

# 3RD GRADE GUIDE 2

## GOD IS CREATOR FOUNDATION: GOD IS

### BIG TRUTH: GOD IS CREATOR

Genesis 1:1; Psalm 33:6; 102:25; Isaiah 45:12, 18; Colossians 1:16-17; Revelation 4:11

### BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 40:28

*"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable."*

### BIG IDEAS

- In the beginning, there was only God.
- Everything that exists comes from God.
- Everything God created is good, has value, and should be valued.

### BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 1:1-25

In the beginning only God existed. He spoke the heavens and the earth into existence and then He created all living things. Everything comes from Him. He is the beginning of all things and He gives value to everything.

### FOUNDATION: GOD IS

"God is" means that there is only one god in the universe. He alone is Lord over everything that exists, and He alone is worthy of our worship. This also means that every good thing that exists comes from God. All good things come from Him because goodness is a part of who He is as the one true God. It is a part of His nature and character to be good, and everything that comes from God is good. Thankfully God has not chosen to withhold His goodness from His creation, but instead gives it freely to us.

### BIG AIMS



#### Every child should know that:

- There is only one true God, and He is good.
- We can know God because He has made Himself known.
- God alone is our source of life and joy.



#### Every child should be able to:

- Memorize the Bible verse each week about who God is.
- Pray that God would open their hearts and minds to know Him more.
- Tell someone else a truth about God each week.



#### Every child should feel:

- Loved by God, and thankful for His love for us.
- Broken over the depth of our sin against God.
- Joy in Jesus, the only Son of God who came to save us.



#### Every child should want:

- Learn more about the God who has made Himself known.
- Repent of their sin and of the lies they believe about God.
- Cling to God as the source of truth.

### FAMILY DEVOTION: OF GREAT VALUE

All that God created has value because He has declared it good. In the beginning, God's creation was good. He assigned value to it. Because He values it, we should value it.



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**BIBLE VERSE: ISAIAH 40:28**

*"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable."*

**God is eternal.**

*"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth."*

- Before the heavens and earth existed, there was only God. He has always existed as one God in three persons. He is not a created being. He was not formed or made by anything. He was not spoken into being. He was not born nor did He evolve.
- God's eternal nature reveals that He is the beginning of everything. Only the Creator is the beginning. Only the Creator is eternal. The fact that God has no beginning and no end points to His position and place as the Creator.

**God is the all-powerful Creator.**

*"He does not faint or grow weary."*

- God is perfect in every way. He is not like man; He does not grow weary or become overwhelmed. When He created the heavens and the earth, He did not become tired or overcome. When He rested on the seventh day, He did so because He chose to do so, not because He needed to do so.
- God is more powerful than anything or anyone. He alone has control and power over everything. He spoke all of creation into existence and sustains all of life. He does not need anything or require anything from anyone or anything. He is complete and has all He needs in and of Himself.

**God is the all-knowing Creator.**

*"His understanding is unsearchable."*

- Because God is complete in Himself, He doesn't even need wisdom or understanding. He gives wisdom and understanding to the world. If anyone understands the world around them, it is because God gives them wisdom and understanding.
- He is the all-knowing Creator who holds all wisdom and knowledge. His depth of wisdom is limitless and unsearchable. He will never run out of wisdom or knowledge. He will always be the One who knows all and understands all.

**BIBLE STORY: GENESIS 1:1-25***The Creation Story*

Supporting Scripture: Genesis 1:1; Psalm 24:1; Genesis 1:25

**Teacher Introduction:**

Before the heavens and the earth existed, there was only God. God exists as one God in three persons. God is a triune God, which means that He is one God who is manifested in three persons, God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God has always existed in this way. Before He made the heavens and the earth, He existed. This means He is not a created being. He was not born like we are born. He was not made, nor did He just come into being. He has always been. He created the heavens, or atmosphere, and the earth. Then, He began creating all life and life forms to fill the heavens and the earth. He separated the light from the darkness and the waters from the dry land. He made the night and the day. By doing this, He created time and formed all life that exists within time. He created all animals on the land, in the air, and in the sea. All living things are from Him. He created everything. There is nothing living that exists that isn't from God. As He created life and established order on earth, He set in motion the world as we know it. Life cycles began and have continued on earth because God allows them to continue. In the creation story, we see His power and authority over creation. We also see the value that He has assigned to His creation. Everything He made, He declared good and assigned value to it. In the beginning, His creation was good. It was not broken or made bad until man sinned. Because God has declared His creation good and valuable, we should, too.

**Teaching Guide:**

The guide below is provided to help you teach the story: The Creation Story. The three points are the Big Ideas that should guide your lesson as you share from Genesis 1:1-25 and teach the truth that God is the Creator of all things. Footnotes are provided for further study of the text and God's interaction with His people. Throughout the lesson questions are placed to help you guide the children to think about and process the truth that God is the Creator of all things.

**Opening Illustration:**

Help the children understand that God is the Creator by bringing in a container of dirt and a packet of seeds. Allow the children to each have a turn placing a seed in the dirt. Next, ask the children to tell the seeds to grow. Tell the children that God spoke life into being. He told the sun to shine, and it did. He told the animals to exist, and they did. He is the Creator of everything.

