



Day 1 STAYCATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2021

STAYCATION BIBLE SCHOOL Our Daily Bread Café

DAY 1 God creates

Scripture reference:
Genesis 1 and 2

Sense:
Sight

Verse of the day:
Then God said, "I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food."
(Genesis 1:29)

Catch phrase:
Taste and see what God CREATED!

Theme of the day:
See and know that the Lord is good!



Day 1



Basic ingredient list

- ❑ A candle
- ❑ Our Daily Bread Café placemat for each child
- ❑ A children's story Bible or Bible
- ❑ Any visuals/pictures you want to use for the Bible story
- ❑ A Gratitude Café Journal (1 for each child)
- ❑ Daily craft/game/cooking supplies
- ❑ Simple snack (if you have snack time)
- ❑ Speaker/ability to stream the Spotify playlist
- ❑ Access to YouTube (or watch ahead of time and teach the YouTube dances)
- ❑ Favorite drink/sweet treat for the Gratitude Café



SETTING THE TABLE

Each day you will need your worship cloth and candle. In this opening time, you will listen to a song for the day, and center your hearts and minds to prepare for SBS.

1. Lay out your worship cloth and place the candle on top.
2. Light the candle to represent the light of Christ present with you.
3. Share one thing you:
 - * Hope to learn today,
 - * Are joyful for today,
 - * Are wondering,
 - * You want to share, or
 - * Are excited about.



Praise God with a song!

Choose a song from the **Plate-it-up Playlist** (pres-outlook.org/SBSplaylist) or use today's daily suggestion!

* **Today's song:** "Taste and See the Lord is Good"



above: Spotify code to scan for playlist



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Open with prayer

Daily opening call-and-response prayer

Host: Taste and see...

Guests: The Lord is good!

All: Praise God.

Guests: Taste and see...

Host: What God created!

All: Praise God.

Host: We give God thanks for our day!

All: Good morning, God, we say.

Guests: Taste and see...

Host: God is good!

Guests: All the time!

Host: All the time...

Guests: God is good! Praise God!

All: Amen.



TODAY'S STARTER

You will explore the theme verse every day. Each day will focus on a different one of our 5 senses.

A note for the host: Have you ever wondered what in the world the psalmist meant by “taste and see that the Lord is good”? How in the world do we “taste” God? Children are concrete thinkers and so they will probably wonder this too. Seeing the Lord is somewhat easier, but again, this is hard for concrete thinkers because we can’t see God (and Jesus) like we “see” people around us. Our faith challenges us to experience God in very abstract ways, which is hard for children. This is why we are going to use our 5 senses to help us explore this Scripture passage and wonder together how we are able to experience God around us.

When I read this passage, I imagine the psalmist is trying to encourage us to explore and discover all the ways that we can know that God is all around us. When I read “taste” that the Lord is good, I think about the freshly picked apples my family gets each September from the local orchard. When I read “see” that the Lord is good, I can’t help but remember the beautiful sunsets that have dazzled me at the beach.



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While the psalmist doesn't tell us to "hear" that the Lord is good or "touch/feel" that the Lord is good, I think we could add each of those senses as we experience and discover the ways that God is good. As you prepare to explore this verse with your guests, take some time to reflect on the ways you taste, see, hear, smell and feel/touch that the Lord is good. You will notice that this verse is in two parts. We are going to focus on the first part ("O taste and see that the Lord is good") throughout the week.



Intro game: five senses scavenger hunt

We have 5 senses. Can you name them? (touch, sight, hearing, smell and taste) Let's go on a scavenger hunt that explores the 5 senses. (*Note to host: You can do as many of these as you would like, but try to hunt for at least one item representing each of the five senses. And, you can add your own "find something _____" to the hunt as well!*) As your guests search for the items and bring them back to you, wonder together which "sense" you use with that item (and it might be several).

- Find something that makes a crunch sound.
- Find something that tastes sour.
- Find something that smells good.
- Find something smooth.
- Find something that makes noise.
- Find something heavy.
- Find something that smells bad.
- Find something loud.
- Find something fuzzy.
- Find something that rings.
- Find something that tastes sweet.
- Find something that is colorful.
- Find something light.
- Find something soft.
- Find something rough.
- Find something you can use to make music.
- Find your favorite color.
- Find your favorite story book.
- Find something that reminds you of a favorite story or movie.



