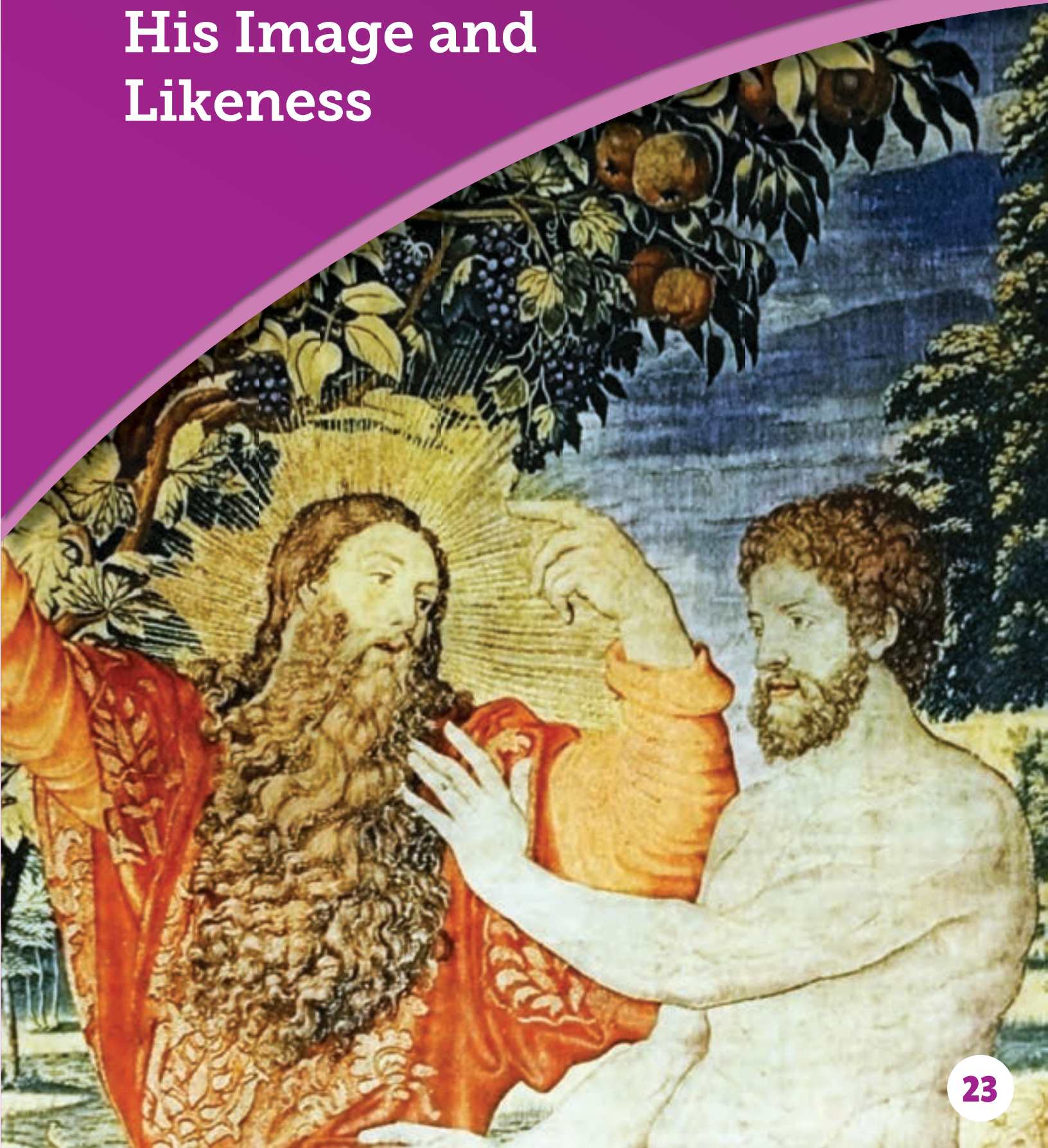


God Made Us in His Image and Likeness



Session 2 at a Glance



Learning Goals

- God made human beings in His image and likeness.
- To be made in God's image and likeness means that we possess an intellect, free will, and a capacity for love.
- God is our Father, and we are His children.
- God invites us to be part of His divine family by entering into a covenant with the human race.
- To be made in God's image and likeness also means that we are made as male and female, equal and different.



