

Family Faith

Chapter 4

God's Gift of Creation

God created the whole world out of love.

Chapter Summary

God created the world out of nothing through His love, and everything He created is good. God rested after He created the world, and He continually preserves and guides His creation. The world that God created is our home, and God has entrusted the care and stewardship of His creation to us.

More for Parents

God created us to share His love with us. The way that human parents work hard to provide nourishment, shelter, and care for their children is a reflection of the perfect way that God provides us with all that is good for our own benefit. God made us not because we added to His perfection or well-being in any way but because He wanted to welcome us into His love—the eternal love of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He offers us the grace we need so we can be with Him in Heaven. When we think of the joy we receive by providing for our children, let us remember that God our Father is pleased to share His love with us. We want our children to be healthy, happy, and kind individuals as they grow. The Father's goal for us is that we might be happy, holy, and united to Him in love forever.

Our Family Prays Together

Dear God, You created us out of love. Thank You for giving us Your love. Thank You for showing us how to love You and others. Amen.

Let's Talk about It as a Family

- *Did God create the world because He loves us?* (Yes.)
- *Everything that God created is* _____. (Good.)

- *Who created the angels?* (God.)
- *Everyone has a special angel to guard and guide him called a* _____. (Guardian angel.)
- *God created the world to give us a beautiful* _____. (Home.)
- *Is all of creation God's gift to us?* (Yes.)
- *How should we treat all of creation?* (With respect.)

Let's Live Our Faith

- Think of one way to take care of creation as a family. Some ideas might include planting and watering flowers, recycling instead of throwing paper away, and not wasting food.
- People are also part of God's creation. Think of some ways that your family can show God's love to others. Some ideas might include bringing cookies to your neighbors, saying "thank you" when someone helps you, and offering to help someone else.

Family Faith Activities

Choose one or more of the following to do as a family:

- Take a walk outdoors with your children, directing them to notice the things that God created instead of man-made things such as buildings and cars. During your walk, ask your children what we see in God's creation that shows His love and care for us. Here are some examples:
 - Trees, rivers, and oceans help us see God's beauty, strength, and wonder.
 - The stars help us see that God is awesome and wonderful.
 - The sky or a sunrise helps us see that God is always with us.
 - People who love us help us see God's love.
- Read and discuss the *Small Wonders* story as a family by going to the parent portal.

For more family faith formation resources, go to the parent portal.