08.30.2009 Romans 1:20-25

Materials Needed

1. The story of creation, either from the Bible or a child's book
2. Notecards; each labeled with either a happy or sad attributes (Kids will be deciding if the attribute will make God happy or sad. Singing to Jesus, Caring more about your toys than you care for God, Thanking God for your food, Forgetting to thank God for your best friend when you play together)
3. Two larger labels "Happy" and "Sad"
4. Lyrics to creation song (attached)
5. Area to take a nature walk or pictures of things that God created

Opening Activity

1. Begin lesson by reviewing Genesis chapter 1, either with the creation story or a child's book on creation. Ask kids to discuss things that God created that make them happy.
2. Walk outside to appreciate God's creation or share pictures that show the beauty of creation.
3. Review and sing the "Creation Song"(lyrics attached).
4. Read scripture, Romans 1:20-25.

Discussion

Question 1: What are some things that God has given you to enjoy?
Question 2: We believe in God and worship Him as our Creator, but sometimes, we think the things He created and has allowed us to create are more important than God. What are some of the ways you spend more time thinking about created things rather than God? What are some of those created things?
Question 3: How does it make God feel when we choose to worship created things instead of worshipping Him?

Summary

All created things have a creator, and the creator is the one to be praised, rather than the creation. This passage is a call to recognize that creation itself points us straight to God, and it's a reminder that we are called to worship the Creator, not His creations, which is idolatry. In much the same way as we would never tell a violin how great it was at playing Mozart (we would instead tell Mozart how great he was at composing for the violin), we're to see God's amazing creation, have our jaws drop to the floor, and say, "God, YOU created all of this! How amazing are you?!" It's possible to turn good gifts from God into idols. The Roman people were making images of mankind, animals, etc. (things in the natural world) and worshipping them. They were also perverting their bodies in the process, and Paul was calling them to see the things they were worshipping as merely creations that point to something larger and to recognize the greatness of the one who created these things, God.

Application

Activity:

1. Create tow separate piles, one labeled "happy" and one labeled "sad" with the larger cards.
2. Pass out the written attributes on the notecards.
3. Read for the younger kids, and have each one place their attribute card either in the "happy" or "sad" pile, based on how they think God would feel about the attribute.
4. Discuss why the kids made the decisions that they made about each attribute.

5. Sing the "Creation Song" below, and then talk about how if all the things God created are so magnificent, imagine how astonishing HE is because He can create them!

Attachments:

Creation Song

(Tune: London Bridge) lyrics written and contributed by Sharon Broome - (Words for the last verse contributed by Lloyd Douglas)

God created the heavens and earth Heavens and earth
Heavens and earth
God created the heavens and earth
In the Beginning

God created day and night
Day and night
Day and night
God created day and night
On day one

God created the skies and seas
Skies and seas
Skies and seas
God created the skies and seas
On day two

God created the plants and trees
Plants and trees
Plants and trees
God created the plants and trees
On day three

God created the stars and moon
Stars and moon
Stars and moon
God created the stars and moon
On day four

God created the fish and birds
Fish and birds
Fish and birds
God created the fish and birds
On day five

God created animals and man

Animals and man
Animals and man
God created animals and man
On day six

God rested from His works
From His works
From His works
God rested from His works
On day seven