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Master Designer

Key References: Genesis 1:26-28; Genesis 2:4-25; *Patriarchs and Prophets,* chap. 2, pp. 44-51; *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 1, pp. 39-56; Our Beliefs, nos. 6, 7, 2















powertext

"Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.' So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:26, 27).

Sabbath

DO Do this week's activity on page 18.

powerpoint

We worship God when His image is reflected in our lives.

Have you ever wondered what Adam and Eve felt like on their first day of life? They didn't start out as babies like the rest of us, but as fully grown adults. How did they know how to talk? How did they know what words meant or how to describe feeling hungry or excited? Try to visualize how God created our world and the first human beings.

Adam opened his eyes and looked straight into the eyes of . . . *Who is this?* he wondered.

Standing before him was the most awe-inspiring, loving, and kind being man has ever seen. God the Son, the Creator, reached for the man's hand and pulled him to his feet. They stood face to face. The Creator rejoiced over His first earthly creation made in the image of God. Adam was surrounded by a glow of pulsing light, reflecting the glory and radiance of the Creator. Being in God's presence, Adam felt peace, joy, and love for his Creator. His thoughts were holy, his desires were pure, and his greatest joy was to spend time with God.

In the Garden of Eden the Creator showed Adam the many gifts created for him. With every step Adam's feet sank into velvet-like grass. He paused to look into a flower. His eyes could see into the detail as he studied the grains of yellow pollen. Two woolly things bounded toward Adam and nudged his hand. *What is it?* he wondered. Adam learned from the Creator that these creatures were designed for him. He ran his fingers through the soft masses of white. "You are sheep," Adam said. The sheep gave a deep-throated "Baa-a-a-a" as if they understood Adam's words, then bounced away together.

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Sunday

READ Read Genesis 1:26, 27 and this week's story, "Master Designer."

CREATE Make a bookmark with the power text, Genesis 1:26, 27, on it. Keep it in your Bible to be a reminder of how God has created you in His image.

LEARN Begin to learn the power text.

PRAY Thank God for loving you and for creating you in His likeness.

Monday

READ Read Genesis 1:26-31.

THINK According to these verses, what does being created "in the image of God" mean to you? In what specific ways did Adam and Eve reflect the character of God?

DO With the understanding that each person is a child of God, created in His image, do an act of kindness to show love to others regardless of gender, race, culture, and upbringing.

PRAY Praise God for creating you with the ability to love others.