**BIG IDEA: IN THE BEGINNING, THERE WAS ONLY GOD. <sup>1</sup>****God has always been one God in three persons.**

- God does not have a beginning; He is eternal.
- To be eternal means that you have always been alive. God has always been alive.
- Not only has He always been alive, but He has always existed as one God in three persons, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This means there are three persons to God, but He is one God.
- This makes Him very different from us; we are not like God in this way.



Gather the children in a circle and instruct them to join hands. Tell them that they have formed a circle. Ask them if their circle has a beginning or an end. Point out to them that most circles don't have starting points or ending points. Remind them that God doesn't have a starting point. He has always existed.

**Before the world began, God was in existence.**

- In Genesis 1:1-2, we know that before the world began, God was already in existence. God made the world. He is the one who created it.
- This means that God is first. He is the greatest Being of all because He is before all other things. He is not a created being. All things came after Him.
- He is the most important Being and the most powerful Being.

**God will always exist.**

- Because God has always existed, He will always be alive.
- Being eternal means that you never stop being alive. This means that God will never end.
- This is good news for His people. We can have joy and hope in Him because it means that He will always be alive. He is never going to end.
- Because He is the beginning of everything and has always existed, He will always exist.

*Has anything existed before God? (No, God is before all other things.)*

1. Genesis 1:1: Before anything else existed, there was only God. He has always existed.

**BIG IDEA: EVERYTHING THAT EXISTS COMES FROM GOD. <sup>2</sup>****All things are made through God's power.**

- God is the most powerful being in existence. We know this because in Genesis 1:1-25, when He created the heavens and the earth, He spoke them into being.
- He created every living thing by the power of His word. Creation obeyed Him. When He told the waters to separate from the dry land, they obeyed.
- God is so powerful, the creation did exactly as He told it to. Everything was made through God's power.
- Everything we see today is made through His power. He allows us to create and invent things today. We know how to do things because of His power at work in the world.



Play a game of musical bean bag. When the music stops, the child holding the bean bag gets to name something that God made. Help the children name things if they get stuck and can't think of something. Point out that everything is made by God.

**Nothing exists apart from God allowing it to exist.**

- It's easy to believe that we create things in our power, but we only have the power and ability that God allows.
- When God created the heavens and earth and all that is in it, He set in motion life cycles that have continued on earth. It is from these cycles that life continues today.
- It is only because He allows this life to continue that we are still here, and we are still able to create and invent new things.
- There is nothing that exists apart from God allowing it to exist. He is the source of all things.

**All knowledge and wisdom come from God.**

- God is all-knowing and has all wisdom. This means that He knows everything and understands everything.
- It is in His wisdom that He created the heavens and earth. He has all knowledge of all of creation.
- We know things because He allows to know them. We have wisdom because He allows us to grow in wisdom.
- Even the wisdom and knowledge that we gain is from Him.
- Absolutely everything exists because of Him. It all originates with Him. He is the beginning of all things.

*Who knows and understand everything? (God is the most all-knowing and understanding of all beings.)*

2. Psalm 24:1: All that exists is from God and for God.

**BIG IDEA: EVERYTHING GOD CREATED IS GOOD, HAS VALUE, AND SHOULD BE VALUED.<sup>3</sup>****God is good and all He does is good.**

- God is a perfect God. He never sins or does any bad thing.
- This means that all He does is good.
- In Genesis 1:1-25, everything that God made was good.
- We know His creation is good because He is good, and He said it was good.
- When God made the heavens and earth, they were good. When He made the night and the day, it was good.
- Everything He made was good because it came from Him and He is good.



Bring something that has special meaning to you like a family heirloom. Share this with the children. Ask the children to tell you about their favorite stuffed animal or toy. Talk about what makes these items so special and valuable. Remind them that all of God's creation has value because He has given it value.

**Everything God made has value because He gave it value.**

- Things have value because they are given value.
- When God made the heaven and earth and all that is in it, He gave them value.
- He declared that they all are good and made them valuable.
- Because God values His creation, it means they have value.
- The very fact that He is the one who created them gives them value.
- All of creation has value because it comes from God.

**We should value God's creation because He values His creation.**

- God values His creation. He especially values people.
- Because God is the Creator and Ruler of all things, we should value what He values.
- He has made every person in His image and this means we should value them as fellow image-bearers.
- We should treat them with value and respect. We should be kind to them and show them love because God has determined that they are valuable.
- We should value our created world because God values it. We should take care of it and look after it.

*Why should we value creation? (God values creation; therefore, we should value creation.)*

3. Genesis 1:25: All that God made was good.

## HOOKS

**A Valuable Creation**

Give each child a piece of construction paper and some markers. Ask the children to draw a picture of their family. Allow the children to share their pictures. Talk with them about how our families have value. Remind them that all of God's creation has value because He gives it value. Tell them that God called all of His creation good, and we should value it, too.

**Before The Beginning**

Show the children pictures of different parts of creation, such as animals, mountains, people, etc. Talk with them about how all of these things were created. Remind them that all of these things had a beginning. Tell them that before the beginning of the world, God existed. Remind them that He has no beginning. He has always been.

**We Are Valuable**

Gather the children in a circle and pass a small mirror around the circle. Ask the children to look at themselves in the mirror. Next, point out that each child is important and has value. Remind them that God has given us value because He has made us in His image. Tell them that all of creation has value because God has said that it has value.