Explore Psalm 34:8

Remember the song you listened to this morning? The phrase "taste and see that the Lord is good" comes from the Bible. It's in the book of Psalms. It is Psalm 34:8. See if your family can find it. You will notice that the verse is in two parts. We are going to focus on the first part.



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Read together

- If you have pre-readers, do a call and response. You say a few words, then they repeat the words after you.
- If you have readers, read the verse out loud together.
- If you have a mixture of both, have your readers be the callers and the pre-readers do the responding.



Wonder together

- I wonder what the psalmist meant by “taste and see that the Lord is good.”
- I wonder: How do we know that God is around us?
- I wonder: How do we know that God is taking care of us?



Explore together

While we can't “see” God the way that we can see the people around us who love us, the psalmist is reminding us that God cares very much for us, and this Bible verse challenges us to explore the ways that we can “see” God.

- Remember the 5 senses. Let's name them again.
- Share with your guests how we might use our senses to notice God in our world. You can use my example of picking apples in the fall or use your own.
- Here is an example using a freshly picked apple. Each September my family goes apple picking at our local orchard. When we arrive, we “see” God in the hundreds of apple trees. We **see** trees grown from seeds, cared for by farmers and producing the most colorful (and often BIG) apples. The story of creation comes to life! Almost always we taste at least one apple we pick off the tree. We **hear** the snap when pull it off the tree, and then we hear the crunch when we take a bite, and finally we **taste** the sweetness of the apple. We are reminded of how God made fruit to nourish us. What a bonus that the apple is so sweet and tasty. We **touch/feel** God when we pick the apple off the tree. We feel the heaviness of the apple in our hands. And we feel the smoothness of the skin. We touch God when we place something of God's creation in our hands. We often experience two smells when picking apples. The sweet **smell** of a fresh apple when we first take a bite. But there is often rotting/fermented apple smell from apples that have fallen to the ground. A reminder that God provides us with tasty food, but God also provides for the renewal of the earth and all of creation.



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- **Discussion options for concrete thinkers:** This will be harder for younger children, as they think very concretely. With my youngest children I try to keep my examples simple and concise. I don't try to compare (*God is like...*), but instead try to use a statement about what we are learning and pair that with a truth about God and then finish with a word of praise or thanksgiving to God. (For example: Apples taste good, God made apples, thank you, God.) Here are a few examples:

1. When I **taste** an apple, it tastes sweet and I know it is a healthy food. God made apples for us to eat. God is so good to us!
2. When I **touch** an apple, I remember that God takes care of me. I remember that God takes care of YOU! Thank you, God!
3. When I go to an apple orchard and **see** the apple trees, I remember that God helps fruit trees and gardens grow. God created the world. Thank you, God, for creating apples!

Create together.

To prepare for this, you will need one big piece of paper. Using that piece of construction paper (or plain paper), write the Bible verse clearly: "O taste and see the Lord is good." Illustrate your Bible verse poster as you would like. Each day you will focus on one of the senses and explore together how you notice God through that sense. And each day, you'll have two options for doing that - one using words, and one that's visual.

Option 1:

Brainstorm and write the ways you see, touch, smell, taste and hear God. To prepare for this activity for the week, you will need five smaller sheets of paper, each labeled with one of the five senses.

Option 2:

Make a visual collage of the ways you see, touch, smell, taste and hear God. To prepare for this activity for the week, you will need five sheets of paper (whatever size you would like to use, one for each sense), plus newspapers/magazines to cut up and tape or glue.

Today let's focus on **SEE**. How do we see that the Lord is good?

* *Examples:* Sunset, flowers growing, two siblings sharing, etc.

If you choose *Option 1*, write down all the ideas you brainstorm on the "see" sheet of paper. When you are done, attach the "see" sheet to one of the edges of your Bible sign. Hang your sign somewhere in your space.



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If you choose *Option 2*, cut out pictures and words that represent “see.” Create a collage. Attach your picture to the edge of your Bible sign. Hang your sign somewhere in your space.