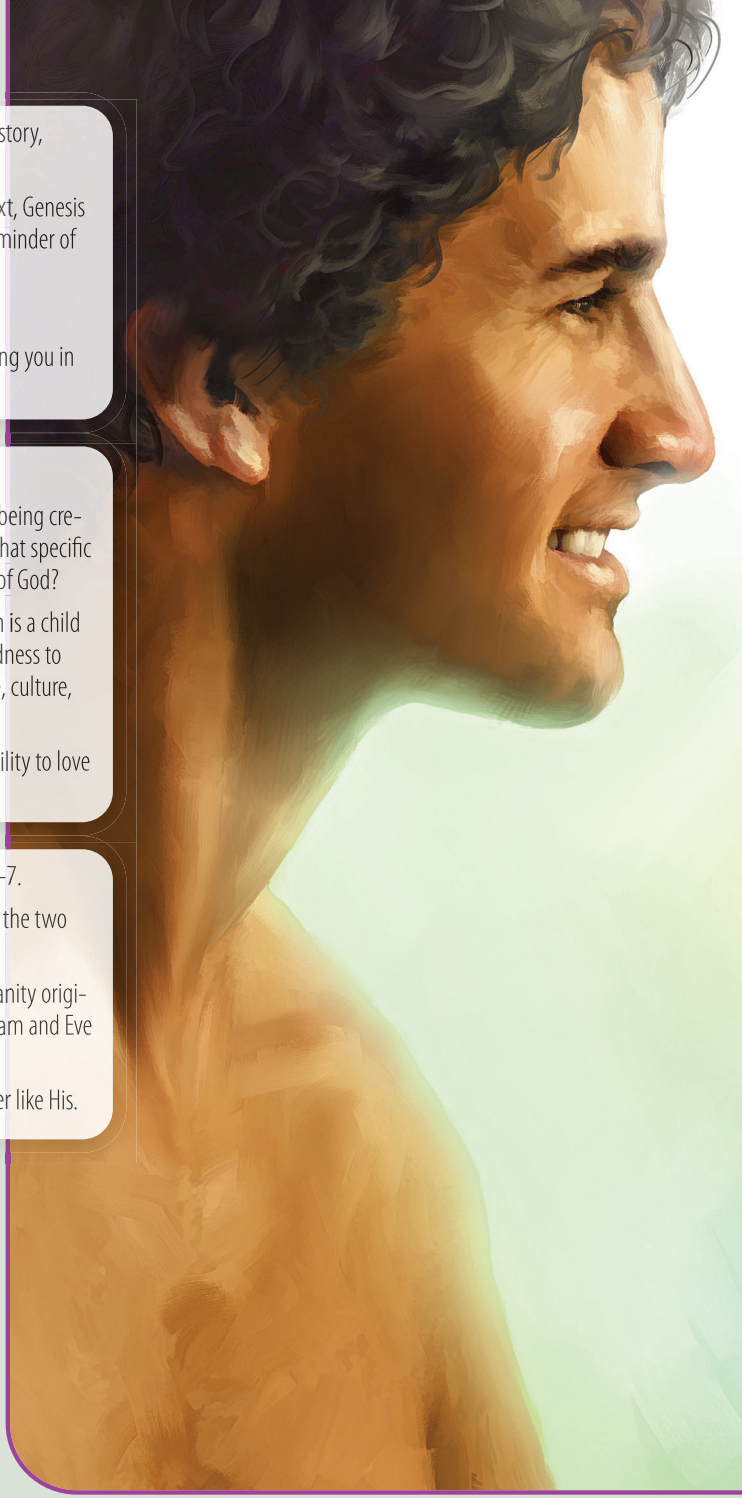
Tuesday

READ Read Genesis 1:26, 27 and Genesis 2:1-7.

WRITE In your Bible study journal,* compare the two descriptions of the creation of man.

DISCUSS With an adult, talk about how humanity originally reflected "the image of God," though Adam and Eve were created "from the dust of the ground."

PRAY Ask God to help you develop a character like His.



The Creator gave Adam the pleasant task of naming the animals. Giraffes, monkeys, horses, rabbits, crows, eagles, tigers, lizards, ants, and crocodiles each took their turn. Adam named every animal. He touched their paws and ears. He studied their antennae and scales. He laughed at their movements and their chattering. He wondered at their unique designs. Slowly Adam realized that they all had come to him in pairs. They each had an other. He suddenly felt alone. Could he—should he—ask the Creator?

Quietly Adam said, "They all have a mate. Do I?"

The Creator smiled. He had wanted Adam to feel his need for a companion. God placed Adam into a deep sleep. He gently removed one of Adam's ribs and made with it another human being. When Adam woke up, his eyes focused again on the Creator's face. They smiled at each other. Then Adam's gaze turned to her. He knew immediately that she was his other, one of his kind. Again the Creator took Adam's hand and pulled him to his feet.

Adam learned that his mate had come from his side. God had not used a bone from the man's head. Eve was not to rule over him. God had not used a bone from his foot. Adam was not to rule over her. Eve was Adam's equal, to stand at his side. The Creator took Eve's hands and placed them in Adam's. The two were one of kind, one of body, and one of mind. They stood staring into each other's eyes. Adam spoke to her: "You will be called woman because you were taken from man." The Creator spread His arm in a panorama of the new world. This was their birthday present. Adam and Eve were the prince and princess of this earth.

The Creator smiled as He saw His image reflected in man and woman. He said to them: "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground" (Genesis 1:28).



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Wednesday

READ Read Genesis 2:8-17.

REFLECT Why did God place Adam and Eve in the garden? How was the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil" a test of great significance?

CHOOSE God created humans in His likeness with the ability to choose freely between right and wrong. Today, exercise your freedom to choose what is right.

PRAY Ask Jesus to help you make positive choices for Him.

Thursday

READ Read Genesis 2:18-24.

THINK What do you think was God's purpose in creating the first family?

CONNECT In what ways could you strengthen your relationship with your family members?

PRAY Praise God for creating the human brain, helping us to make wise decisions that glorify Him.

Friday

READ Read Psalm 150.

REFLECT At Creation God gave humans a measure of creativity as another way to reflect the image of God.

CREATE Write a poem on the theme of praising God. You may also choose another form of creative expression (e.g., music, painting, clay modeling).

PRAISE Sing for family worship hymn no. 15, "My Maker and My King," from *The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal.*

PRAY Pray to God and praise Him for always caring for us.

* NOTE: Your Bible study journal is found at the back of your *PowerPoints* Bible study guide. If you need additional space, use a notebook or open a file on your computer. Writing out your thoughts and ideas when you study the Bible helps you gain a deeper understanding of God's Word.

God, who takes care of the whole universe, wanted human beings to take care of the earth. They would reflect God's image by treating all living things with love, fairness, and wisdom.

The Creator led them to the tree of life and plucked some of its fruit for Adam and Eve. They sank their teeth into the pithy whiteness. This was their first food. If they would live in perfect obedience to God, they would have access to the tree of life and would enjoy life without end in God's presence. Then God led them to another tree, but He did not pick the fruit; instead He looked at them. His smile left. His voice sounded different.

"You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die" (Genesis 2:16, 17).

Adam and Eve looked at the tree. It's branches reached to the sky like all the other trees. Its fruit glistened in the afternoon sun like all the other trees. It didn't seem any different. But they did not doubt the Creator's command. This tree was off-limits.

Adam and Eve followed the Creator as He led them through the garden. This was to be their home. They formed the plants and flowers into their shelter and made this their home. What an amazing birthday that was! Adam and Eve rejoiced and praised the Creator for His marvelous gifts. They were beginning to understand that they were created for friendship with the Creator, with one another, and with all of God's creations. Much like the streams of water mirrored the image of the garden in the light of noonday, so the Creator's holy character found reflection in the hearts of Adam and Eve.



PUZZLE 1

IN HIS IMAGE

Instructions: Find the Bible verse by removing the word "GENESIS."

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