

Family Battle Plan

A discipleship pathway to assist parents in engaging their children on their journey of faith

Week 1: Creation

4th and 5th Grade

Theme Verse

"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth" (Genesis 1:26).

Objective

God created people in His image.

Teach

The Bible reveals many characteristics of God. To name a few, God is patient, kind, and loving. We see God's patience with the Israelites as they grumbled in the wilderness, with the scoffers who rejected and ridiculed Jesus, and ultimately with mankind as He waits patiently, desiring all to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9). We see God's kindness in His gift of creation with its magnificence and beauty, His sparing of the evilest of kings and nations once they repented, and His compassion toward His people, despite their repeated disobedience to His commands. God's love is evident as He continually provides for and protects His people and, ultimately, as He sacrifices His only Son to provide the way of salvation for sinful people. Since we are made in God's image, we can portray these same characteristics.

We should demonstrate patience with others by giving second chances, by being gentle, and by being willing to listen and talk through disagreements (James 1:19). We should show kindness to others by treating them the way we want to be treated (Luke 6:31), forgiving one another (Ephesians 4:32), and humbly considering others as more important than ourselves (Philippians 2:3). We should love everyone, even our enemies, because God first loved us (1 John 4:9). Humble, steadfast, sacrificial love will show the world that

we belong to God (John 13:35). Because we are made in God's image, our actions and attitudes toward others should reflect the attributes of God.

Discussion Question(s)

- 1. What can you do if you struggle with being patient, kind, or loving toward someone?
- 2. How does understanding that all people are created in God's image impact the way you treat them?
- 3. How does the world encourage ways of treating others that are contrary to God's character?

Play

Play a simple game of "Simon Says." After you play, connect the idea of mimicking "Simon" to how we should mimic God's character in our actions toward others.

Sing

"So Will I"

Live it Out

Help your child remember the specialness of people this week. Ask them to notice the special things about people they see and to remember God made that person special.

Closing Prayer

Dear God, thank You for Your creation. Help me to appreciate Your glory in all of creation. Forgive me in the moments when I have made it all about me. I truly desire to make You known to those around me and to walk in obedience according to Your plan for my life. Help me to have compassion for other people this week. Amen.