

A vibrant rainbow arches across the top of the page, with colors transitioning from red on the left to purple on the right. The entire scene is framed by a white dashed border. The text is centered over the rainbow.

RAINBOW PROMISE

Buzz Journal
FOR LEADERS *preschool*

GENESIS 1:24-25

We thank God for our world.

What the Bible Says

God created the land and plants on the third day as a foundation for creating the animals on the sixth day. God didn't create the animals out of nothing, but he commanded the earth to produce every sort of animal. Scripture divides these animals up into three categories: livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals. Once again, God commanded the animals to produce offspring of their own kind and saw that it was good.

What It Means

The animals were God's last creation before creating human beings. Land animals were far more complex than any other thing God had created up to this point. God was moving toward creating his ultimate masterpiece. The fact that these animals were commanded to procreate suggests that God had a specific purpose in mind for them as well. The animals were divided into

three groups: livestock, small animals, and wild animals. Livestock eventually became an important element for human survival—serving as a food source, as a source of clothing, and as beasts of burden.

Why It Matters

It's clear that as God's creation continued to become more and more complex, God was setting everything up for the creation of human beings. Animals were the final element before God presented his creation to its caretaker. God created animals on the same day he created human beings, and animals are our responsibility. God commanded man and woman to love and care for these creatures, and many of these creatures love us in return. Take, for example,

the love we have for pets. We feed them, provide them with shelter, and love them, and they offer us love and companionship in return. It isn't farfetched to compare the relationship we have with a loving pet to our relationship with Jesus. Jesus refers to himself as the good shepherd because he sacrificially loves and provides for his people—the sheep (John 10:11-16). Jesus then hopes for his flock to be grateful and to respond to his provision and love with devotion. God entrusts us with the care and provision for animals; he expects us to rule over these beasts with love and care, thereby teaching us valuable lessons about our relationship with our Master.

God Sightings™

Do you remember that dog, cat, or horse from your childhood you loved with all your being? Even if you didn't have a household pet, imagine having a furry companion that protected you, loved you unconditionally, and followed you wherever you went. The love you had for this pet—and vice versa—doesn't even compare to the love God has for you. Consider the love and dedication this pet had for you, and bring those thoughts to God in prayer. Tell God how much you love him and recognize him as your shepherd.

Prayer Starter

Pray that God will help your kids realize how special animals are and what they offer us each and every day. Pray that kids will learn more about God as they interact with animals. Write your prayer here.



Group's
buzz

TM