

## Vacation Bible School - God's Green Earth

### Bible Story

Creation- Loving the earth  
(Genesis 1)

Manna- don't use more than you need  
(Exodus 16)

Plagues- Web of life  
(Exodus 5:1-12:42)

Noah's Ark- Biodiversity  
(Genesis 6:5-9:17)

10 Commandments  
Sabbatical- Jubilee  
Ways of being kind to the earth  
(Ex. 19-20, Lev. 25)

### Music

-God's Green Earth

-Worms in the Bread  
-The Manna Song

-He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

-Who Built the Ark  
-The Rainbow Song

-Jubilee  
-Live the 10

### Crafts

Stained Glass Earth

Coffee Ground Fossils

God's Eye

Mission for Week  
Did Presentation

Recycled Flower vases

### Games

Pitch the Pumpkin  
Circle Game  
Can Walkers

Great Bug Search  
Scavenger hunt

Nature Balance  
Knots

Hawks Birds  
Animal Pretend  
Milk Carton Water Wheel

Bean bag toss  
Soda Bottle Bowling

### Science

Soda bottle Terrarium  
Egg Shell Grass

Worm Condo

Soda Bottle Mosquito trap

Mission for week  
Did presentation

Windmill party  
Paper Bag Kite

### **Snacks**

Earth Sugar Cookies

Worms in the Dirt

Ants on the log

Animal Crackers

Fresh fruit

### **Decorations**

Recycle signs

Earth posters

Pictures of animals, trees and plants

Tree center pieces

Bins with samples of recycling

### **Schedule**

6:00- 6:15 Arrival and Snacks

6:15-6:30 Drama and Music

6:35-7:05 Rotation 1

7:10-7:40 Rotation 2

7:45-8:15 Rotation 3

8:15- 8:30 Closing Music and wrap up

#### **Thursday**

Speaker from Rural Action will be coming for 45 minutes

That day we will only be doing games as a group, but it water day. Kids need to bring towels and plan on getting wet.

#### **Friday**

At 8:30 the kids will put on a presentation for the parents. Singing songs, doing skits and sharing what they learned from the week.



ing **GOD'S** Green Earth



Vacation Bible School

Hocking Valley Parish

Chauncey Christian Church

High Street in Chauncey

**July 14-19**

**6:00 - 8:30 pm**

**Snacks** **Music** **Crafts**

**Drum** **Science Experiments** **Games**



ing **GOD'S** Green Earth



Vacation Bible School

Hocking Valley Parish

Chauncey Christian Church

High Street in Chauncey

**July 14-19**

**6:00 - 8:30 pm**

**Snacks** **Music** **Crafts**

**Drum** **Science Experiments** **Games**

## **The Creation Story- Genesis 1**

*Caste: 2 readers, God, drummer, animals, Adam and Eve*

*Props: drum, pictures, animal masks and leaves*

Reader 1: First God created the Heavens and Earth. All you see and all you don't see. The earth was a soup of nothingness, it had no bottom, and was totally black.

Reader 2: But even then God was there and power of God was moving over the water. And God said,

God: Let there be light.

*Sound effect: Drum*

*Parade in black and yellow picture.*

Reader 1: And there was light!

Reader 2: And God LOVED it.

Reader 1: The second day God separated the water with a dome, and named the dome "sky."

*Sound effect: Drum*

*Parade in blue picture*

Reader 2: And God LOVED it.

Reader 1: The 3<sup>rd</sup> day God commanded

God: Let the water below the sky come together in one place, so that land will appear.

*Sound effect: Drum*

Reader 2: God named the land "earth" and the water "sea."

Reader 1: Then God commanded

God: Let the earth produce all kinds of plants.

*Sound effect: Drum*

*Parade in picture with tree.*

Reader 2: And it was done, and God LOVED it.

Reader 1: When the fourth day came God commanded

God: Let lights appear in the sky to separate day from night.

*Sound effect: Drum*

*Parade in Sun and Moon picture*

Reader 2: And it was done, and God LOVED it.

Reader 1: On the 5<sup>th</sup> day God commanded

God: Let the water be filled with many kinds of living things, and let the air be filled with birds.

Sound effect: Drum

Parade in Fish and Birds

Reader 2: And it was done, and God LOVED it.