Session Plan Chart

OPTION 1

Warm-Up: Catechist guided activity

- *You will need: the video of the song "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" found at [SophiaOnline.org/KingofLove](https://www.sophiaonline.org/KingofLove)*

CATECHIST'S
GUIDE PAGES

pg. 26

STUDENT
WORKBOOK PAGES

N/A

Activity: God's Covenant Family

pg. 26

pg. 12

Wrap-Up: Catechist guided activity

- *You will need: Construction paper*

pg. 29

N/A

OPTION 2

Warm-Up: Adam Comes to Eden

pg. 30

pg. 14

Activity: In God's Image

pg. 33

pg. 15

Wrap-Up: Catechist guided activity

pg. 34

N/A

OPTION 3

Warm-Up: Catechist guided activity

pg. 38

N/A

Activity and Wrap-Up: Male and Female Reading Guide

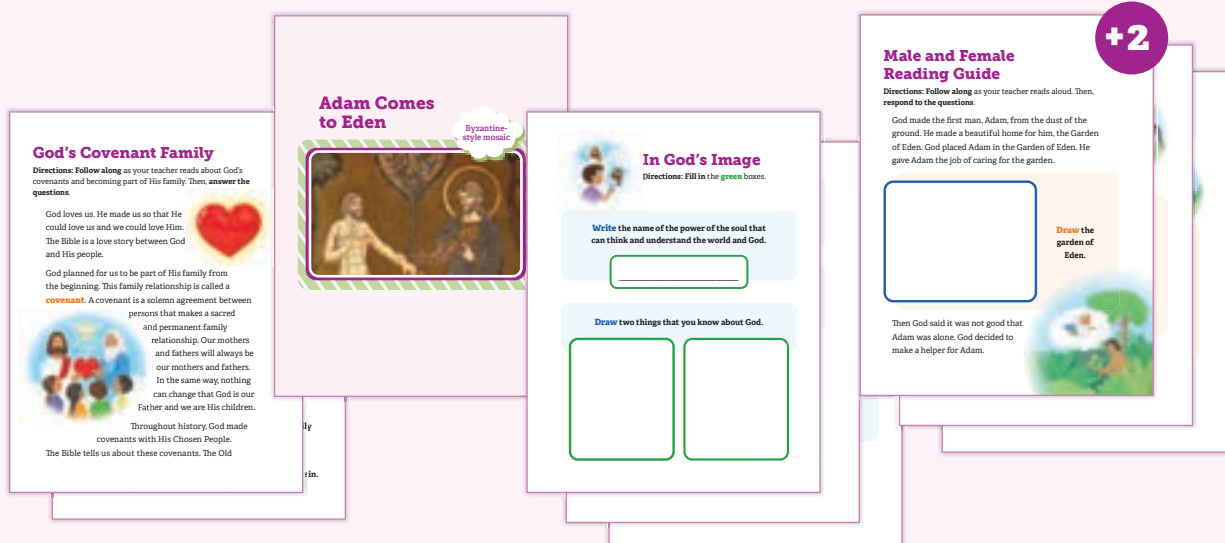
pg. 39

pg. 18



Connections to the Catechism in This Session

CCC 239, 355–357, 369, 375, 2777, 2779–2780, 2784–2785, 2800



Vocabulary Your Students Will Learn

- A **covenant** is a solemn agreement between persons that makes a sacred and permanent family relationship.
- **Love** is wanting and choosing what is good for someone else.



Key Scripture Passages

Then God said: "Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness." ...God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

— *Genesis 1:26-27*

The LORD God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suited to him."