Each day, we’ll focus on another sense – adding to the Bible verse poster each day.

Church connection point >>>> At the end of your week, collect these Bible verse creations from your families. Use them to create a bulletin board at church (to “see” when you are back in the building). Or get creative and create a video or PowerPoint presentation with their ideas.



THE MAIN MEAL: Taste and see how God creates



Lesson goals

Your family will discover:

- The story of Creation and explore what God made on each of the days.
- God gives us what we need through creation — from water to drink, to seeds that grow plants, to animals that roam the earth. We are nourished by creation.
- When God created the earth, God tasked us to be caretakers of the earth. Not only does God provide us with what we need to be nourished, we are called to use God’s resources wisely and care for them.



Read the story together

1. Invite your guests to join you around the table with your worship cloth. Share with them that it is time to read the story together and show them the Bible you are going to read from.
2. Our story today comes from God’s book, the Bible. It’s in the book of Genesis. Genesis is the very first book of the Bible. We are going to read the very first story in the book of Genesis.



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3. Shut your eyes. Imagine that there is nothing in the world. No trees, no birds, no animals, no houses, no water, no sun, no night, no sky. There was nothing.
4. This is what God saw. The Bible says the “earth was without form and void.” (Wonder together what “void” might mean.) So God got to work creating the world.
5. Here is the story of Creation. Let’s read the story together.
6. This story is a great interactive story, in which even young readers and pre-readers can take part. Using the Genesis 1 interactive reading provided, divide up the reading parts among your group. The most repetitive lines (and God said and it is good) are set aside for pre-readers or young readers because they can memorize or remember those short phrases. You can find this interactive reading on page 50.
7. Read the story together.
8. After you read the story together, share with your guests that there is a second creation story. Show them where it is in the Bible (Genesis 2). If you have the **“Growing in God’s Love Story Bible,”** read that version of the story. If you don’t, read it from your Bible.



Wonder together

1. Compare the two versions of the creation story. What is the same in both stories? What is different?
2. Wonder together: Why do you think we have both stories in our Bible? Why do you think the writer of Genesis felt they were both important?
3. Get 7 post-it notes (or small pieces of paper) and label them: Day 1, Day 2, Day 3, etc. Can you remember what God created on each day? Fill in your post notes and then hang them up in your SBS space.
4. Creative activity: Make a creation collage. Use magazines and newspapers to make visuals of each day that God created. You could do 1 collage for each day, or divide up a big sheet of paper into seven sections.
5. When you “look” at God’s creation, what are some of your favorite plants, animals and living things?



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SIDE SURPRISES!



SIDE 1: CAFÉ CREATIONS (ARTS AND CRAFTS)

The crafts you make on Day 1 will be used throughout the week.

Worship cloth:

- Each day you will set your table with a worship cloth.
- Instructions for creating your cloth are on page 13.

Marbled Gratitude Journal

You will use this journal each day during Delightful Desserts at the Gratitude Café.

MATERIALS:

- 1 piece of card stock (8.5x11) per person
- 4 pieces of 8.5x11 paper per person (not card stock)
- Tray (or baking dish or cookie sheet)
- Stapler
- Shaving cream
- Food coloring
- Spatula (or popsicle stick or spoon)

DIRECTIONS:

- On a tray/baking dish/cookie sheet, spray a large amount of shaving cream and spread out with a spatula.
- Add 4-5 drops of food coloring (any colors you like!). Create marble designs by swirling carefully using the spatula.
- Take your card stock and press it into the shaving cream/food coloring mixture.
- Using your spatula, scrape off all the excess shaving cream. Let dry.



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- Take your now marbled cardstock and add the 4 pieces of paper. Fold in half to make a book, with the cardstock on the outside. Staple the spine.
- You have a journal. Add your name, decorations, etc.

Bonus craft: Pizza box storage case

If your church created a Staycation Bible School take-home kit in a pizza box, here is a craft that uses the box!

MATERIALS:

- 1 pizza box
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Markers

DIRECTIONS:

- Decorate your box!
Some ideas include: Make a mosaic (take small pieces of construction paper and create a big picture using the small pieces) or decorate with drawing materials.

WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR BOX?

Store your SBS materials in the box. You can keep your journal, worship cloth and candle in the box. Or, take it to church. It's a great box to store supplies and use as a table to draw on during worship.

Optional: Play dough mat

MATERIALS:

- SBS Play dough mat (page 128)
- Laminator (*optional*)
- Laminating sheets (*optional*)

DIRECTIONS:

- Make a copy of the SBS play dough mat for each person participating. The play dough mat will work on copy paper or card stock. It is used as a prompt (and table saver) for several activities.
- To make it sturdier, you can laminate the mats. You can purchase a simple laminator for 8.5x11 paper from [Amazon](#) or you can take the mats to a copy center. Laminating is not necessary, but definitely makes a longer lasting play dough mat.



CREATION CRAFTS

Today's crafts remind us of God's creation and our role in taking care of what God has made.

Craft 1: Tissue Paper Flower Pot

MATERIALS:

- Small ceramic pot for each person
- Tissue paper
- Glue



DIRECTIONS:

1. Have your guests cut the tissue paper into smaller pieces.
2. Paint glue all over the pot. Add the tissue paper to the pot. Paint more white glue on top of the tissue paper to help it stick (you are basically painting the tissue paper on the pot).
3. Cover the whole pot with tissue paper and glue.
4. Let dry.

Craft 2: Seed Balls

MATERIALS:

- Construction paper (3-4 colors)
- Flower seeds
- Food processor (or blender)



DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut or tear the construction paper into small pieces (1-inch squares are recommended). Divide the paper by color.
2. Let the paper soak in water for at least 20 minutes.
3. Squeeze the excess water out of the paper.
4. Using 1 color at a time, make paper pulp by putting the construction paper in a food processor or blender (I had a friend who once used an electric mixer as well).
5. Place the paper pulp back in the bowls. Add the flower seeds and mix it together.
6. Create seed balls. You can do one of all the colors or mix the colors. Take the pulp and shape into balls.



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7. Let the seed balls dry.
8. Once dry, they are ready to plant! You can plant them in your tissue paper flower pot.
9. Consider sharing with a friend. Make a few seed balls for you and share some with your cooking companion.
10. You can also make “molded” seed balls. Use silicone molds or a mini muffin tin to create shapes!



Craft 3: Feed the Birds Bird Feeders

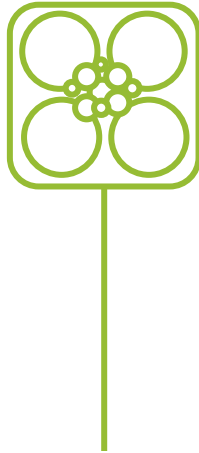
MATERIALS:

- Pipe cleaners
- Yarn
- Cheerios or birdseed
- Plastic bottles (or milk jugs)
- Dowel rods (or pencils, chopsticks, wooden spoons)

DIRECTIONS:

- **Option 1:**
Feed Cheerios onto a pipe cleaner, then shape the pipe cleaner into a heart to seal it shut.
- **Option 2:**
String Cheerios on the yarn. Tie shut and hang from trees.
- **Option 3:**
Reuse those plastic bottles!
 - * Create an opening about 2/3 up from the bottom of the plastic bottle.
 - * Attach yarn at the top to hang your feeder.
 - * Toward the bottom (and below the open hole), poke a dowel rod through the bottle.
 - * Fill with birdseed and hang to feed the birds.





Craft 4: Egg Carton Flowers

MATERIALS:

- Egg cartons
- Paint
- Green pipe cleaners (or paper straws)
- **Optional:** pom poms, tissue paper, magnets

DIRECTIONS:

- Cut the egg cartons into thirds. This will give you 3 flowers with 4 petals on each flower.
- Paint and decorate your petals. Let dry.
- Poke two small holes (side by side) in the middle of the egg carton “flower.” Thread a green pipe cleaner through the holes to create a stem.
- Embellish the middle of the flower. You can use tissue paper, buttons, pom poms, whatever you have in the house.
- You can make magnets (add a small magnet to the back) or add a few to your tissue paper flower pot.



