



CREATION AND THE BEGINNING OF HUMAN HISTORY

## #5 – The Separation of Waters Genesis 1:6-8

### PICTURES NEEDED

5-1 clouds in sky above ocean

### REVIEW (Before Teaching Lesson)

- **Journal Review:** Ask students to share an important truth that they learned from their journal readings at home that week. Share some of your own insights.
- **Previous Lesson Review:** (Use the visual from the last lesson to aid in review) What existed before light? How did light come into existence? What did God see about the light?
- **The Big Question Review:** How is Jesus the Light? Let the students give their answers to the question.
- **Bible Verse Review:** John 1:3-4  
Jesus enables us to live and see God.

<sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

<sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

## LESSON CONTENT

**Note:** The Bible verses included in the lesson are from the NIV 1984 edition. The wording of the questions is derived from that version. If another version of the Bible is used, questions may need to be adapted.

What did God create on the first day of creation? He brought space, matter and light energy into being.

How did he bring those things into being? He spoke them into existence by this omnipotent power.

On the second day of creation, God gave form to his creation. Genesis 1:6-8 says, *“And God said, “Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water.”<sup>6</sup> So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so.<sup>8</sup> God called the expanse “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning--the second day.*

What did God give form to on the second day? (picture 5-1) God separated the water that he had created into two parts, one below the expanse and the other above the expanse. He gathered the water below together to form the earth and left a canopy of water above in the sky.

God gave form to the planet Earth. God had a plan for earth and that is why he made it. He created it as a place where he would put life. You could say that out of all God has created Earth is his favorite. It is the focus of his creation and he loves it and everything on it.

What is significant about water being the first substance God gathered together? Water is a substance absolutely essential for the life. Between the waters, God made an expanse. In the expanse formed the atmosphere around the earth containing the air, which is also essential for life.

Why is air essential for life? Air supplies the oxygen our bodies need to live. Every cell of our bodies needs oxygen every second of every day. Without oxygen, we die in a matter of minutes. The air is made up of tiny molecules of oxygen and other invisible gases. These gases stay in atmosphere air around the earth because of the pull of gravity.

What is water needed for? No living thing can function without water and all living things are made up mostly of water. Your own body is about two-thirds water. (Have children put a hand on their bodies to indicate what would be two-thirds.) Every part of your body needs water every moment of every day to function.

What would happen to our body systems without water? Without water your blood couldn't flow, your brain couldn't process information, and you wouldn't be able to digest food. Nothing in your body would work. Every system in your body would shut down and you would die.

How long could you live without water? You wouldn't be able to live more than a week without water, whereas you could survive a couple months without food.

What happens to you when your body lacks water? When our bodies lack water, a feeling of thirst is triggered. Drinking water satisfies thirst so we don't get dehydrated and die. Hydrate comes from the Greek word for water. De means without.

Just as our physical bodies need water to survive so our spirit needs God. We should be like the Psalmist who said in Psalm 63:1, *O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.*

What do you think it means to thirst after God? If we thirst after God, we recognize that a relationship with him is necessary for spiritual life. We see that we die spiritually without him, just as we die physically without water. We have to drink of God's presence and fill our lives with him to satisfy spiritual thirst and gain spiritual life.

In John 4:9-14 Jesus had an important conversation with a Samaritan woman at a well whom he had asked to give him a drink of water.

<sup>9</sup> *The Samaritan woman said to him, "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)*

<sup>10</sup> *Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him and he would have given you living water."*

<sup>11</sup> *"Sir," the woman said, "you have nothing to draw with and the well is deep. Where can you get this living water?"* <sup>12</sup> *Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did also his sons and his flocks and herds?"*

<sup>13</sup> *Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again," <sup>14</sup> but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."*

What does it mean that Jesus is the living water? Jesus is the one who satisfies our souls and gives us what we need for spiritual life, if we are not continually filled with him, we die spiritually. Remember, we are to thirst for God as our bodies thirst for water.

