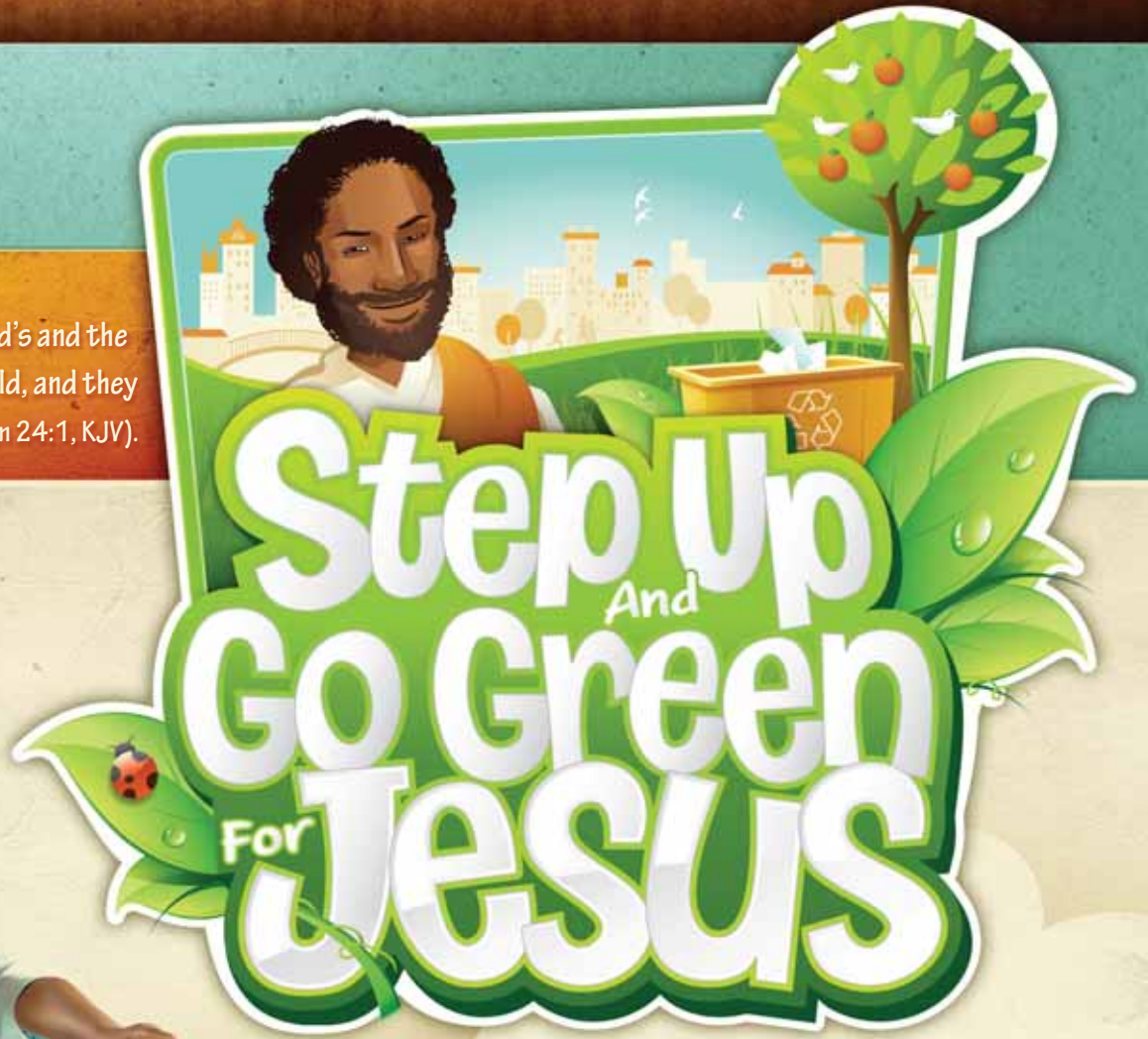


Teacher's Edition

"The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein" (Psalm 24:1, KJV).



Primary



Dear Primary Teacher,

It is my pleasure to introduce to you the *Step Up and Go Green for Jesus!* Vacation Bible School course. This year Urban Ministries, Inc., would like to present urban environmental awareness in a fun, exciting, and challenging curriculum.

“The earth is the LORD’s, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein” (Psalm 24:1, KJV) is the overall theme verse, which reflects the true stewardship of every believer to take care not only of God’s earth and animals but also of each other and our bodies. Unlike the secular, worldly focus on environmentalism, our focus is to remain true to God’s directive of taking care of the earth without worshipping it. We believe in the Creator, who made all things for our enjoyment within His will for the church.

Your Primary students, known as the Eco-Friendly Patrol, will become a part of the Jesus Green Team and have opportunities to

- ✓ **LEARN** how they can make a difference in their homes, churches, schools, and neighborhood environments.
- ✓ **UNDERSTAND** what stewardship means for young believers.
- ✓ **ENGAGE** in delightful snack and game activities that relate directly to the biblical and environmental theme.
- ✓ **BE EXPOSED TO** African American men and women who fight or have fought for environmental justice.
- ✓ **ACQUIRE** biblical knowledge and application of God’s Word for everyday life.
- ✓ **EXPERIENCE** lively and engaging opening and closing assemblies, which spur each student to action.

As the Primary teacher, you have the unique calling from God to model good stewardship of your gifts for these precious children of God. I strongly encourage you to read every page of this book before VBS begins. Be sure to pay close attention to the Lesson Outline in order to have a clear understanding of each lesson from beginning to end. You will be most blessed when you stand before our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to hear the words, **“Well done, thou good and faithful servant.”**

Your fellow servant of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Crystal McDowell,
Editor



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*Recommended for five-day program



Primary Teacher Lesson One

Believe God!

