Lesson 4 CREATION THROUGH A MICROSCOPE

LESSON AIM: Creation from a microscope: God is awesome... and really BIG! No one can deny that there is a marvelous design in creation. If there is design, then there must be a Designer!

KEY SCRIPTURE: Genesis 1:1

REVIEW QUESTIONS: ("Ok, who remembers from last week's lesson...)

- 1) What are some facts about the universe we learned last week?
- 2) What makes our planet so unique?
- 3) What was last week's Bible verse? What does the word "create" mean?

I. INTRODUCTION

Take a few minutes to explore how amazing our bodies are designed as human beings! (see attached sheet on facts about the body). Have the kids contribute to the conversation by thinking of the amazing things are bodies can do. You can prompt them by asking them about our bones, muscles, organs, eyes, ears, nose, mouth, the senses, etc.! (Mention that we could go on and on for days talking about how amazing our bodies are designed, we are pretty incredible creations!) And even with all the technology in the world, mankind still has not been able to "create" life as God created us.

(*Note: again, spend some time researching online for pictures or videos (if you have a device to show a video) and again check out Louie Giglio's "How Great is our God" presentation as he makes a cool connection between amazing things captured by the Hubble Telescope that are almost identical to microscopic cell images in our bodies, showing that our Creator God "holds all things together"!)

II. LESSON

The blueprint for the human body is contained in the DNA molecule. It is incredible that anything so minuscule could contain so much! If all of the DNA in the body could be somehow unwound and the segments spliced together, the resulting thread would reach to the sun and back four hundred times! Yet all the body's genes (where the DNA is found) would fit into a block no bigger than an ice cube. The information stored in the human DNA would fill an average home library of 100 volumes.

The body is a marvel of diversity and unity. Although it has billions of parts, they all work together, enabling a person to eat, drink, walk, run, jump, see, hear, touch, taste, smell, learn, think, and remember.

Billions of people have lived and are living, yet no two are exactly alike! Fortunately for honest people, criminals run up against this inescapable fact when their fingerprints match those at the scene of the crime. Now we have what is known as "genetic fingerprinting", where chemical sequences of DNA found in a person's blood, sweat, or saliva are analyzed.

The body provides us with the energy that we need to do amazing things! As our food is chewed in our mouths, it mixes with saliva, which lubricates it and often begins the breakdown of starches. It is propelled through the esophagus to the stomach, whose assignment is to break it down further with just the right amount of acid.

The next stop is the small intestine which deftly transfers vitamins, minerals, and nutrients to the blood stream. The large intestine absorbs the liquids. All of this takes place without you having to think about it, or direct this very detailed process as you eat and start to digest your food!

When we enjoy a meal of steak, baked potatoes with butter and bacon bits, mixed vegetables, and salad, we are carelessly unaware of the marvelous processes that are taking place in our body. The food is assimilated in such a way that some of the nutrients are assigned to bone, some to flesh, blood, muscles, nerves, hair, teeth, or eyes. And not only is every part of the body nourished and renewed, but also some of the food becomes energy that enables us to get up from the table when the last spoon of ice cream is consumed! How does the food know what part it is supposed to play?

Sight: The human eye is a combination of still camera, movie camera, and light meter. It has automatic focusing, wide-angle lens, zoom lens, and full-color instantaneous reproduction. Our eyes enable us to distinguish distances and dimensions, see in color, depth perception and the most tiniest details! Touch

Touch: Our skin is our largest organ. By itself it weighs about 6 pounds and covers 2 square yards, give or take a little! It has tremendous elasticity and its million of nerve endings enable us to distinguish a host of sensations. Did you ever think how amazing your skin is? It does not allow water to penetrate inwardly, but does allow it to exit! It enables you to know whether you are holding one sheet of paper or two. It measures pressure and discerns heat and cold. Shaking hands, hugging, or a kiss—the stimulation of our sense of touch is essential to a normal life.

Smell: It is estimated that the average person can identify at least 4,000 odors. A few people have the capacity to discern 10,000! It is truly that we can recognize an odor we may not have smelled since we were kids (in 20 years, YOU may be able to smell something that reminded you of when you were a kid!)

The Circulatory System: The heart begins beating 4 weeks after a baby's conception and continues faithfully for an entire lifetime. It pumps 100,000 times a day, sometimes for over 100 years—without stopping for maintenance or repairs! No bigger than a fist, this timeless wonder pumps five quarts of blood a minute, distributing oxygen, carrying away waste, and regulating the body's temperature. In a 70-year lifetime, it beats 2.3 billion times without external lubrication. What a marvel!

Spend some time in discussion about both Creation through a telescope and creation through a microscope. Challenge students to come up with even more amazing things about our bodies, cells, atoms, etc... Summarize the discussion with some final discussion questions about creation:

- Where did the world and everything in it originally come from? (Gen. 1:1).
- Why is the question of where we came from so important? (Because if God makes us, he has the right to tell us what to do and show us what we were created to do! Etc...)
- What do we need before we begin to make something? (a design, a plan...)
- What was God's purpose in creating us with a free will or a "choice"? (*That we would freely choose to love Him and have special relationship with Him...*)

MEMORY VERSE:

"You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things."

Revelation 4:11