

LETTERS & DEVOTION

Bible: In the Beginning, a Kindergarten Year in Genesis

Free sample: Unit 1, Lessons 1 to 8

These are 8 lessons from *Bible: In the Beginning, a Kindergarten Year in Genesis: Kindergarten*, a Kindergarten year a parent runs at the kitchen table. Each lesson is a short script for you, a page to read together, and a practice sheet you may copy for your household. Answers are at the back.

Bible: In the Beginning, a Kindergarten Year in Genesis: Kindergarten. Sample edition.

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Letters & Devotion is a Christian curriculum: a Bible course in every grade from the King James text, and science taught as scientists teach it, including an old earth. Standards references: Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards.



BIBLE · UNIT 1

In the Beginning

Nine weeks in Genesis 1 to 9: the world made and called good, people made in God's image, the choice that broke it, and God's first promises. Ends with the rainbow.

In this unit

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. God made everything | 5. Outside the garden |
| 2. God made people | 6. Two brothers |
| 3. The garden | 7. Noah listens |
| 4. The choice | 8. The flood |

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 1

God made everything

Goal: Hear, retell and talk about “God made everything” (Genesis 1:1-25), and say Genesis 1:1 by heart.

About 60 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: God made everything

Three short sittings this week, about twenty minutes each: read and retell, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Genesis 1:1-25, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THEN TELL IT LIKE THIS:

Before anything at all, there was God. No sky, no ground, no light, nothing.

God spoke, and there was light. He spoke again and there was sky, then dry land and seas.

He filled the world up: plants and trees, the sun and moon and stars, fish in the water, birds in the air, and every animal on the ground.

Each time God finished something he looked at it and said it was good.

LEARN BY HEART (Genesis 1:1):

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

ASK:

1. What is your favorite thing God made?
2. What do you think it sounded like when God said 'let there be light'?
3. Look out the window. Name three things out there that God made.

DO: Go outside with a paper bag and collect five things God made: a leaf, a stone, a

seed, a feather, a blade of grass. Line them up on the table and thank God for each one out loud.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: God made everything

1. What was there before God made anything?
☐ A A dark forest and a wide river. ☐ B A big pile of rocks in the dark.
☐ C Nothing at all. Only God.
2. How did God make the light?
☐ A He waited quietly for morning to come on its own.
☐ B He lit a small fire and let it burn brightly. ☐ C He spoke, and there was light.
3. Our verse says: In the beginning God created the heaven and the ... what?
☐ A the earth ☐ B the garden ☐ C the sea
4. Every time God finished part of the world, he looked at it and said one word about it. Which word?
☐ A Big ☐ B Finished ☐ C Good

God made people

Goal: Hear, retell and talk about “God made people” (Genesis 1:26-31 and Genesis 2:7), and say Genesis 1:27 (part) by heart.

About 60 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: God made people

Three short sittings this week, about twenty minutes each: read and retell, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Genesis 1:26-31 and Genesis 2:7, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THEN TELL IT LIKE THIS:

On the last day of making, God did something different.

He made a man out of the dust of the ground and breathed life into him, and the man became alive.

God made people to be like him in a way nothing else is: able to love, to choose, to make things, and to know him.

Then God looked at everything he had made, all of it together, and said it was very good.

LEARN BY HEART (Genesis 1:27 (part)):

So God created man in his own image.

ASK:

1. What can people do that animals cannot do?
2. 'In his own image' means you are like God in some ways. Which ways do you think?
3. Who in our family is made in God's image?