SIDE 2: KITCHEN FIXINS BOOKS AND TREATS

Book of the day:

“**When God Made the World**” by Matthew Paul Turner

(Remember, if you want to watch a video of the story, visit our YouTube playlist: [pres-outlook.org/SBSbooks](https://www.pres-outlook.org/SBSbooks))

Of all the stories you will read this week, this one is probably the closest to a retelling of the biblical story you read today. See if your guests pick up on the rhythm of the story, and how it follows the sequence of Scripture.

Focus on the last page of the story. Do you see how it mirrors our theme verse? It really reflects the idea of how we “see” God in creation. But the book challenges us to live and love and tell God’s story too. Here you can take your conversations a little



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further and talk about how other people might “see” God in us. Could it be in how we care for others? Could it be how we take care of the environment? Could it be how we talk to other people or how we love our family members?

Wonder together with your guests: How do people “see” God in you and in me? Let’s think of some ways.

The book says, “But always remember, ‘cause this much is true, God had a purpose for making you.”

God made us for a reason. Wonder together with your guests about how God is using each of them. What do they think their purpose might be?

The treat is to make earth sugar cookies. Just as God created the world, you get to have some fun “creating” the world today!



Treat of the Day

Blue and green sugar cookies

INGREDIENTS:

- Sugar cookie mix (and ingredients called for on the package)
- Blue and green food coloring

DIRECTIONS:

1. Make the sugar cookie dough according to the package.
2. Divide the dough into two equal portions.
3. Make one half green and the other blue using drops of food coloring.
4. Now make 1-inch cookie balls using 1 part blue dough and 1 part green dough.
5. Roll the ball together so the blue and green mix.
6. Place on a cookie sheet, and gently press down.
7. Bake cookies according to the package.



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MIX-IT KIT: Play dough

Today's mix helps you think about Creation and how God formed the earth and all that is in it. How does this mixture become something out of nothing? You will use this play dough throughout the week in various ways to explore the theme!

DRY INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup salt
- 2 tsp. cream of tartar

WET INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup water
- 1 tsp. vegetable oil
- Food coloring

DIRECTIONS:

1. Add the dry ingredients to a pot.
2. Add 1 cup water, 1 tsp. vegetable oil and whatever color you desire. Stir.
3. Cook on medium high heat, stirring frequently.
4. Once it becomes dough-like, take the dough out of the pot and knead the dough until it becomes soft and smooth.

If you are giving away these kits, you can print these instructions on tags connected to baggies of the dry ingredients. You can find ready-made tags for your mix-it kits on page 130. Just print, cut out and attach.



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SIDE 3: PULL UP A CHAIR (SNACK TIME)



Daily table grace: Johnny Appleseed

O, the Lord's been good to me. And so I thank the Lord! For giving me, the things I need, the sun and the rain, and the apple seed, the Lord's been good to me. Amen.



Simple Snack

Taste and see what God created. Enjoy a snack that highlights God's creation.

Option 1: Veggies and dip or hummus.

Option 2: Fruit Kebobs. Choose 2-3 favorite fruits. Cut them up and slide the fruit pieces onto skewers. For an extra treat include marshmallows or brownie cubes. (Kids LOVE to help with this snack. They can help cut the fruit with safe knives and skewer the fruit.)

Option 3: Apple slices and cheese sticks/slices.



Book of the day:

"When God Made the World" by Matthew Paul Turner



SIDE 4: ALL-YOU-CAN-PLAY BUFFET

Choose a game or two from the All-you-can-play Buffet list.



SIDE 5: SERVICE WITH A SMILE: A DAILY MISSION FOCUS



Care for Creation

Today at Staycation Bible School we learned how God created the whole world. When God finished, not only did God call all of creation very good, but God asked us, humankind, to take care of all that was created. In Psalm 8 we read more about this calling to care for creation. Today you are going to explore ways your family might get involved with mission and service organizations that care for creation.



