

# THE BEGINNING OF LIFE AS WE KNOW IT

**Timeless Truth:** Humans are God's crowning creation.

**Bible Basis:** Genesis 1–3:24

**Key Verse:** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. —Genesis 1:1, NIV

**Resource:** *The Story for Children*, Chapter 1: "The Beginning of Life as We Know It"

## PARENT TIPS

Read the key point from the Sunday school class your child(ren) attended. Use the Table Talk questions to start a discussion around the dinner table at some point this week. The Living Faith activity is designed to help your child know that he's perfectly created by God. The Extra Mile idea will help your family spread God's love in the community.

## GET THE POINT

God made everything there is. He made me to know him.

## TABLE TALK

- **If you could live a day as any animal, what animal would you be? What are some of the good and bad things about living as that animal?**
- **What are some ways people and animals are different?**
- **Are people or animals more important to God?**

Explain that people are worth more than animals, because we're the only part of creation made in God's image. We were made to have a relationship with God. Even Jesus said in Matthew 10:31 that we're "worth more than many sparrows."

## LIVING FAITH

Spend a few moments one evening going on a family treasure hunt around your house. You can write your own clues or use the ones given. End your hunt at a mirror (either handheld or in a bathroom) so your family can discover God's greatest creation—you!

### Clue No. 1

I'm no simple box with doors and a light.  
I will keep your food cold, both day and night.

**Clue No. 2 (hide in refrigerator)**

Yawn. If you're tired, you're coming to me.  
For safety and warmth, I'm the place to be.

**Clue No. 3 (hide in a bed)**

I'm pretty and make oxygen for you.  
Give me water—it's the right thing to do.

**Clue No. 4 (hide in a plant)**

With four wheels and an engine, I go fast.  
But without any gas, I cannot last.

**Clue No. 5 (hide in car)**

Your search is almost over, so be glad.  
You wipe your eyes with me when you are sad.

**OPTION 1—TAKES YOU TO BATHROOM****Clue No. 6 (hide in tissue box)**

This is the last clue. Hope it has been fun.  
Always wash your hands in here when you're done.

**OPTION 2—TAKES YOU TO COUCH WHERE YOU'VE PUT A MIRROR UNDER THE CUSHIONS****Clue No. 6 (hide in tissue box)**

Come to me when you want to sit around.  
Lift up my cushions and treasure you've found.

When you find the mirror, ask your children to identify the treasure. (They should say it's them.) Remind your children that they are created in God's image. Let them know how proud you are of them. Talk about some of the things you appreciate about them and tie that into how those characteristics are from God. Tell them you expect a lot from them and have high standards because they are God's perfect creation. Encourage them to always follow God and his will for their lives.

**EXTRA MILE**

For added emphasis on this week's themes, try one of these activities.

1. Grab a family photo album that has some shots of you enjoying the outdoors. Ask:
  - **What do you remember most about this experience?**
  - **What are some of your favorite things about God's creation?**
  - **How can you see God's handiwork in the outdoors?**
  - **Where are some places you'd like to visit?**

If the conversation leads, plan a fun family outing or your next family vacation.

2. Remind your children that all people are important to God by taking some food to a local food bank or going through your closets and making a donation to a homeless shelter. Remind your kids that helping the less fortunate shows them God's love.