

The Caring Creator

By RLD Editorial Team

for use as
STEP 1



Lesson 2

Focus:

Our God is a loving God.

Echoes Focus:

That your students accept their own self-worth as beings created in the image of God.

Lesson 2

Bible Basis:

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:7

Lesson 2

Memory Verse:

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. —Psalm 139:14

Students will consider the creator’s perspective as they explore our loving, Creator God.

Materials:

Internet access

Every year, countries throughout the world encourage their young people to take their good and creative ideas and invent something new. Recently, two students from Canada, Kyle and Jayden, entered a contest called Little Inventors. Their invention, designed to reduce food waste and help grow plants, was actually made into a real object!

Show students the following webpage, reading aloud the invention’s description and making sure students see both the image of the design and of the table that was created:

Compost Table

<https://www.littleinventors.org/ideas/compost-table/details>

➤ **Have you ever invented anything or had a great idea for an invention? What was the idea and how did you come up with it?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Students may have dreamt up creative devices to make their lives easier, practical solutions to real problems, or silly ideas that are simply amusing. Share from your own experience if possible.)

➤ **Maybe you’ve invented something yourself or created something via artistic expression, or otherwise. How does it feel to create something—to take an idea and bring it to life in a way that is unique or brand new?** (Accept all reasonable answers. The process may be both frustrating and exhilarating. The end result usually brings delight, joy, and satisfaction.)

➤ **What value is there in creating?** (Accept all reasonable answers. Creation can bring joy and beauty, or it can evoke empathy or understanding. Creation can be useful, helpful, even life-saving. Creation means new life, new purpose. Although people can’t create something out of nothing like God can, putting something together to come up with something new is something amazing that people can do—it reflects the God who made us.)

Taking an idea and bringing it to life is extraordinary. A good creator puts thought and care into their work. Creators put a bit of themselves in their creations as well. It is their ideas and passion that causes them to create and so their creation will reflect the one who made it to some degree.

God is a good creator who loves and cares for His creation. As God's creation, we reflect His image. Today we'll take a look at the most precious of God's creations—people! We'll read the words of the psalmist that express our inventor God knowing us when we were just an idea, and forming us with care to bring us to life.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

middle school



Lesson 2 / September 8, 2024

The Caring Creator

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 2

Focus:

Our God is a loving God.

Echoes Focus:

That your students accept their own self-worth as beings created in the image of God.

Lesson 2

Bible Basis:

Genesis 1:26-28; 2:7

Lesson 2

Memory Verse:

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. —Psalm 139:14

Materials:

- Paper
- Pens/pencils
- Optional: Duck™ mirror crafting tape, scissors, cardboard (1 - 4in x 4in piece per student), fine-tipped permanent markers

Optional: Before class, purchase a roll of mirror crafting tape (available at discount department stores). Provide a piece of 4in x 4in cardboard or poster board and strips of the tape for each student so that they can craft their own mirror to hang in their room or locker as a reminder of today's lesson.

If your class is meeting online, invite students to bring supplies with them to class.

➤ **How do you feel when you look in a mirror and consider your outward appearance and who you know yourself to be on inside?** (Do not force anyone to respond to this question. Students may be shy to share so you might prompt them with your own answers. Accept all reasonable answers. Some may not have given this much thought; others will share times of feeling confident, happy, proud, or attractive; others may share times they have felt badly about themselves or been self-critical.)

➤ **When is it easiest and hardest to love yourself?** (Accept all reasonable answers. We may find it easy to love ourselves when we feel good about our behavior or appearance, or when others validate those things in us. We may be hard on ourselves when we are frustrated, struggling, not meeting our own expectations, or when hearing negativity about ourselves from others.)

➤ **What do you think God sees when He looks at you?** (This is the most important view of all. Encourage answers that echo today's lesson theme and verse—that God loves us, created us in His image, and that we are fearfully and wonderfully made. Accept that some students may doubt this or fear that God is critical of them; but assure them that God's love is unconditional.)

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home). If you opt to have students make their own mirror out of mirror crafting tape, distribute those optional supplies now. Allow each student to cut enough of the mirror tape to cover their 4in x 4in piece of cardboard. You might want to have them write today's memory verse on the mirror with fine-tipped permanent marker. They can use these to complete this activity.

If you opt not to have students make a mirror, simply have your students find a quiet space for reflection. Remind students that they are God's creation, completely loved by God exactly as they are. Remind students that we were made in God's image and each of us is a reflection of God in the world. Instruct students to enter a time of contemplation, considering how God sees them. Have them write or draw a picture of themselves as they believe God sees them. Prompt them to understand that they can include physical traits, aspects of their personality or skills, or broader ideas of being loved, known, and valued by God. Leave a few minutes to chat about this time of reflection—whether the exercise was easy, fun, challenging, encouraging, insightful, etc. Let anyone who wants to share their words or pictures do so. Encourage students to keep their mirrors and the writing or pictures they made as a reminder that God made them, knows them, and loves them so much.

Close in prayer.

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