Explore together:

1. Read **Psalm 8** together. This is known as a creation psalm. It's another telling of the Creation story.
2. The psalm is praising God for a glorious Creation and asking a question. Do you hear the question the psalmist is asking? (What are human beings that you are mindful of them?)
3. The psalmist is reminding us that even though we might not deserve God's love and care, God always remembers us and God provides and cares for us.
4. And then the psalmist remembers that God gave us a very important role in creation: to take care of creation. Can you name those things in creation the psalmist talked about?
5. Even though the psalmist doesn't name everything, we could probably add all things in creation to this list. We are called to care for our water, so we can make it safe for people to drink and safe for the fish that swim in it. We are called to care for plants and other things that grow in the ground. We are called to care for animals. We are called to care for other people.
6. God created an amazing Earth for us to live on, and when God was finished God said everything we needed was provided. How can we care for what God created?



Today you are encouraged to explore two different types of local organizations that are working to take care of creation. Check with your church or do some local research to find your local organization.

The local ASPCA: There is a special place in our hearts for our pets! The local ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) provides care, medical attention and support for animals who are lost or abused. Food is vitally important to taking care of the animals. Learn about your local ASPCA. What do they do? What are their needs? How can you help them in their mission? Below are two activities you could do related to the ASPCA.



Homemade dog treats

INGREDIENTS:

- 3 cups whole wheat flour (plus extra for dusting counter)
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup pumpkin puree
- 1 banana (mashed)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Mix eggs, banana and pumpkin together. Add flour and mix until all the flour is incorporated.
3. Lightly dust the counter and roll out the dough to approximately 1/8 inch, using a rolling pin. Cut out treats using a cookie cutter or the open end of a drinking glass.
4. Lay on a baking sheet and bake for approximately 20 minutes. Cool completely.
5. Package the treats and deliver to your local ASPCA or another animal rescue group or shelter.

Treats can be stored on the counter for about 1 week, in a refrigerator for two weeks or in the freezer for longer.



T-shirt cat (or dog) toy

MATERIALS:

- 2 or 3 colorful old T-shirts
- Scissors
- Paper

DIRECTIONS:

1. Using your ruler, measure out two rectangles onto any sheet of paper. Each rectangle should be 3-inches wide by 10-inches long. These will be your “patterns” to use on the T-shirts.
2. Find 2 or 3 old T-shirts, preferably in bright colors. Cut up the sides of each T-shirt and lay them out flat.
3. Using your patterns, cut out six rectangles in various colors (each of them 3x10 inches).
4. Using both hands, pinch the ends of one rectangle and stretch it out until it folds in half lengthwise. Lay it on a flat surface. Repeat five more times until you have a stack of six stretched-out rectangles, each folded in half.
5. Pinching both ends of the stack, twist the stack and then tie it into one big knot.
6. Trim or fray the ends to make it more interesting to the cat or dog.



Urban Farming/Farms with a mission

Have you heard about urban farming or food deserts? Watch this video from the Today Show to learn more about urban farming and how farms are working to get healthy fruits and vegetables to people who need them: [pres-outlook.org/SBStodayshow](https://www.pres-outlook.org/SBStodayshow). After you watch the video, work together to define these words:

- Urban farm
- Food desert

If you want to learn more about one of the organizations highlighted in the clip you can visit Urban Growers Collective: [urbangrowerscollective.org](https://www.urbangrowerscollective.org).



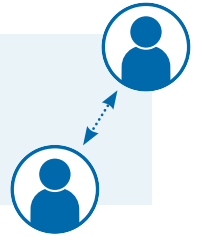
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Do you have any food deserts in your community? Do you have an urban farm or a farming community or co-op working with your local food banks/local stores to provide healthy food for others?

Take some time to research farms in your area and see how they are providing healthy fruit and vegetables to those who need it. If this is something that interests you, see if you can set up a safe and healthy field trip to the organization.

Check in with your Cooking Companion

See the guide on page 25 for a suggestion of things to talk about or share.



DELIGHTFUL DESSERTS AT THE GRATITUDE CAFÉ

End your day with a time of celebration and thankfulness. Isn't it wonderful to start our day and end our day sitting around the table with family and friends?

