GOD IS MY FRIEND

Preschool Week 1

PARENT BIBLE STUDY

Read: Genesis 2

Before sin, Adam perfectly reflected God's image and likeness. He talked with God face to face. He walked with God in the garden. God was Adam's friend, and Adam was God's friend. What was God's, was also Adam's. It was good—pure, clean, and shameless. And God trusted Adam.

In fact, God trusted Adam so much that he gave him the privilege and responsibility of naming every living thing. Can you even imagine? Every animal God just created he brought before Adam. And whatever Adam called it, that was so (Genesis 2:19-20). Think of a movie scene: Adam would be sitting on a rock, eagerly anticipating the animal God would parade before him next. What would it look like? Would it fly or run? Fins or paws? Tiny or huge? Laughter, creativity and imagination would echo through the freshly created trees. It'd be that scene that sticks with you long after you stop watching. It'd be the scene that would make you say, "I wish real life was like that."

Because the truth is, real life doesn't feel like that. If we're honest, our relationships with God don't often feel like sitting and laughing with him. Instead, God seems distant, uninvolved, or too big most of the time. We feel like we can't measure up, and we can't imagine God trusting us with anything, let alone a task so important as something like naming all of creation. If Adam were here, he'd say, "me too", because it didn't take long for him to mess up the perfect intimacy and trust he had with God. But there is good news for us. God sent Jesus to restore the perfect, reciprocal, shameless friendship he intended to have with us. What Jesus finished on the cross allows us to be reconnected to God.

However, most of us don't live like we believe the God of the universe wants to sit next to us in perfect friendship and show us his creativity in the unique purpose he has for our life. But he does. And Jesus makes it possible.

The Jesus Storybook Bible boils this incomprehensible truth down to three simple sentences. "God made you, God loves you, and he is very pleased with you."

What would your life and your relationship with God look like if you really believed that God was pleased with you?