Reader 1: Then God commanded

God: Let earth produce all kinds of animal life.

Sound effect: Drum

Parade in other animals

Reader 2: And it was done, and God LOVED it.

Reader 1: Finally on the sixth day God commanded

God: And now we will make people; they will be like us.

Reader 2: So God created human beings to take care of the fish of the sea and all the animals on land. And human beings were made to have responsibility like God over all of creation.

Reader 2: And God blessed Adam and Eve.

*Sound effect: Drum*

*Adam and Eve enter*

Reader 1: And God looked at everything that had been made and LOVED it.

Reader 1: On the seventh day, God stopped working.

Reader 2: God blessed the seventh day and said it was special. And that is how the universe was created.

## **Noah and the Flood- Genesis 6-9**

Caste: Reader 1 and 2, God, Noah, Wife, animals and dove

*Props: Ark, hammer, apron, animal masks, rainbow*

Reader 1: In the beginning God gave us our biggest gifts, the gifts of light and water, earth and people. And God loved it. But the people grew wicked and did bad things.

Reader 2: God was very sad. Everything that was good and clean and new at creation seemed spoiled. But there was one good family. There was the mother and the father Noah. And God spoke to Noah.

God: I will send a great flood of water to wash everything clean and to make it new again. Build an ark. And bring on board a pair of every kind of land animal and bird, so that they can live. Noah listened.

*Noah hammers away at ark and then rounds up all the animals.*

Reader 1: It began to rain... and rain... and rain. It rained for 40 days and 40 nights. And the earth and everything on it was covered with water. But not the ark... God remembered Noah and his family. The rain stopped.

*Have dove act out what readers say.*

Reader 2: God sent a wind to dry up the water, but it took a long time for the land to dry out. One day Noah took a dove... and held out his hand, and the dove flew off. It found only water so it returned.

Reader 1: Noah sent the dove out a second time, and it returned with an olive leaf.

*Dove returns with a leaf in its mouth this time*

Reader 2: Noah sent it out a third time. The dove did not return. It had a new home.

Reader 1: All the animals came out of the ark. They were home too. Everything was new and clean again.

Reader 2: Noah and his family were so happy that they couldn't help but give thanks to God.

*Act out bowing down to pray*

God: I promise never to send such a flood of water again. And I give you a special sign to remind you of this promise.

*Bring out the rainbow.*

## **PLAGUES- Exodus 5-12**

*Characters: Moses, Pharaoh , Guard, two locust*

*Props: Staff, Egyptian headdress, pitcher with red cool aid and clear cup, plastic frogs and flies, broom, fly swatter, ashes, lip stick for boils, bag of wadded up paper, butterfly net*

Moses : (addressing the Pharaoh) The Lord God has said, 'Let my people go.'

Pharaoh: Why should I listen to your God?

Moses: If you do not listen, the waters in the river will be turned into blood, and the fish in the river will die.

Pharaoh: I have no fear. I am the great Pharaoh; you do not frighten me!

*Pours water that is really red koolaid. Looks disgusted, but shrugs his shoulders.*

-----

Moses: Let my people go, or there will be frogs everywhere.

*Spread frogs around and Moses leaves.*

Pharaoh: (taking a frog off his head) Yuck, these are disgusting! Bring Moses to me at once!

Guard: Yes, our great Pharaoh (*and he runs off stage to find Moses. Presenting Moses*) He is here, our great Pharaoh. Did you know the palace is overcome with frogs? They are everywhere!

Pharaoh: Silence! I know about the frogs (*removing a frog from his shoulder*). This must end! Moses, tell your God that if He will take away the frogs, I will let the people go.

*Moses bows down and prays and the frogs are swept away. He leaves.*

Pharaoh: You know those frogs weren't really so bad. And I'm sure that there's a reasonable explanation for all of the problems we've been having. Maybe it's a change in the moon or the stars. I don't think Moses and his God had anything to do with it. I am certainly not going to release our slaves without a reason. Who will build my pyramids? No, it is out of the question!

Guard: I am sure you are right, our great Pharaoh, but those frogs; will they come back?

Pharaoh: Don't you have something else you should be doing?

Moses: Let my people go or God will send swarms of flies upon the land of Egypt.

