



LESSON 5  
**NEW CREATION**

**LESSON AT A GLANCE**

**WONDER TRUTH:** Jesus Makes Us New

**SCRIPTURE:** Romans 5

**GOD'S BIG STORY:** God loves us so much that He sent His Son to die, so we can be forgiven. Because of Jesus, our relationship with God is healed, and we are made new!

**WORD OF WONDER:** Jesus makes us new. —from 2 Corinthians 5:17

- Puppet Intro and Curiosity Questions
- Declaring God's Wonder
- Prayer of Invitation
- Worship: Happy Day, My God
- God's Big Story: The Fall
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- Prayer and Blessing





**INVITATION**

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

**LESSON AT A GLANCE**

**WONDER TRUTH:** Jesus Makes Us New

**SCRIPTURE:** Romans 5

**WORD OF WONDER:** From 2 Corinthians 5:17

A good friend of mine during college was an amazing gift giver and loved to give big (and sometimes expensive!) gifts, including the latest electronics. This friend was in vocational ministry at the time and earning a very modest income. As much as I appreciated the gifts, I was concerned about how much money my friend was spending, so I asked about it. The secret was that the gifts were certified refurbished items. The items my friend purchased had been sent back to the creators, fixed, and resold at a discounted price—but they functioned as brand new!

Read Romans 5:1–8 and 11. Paul explains that God loves us so much that even while we were still His enemies, He fixed our relationship with Him by sending Jesus to die for us. We cannot make ourselves new, no matter how hard we try. We cannot fix our sin problem on our own. God—our Creator—alone makes us new. And He invites us to lay down the old and receive His new. What are some problems you’ve been trying to fix for yourself instead of taking to the original Creator? What are some remnants of the old self that you’re holding onto?

Because of God’s vast, endless love for you, it’s not up to you to fix yourself (or the world around you!). So, take a deep breath. Lift your eyes to the Father—your Creator—and remember that you are made new!

—Catherine Hwang-Jin

Children’s Pastor

Contributor to Wonder Ink

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS**

**WHO?**

Romans was written by Paul, a man who persecuted Christians before he knew Jesus. After his conversion, Paul devoted his life to sharing the good news about Jesus with gentiles—non-Jewish people. He wrote this letter to the Roman church, the majority of whom are Gentiles.

**WHAT?**

Romans is Paul's most theologically systematic book. It's filled with explanations of the work of the gospel—God's salvation, His plan, and His invitation to us. Paul often references the Old Testament as he explains God's big story of salvation.

**WHERE?**

The church in Rome was at the heart of the Roman Empire, where Caesar was declared as the "savior of the world." Gentiles and Jews in the Roman church were called to live out the way of the kingdom of Jesus—the true Savior.

**WHEN?**

Paul likely wrote Romans in AD 57 while on his third missionary journey. Although it's the first of Paul's letters that we read in the New Testament, it was likely written after he wrote to the Galatians, Thessalonians, and Corinthians.

**CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY:**

Paul writes to the Romans about the basics of the gospel—God showed His love for us by sending His Son Jesus, who died for us while we were still sinners. Because of Jesus, we are made right with God and filled with joy!

Spark curiosity and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

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## Welcome

### Slide: Series Welcome Loop

#### As kids arrive...

Walk around the room and welcome as many kids as possible by showing excitement that they have joined you. Give high-fives, fist bumps, encourage them to sit on the floor in their spots, and ask questions about their week.

#### Video: Countdown

Welcome kids to worship time. Introduce yourself by name.

## Puppet Intro and Curiosity Questions

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Tac the Cat Picture or puppet

**Leader:** You may remember our friend Tac, the curious cat. He's so curious! He has a question for you.

**Tac the Cat:** Hi, kids! I'm curious about something I saw today that is nice to look at.

**Leader:** Oh, you're talking about me! I'm blushing!

**Tac the Cat:** You are pretty. But it's not you that I'm thinking of.

**Leader:** You're too kind, Tac! So what is it?

**Tac the Cat:** Well it's an insect ... and I'll give you a hint. It changes a lot. And it flies.

**Leader:** It changes a lot? And it flies? Kids, do you have any ideas about an insect that changes a lot and flies? (Allow the kids to respond.)

**Tac the Cat:** Did someone guess a butterfly? If so, you would be right! I'm thinking of a butterfly. I'm curious about them.

**Leader:** Butterflies are so pretty! I love to watch them. Did you know they don't start out looking like pretty butterflies?

**Tac the Cat:** Really?! What do they look like before they become a butterfly? And how do they change into something so beautiful?!

**Leader:** Butterflies transform—that means change—from a small, wiggly caterpillar into a beautiful butterfly. It reminds me of our story today from God's big story. We'll learn about how God transforms us into wonderful new creations as well!

**Tac the Cat:** Really?! What do they look like before they become a butterfly? And how do they change into something so beautiful?!

**Leader:** Butterflies transform—that means change—from a small, wiggly caterpillar into a beautiful butterfly. It reminds me of our story today from God’s big story. We’ll learn about how God transforms us into wonderful new creations as well!

**Tac the Cat:** What do we transform into? Like I could become a tiger instead of a house cat?

**Leader:** (laughing) No, Tac. God gives us a new heart when we trust in Jesus. We’ll learn all about it in our story today.

**Tac the Cat:** That sounds wonderful. I’ve gotta go chase some butterflies that I saw flying around. See you later!

**Leader Tip:** Have some pictures ready either printed or in a slide show to show kids a caterpillar, cocoon, and butterfly to give them imagery of the different stages of a butterfly’s life.

