

Everybody who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise builder who built a house on bedrock. Matthew 7:24



**Bible
STORY**
BASICS

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Bible STORY

B A S I C S

Pre-reader

LEADER GUIDE

Fall 2019



Everybody who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who has built a house on a rock.

Creation

Bible Verse: God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good.
(Genesis 1:31)

Bible Story: Genesis 1:1-25

Bible Background

What better way to begin a new Sunday school year than at the beginning? Our Bible story for today comes from the first chapter of the first book of the Bible—Genesis. Genesis contains two accounts of Creation, one in the first chapter and one in the second chapter. There are many similarities between the two accounts. It has been suggested that the second account may have been an attempt to provide more detail to certain aspects of the story. We will look at the first account over the next two weeks and then look at the second account on week three.

There is a definite rhythm to the Creation story in Genesis 1. God speaks. Creation happens. God evaluates.

First, God speaks: “Let there be light” and “Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters” (1:3, 6). Following each declaration by God, it happens. God has only to speak to make it so.

After each step of Creation, “God saw how good it was” (1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25). God is not only Creator, but also Evaluator. God does not create the world and walk away, but remains involved. God maintains a relationship with God’s good creation after it is brought into being.

In Genesis 1, the Creation account is divided into days. The repeated phrase “There was evening and there was morning” divides the story into seven days (1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31). The creation events are reported over six days, plus a day of rest.

Devotion

Take your Bible outside into God’s creation. Take a moment to be still. Close your eyes and listen. What do you hear? Open your eyes and look around you. What do you see? Take a deep breath. What do you smell? Thank God for the beauty in the world around you. Marvel at the complexity of a spider’s web or the melody of a bird’s song. Turn to Psalm 8, and read the psalm as you stand or sit in the midst of God’s good creation.

Whether this is your first time teaching or you have been teaching for years, thank you for doing God’s work in this way.



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BASIC PLAN

Bible Beginnings

- Welcome
- Picture the Bible Story
- Bible Puzzle
- Bible Play

Into the Bible

- Time for the Bible Story
- Open the Bible
- Experience the Bible Story
- Say the Bible Verse

Bible Connections

- Animal Dance and Freeze
- Abstract Creation Art

Live the Bible

- I Can Take Care of God's Creation
- Feed the Birds

Express Praise

- Praise and Pray
- Blessing

Bible Beginnings

Welcome

Supplies: Class Pack—pp. 2 & 15, 3; CD-ROM; CD player; tape; offering basket

- Display the attendance chart (Class Pack—pp. 2 & 15) and “Unit 1 Bible Verse Picture” (Class Pack—p. 3) at eye level.
- Play “The B-I-B-L-E” from the CD-ROM as you welcome each child.
- Have each child mark his or her attendance.
- Show the children where to place their offerings on the worship table.

SAY: Today, our Bible story is about Creation. A *creation* is something someone has made. The earth is God’s creation. That means that God created the earth and everything in it.

- Point out the Bible verse picture, and say the Bible verse for the children.

Picture the Bible Story

Supplies: Leader Guide—p. 12, crayons or markers

- Photocopy “God Created the World” for each child.
- Give each child the picture.

ASK: What is this picture?

SAY: This is a picture of how our earth looks from space. Pretend you are on a rocket ship, flying through space far away from the earth. If you looked out your window, this is what the earth would look like.

- Encourage the children to decorate the picture with crayons or markers.

Bible Puzzle

Supplies: Bible Story Leaflet—Session 1, p. 4; star stickers, crayons, or markers

- Give each child a copy of today’s Bible Story Leaflet.
- Encourage the children to add stars all around the earth. You can give the children star stickers, or let the children add dots with crayons or markers to represent stars.

SAY: The Bible tells us that God created the earth, the sun, the moon, and the stars.

Bible Play

Supplies: green play dough, blue play dough

- Give each child a portion of green play dough and a portion of blue play dough.
- Encourage the children to mix the two colors together.
- Show the children how to form a ball with the play dough.

SAY: You’ve made the earth! The green is the land. The blue is the water. The Bible tells us that God created the earth and everything in it.

Into the Bible

Time for the Bible Story

SAY: Let's pretend that we are the earth spinning in space. Spin to our Story Area.

- Sing the following song to the tune of "She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain" as the children move. End the song in your large group area.

SING: Oh, our God made all the earth spin 'round the sun.
Oh, our God made all the earth spin 'round the sun.
Oh, our God made all the earth spin; oh, our God made all the earth spin;
Oh, our God made all the earth spin 'round the sun.

- Have the children sit down.

SAY: Today, our Bible story is about Creation. A *creation* is something someone has made. The earth is God's creation. That means that God created all the earth.

Open the Bible

Supplies: Basic Bible Storybook—pp. 10-11

- Tell the children the story "Creation."

Experience the Bible Story

Supplies: CEB Bible, Bible Story Leaflet—Session 1, pp. 2-3

- Show the children the Bible.

TODAY'S BIBLE TOOL: The Bible has two parts.

SAY: Our Bible has many stories. Some of the stories tell about the beginnings of God's people. These stories are in the Old Testament. Some of the stories tell about God's Son, Jesus. These stories are in the New Testament.

- Show the children the first chapter of Genesis.

SAY: Today, our story is the very first story in our Bible. It is chapter one in the Book of Genesis. Listen and watch as I tell the story. You can help me do some motions.

- Tell the children the story "Creation" from the Bible Story Leaflet, and encourage them to do the suggested motions with you.

ASK: What is your favorite thing on earth that you can see? taste? touch? smell? hear?

Say the Bible Verse

Supplies: Class Pack—p. 3, Leader Guide—p. 85

- Show the children the Bible verse picture (Class Pack). Repeat the verse.

SAY: The word *supremely* means "very, very good."

- Teach the children signs in American Sign Language to go along with the verse (Leader Guide).
- Encourage the children to make the signs as they say the verse again.

Bible Connections

Animal Dance and Freeze

Supplies: CD-ROM, CD player

- Have the children move to an open area of the room.

SAY: Today, our Bible story is about Creation. A *creation* is something someone has made. The earth is God’s creation. That means that God created the earth and everything in it.

- Play “I’ve Got a River of Life” from the CD-ROM, and have the children dance around the room.
- Stop the music. Have the children freeze in place.
- Call one child by name.

ASK: What is your favorite animal? What sound does the animal make? How does the animal move?

- Play the music again, and have all the children move like that animal around the room.
- Continue playing the game until each child has had an opportunity to name an animal.