DO: Trace around your child's hand on paper. Inside the outline write 'made in God's image' and let them decorate it. Put it somewhere they will see it this week.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: God made people

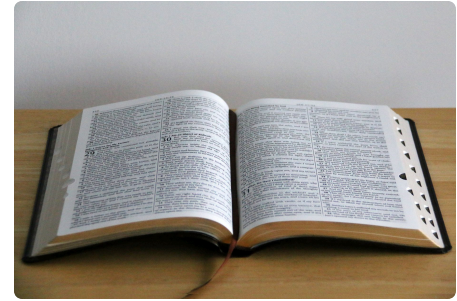
1. What did God make the man out of?
☐ A A piece of wood from a tree ☐ B A stone from the river ☐ C The dust of the ground
2. What did God do so the man became alive?
☐ A He breathed life into him. ☐ B He gave him food to eat.
☐ C He put him gently in the water.
3. Our verse says: So God created man in his own ... what?
☐ A image ☐ B garden ☐ C house
4. The week says people are like God in a way nothing else is. Which way?
☐ A They never get tired, no matter how long they play.
☐ B They can love, choose, make things and know God.
☐ C They can run faster than any animal.

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 3

The garden

Goal: Hear, retell and talk about “The garden” (Genesis 2:8-25), and say Genesis 2:15 (part) by heart.

About 60 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: The garden

Three short sittings this week, about twenty minutes each: read and retell, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Genesis 2:8-25, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THEN TELL IT LIKE THIS:

God planted a garden and put the man in it. There were trees of every kind, good to look at and good to eat.

God gave the man work to do: to take care of the garden. Work was a gift, not a punishment.

God brought all the animals to the man and let him name every one.

But no animal was a friend like him, so God made a woman, and the man was not alone any more.

LEARN BY HEART (Genesis 2:15 (part)):

And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

ASK:

1. If you could name the animals, what would you call a giraffe?
2. The man had a job to do in the garden. What job do you have in our house?
3. God said it was not good for the man to be alone. Who are the people God gave

you?

DO: Give your child one small caring job in the house or garden this week that is genuinely theirs: watering a plant, filling a bowl, sweeping a step. Let them do it badly rather than doing it for them.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: The garden

1. What job did God give the man in the garden?
☐ A To take care of the garden ☐ B To guard it from lions ☐ C To build a house to live in
2. Who gave all the animals their names?
☐ A The man ☐ B God named them all himself. ☐ C The woman
3. Our verse says God put the man in the garden to dress it and to ... what?
☐ A keep it ☐ B sell it ☐ C leave it
4. The week says work was a gift, not a punishment. When did God give the man work to do?
☐ A Before anything had gone wrong ☐ B Only when the man got very bored
☐ C Only after the man had disobeyed God

The choice

Goal: Hear, retell and talk about “The choice” (Genesis 3:1-13), and say Psalm 119:11 (part) by heart.

About 60 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: The choice

Three short sittings this week, about twenty minutes each: read and retell, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Genesis 3:1-13, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THEN TELL IT LIKE THIS:

God gave the man and woman one rule: they could eat from any tree except one.

A serpent came and asked the woman a question: did God really say that?

Then he told her something that was not true, that nothing bad would happen.

She ate, and gave some to the man, and he ate too. Straight away they felt afraid and hid from God among the trees.

LEARN BY HEART (Psalm 119:11 (part)):

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

ASK:

1. What was the one rule?
2. The serpent asked 'did God really say?'. Why is that a sneaky question?
3. When you have done something wrong, do you want to hide? What happens when you hide?

DO: Play hide and seek. Afterwards, sit down and talk about the moment in the game

when you want to be found. Say plainly that God came looking for them in the garden, and that he still comes looking.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: The choice

1. God gave the man and woman one rule. What was it?
☐ A They could eat from any tree except one. ☐ B They could not eat any fruit at all.
☐ C They must never talk to any of the animals.
2. What did the man and woman do straight after they ate?
☐ A They quickly ran to go and tell God everything.
☐ B They both went to sleep right away. ☐ C They felt afraid and hid among the trees.
3. Our verse says: Thy word have I hid in mine ... what?
☐ A house ☐ B heart ☐ C hand
4. The serpent told the woman something that was not true. What was it?
☐ A That the garden would grow bigger ☐ B That nothing bad would happen
☐ C That God had made a mistake with the animals

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 5

Outside the garden

Goal: Hear, retell and talk about “Outside the garden” (Genesis 3:14-24), and say Psalm 136:1 (part) by heart.

