

## LESSON ONE

### Objectives:

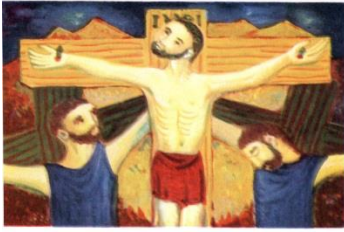
- The students will be able to recognize that God made the world.
- The students will be able to be introduced to PRESENCE step in meditation.

**Teacher background:** There are five meditations in *Sacred Story* prayer: Creation, Presence, Memory, Mercy and Eternity. Grades Pre-K/K-4 will use one of the meditations. Grades 5-8 will begin combining meditations. First grade will focus on the **PRESENCE** meditation.

**PRESENCE:** *I believe God is **present** in **each moment** and **event** of my life, and I ask for grace to **awaken, see and feel where and how**, especially in this present moment.*

### • Materials:

- Cotton Ball for each student
- Copy of "God's Presence" template for each child
- Copy of "I Praise You God" for whole class or each child to complete (teacher choice)
- Bible, Genesis 1: 1-31
- Access to internet
- Projector
- Computer
- Students need markers, crayons, pencil



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**Invite** children to gather in the prayer space and make the Sign of the Cross together. (Creation story below is prayer).

Tell the story of creation to the children. Some options include:

A. Read Genesis 1: 1-31 from a Children's Bible – Show picture of the earth from outer space while reading.

B. For a Creation Story on YouTube

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLHB\\_hNk42g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bLHB_hNk42g) –

**Or**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-H5uJLLwcl> (First ten minutes)

C. Play “All Things Bright and Beautiful” can be found at

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FT\\_oDqOEGpc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FT_oDqOEGpc)

### **Introduction:**

God made the world so he could always be with us. One day in the summer Grandma Momo was swimming with a little girl named Audrey. Audrey said, “You know what Momo? My whole life I thought something inside me is controlling me.” Momo asked, “What do you think controls you?” “My lungs and heart,” replied Audrey. Momo asked, “Do you know who is in your heart, Audrey?” Audrey nodded and said, “Yes, God. He helps me make good choices.”

When is God with us in our heart?

How do we listen to God so we can make good choices?

God's heart is connected to my heart.

### **Guided Practice:**

Give a couple examples such as right now, in Church, when we look at the sky, when my mother kisses me... Now think of time when you have felt God with you. (**Think, Pair, Share**) Then share with friends.

### **Independent Practice:**

God's presence in our life can be as soft as a cotton ball. Think of a time you felt God in your life.

Use the template to pass out to the students. Glue a cotton ball to the paper. Have the children put on the paper a time when God is with them. They can write a word and/or draw a picture.

OR

Students write a word of praise for God and draw a picture of praising God to create a simple praise prayer – do as a class or individually. The heart of God is connected to my heart.

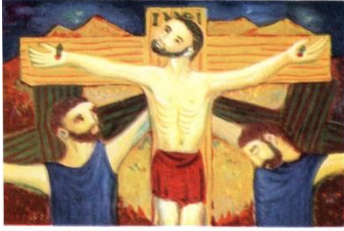
### **Closure:**

When we begin our meditations we will think about God's presence when we repeat the following words:

***(Say) Jesus, You are present in my heart and You love me.***

***(Say) Jesus, You are present in my heart, and I love You.***

***(Say) Jesus, always let me to hear Your voice of love present in my heart.***



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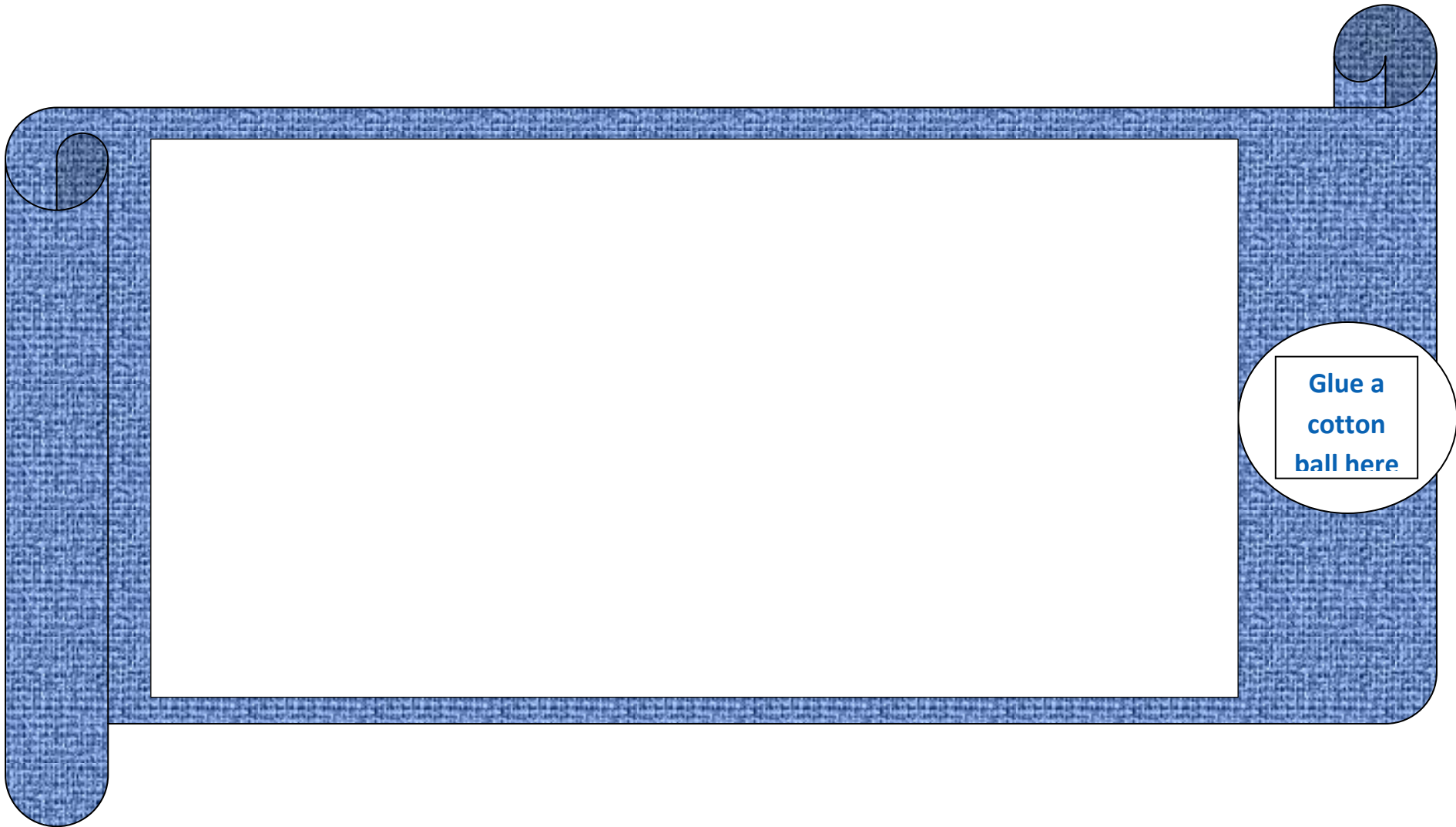
**I praise you God for**

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# God's Presence

Directions: Glue a cotton ball to the circle below.

Then draw a picture of when you and God together. This is a peaceful, soft time.



Glue a  
cotton  
ball here

