





Year 2—Quarter 2 God's Big Plan

God's New Creation

All Things New



Lesson Aim: This lesson teaches children that Jesus will return someday, and when He does, He will bring about full and complete renewal—to the entire world and all of creation. This ses-

sion will help children understand—and become excited about—following Jesus now and anticipating this Biblical view of the world to come! .

Say: Let's talk about nature and a big word called "sin." Nature is full of beautiful things like flowers, animals, and mountains. But sometimes, not-so-nice things happen, like storms and animals getting hurt. The Bible says this happens because of something called sin, which is when people choose not to follow God's way.

Long ago, everything was perfect. God made the world and said it was "good." But then, two people, Adam and Eve, didn't listen to God, and that's when sin started. It's like when we make a mess in our room; sin made a mess in the world.

Because of sin, we see thorns on roses and animals that don't get along. But guess what? God has a big plan! He sent Jesus to fix the mess sin made. Jesus loves us so much that He will make everything new and perfect again, just like it was in the beginning (even better!).

The Bible tells us about a time coming soon when all animals will be friends. Imagine a wolf babysitting a lamb or a lion playing tag with a cow! Even scary snakes won't be scary anymore. This will happen when Jesus comes back and fills the world with God's love, so no one and nothing will want to be mean or hurtful.

Isn't that amazing? It's like the best ending to the best story, and it's all true! God's love is going to clean up the world's mess and make everything happy and safe again.

Power Point

**Jesus will
return
someday
and restore
all things.**

MEMORY VERSE
Revelation 21:5a,
"He Who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!'" (NIV)

Dirty Penny Experiment

Suggested time: 5–10 minutes

Supplies: Dark or tarnished pennies; vinegar; salt; glass bowl or cup; spoon; water; paper towels; tablecloth (optional).

Instructions:

- If using a tablecloth, lay it out to protect the surface of the table or desk where you will be conducting the experiment.
- Show the children the dark pennies (perhaps even read the date that's printed on them) and ask the children if they think you can make these old pennies new again.
- Pour vinegar into the glass container. Then add salt and stir until it dissolves. (Suggested ratio: ¼ cup white vinegar and 1 tsp. salt.)

- Drop the pennies in, and invite the children to count with you as you slowly count out loud to 10. Stir the pennies in the solution as you count. (Consider keeping one dirty penny out of the solution so that you can use it for comparison afterward.)
- Remove the pennies from the mixture. (The chemical reaction should have made them shiny again.)
- Rinse the pennies in water and then dry them off. (If you don't rinse them under water, they will turn green-blue by forming a compound called malachite.)
- Show the clean pennies to the children.

LEADER: Didn't that seem like magic how we made those dirty, tarnished coins look brand new again? Well, it wasn't actually magic—it was a chemical reaction that allowed that change to take place. But in today's lesson, we are going to talk about one of the ways that Jesus really will make old things new...

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Animal Charades

Supplies: Small pieces of paper with different animals written on them; a bag to contain the paper slips; timer (optional)

Instructions:

- In advance, write suggestions of animals the kids could act out on small slips of paper. Some ideas include: Lion; rabbit; frog; bird; cat; dog; skunk; bee; giraffe; gorilla; fish.
- Instruct the kids to pick one of the animals out of the bag and act it out without making any sounds.
- The class must try to guess what animal the child is acting out. If the game is taking too long, consider using a time limit, perhaps 30 seconds.
- When the animal is guessed (or the timer runs out), allow the next child to take a turn.
- Repeat until all children have a turn acting out an animal.

LEADER: You guys did a great job bringing those different animals to life!

But imagine if you had to act out those animals like how they are supposed to be in the new creation:

The lion would be happy chewing some straw! The wolf would be snuggling up with a lamb! That version of the game would probably have been really hard, wouldn't it have?

But think about what it would be like, in real life, if we never had to worry about a lion roaring at us, a gorilla beating his chest or a skunk having to spray its enemy... Think about how that would change what a trip to the zoo would be like—or if we would even need to have zoos in the New Creation! Just thinking about it makes me excited to get to experience it when Jesus comes back again and brings it with him!

Object Lesson: Can You Fix It?

Items Needed: Toys or items that can come apart; broken or breakable things, jigsaw puzzles

Lesson Opening: Can you fix it? Start with a little challenge...present kids with a toy or object that needs fixed.

Some toys are meant to come apart and be put back together. If you don't have one of these, purposely break apart a game, a pen, or a toy, and give it to students. Or dump a puzzle on a table. Invite children to re-build the items. You might want to make this into a race and have students group into teams to see which can fix items faster.

Alternatively (or additionally), play a game of "make it new art"... have children draw a

simple picture. Pass pictures to another artist, and invite the new illustrator to change the original and make it something new. For extra challenge (or older kids), encourage the first drawing to be a little sad, and the changed item to be more uplifting.

Explain to students that today we will look at some Bible verses that talk about making things new.

Craft:

Make something new! Provide children with a variety of scrap materials. You might even ask ahead of time to have them bring some in (tubes, boxes, cloth, papers, etc.). Invite kids to get creative and make something new out of the "junk." Attach a verse (Revelation 21:5). It could be anything from a functional tool or a fictitious friend... have fun!