SAY: The Bible tells us that God made all the animals on the earth.

Abstract Creation Art

Supplies: plain paper or construction paper, crayons or markers

- Give each child a piece of paper.
- Place the crayons or markers where the children can reach them.

SAY: The Bible tells us that God made the earth and everything in it. We’re going to use colors to help us remember the things God created. On day number one, God made the light. The light was called Day. What color is day? (*Find a yellow [or whichever color the children named] crayon or marker, and color on the paper.*) The dark was called Night. What color is night? (*Find a dark blue [or whichever color the children named] crayon or marker, and color on your paper.*)

- Have each child pick out a daylight crayon or marker. Encourage the children to color with it anywhere on the paper. Then have each child pick out a nighttime crayon or marker. Encourage the children to color with it anywhere on the paper.
- Continue explaining each day of Creation (see below) and letting the children suggest the corresponding color. Display the art in your room or in the hall.

Day	Creation	Suggested Color
Two	fluffy clouds	white
Three	land, seas, seeds	green, blue, brown
Four	sun, moon, stars	yellow or orange, white, silver
Five	fish, birds	red, orange, yellow, blue
Six	animals	brown, black, gray

Live the Bible

I Can Take Care of God's Creation

Supplies: none

- Say the following action poem, and lead the children in doing the motions.

I can take care of God's creation—

(Sweep your arms all around.)

the earth, the animals, and people too.

(Make a circle with your hands. Use your hands to make ears. Point to yourself.)

I can take care of God's creation.

(Sweep your arms all around.)

That's what God wants me to do.

(Touch both thumbs to your chest.)

So growl like a bear, and fly like a bird.

(Make claws, then flap your arms.)

Then hop, hop, hop like a kangaroo.

(Hop three times.)

I can take care of God's creation.

(Sweep your arms all around.)

That's what God wants me to do.

(Touch both thumbs to your chest.)

Feed the Birds

Supplies: chenille stems, O-shaped cereal, bowls, resealable plastic bags

SAY: One way we can help take care of God's creation is to feed the birds.

- Give each child a chenille stem with a knot or loop on one end.
- Place bowls of O-shaped cereal in front of the children. Show the children how to thread the cereal onto their chenille stem.
- When the chenille stem is full, help the child fold over the end of the stem to keep the cereal from falling off. Place each bird treat inside a resealable plastic bag.

SAY: Take your bird treat home, and hang it outside where the birds can find it.

Express Praise

Praise and Pray

Supplies: CD-ROM, CD player

- Sing with the children the song "Hear Us As We Pray" from the CD-ROM.
- Encourage the children to name any prayer requests.

PRAY: Thank you, God, for all the wonderful things you have created. Amen.

Blessing

Supplies: child-safe mirror

- Hand one child in the circle the mirror. Have the child look into the mirror.

SAY: *(Child's name)* is part of God's good creation.

- Have the child give the mirror to the next child in the circle.
- Continue until you have blessed each child.

God Created the World



God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good. (Genesis 1:31)

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Bible STORY

B A S I C S

Pre-reader

BIBLE STORY
LEAFLETS

Fall 2019





Talk About It

Use these questions to talk about today's Bible story with your child.

- What do we do when it is daytime? What's in the sky when it's day?
- What do we do when it is nighttime? What's in the sky when it's night?

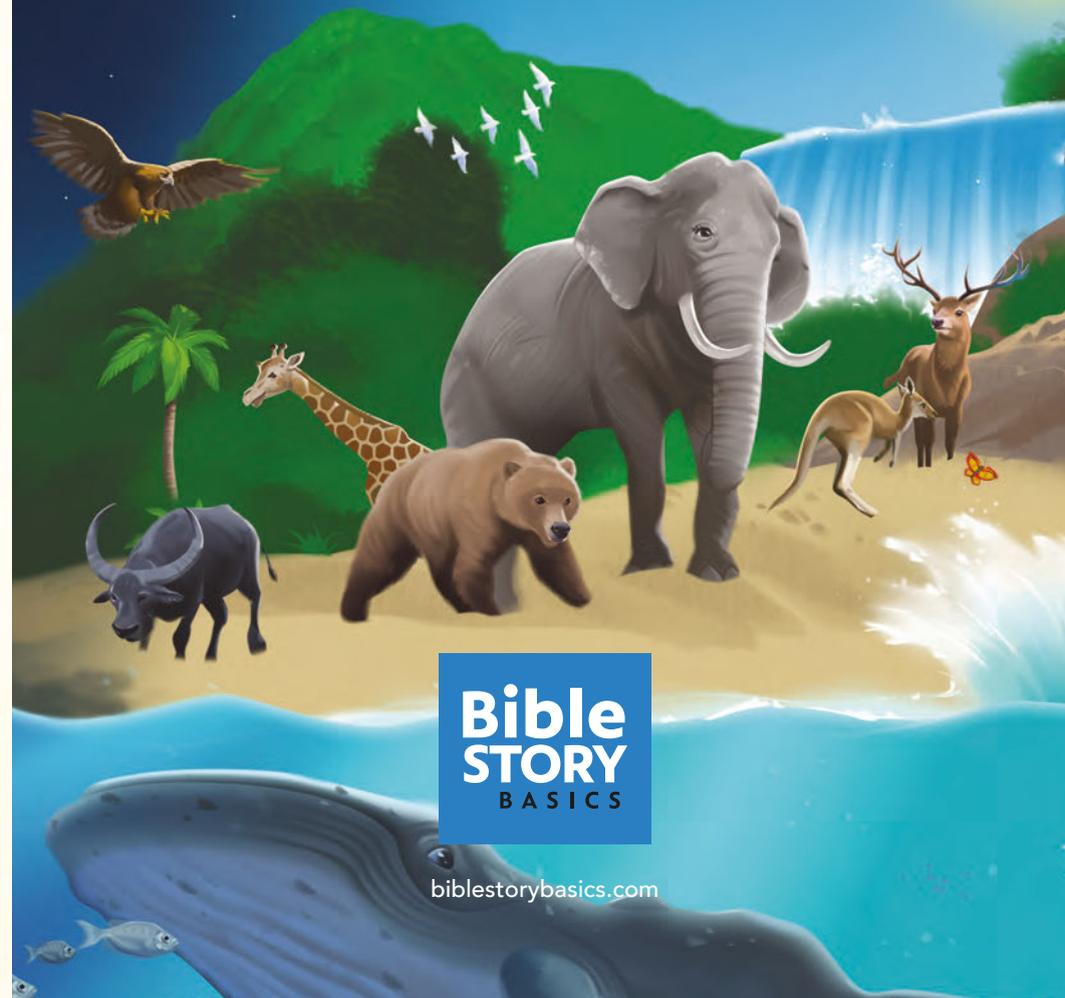
PRAY: Thank you, God, for all the wonderful things you have made.
Amen.

