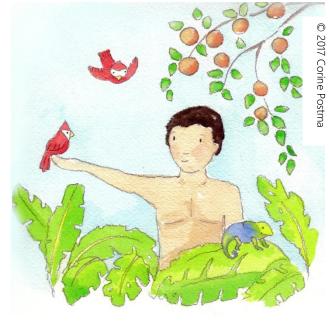
God Makes a Man

Genesis 2:7-15, 19-20; Isaiah 45:9-13; 64:8; Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 1:13-16; Hebrews 1:1-2, 8-10

What a beautiful place this is! Four rivers run through shade and sunlight then meet together here in a garden, the Garden of Eden. Fine trees grow on their riverbanks: trees for fruit, trees for nuts, and trees just right for climbing. What a wonderful place to explore! Who could have planted this garden? Do you know?

Yes, it was the Lord God who created all things. It was the Son of God who would come into this world one day. He was making everything ready.

Birds sing sweetly from the trees and bushes,



and the smell of flowers and fruit fills the air. But something is missing. Who is this garden for?

"Let us make man in our own image," God says. And the Lord of all creation reaches down to the dust that He has made. Just as a potter takes a lump of clay and shapes it to make a bowl, the Lord uses the dust of the ground to shape a man.

This man will be different from the animals. He will have a soul—a heart and mind that will serve God his Creator and love Him. This man will be holy and good, like God. See how the Lord breathes into the man's nose the breath of life. The man gets up, he walks—he is alive! The first person has been created.

How God loves this part of his creation! He walks with the man Adam, and talks with him. He puts Adam in the new garden to take care of it.

Then God gives Adam another job to do. Two bright red birds come fluttering down from a tree. They need a name. "They will be called 'cardinals,'" Adam says. And when two striped creatures come trotting by, Adam calls them 'zebras.' On and on they come, animals of all shapes and sizes. Adam gives them all a name!

- 1. What was the man's name?
- 2. How did God make him? Did God make you in the same way? (Isaiah 44:24)
- 3. What work did God give Adam to do? (Taking care of the garden and naming animals.)
- 4. What work does God give you? (Possibly: helpfulness, obedience, worship, love—see Matthew 22:37-39.)
- 5. God created Adam and Eve to glorify Him and enjoy Him. Why did God make you? Read 1 Corinthians 10:31.

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