*Spread flies on floor and Moses leaves*

-----

Pharaoh: *Bring me Moses.*

Guard: *(swatting at flies)* Moses has arrived. Maybe you should listen to him, our great Pharaoh.

Pharaoh *(swatting at the flies around him and at the guard)*: Go speak to your God to remove these flies, and I will let your people go.

*Moses prays and the flies are swept away. Immediately Pharaoh changes his mind and shakes his head.*

*Moses takes out a bottle and blows a little bit of dust. Pharaoh immediately has boils all over his body (He uses lipstick). Moses leaves*

-----

Guard: Moses has returned to see you, our great Pharaoh. Perhaps, you should.... *(looks at the Pharaoh and then lowers his head)*, oh, never mind.

Pharaoh: Bring Moses to me.

Moses *(Praying with rod in the air)*. Lord send thunder and hail upon the land of Egyptians.

*Throw wadded paper at the Pharaoh and leaves.*

-----

Pharaoh: I wish to speak with Moses .

Guard: How surprising our *(said with sarcasm)* GREAT Pharaoh. Are there any plagues left? Why don't you release the slaves? I think pyramids are highly overrated. Pictures are hard to hang on the wall and

Pharaoh: *(Shouting)* Enough! Bring him to me at once.

*Moses enters*

Pharaoh: I admit it. My people and I are wicked.

Guard: *(Stepping forward)* Actually I tried to tell him, but

Pharaoh: Unless you would like to become a crocodile's snack, I suggest you remain silent. Moses, Tell your Lord that I have had enough. You may go and take your people with you.

Moses: I will speak with the Lord.

*Moses prays and hail is swept away and he leaves.*

Moses: I wish to see the Pharaoh.

Guard: He is such a stubborn man. Why does he only think of himself?



Pharaoh: Does someone wish to see me?

Guard: Yes, our great Pharaoh. Moses wishes to see you. I can't imagine why.

Moses: I wish to give you a message from the Lord God.

Pharaoh: What is your message?

Moses: Let my people go, or tomorrow I will bring locusts to cover the face of the earth.

*Use clickers until the Locust are gone. Two locust in masks hover around Pharaoh*

Guard: (*Chases locust with butterfly net*) Oh great Pharaoh, perhaps it is now time to reconsider, before the land is covered in cobras!

Pharaoh: Go away!

Guard: (whimpering) I just can't take any more of this . . .

Pharaoh: I have sinned against your God and I am sorry. Please take away the locusts and I will let your people go.

Moses: I will pray to the Lord God. (*Locust are silent and exit*).

*Pharaoh shakes his head no.*

Moses: A great darkness will cover the land for three days.

Pharaoh: This is creepy. But I cannot do without the Israelites and all their hard work.

Moses: There is one more plague the firstborn sons of all the Egyptians will die!

Pharaoh: I don't believe you! *He exits, and you hear him crying.*

My son, my poor son. Why did I not listen? What have I done?

Guard: I will bring Moses to you.

*Moses and Pharaoh enter.*

Pharaoh: Moses, take your people to serve your Lord. Tell them to take their animals with them. Leave at once! Pray to your God. Pray for me as well.

## Manna and Quail- Exodus 16

*Characters: Moses, Follower 1 and 2, God*

*Props: Basket, gummi worms, wadded papers, rubber chicken*

Follower 1: Why didn't God just let us die in comfort in Egypt where we had plenty to eat and a real roof over our heads. We had lamb stew and bread every day. Now we are out in the wilderness starving to death.

Moses: *(Praying)*. Thank you Lord for bringing our people out of the bonds of slavery. Once again, I would like to ask for your help. The people are hungry and do not have enough to eat. If it is your will Lord, please help us.

Voice of God: Moses, I am going to rain down bread from heaven. The people are to go out every day and gather just enough to eat for that day. No more. Except on the 6<sup>th</sup> day when they are to gather enough for the Sabbath day of rest.

Moses: Thank you, Lord.

Follower 2: Wow. This is cool. The bread is growing on the ground like mushrooms and all I had to do this morning was walk out of my tent and a quail practically ran into my arms. I feel like I could eat like a Pharaoh and grow quite fat. *Filling basket with wadded up papers*

Follower 1: But we were told to only gather enough food for one day or it would spoil.