Creation

Genesis
1:1-25

God saw everything he had made:
it was supremely good.

Genesis 1:31



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Creation

In the beginning, there was nothing.
(Shake your head no.)

God said, "Let there be light!"
And light appeared.
(Flick your hands above your head.)
God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day. God called the darkness Night.
(Flick one hand above your head, then flick your other hand above your head.)
And that all happened on day number one.
(Hold up one finger.)

On day number two...
(Hold up two fingers.)
God made the sky.
(Sweep one arm over your head.)

On day number three...
(Hold up three fingers.)
God divided the land from the water. God called the land Earth. God called the water Seas.
(Hold both hands together, palms facing the floor. Separate your hands to either side.)
Then God made seeds and plants and trees.
(Sway your arms like a tree in the wind.)

On day number four...
(Hold up four fingers.)
God made the sun and the moon and the stars.
(Make a circle with your hands over your head.)

On day number five...
(Hold up five fingers.)
God made fish to swim in the seas
(Hold your palms together, and wiggle your hands like a fish.)
and birds to fly in the sky.
(Flap your arms like wings.)

On day number six...
(Hold up six fingers.)
God made animals—animals that make fun noises,
(Say, "Moo. Baa.")
animals that crawl, like lizards and snakes;
(Crawl.)
and animals that live in the wild, like tigers and bears.
(Growl.)

God looked at all the things that God had made
on days one, two, three, four, five, and six.
(Hold up one, two, three, four, five, and six fingers.)

And God saw that it was good.

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There is a definite rhythm to the Creation story in Genesis 1. God speaks. Creation happens. God evaluates.

First, God speaks: “Let there be light” and “Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters” (1:3, 6). Following each declaration by God, it happens. God has only to speak to make it so.

After each step of Creation, “God saw how good it was” (1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25). God is not only Creator, but also Evaluator. God does not create the world and walk away, but remains involved. God maintains a relationship with God’s good creation after it is brought into being.

In Genesis 1, the Creation account is divided into days. The repeated phrase “There was evening and there was morning” divides the story into seven days (1:5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31). The creation events are reported over six days, plus a day of rest.

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Whether this is your first time teaching or you have been teaching for years, thank you for doing God’s work in this way.



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Into the Bible

Time for the Bible Story
Read the Bible
Experience the Bible Story

Bible Connections

Upcycle Creations
Feed the Birds

Learn the Bible

Memorize the Bible Verse
Bible Tool

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Praise and Pray
Blessing

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- Have each child mark his or her attendance.
- Show the children where to place their offerings on the worship table.

SAY: Today, our Bible story is about Creation. God created the earth and everything on, in, and around it. We will get to be creative today, too!

- Point out the Bible verse picture, and say the Bible verse for the children.

Bible Puzzle

Supplies: Bible Story Leaflet—Session 1, p. 4; pens

- Give each child today’s Bible Story Leaflet. Encourage the children to find their way through the maze by passing by each of the symbols representing the first six days of Creation.

SAY: Today’s Bible story tells us that God created the earth in six days. On the seventh day, God rested.

Bible Play

Supplies: interlocking blocks, wood blocks, play dough, or other building materials

- Have the children use their imaginations to create something with the building materials.
- Talk with the children as they are building.

ASK: Are you building something God created, something people created, or some of both? How do God and humans work together to create and build?

- Encourage the children to work together to make larger projects.

ASK: Is there a way we can connect what each one of us is making? How can we take our individual creations and make one big creation?

- Help the children make connections and bring their projects together in one scene.

SAY: God gives us the ability to create and to be creative.

Into the Bible

Time for the Bible Story

Supplies: CD-ROM, CD player

- Play “I’ve Got a River of Life” from the CD-ROM.

SAY: Spin like a planet orbiting through space over to our Story Area.

- Have the children sit down.

Read the Bible

Supplies: CEB Bibles

- Help the children find Genesis 1.

SAY: Genesis is the very first book of the Bible. Today, we're starting with the very first story of this very first book: God creating the world.

- Have the children read Genesis 1:1-25 out loud, changing readers after each day of Creation is described.

TIP: Encourage, but do not require, each child to read out loud.

Experience the Bible Story

Supplies: CEB Bible; Bible Story Leaflet—Session 1, pp. 2-3; pens

SAY: We're going to play a fun party game: reverse charades!

- Explain that in reverse charades the group acts out a clue while one person guesses.

SAY: Our answers will be the seven different days of Creation. When it's your turn to guess, you can use the inside of your leaflet for help.

- Pick one child to be "It." That child will guess while the rest of the group acts out a clue without speaking. Encourage "It" to use the clues in the leaflet to decipher which day the group is acting out.
- Huddle with the rest of the class, and silently pick a day of Creation to act out by pointing to verses in the CEB Bible. Then, as a group, act out God's work on that day until "It" correctly identifies the day of Creation. You do not all have to act out the same thing, as long as everything you act out was created on the same day.
- After each round, have the children fill in the blanks for that day in their leaflets.
- Repeat the activity until everyone has a chance to guess, or as time allows.

ASK: What parts of the Creation story or the order of Creation surprised you? What parts are most interesting?

Bible Connections

Upcycle Creations

Supplies: a variety of materials for recycling (such as scrap paper, paper towel rolls, newspaper, plastic bottles, yogurt cups, magazines, and so on), tape, glue, stapler, markers

- Spread the materials across the tables.

SAY: Today, we are going to be creators, too. We are going to use these recycled materials to make something new. This is called "upcycling." Upcycling reduces the amount of waste we produce and helps take care of creation.

- Have the children work with the items to “upcycle” them by making them into something new.
- Let the children’s imaginations run wild! Their upcycled creations could be functional or simply fun.

SAY: God, the ultimate Creator, gave us the ability to be creative, too!

Feed the Birds

Supplies: chenille stems, O-shaped cereal, bowls, resealable plastic bags, ribbon or string

SAY: One way we can help take care of and enjoy God’s creation is by feeding the birds.

- Give each child three chenille stems, and place bowls of O-shaped cereal in front of the children. Have them thread the cereal onto the stems, leaving about a half-inch empty on each end.
- Show the children how to create a heart shape by folding each cereal-filled stem in half and bending the ends inward.
- Link the three hearts together before closing them off completely. You should now have a heart “chain.”
- Tie a loop of ribbon or string from which the feeder can hang onto the top heart.
- Place each bird treat inside a resealable plastic bag.

