The Creeds of Our Faith

This year on Street 2:52 we want to teach children about some of the important fundamentals of the Christian faith. Each story we learn throughout the year will help to teach key aspects of the Christian faith. The Apostle’s Creed helped to form the outline for this year.

Through the story of creation we are reminded of the following creed: “I believe God created the heavens and the earth”

In addition to affirming the truth that we serve a great creator, children will be exploring:

- The Genesis account of creation
- How we are each made in God’s image
- How creation displays the glory of God and tells us of His majesty
- What God intended for His creation and how He made us each for a purpose

We hope that as kids adventure through the story of creation that their eyes will be opened in a new way to the beauty that surrounds us each day and speaks of God’s presence and purposeful design.

Story in Focus:
Genesis 1 & 2
& an introduction to chapter 3

Memory Verse

We encourage families to make scripture memorization a priority in their faith journey! Consider implementing an incentive program as a family to encourage your children in their memorization journey. This can be as simple as a sticker chart or even include prizes or special family activity rewards.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
Genesis 1:1

Food Alert

Listed below are the foods that will appear during this rotation. If your child has allergies, sensitivities or restrictions, it is the parent’s responsibility to provide an alternative food option. If you have any further concerns please talk with Andrea or Marla at least one week prior to the session of concern.

Loaves & Fishes Cooking Co:
Preschool and Kindergarten students will be visiting the Loaves & Fishes station this rotation. Here they will be learning about the effect sin has on the world and how God can take what was broken and make it into a new creation. A small snack that helps to teach this lesson will include:

- Oreo Cookies
- Pudding Cups

Have a question? Want to volunteer for an upcoming rotation? Want to make a suggestion? Get in touch with the Street 2:52 leadership team: street252@zbcc.ca
**BIBLE STORY BACKGROUND**

**PARENT STUDY GUIDE:**

- Read through the story in your own time
- Make your own study notes as you read
- Consider how the story relates to the statement of faith - “I believe that God is the creator of the Heavens and Earth”
- Ask personal questions such as: Who is God showing himself to be in this story? How am I to respond?
- Consider digging deeper by accessing commentaries online

**GENESIS BACKGROUND:**

- Genesis is the book of origins (the beginning of the world, of man, of sin, of the nation of Israel). It forms the introduction and foundation of the Pentateuch (the Torah – the first five books of the Bible)
- The Pentateuch was written by Moses (probably edited later to include account of his death; possibly to update some Hebrew names and place)

**THE CREATION ACCOUNT:**

- “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” - God was before anything else was (eternal), God is the Creator, God created everything -
- “And God said”…“God saw that it was good”…“there was evening , and there was morning: Repeated for each day, providing rhythm, cadence, order; even the way that it is told emphasizes that God brings order
- “God said” - He is Sovereign; He has all authority. He speaks, and it happens!
- “God saw that it was good” - everything that God creates is good and this shows off His goodness.

**THE CREATION OF MAN:**

- Man was made in the image of God: Able to govern/have authority, Relational, Able to reason, Moral, Creative, Have souls that live forever
- Male and female - Both are in the image of God
- Humans are set apart from the rest of God’s creation, in that we alone are made in the image of God and have been given dominion over the earth
- God has bestowed us with special dignity and value above the rest of creation
- When the Lord formed man the Hebrew word conveys picture of a potter with clay: Hands-on, intimate creation of man
- God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, an intimate picture of God transferring His life to us

**OTHER SCRIPTURES THAT SPEAK OF CREATION:**

- Psalm 8 – God's majesty seen in His creation
- Psalm 19 – Perfect revelation of God (in creation and His law) and the Heavens declare God's glory
- Psalm 24:1-2 – The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it
- Psalm 33:6-9 – Praising God for His sovereignty and creation at God’s word
- Psalm 104 – God commands and sustains His creation
- Psalm 139 – God's intimate knowledge of the people He has made
- Psalm 148 – Let all creation praise the Lord
- Isaiah 40:25-26 – God created and sustains the heavens
- John 1:1-3; cf. v. 14 – through Jesus everything was created
- 1 Cor. 8:6 – all things exist by Jesus and the Father, and all things exist for Jesus and the Father
- Col. 1:15-17 – everything was created through Jesus and for Jesus
- Heb. 1:2 – through Jesus God created the world
- Heb. 11:3 – by faith we understand that God created the world out of nothing

