

# GOD OFFERS A NEW CREATION

STORY: NEW CREATION / YEAR: KINGDOM

## BIG TRUTH: GOD OFFERS A NEW CREATION

Isaiah 65:17; Romans 8:18-22; 2 Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 21:1

## BIBLE VERSE: REVELATION 21:5a

“And He who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new.’”

## BIG IDEAS

- Through Jesus, God is fixing what sin has broken.
- Injustice will be no more.
- Conflict will be no more.
- Division will be no more.

## BIBLE STORY: ISAIAH 11:1-12

God is not leaving the world broken and in despair. Just as He promised to send a Savior, Jesus has promised to return. When Jesus returns, He will come making all things new. The brokenness of this world will be no more through Jesus.

## STORY: NEW CREATION

Part of the beauty of the gospel is that God does not just rescue us from the power of sin, but He is also making everything new. God offers new creation to those who place their faith in Jesus. This newness comes in two ways. The first is that by breaking the power of sin, Jesus is making men and women into brand new people with new identities. Second, God is not only making people new, but He is also going to make a new heaven and a new earth for us to live on and worship Him in.

## BIG AIMS



KNOW

**Every child should know that:**

- God is making all things new



FEEL

**Every child should feel:**

- Wonder at how God takes the brokenness of creation and makes it new



DO

**Every child should:**

- Thank God for fixing what sin has broken and making a new creation



WANT

**Every child should want:**

- To see creation be made new by God

## FAMILY DEVOTION: A NEW WORLD

The world we live in is broken and dying because of our sin. Bad things happen all the time, but that will not always be. God has promised to make all things new and one day, He is going to make this world new.

**BIBLE VERSE: REVELATION 21:5a**

*“And He who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new.’”*

**The old creation will not remain the same.**

- The original creation is passing away and has been since Adam and Eve sinned in the garden.
- Creation is sinful and is groaning to be made new.
- The old earth will not remain as it is.
- The sin in the world will not remain.
- The injustice in the world will not remain.
- This present corrupt creation is not forever.
- It will pass away.

**Christ will make a new world.**

- The old world will pass away along with its sin and destruction.
- A new earth will be given to those who follow Christ.
- The new earth will be perfect and sinless.
- People will not be held captive by sin anymore.
- There will be no more sickness or death.
- Christ is making all things new.
- He will give His followers a new creation.

**Those who follow Christ will be in the new creation.**

- The new creation will not be for all who are on the earth.
- It is through Jesus that God is making things new.
- It is through Jesus that man’s sin debt is paid and he is set free from the captivity of his sin nature.
- It is through Jesus that man will experience the new creation.
- Only those who follow Christ by repenting and believing will live forever in the new creation.

**BIBLE STORY: ISAIAH 11:1-12**

*The New Creation*

**Opening Illustration:**

Give each child a copy of the “Jesus Makes All Things New” bookmark or allow them to cut it out themselves. Have them decorate their bookmarks with crayons, colored pencils or markers. Finished bookmarks can be mounted to colored cardstock strips or covered in clear Contact paper to make them more sturdy. As the children work, talk about how caterpillars are transformed into beautiful butterflies through the process of metamorphosis and we can be transformed (or made new) by believing in Jesus’ saving work on the cross for us.

**BIG IDEA: THROUGH JESUS, GOD IS FIXING WHAT SIN HAS BROKEN.<sup>1</sup>**

Discuss the idea of something being broken with the children. Ask them to name some things that they have broken or they have seen broken.

**Jesus is the way God sets us free and makes us new.**

- We are captive to our sin, but Jesus' death sets us free.
- When we have saving faith in Jesus, we are no longer captive to our sin.
- Jesus defeated our sin when He died on the cross.
- We cannot set ourselves free, only Jesus can.
- When we have saving faith in Jesus, we are made new.
- Jesus washes us clean and makes us new through His blood.

**Jesus is the way God sets the world free from sin.**

- Creation is captive to sin.
- The world cannot set itself free from sin.
- The world is dying and becoming more sinful.
- Jesus will set the world free when He makes it new.
- He will make all things in the world new.
- Jesus sets the world free from sin through His death on the cross.
- Because He paid the sin debt owed by every person, man no longer has to be held captive by sin.

*How was God's creation broken? (The sin of Adam and Eve broke God's perfect creation.)*

*How is God making it new? (God makes it new through the blood of Jesus.)*



Show the children two pairs of sunglasses, one pair with the lenses taken out. Allow the children to pass around the broken sunglasses and try them on. Next, give them the other pair of sunglasses to pass around. Explain that the broken pair of sunglasses is like our world now, broken and unable to fix itself, but the other pair works the way it was intended to, which is how God's new creation will be.

1. Isaiah 65:17: Through Jesus, who is seated on the throne, God makes all things new.

**BIG IDEA: INJUSTICE WILL BE NO MORE.**

Discuss the idea of injustice with the children. Define the word “injustice” for them and help them list examples of injustice, such as bad people getting away with crimes, etc.