SAY: Take your bird treat home, and hang it outside where the birds can find it. Sit quietly nearby, and observe animals’ reactions to your addition to their habitat.

Learn the Bible

Memorize the Bible Verse

Supplies: Class Pack—p. 3, index cards or sticky notes with the memory verse written on them (one word per card or note)

- Show the children the Bible verse picture.
- Read the verse for the children. Have them repeat it with you.
- Mix up the cards or notes, and place them word side down. Have the children take turns turning over a card or note and placing it in the sequence of the Bible verse.
- Play the game again, but don’t let the kids see the verse on the picture.

Bible Tool

Supplies: CEB Bible, Leader Guide—p. 12, pencils or pens

- Photocopy “Bible Library” for each child.

SAY: Each week, we will learn a new tool for exploring the Bible. This week, we are learning about the Bible as a collection of books. We think of the Bible as one book, but it is actually an entire library of books, all together!

- Open your Bible to its Contents page, and show the children.

SAY: Each one of these names is a different book in the Bible. The Bible has 66 books in all.

- Pass out “Bible Library” to each child.

SAY: Here is another way to think about the Bible—as books on a bookshelf. The first book in our Bible library is Genesis. Our Creation story from today is in Genesis.

- Have the children label the first book on the Bible bookshelf as “Genesis.”

SAY: The first five books of the Bible are very important. They contain God’s Law, or “Instructions” for the Hebrew people. Let’s practice saying their names: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy. (*Repeat the names of the books.*)

- Encourage the children to use the Contents page to fill in the first five books on the Bible bookshelf. Then have the children write “Instruction” in the blank below these five books, and explain that these books belong to the Instruction division of the Bible.

SAY: This year, we will learn about all the different types of books in the Bible library. There is so much to explore!

Express Praise

Praise and Pray

Supplies: CD-ROM, CD player

- Sing with the children the song “Hear Us As We Pray” from the CD-ROM.
- Encourage the children to name any prayer requests.

PRAY: Thank you, God, for all the wonderful things you have created. Amen.

Blessing

Supplies: CEB Bible, child-safe mirror

- Have a child read Psalm 139:9-10.

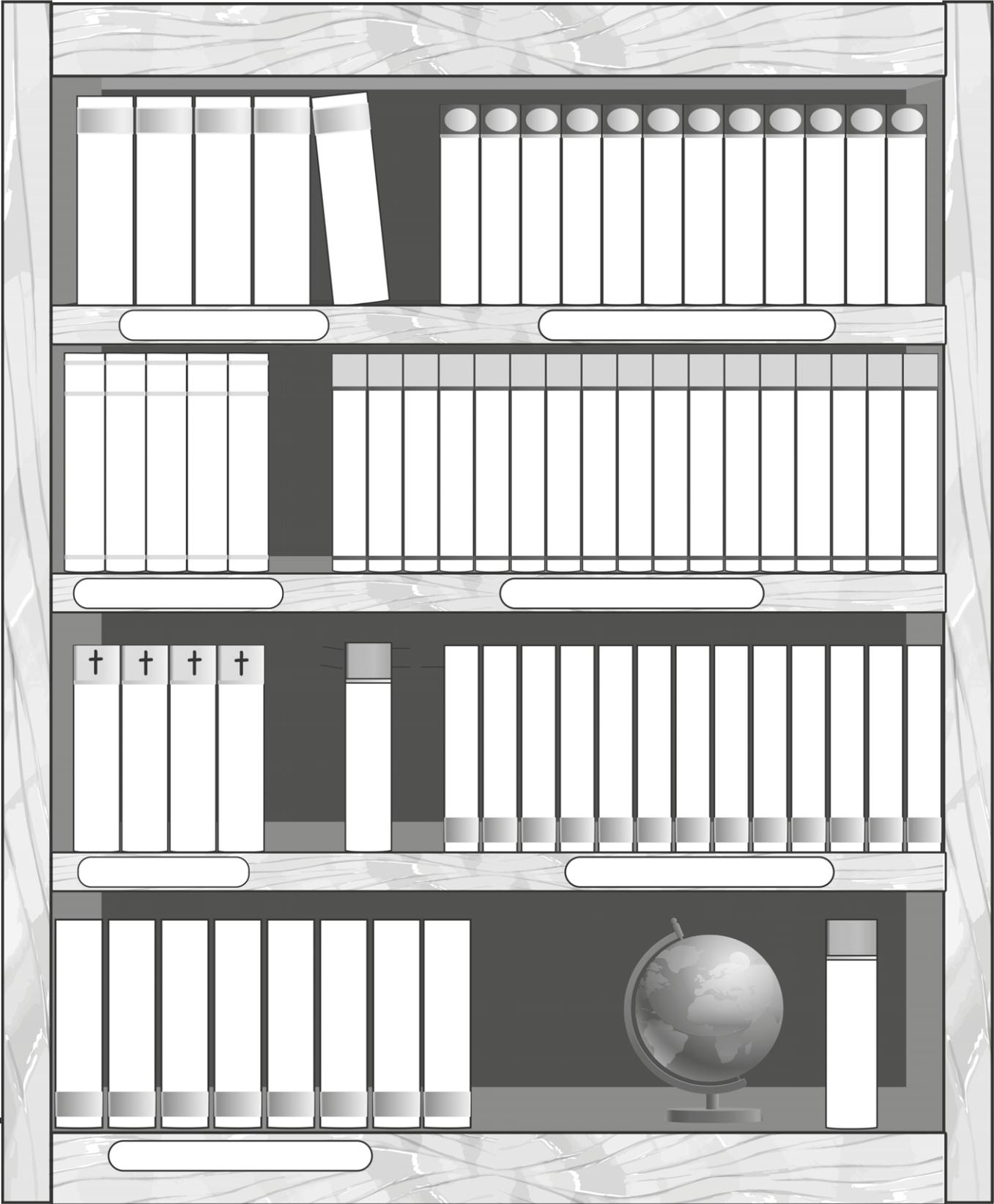
SAY: Wherever we go in creation, God is with us. God knows and loves us.

- Hand one child in the circle the mirror. Have the child look into the mirror.

SAY: (*Child’s name*) is part of God’s good creation.

- Have the children respond, “Thank you, God, for (*child’s name*).”
- Pass the mirror, and continue until you have blessed each child.

