



Parent Resource Pack

September 13, 2021

Dear Parents,

We are so excited to start another year of New Hope Kids and partner with you in your child's spiritual formation.

In the Bible, God instructs parents to be the main spiritual teachers in the lives of their children. In the same way, He instructs the Church to assist parents in this most important task.

At New Hope, our goal is to **Encourage** and **Equip** you for this task by providing resources to help you lead your family into a deeper faith. This resource pack is designed to help you grow in your own understanding of God's Word while you teach your children about God's Word. We hope that you'll embrace your role and use these resources each week.

On Sundays mornings we'll **Engage** with you by reinforcing the same important truths you've been teaching your kids at home. Our hope is that you'll become the expert, and we'll be another trusted voice backing you up.

Each week we will provide you with the following:

- A Parents Study Guide to help you understand the broader biblical context of our weekly Bible passage.
- The Bible passage/story to read as a family.
- The main teaching points that we'll be covering on Sunday, and our Big Question.
- An important Bible verse for your whole family to memorize together.
- Some creative and fun ideas for discovering God's Word as a family.
- Some specific ways for you to be praying for your child.

Thanks again for allowing us to partner with you this year. We are praying for you and your family!

Sincerely,

Pastor Matt and the New Hope Kids Team

Encourage, Equip, Engage

This week we'll be learning about CREATION, from Genesis 1:1-25

Parent Bible Study



Every week we'll provide a basic Bible Study to help you understand the section of the Bible that we'll be teaching to your child on the upcoming Sunday.

Read: Genesis 1:1-25

The Bible begins where we would expect it to: with the beginning of all of creation. But the beginning that Genesis 1:1 speaks of is not the beginning of everything. It was not the beginning of God. God is eternal—He has no beginning and no end. He has always existed.

Instead, the beginning that we read about in Genesis 1:1 is actually the beginning of **our story** - the beginning of humanity.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that Moses is traditionally considered to be the author of Genesis?

THINK ABOUT IT . . .

Genesis chapter one doesn't go into great detail about how God created the universe, but what we do discover about creation is amazing. Beginning in verse three we read that God spoke most of the universe into being.

He spoke, and everything came into being... amazing!

Sometimes the biblical creation account is criticized for being overly simplistic in its lack of detail. It is important to understand, however, that Moses didn't write the creation account to tell us **how** God created everything, rather, he wrote it to tell us that **God** is the one **who** created everything.

The Big Idea

This Sunday we'll talk about God creating the world from Genesis 1:1-25.

You might notice that the Bible story stops a little earlier than you might be used to—before God created Adam and Eve. That happened on Day 6, along with the animals of the earth, but it is not included here because that will be covered next week in much more detail.

Instead, during this week, be sure to emphasize three things:

First, that God created everything from nothing. God did not create like we do—by taking some raw materials like clay and making a beautiful sculpture. Instead, God made everything that exists—everything we see and even that we don't see—simply by speaking it into existence from nothing.

That's important because it teaches us that everything belongs to God because He made it all and also how powerful He is to be able to create the universe by speaking it into being.

Second, that God created everything with order. Not only do we see that God created the different kinds of plants and trees as well as animals according to their different kinds, but we also see an orderly pattern in the days of creation. God created by separating things on days 1-3 (light from darkness; sky from water; and then land from oceans) and then He filled what He had created on days 4-6 (the stars, sun, and moon in the heavens; birds and fish in the sky and waters; animals on the land).

Third, that God created everything for a reason—to bring Himself glory. We will talk a lot more about this during the next few weeks, and all of our study through Scripture. But for now help your child see that everything exists to show how good God is—to show His glory for all to see.

Memory Verse:

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Psalm 19:1

Big Question:

Why did God create everything?

God created everything for His glory and our good.



Read The Story Together

In the beginning, nothing existed except for God. God created the heavens and the earth. The earth had no shape, and darkness covered the earth. The Spirit of God was there, hovering over the waters.

God spoke: "Let there be light!"

What God said happened. God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and He called the darkness "night." Evening came, and then morning came. That was the first day.

God spoke again: "Let there be a space between the waters to separate them."

What God said happened. He made a space between the water that was on the earth and the water above the earth. God called the space "sky." Evening came, and then morning came. That was the second day.

God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear."

What God said happened. God called the dry land "earth," and He called the gathered water "seas." God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let the earth make plants and trees with fruits and seeds."

What God said happened. Plants and trees grew according to their kinds, and God saw that it was good. Evening came, and then morning came. That was the third day.

Next, God placed lights in the sky. God created the sun to shine during the day and the moon and stars to shine at night. God gave us lights to shine on the earth, to separate day from night, and to help us track time in days and years. God saw that it was good. Evening came, and then morning came. That was the fourth day.

Next, God made creatures that move and swim in the water. He made birds to flap their wings and soar across the sky. God saw that it was good. God told the animals to multiply, and they filled the seas and the sky. Evening came, and then morning came. That was the fifth day.

Then God made more animals—livestock, creatures that crawl, and wildlife—to live on the earth according to their kinds. When God said it, it happened. And God saw that all of it was good.



Family Activities

Fun together

Take a blanket outside on a clear night. Lay on the ground and try to count the stars. Try to identify planets, satellites, shooting stars. Ask: "How do the moon and stars declare the glory (or greatness) of God?"

Serve together

Go to a park, playground, or some other area where you can pick up trash. Collect trash while you talk about how and why God wants us to take care of His creation.

Supplies: gloves, trashbags



Praying Together

Mornings

Ask God to help you show His glory wherever you go and in whatever you do today. Who do you know who needs to know God? How can you show God's love?

Evenings

Thank God for something that He created, like the stars, plants, food, or pets. Why are you thankful for that part of creation? How can we see God's glory through it?