Prepare your table:

1. Set out the worship cloth and candle.
2. Bring whatever drink or food you would like to eat as you share together.



Give thanks:

1. Let's think about what we should give thanks for today! Play some quiet meditation music while you write in your journal. (*Suggestion: "Come Ye Children of the Lord" by Paul Cardell on the [SBS Spotify playlist](#).)*)
2. After a time of silent writing, say, "Let's share the things we are thankful for with one another." Take turns sharing.
3. Once everyone has shared, end your time of gratitude by saying, "God, we are thankful for all of these blessings. Amen."



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4. Give thanks with song. Play “Lord I Thank You” by Yancy and Little Praise Party on the Plate-it-up Playlist. Grab a kitchen instrument (pots, pans, and spoons) and sing, dance, and give thanks.



End your day with prayer.

Closing call-and-response prayer

Host: Taste and see...

Guests: The Lord is good!

All: Praise God.

Guests: Taste and see...

Host: What God created!

All: Praise God.

Host: We give God thanks for...

(name what you listed in your gratitude journal).

All: Praise God.

Guests: Taste and see...

Host: God is good!

Guests: All the time!

Host: All the time...

Guests: God is good! Praise God!

All: Amen.



An interactive reading of GENESIS 1 AND 2:1-4

(Based on the Common English Bible)

Host: When God began to create the heavens and the earth, the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God's wind swept over the waters.

Guests: God said, "Let there be light."

Host: And so light appeared. God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. God named the light Day and the darkness Night.

Oldest guest: There was evening and there was morning: the first day. And God said...

Youngest guest: It was GOOD!

Host: God said, "Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters to separate the waters from each other." God made the dome and separated the waters under the dome from the waters above the dome. And it happened in that way.

Guests: God named the dome Sky.

Oldest guest: There was evening and there was morning: the second day. And God said...

Youngest guest: It was GOOD!

Host: God said, "Let the waters under the sky come together into one place so that the dry land can appear." And that's what happened. God named the dry land Earth, and God named the gathered waters Seas.

Guests: God saw how good it was.

Youngest guest: It was GOOD!

Host: God said, "Let the earth grow plant life: plants yielding seeds and fruit trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind throughout the earth." And that's what happened. The earth produced plant life: plants yielding seeds, each according to its kind, and trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind.

Guests: God saw how good it was.

Oldest guest: There was evening and there was morning: the third day. And God said...

Youngest guest: It was GOOD!



Day 1 INTERACTIVE READING GENESIS 1 AND 2:1-4

Host: God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will mark events, sacred seasons, days, and years. They will be lights in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth." And that's what happened. God made the stars and two great lights: the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night. God put them in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness.

Guests: God saw how good it was.

Oldest guest: There was evening and there was morning: the fourth day.
And God said...

Youngest guest: It was GOOD!

Host: God said, "Let the waters swarm with living things, and let birds fly above the earth up in the dome of the sky." God created the great sea animals and all the tiny living things that swarm in the waters, each according to its kind, and all the winged birds, each according to its kind.

Guests: God saw how good it was.

Host: Then God blessed them: "Be fertile and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth."

Oldest guest: There was evening and there was morning: the fifth day.
And God said...

Youngest guest: It was good!

Host: God said, "Let the earth produce every kind of living thing: livestock, crawling things, and wildlife." And that's what happened. God made every kind of wildlife, every kind of livestock, and every kind of creature that crawls on the ground.

Guests: God saw how good it was.

Host: Then God said, "Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth." God created humanity in God's own image, in the divine image God created them, male and female God created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and master it. Take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, and everything crawling on the ground." Then God said, "I now give to you all the plants on the earth that yield seeds and all the trees whose fruit produces its seeds within it. These will be your food. To all wildlife, to all the birds in the sky, and to everything crawling on the ground - to everything that breathes - I give all the green grasses for food." And that's what happened.

Oldest guest: God saw everything that had been made.

Guests: It was supremely good.



Day 1 INTERACTIVE READING GENESIS 1 AND 2:1-4

Oldest guest: There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.
And God said...

Youngest guest: It is VERY GOOD!

Host: The heavens and the earth and all who live in them were completed. On the sixth day God completed all the work that he had done, and on the seventh day God rested from all the work that God had done. God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work of creation.

Oldest guest: This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created. And God said...

All: It is good!