Bible Library



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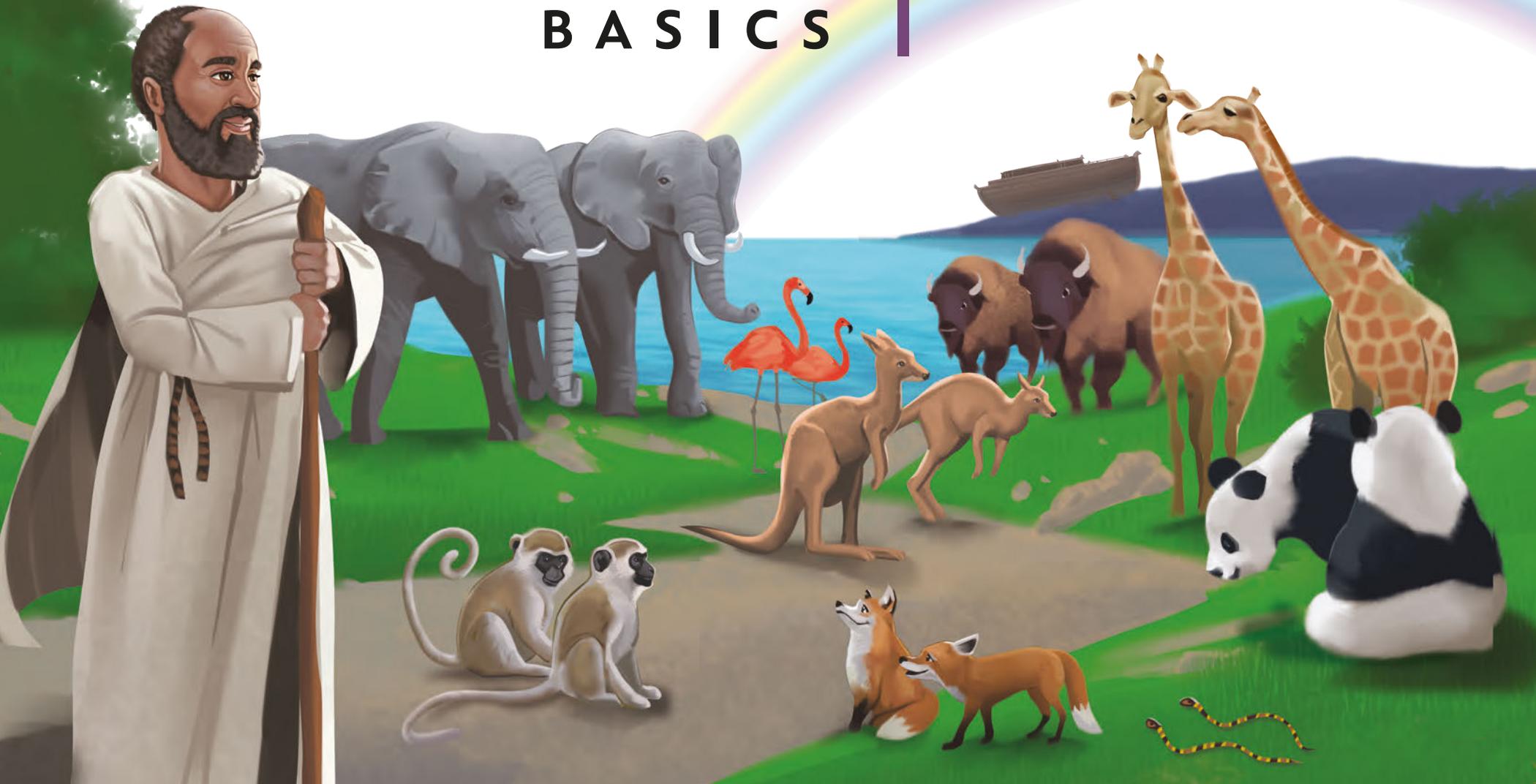
Bible STORY

B A S I C S

Reader

BIBLE STORY
LEAFLETS

Fall 2019



Follow the maze through the first six days of Creation to reach the day of rest.



Talk About It

Use these questions to talk about today's Bible story with your child.

- Is there anything you would like to ask God about our world or the process of creating it?
- What does Genesis 1 tell or show us about God? about Creation?

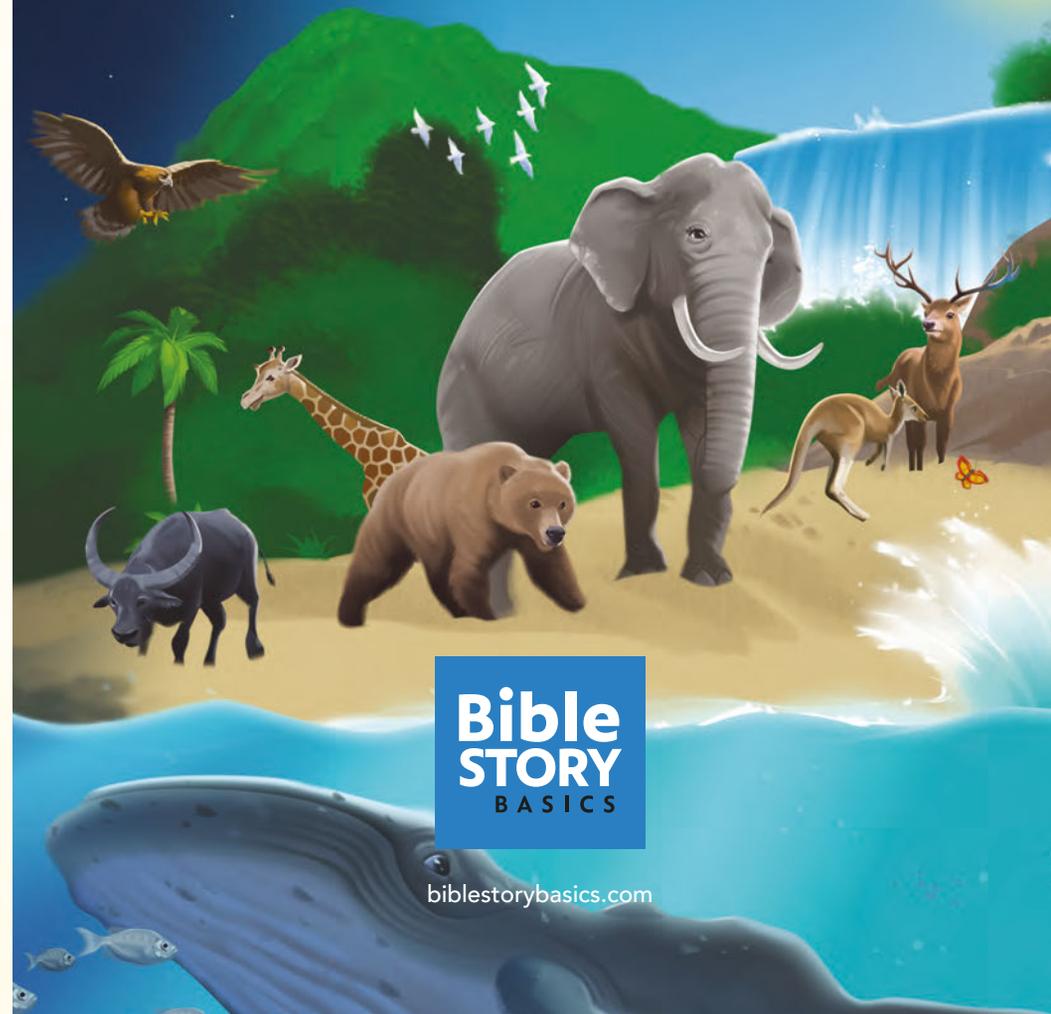
PRAY: Thank you, God, for creating our amazing world. Amen.

