



The Day of Rest

Lesson Aim: To know why God wants us to rest on the Sabbath.

THE WORSHIP – AT THE CAMPFIRE

Who God Is: The God Who Creates

THE WORD & THE WAY – TENT TIME

The Bible Story: Genesis 2:1-3

What He Has Done: God rested. He blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.
 I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
 Your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:13-14

| Unit 5: The God Who Creates | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|
| | Bible Story | What He Has Done | Lesson Aim |
| 22 | Creating the World: Days 1 & 2, Genesis 1:1-8 | God created the heavens and the earth. | To learn how God created light, day, night, and sky. |
| 23 | Creating the World: Days 3 & 4, Genesis 1:9-19 | God made the land, the sea, the plants, and the stars. | To see God's purposefulness in the way He filled the heavens and the earth and to explore our response to His creation. |
| 24 | Creating the World: Days 5 & 6, Genesis 1:20, 24-31 | God made the creatures of the air, sea, and land. | To appreciate God's unlimited creativity and attention to detail in the creation of all living things. |
| 25 | Adam and Eve in the Garden, Genesis 2:15-24 | God made Adam and Eve and placed them in the Garden of Eden. | To see God created us for specific relationships with Himself and others. |
| 26 | The Day of Rest, Genesis 2:1-3 | God rested. He blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy. | To know why God wants us to rest on the Sabbath. |

COUNSELOR'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 147:1-20. Please join us in praying, "Lord, thank You for the world You have created. Help the children understand how You want them to spend their day of rest. Amen."

WHAT IS CAMP VENTURE? Camp Venture is a variation on the God of Wonders Units 5 and 6 standard version lessons. Camp Venture offers different elements consistent with a camping theme. Children are referred to as campers and teachers are camp counselors. Decorate classroom or play area to create the Camp Venture experience. For example: camp tent, backpacks, photo board or album with photos of each camper, fire logs surrounded by stones as a flameless campfire, etc. Camp Venture is most often introduced as Sunday School curriculum during school vacation months but can easily be adapted as a Vacation Bible School curriculum.

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**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

| Segment | Minutes | Activity | Supplies |
|---|----------|---|--|
| THE WELCOME | Up to 25 | Game: What Am I? | Slips of paper (one per camper), tape, marker |
| THE WORSHIP – AT THE CAMPFIRE | Up to 20 | Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org | Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Praise You" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "For by Him" "In the Beginning" Additional Hymn Suggestions: "This Is My Father's World" "For the Beauty of the Earth" Additional Song Collection Suggestions: Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God |
| | | Worship Scripture Reading: Psalm 23:1-3a | Bible |
| | | Offering | Baskets |
| | | Worship Illustration | Lesson 26 Bible Barn script or storybook |
| THE WORD & THE WAY – TENT TIME | Up to 5 | The Bible Story: Genesis 2:1-3 | Bibles |
| | Up to 10 | Pen Pal Letter | Camp Cooler (ice chest), Bible, Pen Pal Letter, six balloons of different colors (Mark each balloon with a number 1-6.) |
| | Up to 5 | Share a Prayer | None |
| | Final 5 | Final Five Minutes | Creation Keepsake—Praying Hands Card, Daily Ways and basket or W's for the older campers, Letters from Camp (available at ResourceWell.org), pencils, butcher paper or poster board, crayons or markers, prayer notebook, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song "I Praise You," CD player |
| GOT TIME? | Up to 10 | Snack: Ice Cream Sundaes | Ice cream and toppings (e.g., brownies, cherries, chocolate or strawberry syrup) or any special treat |
| | Up to 15 | Game: Creation Pictionary | 2 small baskets, several large sheets of paper or 2 whiteboards, slips of paper, 2 markers |
| | Up to 10 | Game: Favorite Creation Games | Supplies will vary according to the specific game chosen. |
| | Up to 10 | Craft: Rest and Think Journals | 2 sheets of unlined paper, several sheets of lined notebook paper, hole punch, yarn, 1 tree leaf per camper, pens or pencils, crayons |
| | Up to 15 | Discussion: Creation Care | Will be determined by the activity you choose |
| | Up to 10 | Bible Memory Verse Activity: Bible Memory Verse Bop | Inflated (non-helium) balloon, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster |
| | Up to 5 | Bible Memory Verse Activity: Bible Memory Verse Wave | Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible |

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

THE WELCOME – CAMP GAMES

Welcome to Camp Venture! Each time before we worship, we will get to know each other better and have some fun with our Camp Games. First, let's dedicate this day of camp to Jesus. Pray. Today's Bible story teaches us why God wants us to rest on the Sabbath.

Optional: For added fun through Units 5 and 6, adapt all camp games to a team point system. For suggestions, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson.

GAME: WHAT AM I?

Purpose: To appreciate God's creation.

Supplies: Slips of paper (one per camper), tape, marker

Prepare: Print the names of several of God's creations each on a separate slip of paper. Examples include light, sky, water, tree, flower, sun, moon, stars, bird, fish, lion, dog, Adam, and Eve.

Today, we are remembering God's amazing creation of the world. To help us remember what God created, let's play a game. Each slip of paper lists the name of one of God's creations. I will tape a slip of paper on each person's back. You are to guess what you are by asking each other questions which have a yes or no answer such as "Am I a plant?" "Do I live in water?" "Was I made on the fourth day?" When you correctly guess what you are, sit down. Let's see how quickly we can all discover which of God's creations we are.

Directions:

1. Tape a slip of paper onto the back of each camper.
2. On your signal, the campers are to ask each other yes or no questions to guess what they are.
3. When a camper guesses correctly, he or she sits down. He or she may continue to answer questions for other campers.
4. The game is over when all the campers are seated.

Counselor Clue: All games may be adapted to a competitive or a non-competitive version. Camp competition provides an opportunity for campers to learn how to honor God in a competitive environment, encourage other campers, and to be gracious winners and losers.



The God who creates

THE WORSHIP – AT THE CAMPFIRE

Counselor Clue: To help campers identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as campers move from one area to another.

Welcome! Today, we gather around the campfire to praise the God who created and filled the heavens and the earth in just six days. On the seventh day, He rested and looked at all He had made.



Let's celebrate our holy day of rest by thinking about all the things God created in those six days. As we collect today's offering, let's praise God and ask Him to show us how He wants each of us to spend our day of rest. Sing: "For the Beauty of the Earth" while the offering is collected.

Sing Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Praise You."

You may choose to sing songs that focus on God our Creator or on the creatures and people He made.



Read Psalm 23:1-3a.



Perform Bible Barn script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 5, Lesson 26. Include reciting the Camper's Code:

Camper's Code

I will love God with all my heart.

I will love my neighbor as myself.

I will be a light wherever I go.

Today's Camp Critter, the owl, works all night and rests all day. The owl reminds us to take a day of rest each week, just as God did after He created the world.



The Bible Story

THE WORD & THE WAY – TENT TIME

Counselor Clue: Tent time should take place in a corner of the classroom, under a tent, or any covered space. Remove chairs and have campers sit on mats or sit-upons.

Prepare: Print the Pen Pal letter on the next page onto a sheet of paper. Fold the paper and place it in an envelope. In an ice chest (Camp Cooler), place a Bible, the Pen Pal Letter, and six balloons of different colors. Mark each balloon with a number 1-6.

Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Camp Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Camp Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my counselor, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word—knowing God is my goal."

Welcome to Tent Time! Last time, we discovered God created Adam and Eve and gave them the job of working together to care for the Garden of Eden. Today, we will find that God rested after He finished creating the heavens and the earth. If you brought your Bible, share it so we can all follow along as we read Genesis 2:1-3.



Open the Camp Cooler and remove the Bible. Hand out spare Bibles. Counselor opens the Bible to Genesis 2:1-3.

Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us? Camper prays aloud.
Be seated.

Listen as we hear exactly what God did on the seventh day. Read Genesis 2:1-3.



Pen Pal

THE WORD & THE WAY – TENT TIME

Let's see if our secret Pen Pal can help us picture what it was like in the beginning. Remove the Pen Pal Letter from the Camp Cooler. Read the letter aloud.

Counselor's Tip: Be ready to give general hints to younger campers about what God made each day.

Hey Pals,

Isn't it amazing to think about the way God created the world in six days? On the seventh day, He rested because His work was done.

Inside this Camp Cooler, you will find six balloons. Each balloon is marked with a number for one of the six days of creation. As your counselor inflates and ties each balloon, call out the name of something created on that day.

- #1) Light, day, night
- #2) Sky
- #3) Plants, trees
- #4) Sun, moon, stars
- #5) Fish, sea creatures, birds, flying things
- #6) Animals, creeping things, people

Your counselor will start the game by tossing balloon #1 in the air. Your goal is to keep the balloon in the air. Each time you push it upward, say the name of one thing God created on that day. Once you get the hang of it, your counselor will toss balloon #2 in the air. Now, you have to keep both balloons in the air and call out the names of each day's creations. Keep playing until all six balloons are in the air. The game ends when your counselor calls out, "Let's rest!" Then, you may let the balloons fall to the ground and be seated.

Throughout the Bible, God shows us the importance of rest. God commands us to remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Our day of rest gives us time to be thankful and to remember who God is and what He has done. It gives us time to learn more about God and who He has created us to be. Jesus told us how important rest is for our bodies and our souls. Read His words in Matthew 11:28 to find out where our souls can find rest.

Creation Care: Each week on your day of rest, take time to notice the details of God's creation. Praise Him for all He has made. Thank Him for the ways He has cared for His creation since the very beginning. Pray God would use you and your family to care for the living things He has created.

Keep cool!
Your Pen Pal

THE WAY *continued...*



SHARE A PRAYER

We can also thank God for creation through prayer. We can pray for each other and all who live in this world He has given us. Ask campers for individual praise and prayer requests. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

Thank You, God, for creating the heavens and the earth. Thank You for creating every camper here today. You know our needs—the ones we shared out loud and the ones we hide in our hearts. We lift all these up to Your throne now. Pause for a moment of silence. We can't wait to see the way You will answer each one.

Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

CREATION KEEPSAKES: Today, your Treasure Treat is a Praying Hands Card. Let it remind you that God rested on the seventh day and He wants us to have a day of rest, too! At home, make and decorate a box or other container to make a Creation Keeper. Use it to store your Creation Keepsakes each week as symbols of what God created.

DAILY WAY CHALLENGE: Did anyone bring in a completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 26 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Bring it back next time to win points for your team here at Camp Venture.**

W³ CHALLENGE (For Older Campers): Take home today's W³ Journal Entry as your personal devotional study. ***Keep your journal entries together at home in a notebook or in your Bible.** Distribute W³ Journal Entry #26 instead of the Daily Way. **Complete this at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible!** (*Although older children usually keep their W³s at home, you may choose to have them bring back their W³s during camp to win points for their teams.)

LETTERS FROM CAMP: Write a Letter from Camp to someone to let them know what you did today. Write or draw your favorite thing about today and something special you just learned from the Bible. Sign it and give it to a family member.

CREATION MURAL: Let's work on our Creation Mural (blank butcher paper or posterboard). As we learn about each part of God's creation, we will draw about it on our mural. Today, we will finish our mural by writing the number '7' and drawing a picture that includes everything God created—the sky, grass, trees, the sun, fish, birds, animals, and people.

Counselor Tip: This mural is designed to be used in Lessons 22-26. Divide a long piece of banner paper into 7 sections or use 7 large pieces of paper. Display it in your classroom.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG: Play the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse Song, "I Praise You," in the background as campers wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SNACK: ICE CREAM SUNDAES

Purpose: To appreciate and celebrate the seventh day by enjoying a special treat.