**Have you ever been curious about something? Let’s take a moment and think: What bug are you curious about?** Allow the kids to respond. **What do you see in nature that makes you curious?** Allow the kids to respond. **Did you ever stop to think about how things change and how God changes us?**

**Today’s Wonder Truth is JESUS MAKES US NEW. Today we’ll discover how Jesus loves each of us and changes us!**

## Declaring God’s Wonder

Show the Early Childhood Declaration Slide and encourage the kids to say the statements and do the motions with you.

**Thank You, God, that You made me!** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Make prayer hands, then point up and then to yourself.

**And I am Your kid!** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Put your hands on your hips.

**Jesus loves me so much.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Spread your arms out wide to your side one at a time, then pull them in for a hug around your chest.

**His love for me is big.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Hold your arms up high and wide above your head.

**The Holy Spirit leads me,** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Bring your arms down from above, making a path in front of you.

**And I can follow You.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

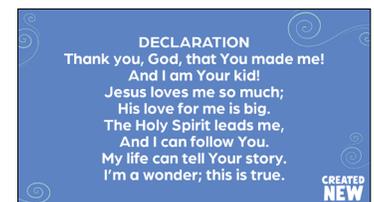
March in place like you’re following the leader.

**My life can tell Your story.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Hold your hands in front of you like an open book.

**I’m a wonder; this is true.** (Kids repeat words and motions.)

Put your hands up, shake your fingers, and celebrate (“praise hands”).



## Prayer of Invitation

Before entering into God's big story, lead kids in a prayer of invitation. Use the prayer here or your own words: **God, thank You for each kid here today. Thank You for Your Word that we can learn from. Thank You for giving us your Holy Spirit to live inside us and guide us. Thank You that You make us new and transform us with the power of the Spirit. Help us hear from You. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

## Worship

**Today we'll learn about how God makes us new creations! Let's sing and thank God for making us new.**

Play songs Happy Day, My God and encourage the kids to sing and dance as they praise God.

## God's Big Story

**SUPPLIES:** Bible

### **Bible Time Rhyme**

Say the Bible time rhyme (with motions) each week before the Bible story to remind kids that what they're about to hear is part of God's big story.

**I open my Bible, and what do I see?** (Hold your hands together, then open your palms, as if opening a book.)

**God's big story, waiting for me!** (Point to yourself.)

**Let's hear part of God's big story, which comes from the book of Romans in the Bible, which is in the New Testament.**

Watch the God's Big Story Video

## GOD'S BIG STORY SCRIPT

While I tell the story, you can repeat some phrases I say and mimic motions when I tell you to. We've learned that **sin** is anything wrong that we think, say, and do, and sin messed up our relationship with God.

God had a plan to fix His relationship with His people. God sent Jesus to save His people. Jesus died to beat sin forever. But Jesus came back to life! Then He went back to heaven to be with God the Father. More and more people followed Jesus. Paul became a follower of Jesus. He loved telling other people about Jesus. Paul wrote lots of books that are in the Bible. The Bible is God's story, and it tells God's good news! Repeat after me: **The Bible is God's story.** Encourage the kids to repeat the phrase and hold their hands in front of them, as if opening a book.

Paul traveled around telling people the good news about Jesus. Paul sent letters to people when he couldn't be with them he wrote a letter to people in a place called Rome. He said that all people sin. We all make wrong choices and disobey God. Sin keeps us apart from God and messes everything up.

Sin hurts God and us. We need God to fix our relationship with Him. We cannot do it ourselves. Our bad choices lead us to make more bad choices. Repeat after me: **We need God to make us brand new.** Encourage the kids to repeat the phrase, and you can add motions such as putting your hands on your heart. Invite kids to mimic the movement.

Paul told people that Jesus fixed our relationship with God. Because of bad choices we make, we're apart from God. Even though we hurt Him and disobey Him, God still loves us. He sent Jesus. Jesus died so that we can be saved and forgiven. Repeat after me: **Jesus saves and forgives me!** Encourage the kids to repeat the phrase, and you can add motions such as putting your hands in "prayer hands." Invite the kids to mimic the movement.

When we trust in Jesus, God forgives us for all of the bad choices we made. He gives us His Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is God's powerful, wise, and loving presence who changes us from the inside so that we can love God and be His true friends. Repeat after me: **God wants me to be His friend.** Encourage kids to repeat the phrase, and you can add motions, such as giving yourself a hug, for them to mimic.

God promised that someday we can live with Him forever.

Paul said that we will still have hard times. But we can trust in Jesus even when life is hard. The Holy Spirit will help us be more like God and help us obey God. Our relationship with God can be fixed. We can live forever with Him because Jesus makes us new.

Repeat after me: **Jesus can make me a new creation.** Encourage kids to repeat the phrase, and while you say it, put both arms up in the air over your head with open hands. Encourage kids to mimic your motions.

## Connecting the Wonder Truth

Ask the following question to help kids connect the Wonder Truth to God's big story:

**Our Wonder Truth today is JESUS MAKES US NEW. Where did you see our Wonder Truth happen in the story?** Allow kids to answer freely.

**In Paul's letter to the Romans, he said that God showed His love for us by sending His Son Jesus, who died for us while we were still sinners. All of us have done wrong things that separate us from God. Through Jesus, our relationship with God is made right, and we're made new!**

## Prayer and Blessing

After you finish, pray with them, thanking God for making us new creations.

When I say, "new creation," you can spin around in a circle and throw your hands in the air to praise God for seeing us and treating us as new creations.

**God, thank You for making us new creations (kids do the motion) through Jesus. When we put our faith in You, You make us new and forgiven, even though we have done wrong things and sinned. Thank You for loving us so much that You sent Jesus to die for us to rescue us. Help us trust You and follow You as we live as new creations (kids do the motion again). In Jesus' name, Amen.**