

TITLE AND NUMBER: 135. God's creative power



REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): Genesis 1:29-31, 2:1

Then God said, 'I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground – everything that has the breath of life in it – I give every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning – the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

LOOKING FURTHER: Genesis 1:1- 2:4, Psalm 8, Psalm 19

What does this Bible passage tell us?

It has been a beautiful spring day today. Inside the prison where I volunteer, the daffodils are fully out with their wonderful yellow trumpets, the trees are coming into blossom and I witnessed two birds, oyster catchers with their bright orange beaks, walking across the grass. Visitors to our prison are often surprised by how green it is and how many birds there are. We are often joined in our prayers in the chapel by the call of a blackbird.



We are reminded in this passage from Genesis of God's creative power; how what God makes is very good and how all of nature is interrelated. Recently, the campaigns

to clean up our rivers and bring back a greater variety of wildlife to the UK have challenged us to think about our responsibility to care for our environment and improve it for future generations.

One of the people who lives in our prison was telling me about how the daffodils outside his cell and the blue skies with the promise of spring make him feel better and improve his mood. Perhaps it is the same for you. So let us make time this week to remember nature; whether it is birdsong, blossom, flowers, or blue skies. Outdoors if we can, if not, remembering it in our minds, on the television, in our pads or at home.

Reflections:

- Think about the beauty of our natural world. Give thanks to God.
- This week make time to remember nature. Does it help you to feel better?
- Is there anything practical that you can do to help improve our environment?

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