— *Genesis 2:18*




Prayer for This Session

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Option 1

Warm-Up

- A.** Begin by **showing the video**  of the hymn “**The King of Love My Shepherd Is,**” found at **SophiaOnline.org/KingofLove**. Sing the first and last verses with your students, which are printed below:

The King of love my Shepherd is,
Whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am His,
And He is mine forever.

And so through all the length of days,
Your goodness fails me never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Your praise,
Within your house forever.

- B.** Next, pray together an Our Father.



Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

- C.** Then, ask your students the following questions:

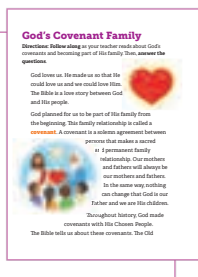
- What do the hymn and the Our Father prayer have in common? *In both, God is someone who cares for us. In the hymn, He is the Good Shepherd, and in the Our Father, He is our Father.*
- Because God is our Father, what does that make us? *His children.*


- D.** Explain to your students that the Book of Genesis, the first book of the Bible, makes it clear that being made in God's image means, in part, that we are like God, possessing intellect, free will, and a capacity for love. By our Baptism, we are made sons and daughters of God. God invites us to be part of His family and to enjoy the safe and loving relationship that a child has with his father. We call this special family relationship a **covenant**.



Invitation to Witness: Consider sharing with your students a story from your own family that highlights the goodness of the relationships between family members.

Activity



- A.** Begin by having your students turn to **God's Covenant Family** on **pg. 12** in the Student Workbook and have them follow along as you **read aloud**  about covenants and God's invitation to us to be part of His divine family.
- B.** When you have finished reading, help them to fill in the blanks with the correct answers from the reading. Then, review and discuss the correct answers as a class.

Warm-Up Worksheet

(page 12 in the Student Workbook)

Session 2 • Option 1

God's Covenant Family

Directions: Follow along as your teacher reads about God's covenants and becoming part of His family. Then, **answer the questions**.

God loves us. He made us so that He could love us and we could love Him. The Bible is a love story between God and His people.



God planned for us to be part of His family from the beginning. This family relationship is called a **covenant**. A covenant is a solemn agreement between persons that makes a sacred



and permanent family relationship. Our mothers and fathers will always be our mothers and fathers. In the same way, nothing can change that God is our Father and we are His children.

Throughout history, God made covenants with His Chosen People. The Bible tells us about these covenants. The Old

Warm-Up Worksheet, continued

(page 13 in the Student Workbook)

Testament tells us about how God prepared us to be saved from sin. The New Testament tells us about how God sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, into the world. Jesus freely gave His life for us on the Cross. He rose from the dead. Jesus' sacrifice and Resurrection saved us all from sin and death. Through this greatest act of love, Jesus made a New Covenant. Now all people are invited to be God's children. God invites us all into eternal life as part of His covenant family.



- 1 The story of the Bible is a **love** story.
- 2 A **covenant** establishes a family relationship.
- 3 God sent Jesus to **save** us from sin.

OPTION 1 > Wrap-Up

- A.** Begin by distributing a piece of drawing or construction paper to each student and make crayons, markers, and/or colored pencils available. Have your students fold the paper in the middle horizontally to make a crease in the middle. Then, have them flatten out the paper.
- B.** Next, on the left side of the paper, have your students write across the top “God is a good Father!” Across the top of the right side of the paper, have your students write “I am a child of God.”
- C.** Then, on the “good Father” side, have your students list three to five ways that God is a good Father. On the “child of God” side, have your students list three to five ways that they can be good children of God. See the diagram below.
- D.** Conclude by having your students decorate both sides of their papers. Consider punching holes in the top of the paper and use string to hang the papers from the ceiling so that both sides are displayed.

God is a good Father.	I am a child of God.
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.
4.	4.
5.	5.

Option 2

Warm-Up



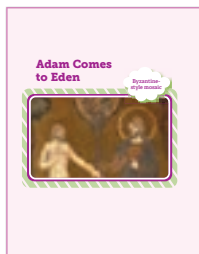
Catechist's Note


You may decide to spend more than one day on this session in order to get the most out of the content and have your students spend enough time on their drawings. .

