

Creation Care – Day One

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

In six days, God created the earth and everything in it. Every day when he saw what he had made, he saw that it was good. At the end of the sixth day, he gave Adam and Eve a charge; to tend to that good Creation. As Christians now, we too have that same responsibility yet in many ways we are falling. Pray that God will give us his heart for Creation and help each one of us as we try and care for it as he desired.

Crossing the International Date Line, our sisters in GB Pacific are the first to see in a new day and also the last. Pray for our sisters in the Pacific Fellowship as they navigate the challenges of the time difference, of being composed of multiple dispersed island groups and working across multiple different cultures.

Take a tealight to remind you of the goodness of God's Creation!



Creation Care – Day Two

⁶ And God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water." ⁷ So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. ⁸ God called the vault "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

As global warming continues, sea levels rise and extreme weather such as heavy rain becomes more common, increasing the risk of flooding and blurring the distinction between the waters. Each year, the sea rises by about 3mm (3 inches in the last 25 years) and this rate is accelerating. In the United States, flooding causes more death and damage than tornadoes, hurricanes, or lightning.

Kenya is one country currently struggling with severe flooding leading to the displacement of many, including GB members. Pray for our sisters in Kenya and the wider African Fellowship as they continue the work of GB.



Doing God's work can be challenging however God promises to do all things for the good of those who love him. God once sent a devasting flood to reset the world after the sin of Adam and Eve. He promised never to do it again and sent a sign to remind us that he keeps his promises! Take a rainbow key ring and remember that as we do God's work, he is the only one who is a perfect promise keeper!

Creation Care – Day Three

⁹ And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.

¹¹ Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. ¹² The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

Forests are home to well over half the world's land-based plant and animal species. More than 300 million people live in the forest. Yet we are losing forests at a rate of roughly a football pitch every two seconds! Forests are crucial in the fight against global warming, by absorbing carbon from the air. But if forests are cleared, or even disturbed, that carbon is released as carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

Take a pack of seeds, plant them and watch them grow! As you do so, thank God for the abundance of plants and trees he created; for their beauty and their benefits they provide (including nutrition). Pray that we would be mindful of our resource usage!

Europe, with the vast forests of Russia, is the most forested continent in the world yet forests are vanishing at the rate of a London a week. As you meditate on that thought, pray too for the work of our GB Europe sisters!



Creation Care – Day Four

¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

Look up at the sky tonight and scientists estimate you will see between somewhere between 2,000 and 5,000 stars with the naked eye, a number small in comparison to the estimated 100 billion within our solar system. Whilst we struggle to think of something so vast, our God determined their number and knows them all by name. Each day, the stars in the sky and creation as a whole should be a reminder of how great and mighty our God is!

Yet as we fail to look after our planet and climate change worsens, those impressive stars, and most specifically our Sun, can give off dangerous heat. GB Philippines is one such country struggling with a record-breaking heat wave with temperatures peaking at 53 Degrees Celsius earlier this year leading to a temporary cessation to physical meetings. Pray for our sisters in the Philippines, that they would be able to continue the gospel work in these times. Pray for the wider GB Asia Fellowship as they support the Philippines and the girls in their own countries.

Take (and decorate) a suncatcher as a reminder that God's power is demonstrated each night through the vast number of stars in our sky!



Creation Care – Day Five

²⁰ And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky." ²¹ So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." ²³ And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.

Plastic pollution is a global crisis and getting worse.

- 1 in 2 marine turtles have eaten plastic.
- 90% of seabirds have plastic in their stomachs.
- 8 million tonnes of plastic are dumped in our oceans each year.
- Around 7 million coffee cups are thrown away in the UK every day.
- Only 2% of the 78 million tonnes of plastic globally produced each year is recycled.

The Caribbean is made up of 7,000 islands and as such is leading the way in initiatives such as banning single-use plastic aimed at addressing the issue and protecting the waters which surround them. Pray for our island nations within the GB Caribbean and Americas as they seek to develop girls and young women with God's heart for creation and raise up leaders to guide them.



Take a sealife charm to remember that part of being good stewards of God's creation is doing our bit to reduce pollution.

Creation Care – Day Six

"Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, [a] and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day."

Look at your reflection in the mirror – God created humans, including you, in his image! Regardless of how you feel about yourself, God sees you as perfectly made!

Loved! Chosen! Accepted! Free! Empowered! Cherished! Wonderfully Made! Brave! Hope! Unique! Strong! Known! Victorious! Irreplaceable! Redeemed! Secure! Carried! Defended! Blessed!

Choose a word and write it on reflective card to stimulate a mirror. Take it to remember how God sees you!