**EXPLORING FURTHER AS A FAMILY**

What are other ways you can learn about God our Creator as a family? Maybe take a nature walk, visit the Mutart Conservatory or even the Edmonton Zoo. Perhaps your family wants to take a moment to care for God’s creation by picking up some garbage in your neighbourhood or remembering to recycle as a family. You may even want to take on a project that celebrates the beauty of God’s creation such as painting a picture or even using a camera to photograph aspects of nature we can enjoy around us. Even if you only dedicate one supper time during the entire rotation to discussing the topic of creation and God as our creator you are helping children make further connections in their faith journey!
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<th>Where Am I Going?</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>OCT 20</td>
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<td>Creation Kick-Off</td>
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<td>NOV 17</td>
<td>9:30</td>
<td>Science @ Palestine Productions</td>
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<td>NOV 17</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Wrap Up &amp; Communion Sunday</td>
<td>Soul Station</td>
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**Current Volunteer Schedule**

- **Games @ Bible Times Square**
  - Leslie Fithen
- **Thou Art Studio**
  - Jennifer Winters
- **Loaves & Fishes Cooking Company**
  - Steph McKinnon
- **Soul Station (Grade 1-6)**
  - Deanna Fuellbrandt
- **Soul Station (Preschool - Kindergarten)**
  - Olga Hammond
- **Fishermans.Net**
  - Deb Werner (Preschool - Andrea Anderst)
- **Science**
  - Mike Christensen
- **Gospel Street Boardgame**
  - Chris Weston
- **Preschool Buddy**
  - Brittany Weston & Ruth Lafleche
- **Hall Monitors**
  - Jennell Bertsch & Lucy Adamson
SPOILER ALERT !!!!

We thought you might enjoy knowing more about what your children are learning at Street 2:52. Here’s a little peek at their workshops. You may want to keep this out of sight from your kids if they enjoy a surprise on Sunday mornings.

**Games @ Bible Times Square**
This workshop includes a sorting game and an action game that help children sequence the story of creation. For the older children, there is also an introduction to the fall of man through the story of Adam and Eve.

**Science**
A special guest scientist helps students explore creation through a deeper look at water, marvelling at how magnificent and purposeful our creator is. One fun experiment also reveals how water can help us to understand the Trinity.

**Fishermans.Net – Older Children**
Students explore the solar system as a way of discovering how awesome God’s creation is and learning of how creation speaks of His greatness.

**Fishermans.Net – Younger Children**
Students explore the creation story through an interactive CD-ROM story/game, internet link and colouring page. Focus is on sequencing and remembering of the story details.

**Soul Station**
Children use playdoh to invent their own creature or plant. This activity is then used as an object lesson to discuss God’s creation, His purpose for our lives and how we can bring Him glory.

**Gospel Street Boardgame**
Students are challenged to recall Bible learning through a life-sized boardgame. This quizzing styled workshop helps to increase long term memory retention and it’s fun to boot!

**Loaves & Fishes - Preschool/Kindergarten**
This lesson follows a more traditional Sunday School teaching format and is specially suited to the developmental stage of our youngest learners. Students will review the story of Adam & Eve through a story, hands-on craft and snack making activity.

**THOU ART STUDIO**
Students in this workshop learn about being made in the image of God by illustrating a self portrait.

**SPECIAL EVENT – MARY: MISSION POSSIBLE**
This year our Christmas lesson will include a 3-workshop themed lesson focusing on God’s great mission to send His son and they are learning it with a creative “twist”. Instead of Mission Impossible, think Mission Possible with students engaging in special agent activities! The three workshops in this lesson series are as follows:

**MISSION POSSIBLE – Bible Times Square**
Nov 24 @ 9:30 & 11:30 (Grade 1-6)
Dec 8 @ 9:30 – (Preschool & Kindergarten)
Children will participate in an obstacle course that explores the mission that Mary was given and how she chose to accept it.

**MISSION POSSIBLE – FisherMans.Net**
Nov 24 @ 9:30 & 11:30 (Grade 1-6)
Dec 8 @ 10:15 & 11:30 – (Preschool & Kindergarten)
This lesson provides a brief overview of the Christmas story by placing the story details onto a map of Israel during the time of Jesus’ birth. This requires MINIMAL computer skills.

