

THE BEGINNING OF LIFE AS WE KNOW IT

Timeless Truth: Humans are God's crowning creation.

Bible Basis: Genesis 1–3:24

Key Verse: When God created man, he made him in his own likeness. —Genesis 5:1, NIV

Resource: *The Story for Kids*, Chapter 1: "The Beginning of Life As We Know It"

PARENT TIPS

Read and discuss the key point from the class your child(ren) attended. Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table at some point this week. The Living Faith activity is designed to help your child know that he's perfectly created by God. The Extra Mile idea will help your family spread God's love in the community.

GET THE POINT

God made everything there is. He made me to know him.

TABLE TALK

- **What are some things you really like about yourself?** (Encourage your family to list more than just physical attributes.)
- **Hollywood actors and models always talk about how they'd like to change their appearance, yet they're considered the pretty people. Is there anything you'd change about yourself?**
- **Do you think God would change anything about you? Why?**
- **Why do you think culture is so consumed with looks and fame?**

LIVING FAITH

Spend some time going on a walk in your neighborhood or nearby park. As you walk, point out and talk about the things God created. Challenge your family to see if they can find one thing God created for each letter of the alphabet.

- **What do you know about each of these things that God created?**
- **Why do you think God created it?**
- **What is your favorite part of God's creation? Why?**

End your walk at a mirror or a place where you can see your reflection. What you see is God's crowning creation. Remind your children that they are created in God's image. Let them know how proud of them you are. Talk about some of the things you appreciate about them and tie that into how those characteristics are from God. Tell them you expect a lot from them and have high standards because they are God's perfect creation. Encourage them to always follow God and his will for their lives.

EXTRA MILE

For added emphasis on this week's themes, try one of these activities.

1. Grab a family photo album that has some shots of the family enjoying the outdoors. Ask:
 - **What do you remember most about this experience?**
 - **What are some of your favorite things about God's creation?**
 - **How can you see God's handiwork in the outdoors?**
 - **Where are some places you'd like to visit?**

If the conversation leads, plan a fun family outing or your next family vacation.

2. Remind your children that all people are important to God by taking some food to a local food bank or going through your closets and making a donation to a homeless shelter. Remind your kids that helping the less fortunate shows them God's love.