A. Begin by praying the Our Father together with your students.




Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.



B. Next, have your students turn to **Adam Comes to Eden** on **pg. 14** in the Student Workbook and **project**  an image of the mosaic, which can be found at **SophiaOnline.org/Gr2Unit1Session2**. Ask your students the following questions:

- What do you first notice about this painting? *Accept reasoned answers.*
- Who are the two figures in this painting? *Adam is on the left and Jesus is on the right.*
- By His nature, God does not have a body. He is a pure spirit. However, God the Son, the Second Divine Person of the Trinity, assumed human nature and came to earth. Why do you think the artist might have chosen to depict God in the way that he did? *Accept reasoned answers. Help your students understand that the artist (and other artists) chose to paint the invisible God in a visible way to communicate certain truths about Him. We know that God became man, visible and present among us, in the Person of Jesus Christ. Therefore, when we look at Jesus, we can come to know God and things about Him.*
- How would you describe what is happening in this painting? *God (who is depicted as Jesus) has created Adam and is drawing him to Himself.*

C. Then, **read aloud**  to your students **Genesis 1:26-27**:



Then God said: "Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness." ...God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

D. Ask your students the following questions:

- What does this passage tell us about how we are like God? *It tells us that we are made in His image and likeness, as male and female.*
- How is this truth shown in the icon of God creating Adam? *Adam looks like God, who is depicted as Jesus. The fact that he looks like Jesus symbolizes how human beings are made in God's image and likeness.*
- Notice that Adam and God (who is depicted as Jesus) have the same face. Why do you think the artist chose to paint them in this way? *This emphasizes in this painting that humanity is made in God's image. This also shows in a visual way two things: (1) Jesus is the full image of God. He fully reveals God to us, and (2) We are made in the image of God and, by becoming more like Christ, we become more fully in God's image.*

E. Conclude by explaining to your students that, from its very first pages, the Bible reveals to us one of the most important truths about being human: we are made in God's image and likeness. Importantly, this does not mean that we look like God. (God is a pure spirit so He does not have a physical form by nature. Students may ask about why He is depicted a certain way in art. This is because the artists chose to paint the invisible God in a visible way to communicate certain truths about Him.) As we learned in the last session, being made in God's image and likeness means that there are certain characteristics about us that are like God; specifically, we are made with an intellect (reason), free will, and a capacity for love. Jesus, who is God, is the fullness of God's image and likeness. He shows us how to truly be like God.

Warm-Up Worksheet
(page 14 in the Student Workbook)

Session 2 • Option 2

Adam Comes to Eden

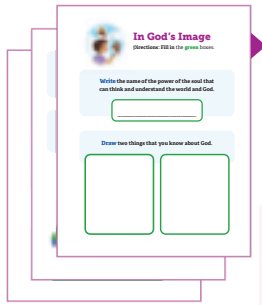
Byzantine-style mosaic



14

God Made Us in His Image and Likeness

OPTION 2 > Activity



A. Have your students turn to **In God's Image** on **pg. 15** in the Student Workbook. Define the following terms for your students and write the key words on the board as you do so. You may want to use a diagram similar to the one copied here. As you explain about each power of the soul, pause to have your students answer the questions on the worksheet.

B. Next, explain to your students that the **soul** is what makes a living thing alive. The soul also makes a living thing what it is. Therefore, each of us has a human soul. Our souls are what make us alive and what make us human beings. We cannot see the soul. But we know it exists because we are alive and because of what the soul does.