Creation

Genesis
1:1-25

God saw everything he had made:
it was supremely good.

Genesis 1:31



Bible
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Creation

Use the clues to determine what God created each day. Then fill in the blanks. Use your Bible to check your answers.

DAY ONE

Whisper and shout, tail and snout, flip a switch to find this one out! God creates and .

DAY TWO

Before they could fly, birds needed a . God creates the .

DAY THREE

Couldn't eat a peach on the beach without these each! God creates , , and .

DAY FOUR

We need light both day and night! God creates the , , and .

DAY FIVE

Fly high, swim low, above, below; sky and water overflow! God creates and .

DAY SIX

Without this day, a zoo? No way! God creates .

DAY SEVEN

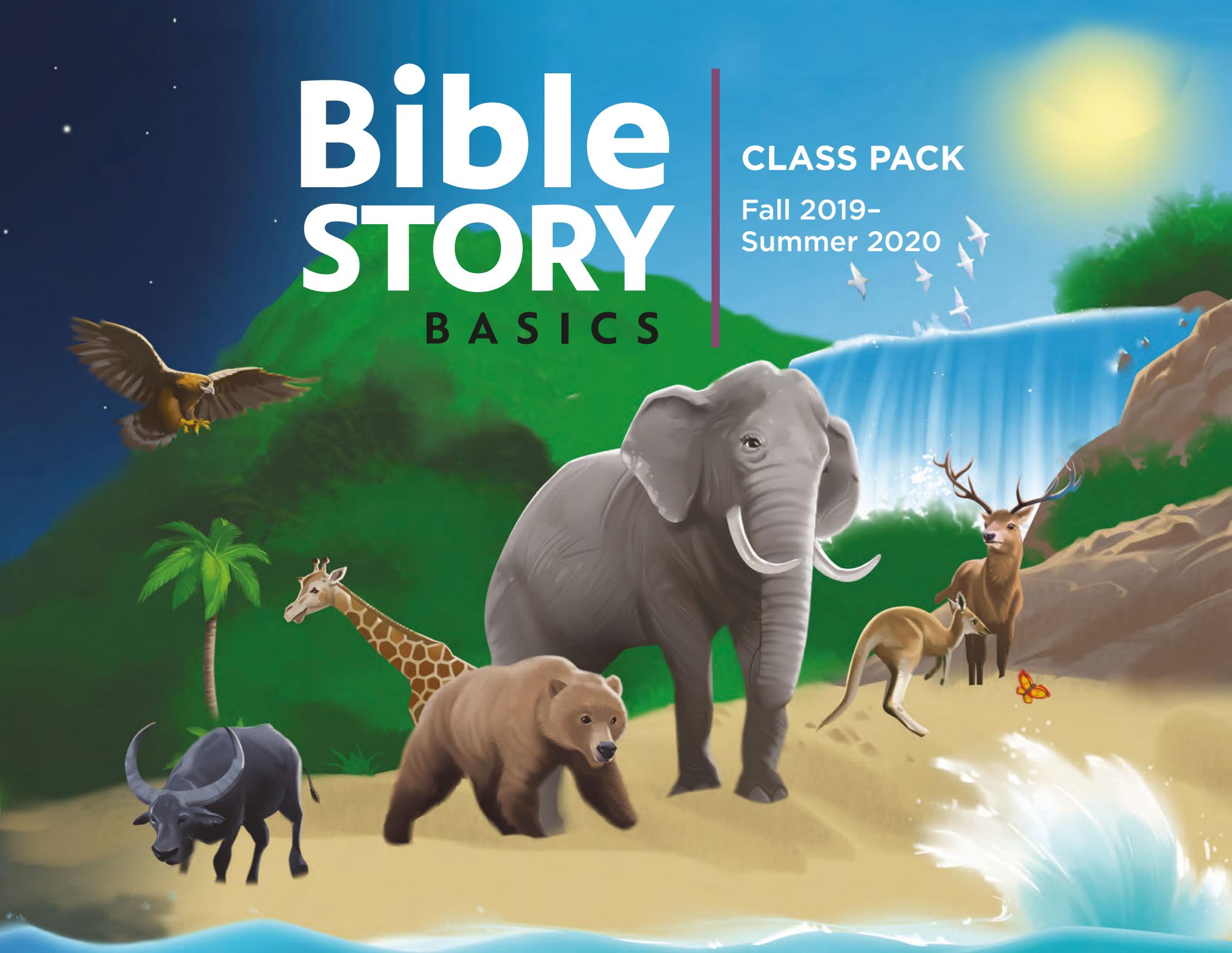
Shhhhhh! God .