Snack Suggestion: Ice cream and toppings (e.g., brownies, cherries, chocolate or strawberry syrup) or any special treat

Creation Care Tip: If possible, replace paper supplies with reusable or recyclable supplies.

God rested after He finished creating the world and everything in it. He wants us to rest, too. As we rest and enjoy this special treat, we can think about all God has created and celebrate His creation.

Directions:

1. Ask a camper to pray and thank God for the snack.
2. Put one scoop of ice cream in a bowl for each camper. Let them add the toppings.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **What are some of your favorite things to do while honoring the Sabbath?**

GAME: CREATION PICTONARY

Purpose: To appreciate God's creation.

Supplies: 2 small baskets, several large sheets of paper or 2 whiteboards, slips of paper, 2 markers

Prepare: On slips of paper, print two sets of the names of many of God's creations such as light, sky, water, tree, flower, sun, moon, stars, bird, fish, lion, dog, Adam. Place one set in each basket.

On the seventh day, God rested from all His work in creating the world. God wants us to rest, too. As part of our time of rest, let's enjoy this game and remember what God created in the first six days before He rested.

Directions:

1. Set-up each team's paper or whiteboard on an easel or attach to the wall. Place each team's basket of creation names nearby.
2. Form two teams. They do not need to have the same number of campers.
3. Assign an older camper or helper to each team to assist younger campers in reading the names and to supervise play.
4. Within each team, give each camper a number from one to the number of campers on the team.
5. Each team sits in front of their drawing board or paper and basket of creation names.
6. On your signal, player #1 on each team takes a paper from the basket and reads it silently. They then race to draw a picture of the creation listed on their slip of paper. Players may not draw any letters or numbers.
7. Each player's team must make guesses until they correctly identify the creation.
8. The next player repeats steps 6-7 until all the creatures in their basket are guessed correctly.

Variation: Only one camper draws the creation while both teams try to guess. Each correct guess earns a point. The goal is to be the team with the most points at the end of the game.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: FAVORITE CREATION GAMES

Purpose: Campers' favorite games from Lessons 22-25 are played again as a means of reviewing the six days of creation.

Supplies: Supplies will vary according to the specific game chosen.

To focus on who God is and what He has done is a great way to honor God on our day of rest. To do that, let's play our favorite game(s) from our lessons about the six days of creation.

Choose a favorite game from Unit 5, Lessons 22-25 such as:

- **Up in the Air (Lesson 22):** Campers play a balloon game using the air God created.
- **Water Wonders Relay Race (Lesson 23):** With water, campers celebrate how God made the land and the seas.
- **Four Creatures (Lesson 24):** In this version of Four Corners, campers remember four creatures God made.
- **Human Knot (Lesson 25):** Campers remember God made us for each other, as they create a human knot and then untangle it.

CRAFT: REST AND THINK JOURNALS

Purpose: Campers create a journal to reflect on God and His creation during times of rest.

Supplies: 2 sheets of unlined paper, several sheets of lined notebook paper, hole punch, yarn, 1 tree leaf per child, pens or pencils, crayons

Prepare: Cut three 12-inch yarn pieces. You may wish to pre-punch the holes in the journals for the younger campers.

Today, we learned God rested after creating the world. He wants us to honor Him on the Sabbath by resting and thinking about Him and all He has done. Sometimes it helps to write or draw what we are thinking. Let's make journals to write or draw about God. You may want to take a walk when you get home and write about what you see that God created.

Directions:

1. Give each child two sheets of unlined paper.
2. Campers will need to remove the paper wrapper from a crayon to use for a crayon rubbing.
3. Create crayon rubbings on both sheets of the unlined paper by placing a leaf under the paper and rubbing the side of the crayon on the top of the paper so the image of the leaf appears.
4. Give each child several sheets of lined paper.
5. Campers place the lined paper between the unlined paper to create a book.
6. Use a hole punch to make three holes (top, middle, and bottom) along the left side of the book.
7. Thread a piece of yarn through each hole and tie a bow.
8. Decorate the cover with crayons.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

DISCUSSION: CREATION CARE

Purpose: To explore ways to enjoy God's creation.