## LESSON WRAP-UP

- **Overview Questions:** What did God do to the waters on the second day of creation? Why is water important? What formed the earth's atmosphere? What did it contain? What did Jesus call himself in terms of water? What does that mean?
- **Thought Questions:** Why was the earth the first thing God gave form to? What does it mean to be God's favored child? Why is the earth God's favored child? How has God shown how much he loves the earth?
- **Prayer:** Thank God that he created the earth and all that is in it for his enjoyment and pleasure. Thank him for his great love and faithfulness to the earth and all it contains. Pray that you would thirst after God, want to live your life in a way that delights him, and would make him glad that he created man.
- **The Big Question:** For what should we thirst?  
Let the students give their answers to the question. Share the memory verse. Ask how it answers the question.

- **Memory Verse:** Psalm 63:1

We are to thirst for God like our bodies thirst for water.

*O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water.*

Questions: What does it mean that a person's soul thirsts for God? Why will a person's soul never be satisfied apart from God? What are ways we seek God to satisfy our soul? Why do we get thirsty? What would happen to you if you never got thirsty? How do you keep from getting thirsty?

## ACTIVITIES (Completed after the lesson)

Any age appropriate activity can be included which fits into the class time. The activities with a star are included on the class notes.

★ **Lesson Notes:** Have the children answer the two questions individually or as a group. What did you learn from this lesson? How can you put into practice what you learned?

★ **Memory Verse:** Read the memory verse on the cover of the class notes and then have the students fill in the blanks in the verse.

★ **Activity Page:** Word Scramble

Instructions: Unscramble each of the clue words describing something water is used for. Copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number.

Irrigation, transportation, recreation, manufacturing, power, cleaning, bathing, washing

Phrase: Without water there would be no life on earth.

★ **This Week's Big Question:** Have the students fill in the blanks for the way the memory verse answers the big question.

We are to thirst for God like our bodies thirst for water.

★ **Coloring Page:** Color the lesson picture.

- **Game:** Competition

As a reminder that air is essential for life, hold some air competitions.

Instructions: Test to see who can hold their breath the longest and who can blow up a balloon the fastest or biggest with just one breath.

- **Craft:** Water mobile

As a reminder that God separated the waters and formed the earth and sky, make a mobile.

Materials: blue or white cover stock paper, scissors, string, large paper clip

Preparation: Run off craft 5 on blue or white cover stock paper

Instructions:

- 1) Cut out the circles along the outside lines. Draw waves, water droplets or water molecules on the large circle.
- 2) Cut out the inside of the large circle. (Poke a hole in the center and then cut along the lines. Cut around inside edge.)
- 3) Cut out verse cards. Punch out a hole over each black circle.
- 4) Tie parts together: A/A, B/B).
- 5) Open a paper clip and attach it to the top of large circle (C) to hang the mobile from.

- **Investigation Activity:** – The attraction of water molecules

When God gathered the waters together he caused water molecules to stick together. This means he created a strong attraction between water molecules which causes them to draw and hold together. This attraction between water molecules causes water to have very strong surface tension.

Materials: clear glass, small plate, water, medicine dropper, small paper clips

Instructions:

- 1) Set a clear glass on a plate and fill it to the very top with water. Add water with a medicine dropper to the point where water spills over the edge. At that point, the cup is completely full.
- 2) Explain that you will be putting paper clips into the water. Ask the children how many paper clips they think you can put into the glass without the water flowing out over the top.
- 3) Gently slide paper clips into the water. Have the children count the clips and observe the rim of the glass.
- 4) Questions: How many paper clips could we slide into the full glass of water? Where was the water in terms of the glass before the last paper clip caused it spilled over the rim of the glass? (It should have risen above the rim.) What caused the water to spill over the rim? (Surface tension breaks down when the weight of the water and the pull of gravity are too great.) Why is it important for water molecules to have a strong attraction for one another? (It causes water to hold together and flow easily.)

## JOURNAL

The journal is passed out at the end of class for the students to complete at home. It has six poetic readings and related Bible verses. It would be beneficial for the teacher to read through and be familiar with its content.