Bible STORY

BASICS

CLASS PACK

Fall 2019-
Summer 2020



Name	Fall 2019												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

Name	Winter 2019-20												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

Name	Spring 2020													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Name	Summer 2020												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13



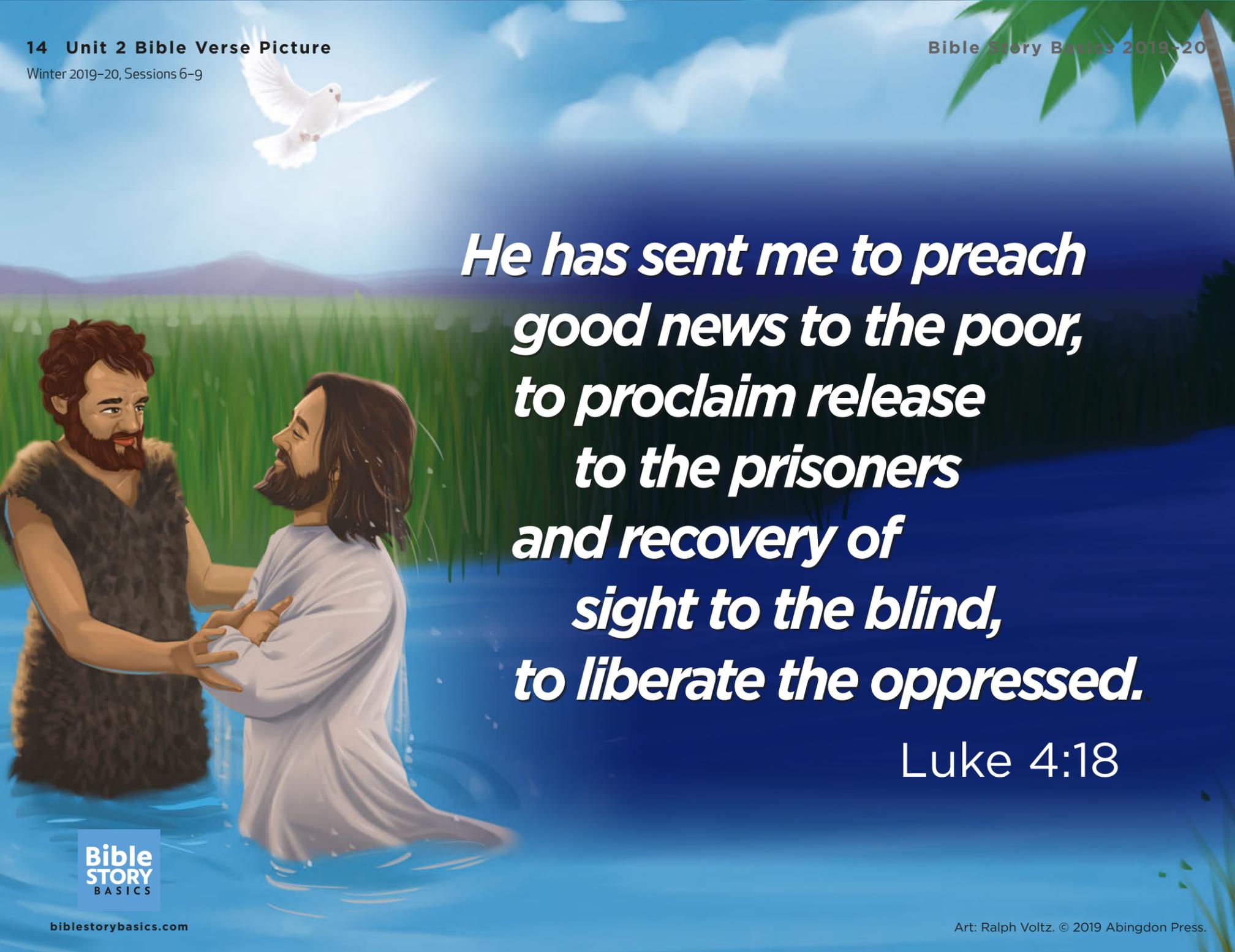
God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good.

Genesis 1:31

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He has sent me to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to liberate the oppressed.

Luke 4:18

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Bible STORY

BASICS

Class Pack Resources

Fall 2019–
Summer 2020

PRINTABLE RESOURCES

- Twelve 11-by-17 Printable Bible Verse Posters (PDF)
- Four 11-by-17 Printable Attendance Charts (PDF)
- One 11-by-17 Printable Bible Library Reference Poster (PDF)
- One 8½-by-11 Printable Bible Library Poster (PDF)

SONGS

1. The B-I-B-L-E 2:38
2. I've Got a River of Life 2:37
3. Movin' On 2:48
4. I Will Be with You 2:49
5. Safe Inside Your Love 2:42
6. Hear Us As We Pray 2:29
7. Joyful, Joyful 2:51