Follower 2: I don't care. There is no way it can all spoil that quickly.

*Walk through one door in the back and out the other.*

*Follower 1: What smells so bad.*

*Follower 2: Sheepishly holds out basket.* It all rotted overnight. Just like Moses told us. Look it is full of worms. *Holds up a gummi worm.*

Follower 1: That is disgusting.

Follower 2: Yeah. I learned a lesson. Never take more than what I actually really need otherwise it will go to waste.

*They leave and return by the other door. They gather more food.*

Follower 1: You need to gather more food than that. Tomorrow is the Sabbath and there won't be any, because we are supposed to rest.

Follower 2: You have got to be kidding me. There is no way that I am taking more than what I need for today after the whole stinking mess I had on my hands the other day. Pew yew! *(Holding nose)*.

Follower 1: you are going to be sorry.

They leave again and return by other door.

Follower 2: *Searching high and low.* I am so hungry and I can't find any food anywhere.

Moses: *Just entering, carrying a copy of the 10 commandments and pointing to the commandment about the Sabbath Day.* If you would just listen you would know that you are supposed to rest today.

Follower 2: Yeah. I have a lot of work to do when it comes to listening and trusting in God to provide for me. *Hanging head*

Moses: But God loves us anyway!

Share Gummi Worms from Basket

## 10 Commandments and Jubilee

Caste: God, Moses, 2 Israelites

Props: 10 commandments, handcuffs, money

Israelite 1: You owe me \$200 for fixing the roof on your barn.

Israelite 2: I don't have that kind of money. I am sorry. I will pay you back in three months after I harvest my crop.

*(Counts money and looks sad).*

Israelite 1: . I want my money now. I am taking you as my slave. You will have to work for me, do whatever I say, and I won't pay you. I am going to be your Lord and Ruler now, you have to bow down to me. Now bow down.

*(Puts him in handcuffs and hits on back).*

Israelite 1: If you don't work hard enough I will make your wife and children my slaves too.

Israelite 2: *(Talking to himself)*. I wish I had all the money in the world like my slave owner does. I would eat like a king and have a large house. And then I could order him around. When he hits me sometimes I want to kill him.

God: Moses, I have seen the sad things going on on earth and I am going to give you some good rules to live by. To help you and the Israelites know between right and wrong, good and bad.

Moses: Sounds good to me. I am ready to write them down.

God: The first commandment is, "Do not worship any god except me".

Moses: No problem there. After all there is no God but you.

God: The second commandment is, "Do not make idols. This means that you should worship and bow down only to me, not things or statues or other people."

Moses: But God, I like the band "Manna in the Night" soooo much.

God: Moses! .... The third commandment is, "Do not misuse my name which means do not say bad things about me or use my name in a bad way"

Moses: Swearing comes so easy when I bang my toe or get mad at my sister. But I will give it a shot.

God: The fourth commandment is, "Remember the Sabbath Day which means that we should set aside time to rest and remember all that God has done for us."

Moses: That is easier said than done. I am always so busy. Do I really have to rest one whole day a week. And does it count if I go to the park and not to worship.

God: Yes you need to rest and worshipping together with others really does help. We need other people to help us keep growing and to learn how to live the right way. Put together these are the

four best ways to love God. The next six commands are the best ways to show our love for our neighbors. The Fifth commandment is, "Respect your father and mother which means we should listen to our parents and learn from them." And this is the only commandment with a promise, and it tells you that if you do it you will have a long life.

Moses: It sounds more like a warning to me.

God: You wouldn't be here without them, so yes treat them nice. The sixth commandment is, "Do not murder".

Moses: Sometimes I want to wring the neck of the stubborn people around me. Is that the same as actually murdering them?

God: Moses. Moses. In a sense it is. The whole point of the faith is to live a life of love and forgiveness and wringing necks isn't very loving. The seventh commandment is "Be faithful in marriage" which means a husband and wife should love and be true to each other. Sometimes it is the hardest treat the very people we are the closest to with the respect they deserve and we end up taking them for granted.

Moses: Sometimes I have to admit I would rather hang out with the guys than my wife. And I have to admit I think other ladies are quite lovely. Being faithful isn't easy.

God: It isn't easy but it is sure worth it in the end. Love grows sweeter as the days go by. The eighth commandment is, "Do not steal".

