughtful minds so that we can be creative in how we help people. We can work together with others to help find a solution to big problems in our world.

## Faith Response

*Supplies: All-Ages Class Pack, unwrapped plastic bandages*

**Prepare Ahead:** Display the Unit 1 Faith Response Poster (Class Pack—pp. 11 & 14) and Unit 1 Bible Verse Poster (Class Pack—pp. 10 & 15) if you haven't already.

- Invite children to wonder about the images on the posters.
- Encourage children to say the Bible verse with you.

**SAY:** There are so many different ways to live in this world, and so many different ways to be helpers.

- Lay the Faith Response Poster on the floor or a table and invite the children to gather around it. Give each child an unwrapped bandage.

**SAY:** Sometimes things happen in the world and people need caring helpers to be there and help solve problems. We can be caring helpers by sharing God's love and meeting each other's needs.

**ASK:** Who are some caring helpers you know?

- Instruct children to say, “I am a helper” as they place their bandages on the next section of the poster.

## FUN WITH FAITH

### Encourage Helpers

*Supplies: construction paper, markers, colored pencils, crayons, other art supplies as needed*

**SAY:** We all know people in our lives who are helpers. Maybe our grown-ups at home help us reach things up high or comfort us when we are scared. Our friends can help us play and have fun. Grown-ups like firefighters help us if there is an emergency.

**ASK:** Who are some helpers in your life? in your school? at church? in your community? Why do you think they are good at helping?

- Give the children time and space to create a card for a helper they want to encourage. If desired, help them write an encouraging message on the card.
- You may wish to create cards for helpers at church. If so, plan to get the cards to the helpers after the class session.

**ASK:** How does it feel to encourage the helpers and let them know they are important?

### How to Be a Helper

*Supplies: posterboard, markers, crayons*

*Prepare Ahead: Write “How to Be a Helper” at the top of a piece of posterboard.*

**SAY:** God is so creative! Not only did God create you and me, but God made it possible for each of us to be helpers who care for God’s world. There are many ways to help. Let’s see if we can make a list.

- Discuss different helping scenarios with the children. Use prompts like how to help find a lost pet, how to comfort a friend who is sad, how to help clean your room, how to care for a garden, or other easy and relatable situations.
- Record children’s answers and/or invite children to illustrate their responses on the posterboard.

**ASK:** How will you be a helper when you leave here today?

## Help Your Church

**Prepare Ahead:** Gather any supplies needed for whatever projects you choose to do as a part of this activity. Identify projects that your church helps with in your community such as winter clothing drives, a local food pantry, or a community fall festival. Brainstorm ways to involve children in these activities.

**SAY:** We know that God created each of us with caring hearts and creative minds so that we can be helpers who care for ourselves, others, and God’s world. Our church is a group of people who get together to praise God and also to be helpers together.

- Tell the children about a project that they can do to be helpers with the church.
- If appropriate, make time during this and future sessions to work on your project.

**ASK:** How does it feel to be part of a large group of helpers? Does it feel the same as or different from helping on your own?

## SHARE YOUR FAITH

### Big Faith Idea—Faith in God

**Supplies:** All-Ages Class Pack

**Prepare Ahead:** Display the Fall Big Faith Idea Poster (Class Pack—pp. 4 & 21).

Make copies of the Unit 1 Family Faith Letter (Leader Guide—pp. 91–92) if needed.

**SAY:** God created all things, created people, and created each of us. We all can be helpers who care for God’s creation. Each of us has something to give, whether it is a caring smile, a hand to hold, or time collecting items to donate to people in need.

