

Alley Rundown—August 14th, 2022

Today's Bible Story: I'll Take Care of You (Creation) • Genesis 1–2

Today's Key Question: How do you know when someone loves you?

Today's Bottom Line: God made us to take care of each other.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Here is what love is. It is not that we loved God. It is that he loved us and sent his Son to give his life to pay for our sins.* 1 John 4:10 (NIRV)

Dude Perfect Filler Videos

"Hello friends! You know, I just have to say that we've got a great group of people here! Take a good look at the person next to you, right in their face . . . and tell them you're glad to see them!

"I'm not sure if you've ever done this kind of thing, but I love looking at pictures of things when they're way zoomed in and you have to try and guess what they are. Want to try a few?"

SLIDE: Zoomed-in Snowflake

"What do you think it is?"

Allow for responses. If no one guesses, reveal the answer.

"That, my friends, is a snowflake. Crazy, right? Look at the detail. Isn't that unbelievable? Let try a few more!"

Show the following slides, and allow for kids to try and guess what the pictures are of. Again, if no one guesses them, reveal the answers.

SLIDE: Zoomed-in Table Salt

SLIDE: Zoomed-in Snake Scales

SLIDE: Zoomed-in Dandelion

SLIDE: Zoomed-in Butterfly Wing

"Amazing, right? And God, in all His unbelievable creativity, fashioned each one of those things, down to the smallest detail."

"When you think about God's creation, all of the plants, animals, stars, planets, insects—even mosquitoes, ugh, I hate mosquitoes—do you ever wonder WHY God did it? Like, what the actual reason was that God exploded so much color and wonder and variety on this Earth? Why so much detail? Why so much creativity?"

"And further than that, why create humans? What's our place in all of this?"

"Pretty good questions. Luckily, we've got a great big book and a great big God who wants to help us find answers in it. (*Hold up Bible.*) There are stories and thoughts and sayings and dreams here in the Bible—stories of real people who actually lived and experienced God first-hand. And we can learn from what they experienced! Today, as we discover more about these questions, will the help of this week's Episode. Take a look!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 12:00)

“God made this world and everything in it with an explosion of creativity. Honestly, God could have simply made one kind of leaf, one type of animal, everything the same color, one flavor, one texture . . . it all would have been very functional and done the job.

“But in God’s love for us, we got a world with abundance. Color. Diversity. Beauty. Why? Because God loves us.

“It’s the kind of gift that shows just how much care and devotion was put into making it. All of the creativity, the detail, the abundance, the stunning imagery, all of it is meant to point us back to a Creator who loves us and made us! God made the world for us, and God made us for each other.

“Today as you head to your Small Groups, I want you to think about this question:

SLIDE: Key Question

“How do you know when someone loves you? What tips you off to let you know that someone really cares about you? Have you ever been given a gift, or experienced something, where you knew without a shadow of a doubt that you were being shown love? You’ll talk more about this in your groups, but before we go, let’s pray and ask God to help us love one another. Let’s pray.

Lead group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, lead offering and dismiss kids to Small Group.

OFFERING:

“As you may know, all this Summer we are raising money to dig water wells in the Country of Malawi. When you bring your offering in, you are helping many people in Malawi to have clean water to drink and cook with. So, if you brought an offering today, you can bring it up now!”

CG: Malawi Wells Pictures