Moses: I have never actually stolen a physical object. But I accepted the praise that was actually due to my brother for standing up to the Pharaoh way back in Egypt. I still feel guilty about that.

God: Sigh. As you should, Moses, in a sense you were also breaking the next commandment too. The ninth commandment is "Do not tell lies about others."

Moses: I just wanted to feel important. As the oldest brother he always seems to win at everything.

God: Yes, and again you are sinning with the next command too, by wanting what belongs to Aaron. The last commandment says that we should not want anything that belongs to someone else which means we should not be jealous of other people.

Put together these are the ten best ways to live. They teach us how to love God and to love our neighbor.

There are many other commandments besides these that will give you good ways for taking care of the land, so that it will remain "the land of milk and honey" as I like to call it. If it is treated with respect as well. I have seen what is happening already and it breaks my heart.

Moses: And what else should we do God?

God: Well, just like I want you to observe the Sabbath every seven days and take a day of rest. I want you to let the land rest every seven years. That means you need to let the fields have a rest and not plant anything in them for a whole year.

Moses: But how will we have food to eat the next year?

God: You just have to trust me, just like you had to do with that whole Manna and quail thing.

Moses: Wow! That will not be easy a year without food is impossible.

God: And I am not done yet. That happens every seven years and when you multiply 7 years 7 times you get 49. And on the 49<sup>th</sup> year I proclaim a year of Jubilee. A year of huge celebration. Every 49 years all bank loans are to be forgiven and the land is to be returned to the original family that owned it. And every slave is it to be set free.

Israelite 2: Yeah! I am free. I am free!

Moses: *(Takes key and unlocks the handcuffs)*

Israelite 1: But, but, but. What about the money he owes me. This is wrong.

Moses: I have to agree this sounds awfully hard to actually live out.

God: With me nothing is impossible. And I promise if you do these things that you will be a strong nation and happy people. That is my promise to you and I am God. My promises are true.

**Sunday:**

List on big sheet of paper all the things God has made.

If God made it and loves it how do you think we ought to treat it.

What ways can we show that we love God's Green Earth?

**Monday:**

God provided for the Israelites in a truly amazing way.

What are some amazing ways God has provided for you.

Part of the story is also about learning not to take more than what we need.

What are some ways that you can learn not to be wasteful?

This statistic makes me very sad: Read Reuters story

**Tuesday:**

I learned years ago that "When a butterfly flapping it's wings in the Amazon can be felt around the world."

Show Map to the kids so they can see where the Amazon is.

Explain briefly what that means.

Then share the story of bees in the USA

Show them the picture of what happens in the produce section of a grocery store if all the bees are gone.

**Wednesday:**

Does anyone here know how much of the earth's surface is covered by water?

70%

But how much of that water is salt water in the earth's oceans and seas?

97%

Another 2% is frozen in glaciers.

So how much fresh water does that leave?

Only 1%

And much of that water is now too polluted to drink.

And did you know that the earth has the same amount of water today as when it was created?

That means the water you have had today may have been drunk by Noah from our story today or even a dinosaur.

That also means we need to be careful how much water we use and try our best to keep the Earth's water clean.

Here are some ways to help save water. Share some of list.

**Thursday:**

We learned about the 10 commandments and other laws that God gave that were specifically about caring for the earth.

Can you list for me some of the ways that we here right now can care for God's creation? Write them down.

Share the list "the 10 commandments for caring for God's Green Earth"



Jokes:

What promise did Adam and Eve make after they were kicked out of the garden?"

The promised to turn over a new leaf.

Why are elephants no good at surfing the internet?

Because they are scared of the mouse.

What color should you paint the sun and wind?

The sun rose and the wind blue.

What do you get when you cross a dinosaur with a termite?

Dynomite

What kind of lights were there on the ark?

Floodlights

What gets wetter the more it dries?

A towel

Why is the Mississippi such an unusual river?

It has four "l's", but it can't see.

What do trees drink?

Root beer

Why is grass so dangerous?

Because it is full of blades

How do you know which end of a worm is the head?

Tickle the middle and see which end laughs.

Why did Moses wander in the wilderness for 40 years?

Because he refused to ask directions.

How does Moses make tea?

He brews it