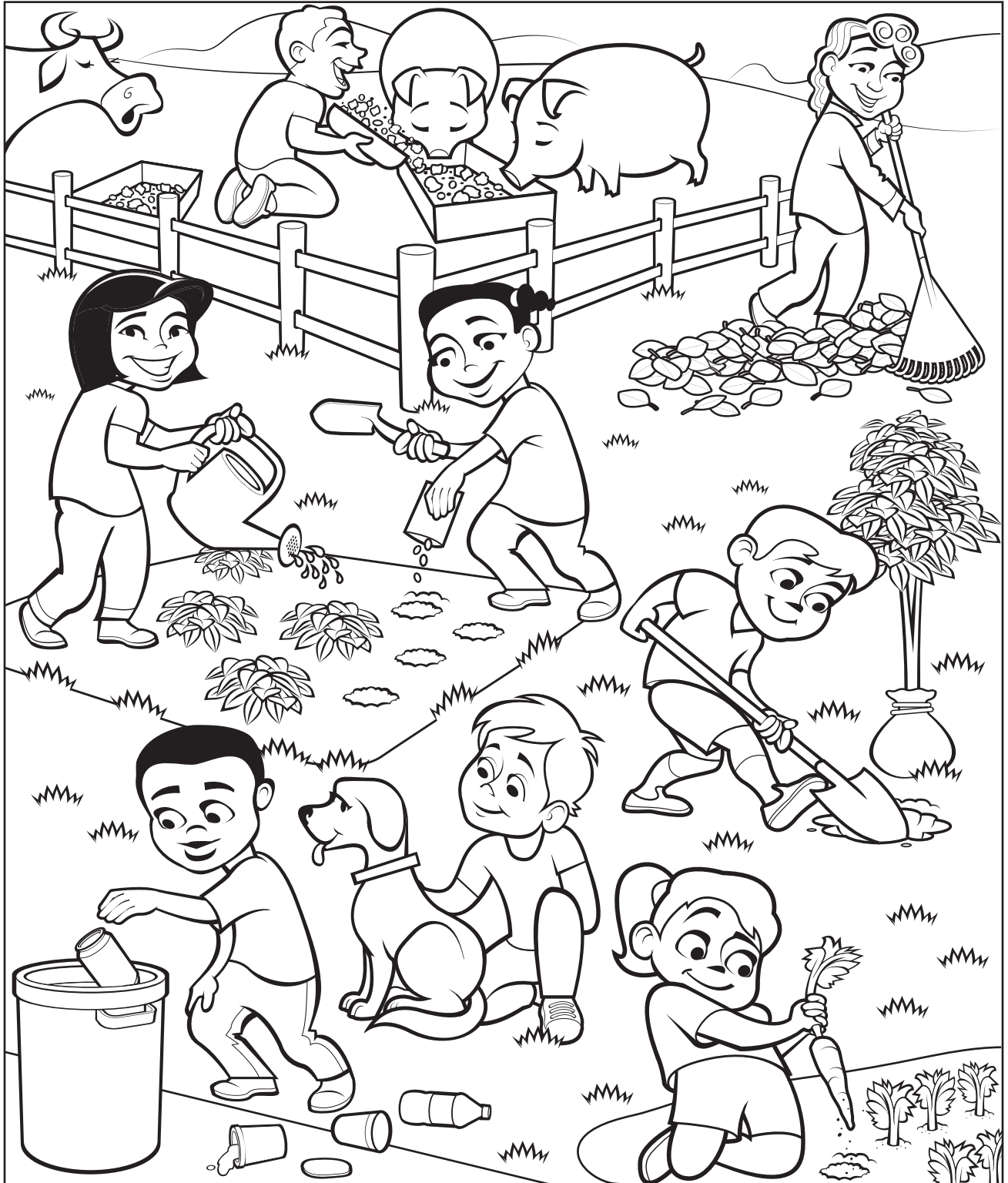
- Invite the children to gather in a circle and hold hands if they are comfortable. Invite them to pray with you.

**PRAY:** Repeat after me: “Holy God, thank you for creating helpers who are there for us when we need them. Show us how we can help each other and help care for our beautiful world. Amen.”

- Send the Unit 1 Family Faith Letter and activity home with each child who hasn’t received them.
- Send home any activities or items made during today’s session.

## REPRODUCIBLE SESSION 4 Helpers All Around

Color the parts of the picture that show helpers.



Art: Mark Collins/Illustration Online LLC

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