About 60 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Outside the garden

Three short sittings this week, about twenty minutes each: read and retell, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Genesis 3:14-24, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THEN TELL IT LIKE THIS:

Everything got harder. Work became sweaty and difficult, and one day people would die.

But God also made a promise: one day someone born of the woman would crush the serpent's head.

Before he sent them out, God made clothes for them out of skins, with his own hands. They had to leave the garden, but they did not leave alone and they did not leave without a promise.

LEARN BY HEART (Psalm 136:1 (part)):

O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

ASK:

1. What did God make for them before they left?
2. Do you think they were sad to go? What would you miss?
3. God made a promise on the worst day. Has anyone ever been kind to you on a bad

DO: Make something together that keeps someone warm or safe: a blanket fort, a paper coat for a doll, a card for someone sad. Talk about God making clothes for people who had just disobeyed him.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Outside the garden

1. What did God make for the man and woman before they left the garden?
☐ A A small wooden boat ☐ B A brand new garden to live in ☐ C Clothes out of skins
2. What got harder once they were outside the garden?
☐ A Work became sweaty and difficult. ☐ B Nothing at all changed for them.
☐ C All of the animals stopped eating.
3. Our verse says: for his mercy endureth for ... what?
☐ A ever ☐ B a day ☐ C a week
4. What promise did God make on the day they had to leave?
☐ A That one day someone born of the woman would crush the serpent's head
☐ B That they could come right back to the garden again next year
☐ C That the serpent would one day become their very own best friend

Two brothers

Goal: Hear, retell and talk about “Two brothers” (Genesis 4:1-16), and say 1 John 3:11 (part) by heart.

About 60 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Two brothers

Three short sittings this week, about twenty minutes each: read and retell, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Genesis 4:1-16, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THEN TELL IT LIKE THIS:

Adam and Eve had two sons, Cain and Abel. Both brought a gift to God.

God was pleased with Abel's gift. Cain's face went dark with anger.

God warned Cain: sin is crouching at your door like an animal, but you can rule over it.

Cain did not listen. He hurt his brother terribly. And even then God did not stop caring for Cain, but put a mark on him so no one would harm him.

LEARN BY HEART (1 John 3:11 (part)):

that we should love one another.

ASK:

1. How do you feel in your body when you are jealous?
2. God warned Cain before anything happened. Has anyone ever warned you like that?
3. What is one thing you could do next time you feel that hot, cross feeling?

DO: Name the feeling this week. When your child is angry or jealous, say out loud 'that is the crouching feeling' and give them one physical thing to do with it: stamp ten

times, push the wall, run to the fence and back.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Two brothers

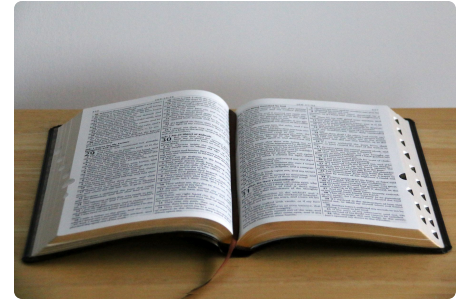
1. What did Cain and Abel both bring to God?
☐ A A letter ☐ B A song ☐ C A gift
2. God warned Cain that something was crouching at his door like an animal. What was it?
☐ A Sin ☐ B A lion from the field ☐ C His brother Abel
3. Our verse says: that we should ... what ... one another?
☐ A beat one another ☐ B stay away from one another ☐ C love one another
4. God warned Cain before anything happened. What did God say Cain could do?
☐ A Run away from home ☐ B Bring a better gift next time ☐ C Rule over it

BIBLE · UNIT 1 · LESSON 7

Noah listens

Goal: Hear, retell and talk about “Noah listens” (Genesis 6:9-22), and say Genesis 6:22 (part) by heart.

About 60 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: Noah listens

Three short sittings this week, about twenty minutes each: read and retell, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Genesis 6:9-22, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THEN TELL IT LIKE THIS:

The world had become full of cruelty, and it grieved God's heart.

But there was one man who walked with God, and his name was Noah.