**Justice was broken when sin entered the world.**

- Sin affects every part of Creation.
- There is no part of creation not affected by sin.
- Because sin is in the world and in man’s heart, there is no true justice.
- Justice was broken when sin entered the heart of man.
- Justice is not what it should be because man’s heart is held captive by sin.
- Injustice happens every day as a result of sin.
- The oppressed are mistreated even more.
- Bad people seem to thrive, while people who try to do right suffer.
- God will remove sin and injustice when He makes things new.



Bring in a set of scales and weigh each child. Write down their weight with the scale set to zero. Next, move the scale off of zero and weigh each child. Write down the new weight next to the old. Show the children how the weight is different because the scale was not set to zero. Talk with them about how justice was broken by our sin, but in the new creation, justice will be perfect and right.

**God will rule perfectly.<sup>2</sup>**

- God allows injustice to occur only for a time, not forever.
- Christ will reign in the new creation.
- He will reign perfectly and bring justice to the world.
- There will be no more injustice or mistreatment because Christ will rule perfectly.
- God is perfect and His new creation will be perfect.
- Because God is perfect, His justice is right and true always.
- There is never a time when God’s justice is not right, even when we do not understand it.

How does injustice happen every day? (Answers may vary, but some may include that people commit crimes and get away with it.)

What is going to happen to injustice when Jesus returns? (He is going to remove it and it will be no more.)

2. Job 19:25: God will rule perfectly when He makes the earth new. Jesus will return and all things will be new, including justice.

**BIG IDEA: CONFLICT WILL BE NO MORE.**

Help the children think of examples of conflict, such as fighting with a brother or sister, not listening to parents, fighting with a friend, etc.

**Troubled relationships are a result of the fall.**

- Our relationship with others is not what it could be.
- We experience strife and trouble because of our sinfulness and the sinfulness of others.
- We do not always get along with one another because of our sinfulness.
- Our relationships are not what they were meant to be.
- We fight and argue because we feel jealous or upset with others.
- It is our natural tendency to think of ourselves instead of others.



Play a game of “Hot Potato” with the children. The person who is left holding the “potato” should name one thing that makes him or her upset or angry. Once every child has a chance to name something, remind the children that in the new creation, we won’t feel these feelings because Jesus will make all things new.

**God will end all conflict.<sup>3</sup>**

- God is the ruler over all things.
- Through Jesus, He took care of our sin debt.
- He is going to make all things new and we will no longer have conflict with anyone.
- We will be able to get along with all people.
- We will truly love all people as we are supposed to love them.
- The world will not be full of wars and conflicts.
- God will make all things new.
- Animals will not be in conflict with man or each other.
- Life will be peaceful and harmonious for the glory of God.

How will God remove conflict from the world? (He will make all things new and there will be no more conflict.)

3. Revelation 21:4: When God makes all things new, there will be peace on the earth.

**BIG IDEA: DIVISION WILL BE NO MORE.****Division and separation are a result of the Fall.**

- Adam and Eve's sin resulted in their separation from God.
- It also resulted in their separation from their original home.
- They had to leave their home and the animals they took care of.
- They had to leave everything because of their sin.
- We experience division and separation because of our sin.
- We are separated from friends because of arguments.
- We are divided as people because of ideas and opinions.
- It's hard for us to get along with people due to our sin natures.

**The new creation will be unified.<sup>4</sup>**

- Christ died to remove separation.
- His death removes divisions and tears down walls.
- In the new creation, we will all be one people. We will all be unified.
- We will have one mind and one goal to glorify God.
- Christ will remove all division and the things that separate us.
- We will be made new and our world will be made new.
- People will no longer be separated because of sin, but we will be one people with one heart to seek God's glory.



Have the children work together as a class to create a banner of what they think the new heaven and new earth will look like. As children begin, provide only one marker for the class to share. After a few minutes, provide more markers and crayons to the children. Once they've finished, ask them if it was difficult to create the banner together using one marker. Explain to the children that we have division in our world now because it is broken by sin, but in the new creation, there will be no division or separation because God will give us new hearts to love others and live in perfect unity.

*Why does division exist? (We are sinful and our sin nature causes division.)*

*How is God going to remove division? (He is going to create a new heaven and earth and our hearts will be sin free.)*

4. 2 Corinthians 5:17: *Because we will have new hearts that are free of sin, there will be no more divisions or strife.*

## HOOKS

**Tissue Paper Butterflies**

Give each child a large tracing of a butterfly and different colored tissue paper torn into small pieces. Talk with the children about how a butterfly changes from a caterpillar into a beautiful butterfly. Ask the children to glue the tissue paper onto their butterfly. Talk with them about how God gives us a new creation like the caterpillar becomes a new butterfly.



- We are all broken because of our sin, but God is making all things new.
- He is going to give a new heaven and earth when Jesus returns.
- We get new hearts when we repent and believe in Jesus.
- God gives us new life through Jesus.

**No More Fighting**

Print off a template for a lion's mask and a lamb's mask. Have the children color their masks and then glue them onto a craft stick. Help the children cut out the eyes of their animals if they like. As they color, talk with them about how there will be no more fighting or conflict when God makes the new earth. Everyone and every animal will get along.



- God will make a new earth through Jesus when Jesus returns.
- There will be no more fighting or conflict on the new earth.
- God will do away with all of the conflict and even the animals will get along with each other.