

Topic: Creation – Man Awesomely and Wonderfully Made (2)

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

Elementary:

Verse: “Hear, for I will speak noble things; / And the opening of my lips will yield right things. / For my mouth will utter truth...” (Proverbs 8:6-7a).

Focus: God made man with a mouth so that man could speak; this makes man different from the animals. Because we are able to speak, we need to be careful with the words we use when we speak.

Practical Application: All animals have a mouth, but only man was created with a mouth that has the ability to speak and communicate through words. Some animal trainers have tried to teach animals, namely chimpanzees, to talk. But no animal has ever managed to speak like humans. They do not have the physical anatomy necessary to produce the sounds in human language and their brains do not have the ability to master language. Have the children name different animals and the sounds they make. Point out that none of these animals has the ability to communicate using words. God created man uniquely with the ability to speak, so we need to be careful with the words that come out of our mouth. We should use our mouth to speak proper and polite words such as “Thank you,” “Please,” and “I’m sorry.”

Intermediate:

Verse: “Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but only that which is good for building up, according to the need, that it may give grace to those who hear” (Ephesians 4:29)

Focus: God made man with a mouth so that man could speak; this makes man different from the animals. Through our speaking we can express our thoughts and feelings and communicate with others. Because we have been created with the ability to communicate through words, we need to be careful with the words we use.

Practical Application: In the English language alone, there are over 1 million words. To illustrate how many words are at our disposal, come up with 20 words and have the children identify words with similar meanings and words with opposite meanings. For example, take the word “beautiful.” Similar words can be “pretty” or “lovely” or “charming.” Opposite words can be “ugly” or “offensive.” Point out that with all these words in our language to express thoughts and feelings and give meaning to things, we should be careful what words we choose to speak from our mouth. Consider examples of how we can make the choice to speak with good, positive words, instead of negative, hurtful words. Another possible activity could be to play charades, highlighting the difficulty of communicating when we don’t have the ability to speak using words.

Advanced:

Verses: “Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings / You have established strength...” (Psalm 8:2a).

“Out of the same mouth come forth blessing and cursing. These things, my brothers, ought not to be so” (James 3:10).

Focus: God made man with a mouth so that man could speak; this makes man different from the animals. Man can use his mouth for praying, praising, thanking God and speaking to others about God. Our mouth should be used for speaking these things, instead of negative things.

Practical Application: Have the children identify some of the things that they have learned about God, e.g., God is love and He loves each of us; God is all-knowing and nothing can be hidden from Him; God is righteous and whatever He does is right; God gave us a conscience so we would know right from wrong, etc. Discuss how these are the wonderful things about God that we should thank Him for and speak to others about. Our mouth can be filled with “dirty” and “unclean” things, but we should keep our mouth “clean” by speaking good things about God. God does not like it when our same mouth that speaks well of Him would then be used to speak corrupt words. Just as no one would like to drink from a spring that one day gives sweet water and another day bitter water, the Bible tells us that our mouth should not be used for both blessing and cursing.