

SHARING SCRIPTURE

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Creation: Genesis as Foundation, Part 2

For use: May 24 - 30

Texts: Job 26:7-10; Genesis 1-2; Genesis 5; Genesis 11; 1 Chronicles 1:18-27; Matthew 19:4, 5; John 1:1-3

Jake Bland was on his route picking up trash from his customers when he noticed, for one residence, the bin had not been put out for two weeks. Knowing an elderly woman lived alone at this particular house, he was concerned. Immediately, he called the office, asking dispatch to give the woman a call.

Dispatcher Bernice Arthur admits she was relieved to hear someone answer the call. Upon inquiring about the trash, Bernice learned that this woman had no family to help her. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, her caregiver had quit, leaving no way to get to the store to purchase food. She had no trash because she had no food.

It was at this point Jake put a plan into action. He and Bernice assured the woman she would be taken care of. He went shopping and filled his car with groceries, buying even more than she asked for, and his company paid for it. The three of them became a sort of adoptive family.

Because of this experience, both Jake and Bernice make it a point to check on her and other elderly customers, going above and beyond what their job descriptions entail.[1]

This week, we continue studying about God and Creation. God created the world. Humanity is a part of that creation, but God did not stop there. Throughout history we can see how God carefully watched over this Creation. The Bible gives accounts of the descendants, the families of those introduced at Creation. As we read about those generations, we continually see God's leading and loving.

Creation was not an event that happened at one point and then was left alone. Instead, God is still active within it, and continually cares for, loves, and leads us when we open our hearts to God.

Just as Jake didn't stop at doing only what his job description required, but rather cared for his customers, God did not stop at creating our world. In all actuality, God provided us with family, not only by Creation, but by adopting us into God's family. We are created by God, brought to God through Jesus, and adopted by God. We are God's family, and can rest in the assurance that we are loved, and that God will lead and provide.

~Joy Veverka

[1] <https://forwardky.com/kentucky-garbage-man-hadnt-seen-elderly-womans-trash-can-out-rightly-felt-something-was-amiss/>

For Reflection

Connecting: Can you envision a situation or idea that doesn't have at least two sides or opinions? Are there any scenarios in which there are no dissenting ideas?

Sharing: Read John 1:1-3. What is the underlying truth of these verses as it relates to Creation, God, and you?

1. God has always been; time did not begin with God, but always was with God.
2. The Word was with God at the beginning and has always been with God.
3. The Word is both with God and is God.
4. All things were made by the Word.
5. God created the Word.
6. Other:

Applying: Think about the statement, "No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care." Read Ephesians 1:5 and ponder how this verse demonstrates how much God cares and loves.

Valuing: As you consider today's memory verse, make a list (you can jot it down on paper or your digital device, or make a mental note) of what you can see that shows God's glory and handiwork.

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