

Day 6 of the Genesis narrative--Creatures of the Land

This week, we hope you have time, together with your household to think about our part in creation as one of the creatures of the land.

Below are six points of contact with this week's theme. One a day or all together, **take what you find useful or meaningful, leave what isn't quite the right fit for your household.**

And in everything, remember: your Creator delights in you every moment of the day and night.

1. Prayer:

O-gi-do-da, renew the circle of the earth,
turn the hearts of all people to one another,
for through You all creation is related,
and You've called us to be good relatives to one another.

(O-gi-do-da is a Cherokee word used to address God)

2. Scripture: (This is a longer selection. Consider acting it out with younger members of your household. Consider stopping for comments with older children and teens when something is surprising.)

Genesis 1:24-31

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

3. Mini-Godly Play and Wondering: watch the video at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDUaFr1JDFkn-icC1eVWflg> (Creation: Day 6)

Wondering Questions (from *Godly Play at Home*, Berryman) :

- I wonder how people are different from the other animals?
- I wonder if you can feel God’s image inside of you?
- I wonder where the Creator’s creativity came from?
- I wonder if you have ever seen creating taking place?

A deeper dive for teens and adults (adults can also guide children in this exercise):

- “Today’s contemplative practice from biologist Rupert Sheldrake invites us to share a “mirroring” experience with the animal world so that we might have a glimpse of the reality that Francis lived throughout his life.” (scroll down to “Two practices with Animals:”)
<https://cac.org/st-francis-a-message-for-our-times-weekly-summary-2020-10-10/>
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4. Craft:

Day 6 Creation story--You will find a template to create a Day 6 Godly Play tile (like the one used in the Mini Godly Play video above) in your Kit (pick up at the front door of the church). You can also print off all seven the templates at home

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pHZ1cQ38plxWBC3hMlwWdo5K2Dbfmo4v/view?usp=sharing> or see what you can find at home to create a tile.

5. Rest and recreation:

Enjoy the Gift of Creatures that Walk upon the Earth

If you can, go outside and take a walk. How many walking, crawling, slithering animals do you see? How many legs can you count?

Think about animals you have seen in person or books. How are they like you? How are they different?

Do you have a favorite animal? What do you like about that animal?

6. Love in Action* 3 minute challenge:

This week we learned about God creating people. God made us part of his family, and we often think of God revealing his love to us by acting like a mother or father. I think God may have given us families here on earth partly to give us a glimpse of what his unconditional love for us is like. I also like that God brings people into our lives that are not blood relatives, but who become family for us. One of my favorite stories in the bible is of Ruth and Naomi. Because of her love for Naomi, Ruth acts as her daughter, even though she is not.

Today's three minute challenge is going to be a little less active. Please find a pen and a piece of paper. Lets all put 10 Bede bucks in our boxes for doing this activity.

- Set a timer for three minutes.
- In those three minutes, I want you to write down the names of all your family that you can think of; parents and grandparents, siblings and cousins and aunts and uncles. Also include all the people who have become family to you through their love.
- At the end of three minutes, count how many names you have. Lets all put 10 "Creation Cash"*** in our Love in Action*** boxes for doing this activity.

**At the end of the month, each household will get to designate their Creation Cash toward one of three charities, funded by the Engagement Committee and any other donations designated toward this offering. For those who have participated in our Bede's Bucks Easter Egg Hunt, this will be a similar child-focused giving opportunity.*

***Creation Cash is included in your Kit--or you can print them at home*

https://docs.google.com/document/d/17L-reGWQ_JAgxcUy-MImNbnDLjlsW3dni_4eU3wTTQo/edit?usp=sharing , or use any other counter you can come up with).

****Love in action box is included in your Kit, print at home*

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13eTH-zF6aTct6bmJqpCusLuPzsifwHxz/view?usp=sharing> or designate a small box).