THEME: CREATION IS A GIFT (PART 1)

SOW THE SEED

Dear Parents,

In this Theology of the Body (TOB) lesson, your child will learn that all of **Creation is a Gift** from God. As Catholics, we believe that God is the creator of everything. Before the earth was made, God existed as an eternal exchange of love between Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God was perfectly happy and complete in Himself. Yet because He is Love (1 John 4:16), He chose to freely create everything as a GIFT. This creation came out of an act of love for all that He creates, and because He is Love all that He creates is good.

We see this in the creation story. Because God is love, all that He creates is "good." This is affirmed by God when at the end of each day of creation the scriptures say, "And God saw that it was good." Here we see that God saw all that He made and affirmed the goodness of creation especially the human person.

This goodness is applied to ALL of creation: Physical matter is good, animals are good, and human beings are very good. All things are made good.

In this lesson, your child will discuss what a gift is, talk about the days of creation, and do an activity in which they think about and then thank God for a specific gift that God has given to them out of love.

S GERMINATE THE SEED

FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTION:

What gifts do we have that come from God? Take turns naming things that are gifts from God. Consider making this part of your dinnertime routine by sharing the gifts of the day. *(*Note to parents:* Everything in creation was made for us as a gift from God. It's a good practice to help children to be grateful and recognize everything that comes to them in their lives as gifts. These gifts can be anything; talents, food, material things like clothes, a house, a car, and of course other people).



SGROW THE SEED

FAMILY ACTIVITY:

Go on a picnic, hike or do some other outdoor activity at a beautiful location in nature (your front yard or local park is perfect!) to thank God for the beauty and gift of creation.

Start a Gratitude journal at dinner time taking turns adding 3 things each day that are the blessings of your day, and at the end of the week you can look back and reflect on the week.

FAMILY PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, thank you for the wonderful gift of creation! Thank you for the beauty of all you have made, that gives us a glimpse of the beauty of You, the Divine Creator. Thank you for making us male and female in your image and giving us everything as a gift, including life itself. Please help us to glorify you in the way we treat creation and the people in our lives. Please help us to be a gift for one another.

We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Stay up to date with the TOB lessons your child is learning in the classroom. Look for the leaf at the bottom of your child's worksheets to see a summary of their current TOB lesson labeled "THEOLOGY OF THE BODY TIDBITS."

Want to learn more? Visit **RuahWoodsInstitute.org/parents** to view a TOB parent presentation.