COMPACT
disc
DIGITAL AUDIO

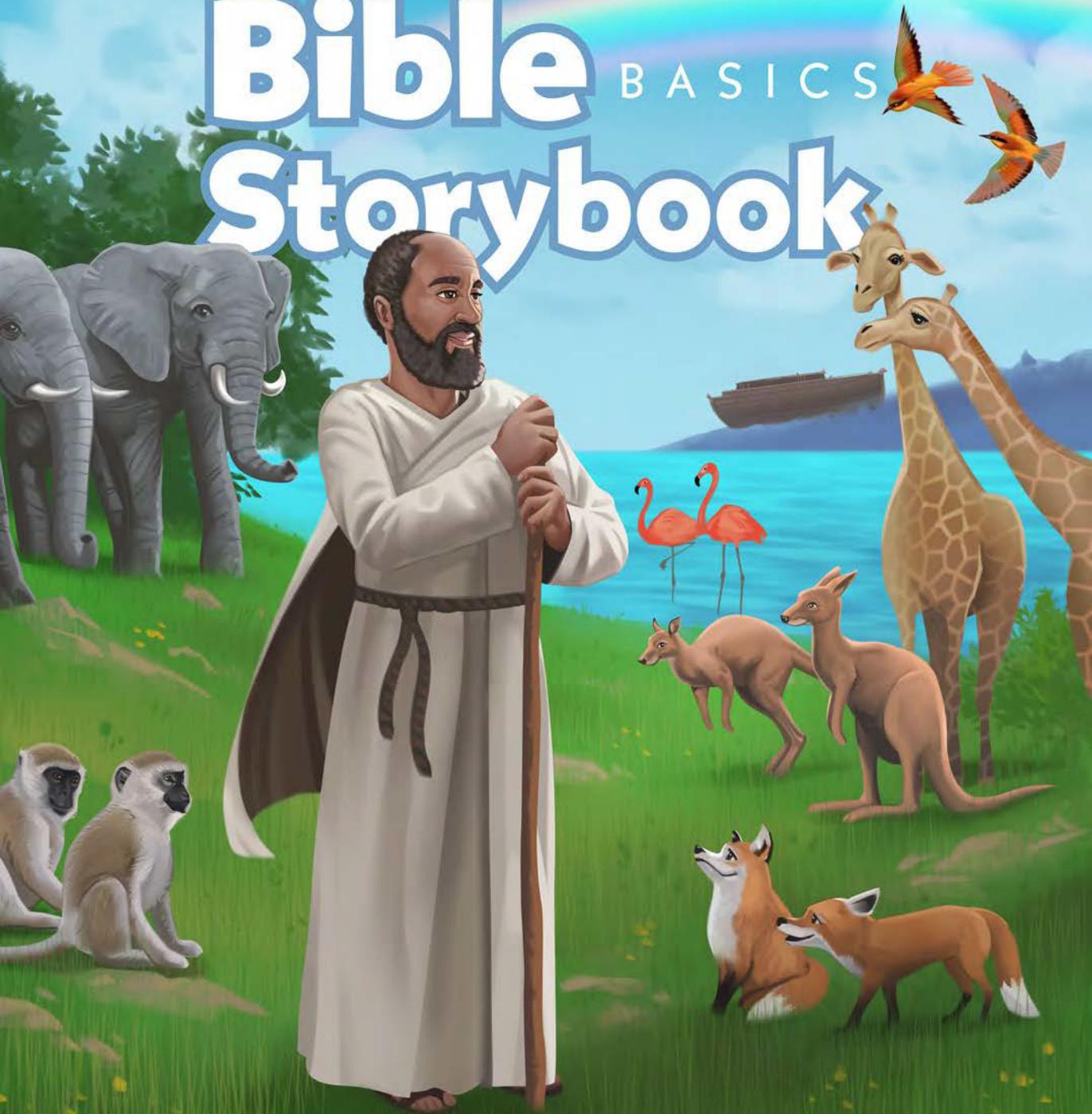
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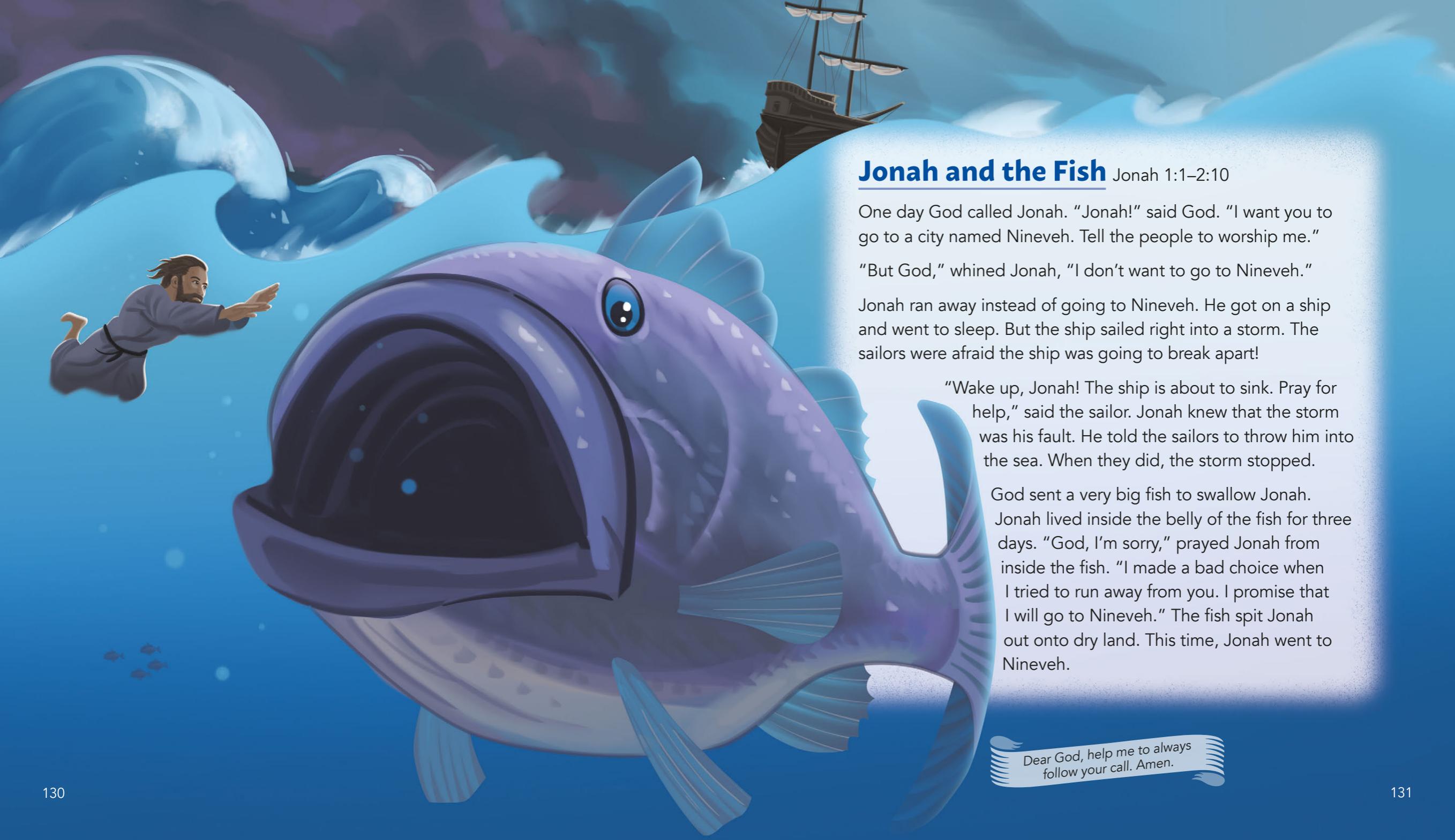


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Bible BASICS Storybook





Jonah and the Fish Jonah 1:1–2:10

One day God called Jonah. “Jonah!” said God. “I want you to go to a city named Nineveh. Tell the people to worship me.”

“But God,” whined Jonah, “I don’t want to go to Nineveh.”

Jonah ran away instead of going to Nineveh. He got on a ship and went to sleep. But the ship sailed right into a storm. The sailors were afraid the ship was going to break apart!

“Wake up, Jonah! The ship is about to sink. Pray for help,” said the sailor. Jonah knew that the storm was his fault. He told the sailors to throw him into the sea. When they did, the storm stopped.

God sent a very big fish to swallow Jonah. Jonah lived inside the belly of the fish for three days. “God, I’m sorry,” prayed Jonah from inside the fish. “I made a bad choice when I tried to run away from you. I promise that I will go to Nineveh.” The fish spit Jonah out onto dry land. This time, Jonah went to Nineveh.

Dear God, help me to always follow your call. Amen.