C. Then, ask your students to think about their favorite superhero and the super-powers they have. Then, ask for a few volunteers to share who their favorite superhero is and what super-powers they have. *Accept reasoned answers, such as Superman can fly and is super strong, and Spider-Man can stick to walls.*

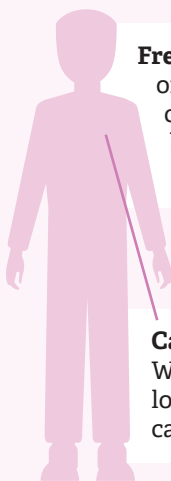
D. Explain to your students that, just as superheroes have super-powers that they can use for good, like how Superman uses his power to fly and his super strength to save people and stop bad guys, our souls have powers, or abilities, as well. These powers are made known through our bodies. No other earthly creature has these powers. They are the intellect, free will, and the capacity for love. It is by these abilities that we are like God. It is our invisible soul that is in His image. Just like superheroes can use their powers for good, so too are we called to use our abilities to do good as God calls us to do.

Diagram: Parts of the Soul

Intellect: The part of the soul that helps us think, and know!

Free Will: The part of the soul that can make choices based upon what we know.

Capacity to Love: We can love and be loved because we can choose freely.



- **Intellect:** The power of the soul that can think and understand. God is pure intellect. He knows and understands all things in a unique way because He is the Creator of all things. We are like God because we can know Him, ourselves, and the world around us.
- **Free Will:** The power of the soul that can make choices. Our free will depends on us using our intellect to know what is good and what is bad. Even after we know what is good, we have the free will to still choose to do otherwise. Everything God does is freely chosen. God has never been required or forced to act, even when He created the universe (including each one of us). Everything He has done is a freely chosen act of goodness and love.
- **Capacity to Love:** The ability to give love to others and to receive love from others. It is a requirement of love to be able to choose freely. Without free will, there cannot be love. God is love. Everything He does is an act of love. He desires for us to love Him in return.

**Catechist's Note**

This discussion is very abstract and may be difficult for some of your students. For now, it is most important to lay the foundation for how we know what is true, good, and beautiful, and how we seek those things through good choices, and that we can love. For students making their First Penance and Reconciliation this year, these concepts will be especially important. They need to be aware of how we make good and bad choices in order to examine their consciences and identify what is a sin and what is not.

OPTION 2 > Wrap-Up

After defining and discussing each power of the soul, give your students time to complete the drawings on their worksheet. Then, call on students to discuss and share their answers with the class.

Activity Worksheet*(page 15 in the Student Workbook)*

Session 2 • Option 2



In God's Image

Directions: Fill in the **green** boxes.

Write the name of the power of the soul that can think and understand the world and God.

intellect

Draw two things that you know about God.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick green border, intended for drawing.A large, empty rectangular box with a thick green border, intended for drawing.

God Made Us in His Image and Likeness

15

Activity Worksheet, continued
(page 16 in the Student Workbook)

Session 2 • Option 2

Write the name of the power of the
soul that can make choices.

free will

Draw a choice that you have
already made today.



Activity Worksheet, continued
(page 17 in the Student Workbook)

Session 2 • Option 2



Write the name of the power of the soul
that gives and accepts love from others.

capacity to love

Draw a time when you gave love or
accepted love from someone.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick green border, intended for a drawing. It is positioned below the drawing instruction.

Option 3

Warm-Up


A. Begin by praying an Our Father together with your students.



Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

B. Next, as a review of the previous option's material, ask your students the following questions:

- What does the Bible tell us about what God made us to be like? *He made us in His image and likeness.*
- What three abilities do we possess as creatures made in God's image and likeness? *Intellect, free will, a capacity for love.*
- What is a covenant? *A solemn agreement between two or more persons that establishes a permanent and sacred bond of family relationship.*
- How are we invited to be members of God's family? *By Jesus' Death and Resurrection which freed us from sin and invited us to be sons and daughters of God.*

C. Then, tell your students that being made in God's image also tells us another very important truth about being human. **Read aloud**  to your students **Genesis 1:27**:

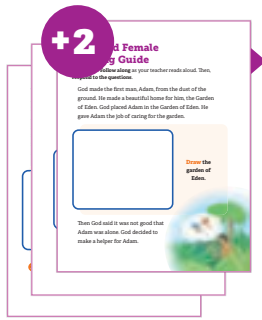



God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

D. Conclude by asking your students what this Bible passage tells us about what God created us to be. *He created us male and female in His image.*

E. Explain to your students that this passage reveals one of the most important truths about being human: God made us in His image as male and female. We are made as men and women, boys and girls, male and female directly and specifically by God. He made men and women different from one another, but equal. In our own special ways, men and women each reveal something different about God. Therefore, because everything God makes is good, this difference between us, being male or female, is good and a gift given to us by God. Even more, it is as male and female together that we most reflect the image of God and make His love known to the world!