Supplies: Will be determined by the activity you choose

Prepare: Research information on parks, recreation, and other local leisure activities in which the focus is enjoying creation.

Today, we learned God rested after creating the heavens and earth and all that is in them. He may have wanted to stop to look and enjoy all He had made. He made His day of rest a holy (perfect) day for us to spend time resting and thinking about Him. Let's do that today by looking at what God created to help us think about Him.

Did You Know? Share some of the simple facts you discovered about ways to enjoy creation.

What Can I Do? Lead campers in discussing easy ways they can help others appreciate God's creation. Be sure to share the opportunities to help that you discovered in your research.

Examples:

- Go outside and take a walk together as a class. Ask campers to point out different parts of God's creation as they see it. Together, thank God for each thing you see.
- Discuss opportunities to enjoy the following activities: Camping, hiking, swimming, riding a bicycle, flying a kite, swinging on a swing set, or counting clouds.

Where Can I Go For More? Encourage campers to take a walk with their families and to thank God for His creation. Encourage campers to seek activities in which the family can appreciate God's creation together.

GOT TIME? *continued...*



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

"For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
Your works are wonderful, I know that full well." Psalm 139:13-14

GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE BOP

Purpose: Campers will memorize the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse: Psalm 139:13-14.

Supplies: Inflated (non-helium) balloon, Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster

Prepare: Display the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster.

Counselor Tip: Campers may help each other remember the words so the balloon never falls.

Directions:

1. Campers stand in a circle.
2. Repeat the Bible Memory Verse several times together.
3. Start by tossing the balloon into the air while reciting the first three words of the Bible Memory Verse: "For You created."
4. Each camper who "bops" the balloon must say the next three words of the Bible Memory Verse.
5. Continue until the Bible Memory Verse is complete.
6. Play several times.

Competitive Version: Form two teams in two separate circles. The first team to complete the Bible Memory Verse without the balloon touching the ground wins.

Timed Version: Time campers as they play. Challenge campers to get a faster time each round.

GAME: BIBLE MEMORY VERSE WAVE

Purpose: To help campers memorize the Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 5 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

Directions:

1. Assign one phrase from Psalm 139:13-14 to each camper or group.
2. Direct each camper or group to quickly stand, say the assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky and down to the thighs, and then sit down.
3. Repeat three times, faster each time.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

Team Point System for Camp Venture (Units 5-6)

Teams: To adapt all Camp Games to a team point system for Units 5 and 6 (Lessons 22-31), divide campers into 4 teams. Instruct each team to create its own name and team banner at the beginning of the Camp Games segment of Lesson 22. Campers will remain on the same team for all Camp Games throughout Units 5 and 6.

Point System: Campers may earn points for their teams by attending Camp Venture, completing their Daily Ways or W³s, bringing a Bible, bringing a friend, winning a game, and showing good sportsmanship. At Camp Venture, good sportsmanship is respectful behavior toward others. It includes cheering for their team during games, playing fairly, tallying scores honestly, and cheering for other teams when point tallies are announced. Bonus team points are awarded for cheering and encouraging other teams.

Grand Prize: On the final day at Camp Venture, all members of the winning team receive a surprise grand prize. The grand prize can be an ice cream or pizza party or something that would be special to the campers. Have the winning team invite all of the other teams to join the party.

About Competition: Camp competition provides an opportunity for campers to learn how to honor God in a competitive environment, encourage other campers, and to be gracious winners and losers. For added fun, be very generous with the points. For example: 100,000 points for 1st place, 75,000 points for 2nd place, 40,000 points for 3rd place, and 30,000 points for 4th place. The teams will end up with point totals in the millions at the end of camp.