Scripture Study: Genesis 1:1, 3, 11–12, 21, 25

Lesson Focus: In this lesson Primary students will believe that God made the heavens and the earth. They will know everything God created was called good.

Suggested Materials: *Primary Student Folders, Primary Teacher Resource Kit, UMI Craft Booklet* or craft kits recommended from UMI Catalog, *Bible Verse Posters, The Bible Storybook, "I Take Care of Things!" Life Application Poster*, index cards, pencils, and timer.

Bible Background

God created the earth! It wasn't a big bang or an evolutionary process that brought out the complex and intricate features of nature, animals, and humankind. In this lesson, students will be exposed to the reality of a Creator who called everything "good". It was humankind's sins that changed everything in creation from good to the problems that the world faces today.

Students will know that they must first believe in God and that what He says is true in His word no matter what the world shouts at them. They will come away from this lesson with a firm and solid belief that God created them for His purpose and plan.

Background Scripture:
Genesis 1–2; Job 38–39; Jeremiah 32:16–23

Step 1

Opening and Preparing for Learning

Organic Opening Activity

Teacher: "Today we are going to learn about how God created the heavens, the earth, animals, and humans. Make sure everyone gets an index card and a pencil. We are going to find out who can write the most things that God created in two minutes."

Have the students spread out and set the timer for two minutes. Beforehand, remind the students that you just want them to write what God created (e.g., trees rather than pencils).

Step 2

Present Activities to Communicate the Lesson Scripture

Bible Biosphere

(Display the Bible picture from the *Bible Storybook* for Lesson One.)

Instruct the children to sit in a semicircle around you. Encourage the students to read along with you or ask for a volunteer to read aloud as the others look in their books.

Believe God!

Based on Genesis 1:1, 3, 11–12, 21, 25

In the very beginning of time, God created the earth and everything in it. God knew what He was doing because He is always in control.

God made the pretty plants and the tall trees. He made the delicious fruits and the sweet-smelling flowers. Every plant that you see came from God!

God made the tiny fish to swim, the lions to roar, and the birds to fly high in the air. He knew every place to put the animals so they can live. Every bird and animal came from God!

God made the earth and everything in it, including you and me! Isn't God good?

Eco-Friendly Patrol Bible Story Activity

Teacher: "Let's play a guessing game called 'What Part of Creation Am I?'"

Choose volunteers for the following: a tree, fruit, flower, fish, bird, and a lion. The volunteers will imitate or describe that part of creation and the other students will guess who or what they are. Have fun and tell the students to be very descriptive. They can use hand movements and words.

E.P.A. (Exceptional Personal Achievement) Memory Verse

(Display today's *Bible Verse Poster*.)

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1, KJV).

Teacher: "Let's learn our E.P.A. for today by repeating it to each other. Find a partner and repeat the E.P.A. to each other so that when we come together as a class everyone will know it."

Step 3

Explore Strategies to Provide General Application

The Dove Called Peace

(Display the front cover of the student folder.)

Have a volunteer read through the reality story while everyone else follows along.

"Look, John, the bird has on eye makeup," said Trinity.

"Yes, it sure looks like it, little sister," said John. The bird built her nest above the front porch light. Her feathers were tan with a blue circle around each of her eyes.

"Mommy, look at the pretty bird," said Trinity.

"She's beautiful. God painted her with pretty colors," Mommy said. "Let's take a picture of the bird!"

Mommy went into the house and brought out the camera.

"Don't move, Mommy Bird," whispered John. "I wonder what type of bird it is."

"Let's go inside and look it up on the Internet," said Mommy.

While searching the Internet, they discovered the bird was in the dove family.

"Wow, she's a rain dove," said Trinity.

"The rain dove is a symbol of peace, and it makes a call like 'woo-oo-oo,'" said Mommy.

John, Trinity, and Mommy laughed and began to make the dove sound together.

"Let's name the dove 'Peace,'" said Trinity. "God created everything. He's wonderful."

Teacher:

"What type of bird was discussed?" (rain dove)

"What sound does it make?" (woo-oo-oo)

"Who created the rain dove?" (God)

Eco-Friendly Patrol Activity Pages

(Have students take seats at a table and turn their folders to use pages 3 and 4. Give each student the

correct writing utensils for the activity pages.)

On page 3

Teacher: "God created everything and called it good. What is your favorite animal or plant that God created? Trace your favorite on the picture."

On page 4

Teacher: "Let's see who can find the word *peace* in the scrambled letters."

Step 4

Next Steps for Personal Application of God's Word

Life Application Poster

Call attention to the "*I Take Care of Things!*" *Life Application Poster*. Point to the first picture with the caption "I Take Care of My Family!" Ask the children to tell you how the child in the picture is helping take care of their family. Ask them to give you ideas of how they can take care of their families at home.

Eco-Friendly Patrol Crafts

Refer to the *UMI Craft Booklet* for instructions on "Animal Jars" or use recommended crafts from the UMI Catalog.

Solar-Powered Snacks

Turn to pages 8–9 in the teacher's guide for directions on the snack "Creation Crumbs."

VBS 2010 Go Green Games

Turn to pages 10–11 in the teacher's guide for directions on the "Creation Challenge."

Recyclable Review

Teacher: "Remember that God created everything! He even created you! Believe that God made you special for His purpose and plan."

Prayer

Teacher: "Eco-Friendly Patrol! Please repeat this prayer after me: 'Dear God, thank You for birds, trees, dogs, cats, food, bugs, and for all of my friends. You are the great Creator! Amen!'"