OPTION 3 > Activity and Wrap-Up



- A.** Begin by having your students turn to **Male and Female Reading Guide** on **pg. 18** in the Student Workbook. **Read aloud**  each section as your students follow along. Pause at the discussion questions to discuss as a class. Have students complete the activities as you work through the sections.
- B.** When finished, discuss the reading together as a class. Call on students to share and discuss their drawings with the class.
- C.** Conclude by asking your students the following questions:
 - What are two ways in which you are loved by your family?
 - How is this love like the way God loves you?

Activity Worksheet*(page 18 in the Student Workbook)*

Session 2 • Option 3

Male and Female Reading Guide

Directions: Follow along as your teacher reads aloud. Then, **respond to the questions.**

God made the first man, Adam, from the dust of the ground. He made a beautiful home for him, the Garden of Eden. God placed Adam in the Garden of Eden. He gave Adam the job of caring for the garden.



Draw the
garden of
Eden.

Then God said it was not good that Adam was alone. God decided to make a helper for Adam.



Activity Worksheet, continued
(page 19 in the Student Workbook)

Session 2 • Option 3

God made more creatures

God then created all of the wild animals and birds in the sky. He brought them to Adam to give them names. One by one, God brought the animals to Adam. And one by one, Adam named them: a horse, a dog, a bird, a cow.



Draw a
picture of
your favorite
animal.

- 1** Why did God decide to make a helper for Adam?

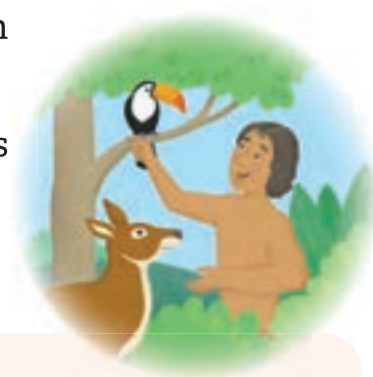
God saw that it was not good that Adam was alone.

Activity Worksheet, continued
(page 20 in the Student Workbook)

Session 2 • Option 3

There were no good helpers for Adam

Adam soon saw that none of the animals were like him. None of them would make good helpers for Adam because he was different from all of the other creatures God had made. Only Adam was made in God's image and likeness. Only he was able to know and love his Creator.



**You, too,
are made in
God's image!**
Draw a
picture of
yourself.

2 What makes Adam different from the animals?

Only Adam was made in the image and likeness of God. Only he was able to know and love his Creator.

Activity Worksheet, continued
(page 21 in the Student Workbook)

Session 2 • Option 3

God created Eve

So, God put Adam to sleep. God took a rib from Adam's side and made Eve, the first woman. When Adam saw Eve for the first time, he was filled with joy. He knew, at long last, that there was another like him! Although she was different from Adam, Eve was made in God's image and likeness too. This made her a good helper for Adam and equal in dignity to him.



Draw a symbol that represents how men and women are equal and different.

- 3** How was Eve just like Adam and not like the animals?
Eve is equal to Adam because she was made from a bone taken from his side and able to know and love God.

God Made Us in His Image and Likeness

21

Activity Worksheet, continued
(page 22 in the Student Workbook)

Session 2 • Option 3

Adam and Eve became the first family

Adam called Eve "bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh" and gave her the name "woman." They were soon married and became the first human family. Their love for each other became a sign of God's love for everyone. Adam and Eve are our first parents.



Draw a picture of your family. Make sure to include God in the drawing!