God told Noah to build a huge boat, an ark, and gave him the exact size and the number of doors and windows.

Noah had never seen a flood. He built it anyway, for a very long time, while people watched and laughed.

LEARN BY HEART (Genesis 6:22 (part)):

Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

ASK:

1. How long do you think it took to build a boat that big?
2. What do you think the neighbors said?
3. Is there something hard you are doing right now that takes a long time?

DO: Build an ark from a cardboard box or blocks and keep it out all week; you will add

animals next week. Measure something long together with a piece of string to feel how big 300 cubits is.

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: Noah listens

1. What did God tell Noah to build?

- ☐ A A tall tower ☐ B A huge boat ☐ C A stone wall

2. Had Noah ever seen a flood before he started building?

- ☐ A Yes, one every year. ☐ B No, never. ☐ C Yes, once when he was a boy.

3. Our verse says Noah did what?

- ☐ A All that God commanded him ☐ B As much as he felt like doing
☐ C Only the easy parts

4. God gave Noah the exact size of the ark and the number of doors and windows.
What does that tell you?

- ☐ A God told Noah exactly how to build it. ☐ B Noah simply made it up as he went along.
☐ C Noah copied a boat he had seen before.

The flood

Goal: Hear, retell and talk about “The flood” (Genesis 7:1-24 and 8:1-19), and say Genesis 8:1 (part) by heart.

About 60 minutes



Read together FOR THE STUDENT

THIS WEEK: The flood

Three short sittings this week, about twenty minutes each: read and retell, say the verse, then do the activity.

READ TOGETHER: Genesis 7:1-24 and 8:1-19, from the King James Bible. Read it aloud slowly, even the parts that sound old. Your child does not have to understand every word to know it is the real thing.

THEN TELL IT LIKE THIS:

The animals came, two by two and some by sevens, and God shut the door himself. The rain fell for forty days and forty nights, and the water covered even the mountains. Then the Bible says something quiet and enormous: God remembered Noah. The wind blew, the water went down, and a dove came back with a fresh olive leaf in its beak. Land.

LEARN BY HEART (Genesis 8:1 (part)):

And God remembered Noah.

ASK:

1. Which two animals would you most want on the ark?
2. It was dark and loud and long inside that boat. What would you have done in there?
3. 'God remembered Noah.' What do you think Noah felt when the dove came back?

DO: Fill the ark you built with toy animals, two by two, and count them in pairs. Then

LOGGING: a parent records the minutes on the Transcript & Hours page. Reading, discussion and the written work all count.

Practice: The flood

1. Who shut the door of the ark?

- ☐ A The animals pushed it shut. ☐ B Noah ☐ C God

2. How long did the rain fall?

- ☐ A Forty days and forty nights ☐ B A whole year and then some more
☐ C Only four days and four nights

3. Our verse is four words long. What does it say God did?

- ☐ A God kindly thanked Noah. ☐ B God remembered Noah.
☐ C God quietly visited Noah.

4. What did the dove bring back in its beak?

- ☐ A A small fish ☐ B A fresh olive leaf ☐ C A stick for its nest

Answer key

Bible

Lesson 1	1. C 2. C 3. A 4. C
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Lesson 2	1. C 2. A 3. A 4. B
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Lesson 3	1. A 2. A 3. A 4. A
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Lesson 4	1. A 2. C 3. B 4. B
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Lesson 5	1. C 2. A 3. A 4. A
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Lesson 6	1. C 2. A 3. C 4. C
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Lesson 7	1. B 2. B 3. A 4. A
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Lesson 8	1. C 2. A 3. B 4. B
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Unit 1 check-up	1. B 2. C 3. C 4. B 5. C 6. B 7. C 8. A 9. B 10. B 11. C 12. C 13. C 14. A 15. C 16. A
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The same lessons, with a teacher who talks back

Every lesson in this book also lives at **lettersanddevotion.com**, where Clara, a built-in teacher, works through it with your child as a conversation: she explains a wrong answer instead of marking it, reads aloud for a child who cannot read yet, and keeps the hours and the transcript for you.

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