**MISSION POSSIBLE – Soul Station**
Nov 24 @ 9:30 & 11:30 (Grade 1-6)
Dec 8 @ 9:30 & 11:30 (Preschool & Kindergarten)
Help children think about their own mission to follow and serve God at this creative station. Children will have a chance to take a Polaroid photo (in costume) as God’s special agent and fill out their very own special agent assignment folder.

Preschool Buddy & Hall Monitor Positions too!
We’ve been getting some common questions amongst parents about Street 2:52 so we thought we’d try and share some of the answers below. Hope this helps and as always if you ever have a question please feel free to chat with one of the Street 2:52 Leadership Team members (Andrea, Marla, Jennifer or Amy).

**Do kids really need to be at both the 9:30 and 11:30 workshop times?**
Ultimately this is up to you as a parent, however, the full experience of Street 2:52 includes attending both workshop times. Every workshop in a 3-6 week rotation is designed to provide a holistic learning approach. Workshops vary in their learning styles (art - science - active games - cooking - etc) as well as in their teaching objectives. Attending all of the workshops in a rotation will also greatly increase a child’s ability to retain Bible knowledge and dig deep into their scripture learning and faith journey. We understand that missing some workshops is inevitable during a calendar year but we encourage you to take full advantage of the program and we are confident your kids will be glad you did!

**What am I as a parent supposed to do while my kids are at church all Sunday morning?**
On a typical Sunday most parents who have children attending Street 2:52 will participate in adult Sunday School during the 9:30 time and then join the contemporary worship service at 11:00. Some parents with younger children drop off older children for the early workshop and then come again for the 11:00 service or use the early morning opportunity to visit with other parents while caring for their younger ones in the upstairs toddler room.

**Why isn’t Street 2:52 scheduled for every 11:00 worship service?**
We want kids to participate in church through a variety of ways. We value the opportunity to teach kids at Street 2:52 in a way that is geared specifically towards their age, development and learning styles. We hope that their time at Street 2:52 is extremely valuable to their faith journey and that this specialized program also speaks to them of their worth and importance within the church community. We also want kids to feel welcome and included in our regular services and value the importance of family time together within the church experience. We think it is important for kids to learn what a worship service looks like, watch their parents participate in church, develop tools to listen, observe communion and baptism and become aware that they are a part of a larger body of believers.

**What do I do if my kid won’t sit still during a worship service when Street 2:52 is not offered?**
First of all be encouraged that many kids share in this challenge (as do parents!). We understand that sitting through a service can be a challenge for children, especially for young ones. Don’t fret if your child gets antsy or makes a little noise - that’s bound to happen and we’re happy to be a family-friendly church. It takes time to teach children how to participate in a church service and every stage/age will likely differ for you as a family. Some ideas for enjoying (or even just surviving) a Sunday morning service might include:

- Bringing along snacks for children to enjoy
- Making use of the activity binders provided in the church foyer for colouring/drawing pictures
- Packing quiet toys or activities for children - maybe even special ones set aside just for Sundays
- Visiting the church library before the service to enjoy looking through some new books
- Creating sermon note-taking pages for children in upper elementary and discussing them as a family after the service

If your child still struggles to sit through a service consider taking them out to the foyer or for a quick break at the water fountain. Alternatively, many Sunday mornings that do not include an 11:00 session of Street 2:52 still provide workshops at 9:30. You may wish to bring children for the 9:30 workshop while you enjoy adult Sunday School or the early service.

Attending church with children, especially young ones, can be a whole new experience for parents who once attended church without kids in tow! Embrace this new experience as a chance to demonstrate the importance of church to your children and also to enjoy time together as a family. In moments of frustration or exhaustion, remember that the challenges of this stage will pass!

If you need more help, encouragement or advice please don't hesitate to ask! Anyone on the Street 2:52 leadership team or even the pastors would be happy to help out. Alternatively, you can always ask another parent sitting beside you in the pew - at the very least they will likely be able to empathize and lend a listening ear!

More questions? Send them our way & we'll keep posting answers! street252@zbcc.ca