



Experience

For this story we recommend using the Easy-to-Read version

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+65%3A+5-13&version=ERV>

Where can I find the story online?

Under fives: Psalm 65 read by David Suchet <https://youtu.be/VfRD2Cq-IPM> NIV version. Useful for playing whilst children create art pieces or as a silent mediation

Over fives: A introduction to the book of Psalms cartoon by Crossroads Kids

<https://youtu.be/QwQ5FCJKWz4>

Songs to support the story

Under fives: You crown the year by Hillsong <https://youtu.be/TmGGXg6VdKM>

Five to eevens: Praise him all creation by Kids in worship <https://youtu.be/NBH6S9ZO2bE>

Extra: You shall go out with joy https://youtu.be/2TsXO_i0VuU

Explore

Ideas and activities to explore this week's Bible passage together

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If possible, begin by showing this story : Song of Gladness by Michael Morpurgo <https://youtu.be/V1Pig-Y38Ac>. It tells the story of how all creation, all the creatures and nature decided to sing out praise to God in their different ways. Michael joins in with their song of hope and praise too.

Psalm 65 is a poem telling how all of creation sings out in praise to God the creator. One of the creative activities in this session is to make a new creature using junk modelling and give it a voice to create a creature orchestra. This could fit well with this section of exploring the Psalm together.

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Let all creation sing praise to God

All creatures of the world, come sing.
Shout out your praise to God our King.
Come together and as one, rejoice.
Make joyful sounds and creative noise.

Kangaroo and rabbit, come bounce and thump.
Frog and spider, come ribbit and jump.
Blackbird, robin, and sparrow come tweet.
Polar bear and elephant, come stamp your feet.
Eagle and seagull, come squark and screech.
Come, hissing snake and squelching leech.

Hippo, come yawn and giraffe, come dance.
Woodpecker, come tap and zebra, come prance.
Oceans come roar and wind come howl.
Mouse come squeak and bears come growl.



What's in the box (for under fives)

Use the special box or bag and sing "What's in the box/bag? What's in the box/bag? Let's see, let's see, what's in the box/bag" (to the tune of The Farmer's in the Dell). You could tap the top of the box twice after the word 'box'. Pull out the things one by one and then let the children play with them, talking about the theme or the story in simple terms.

This week's box could include:

- Compass or World Map – To represent people from all around the world, from East to West
- Bottle of water & bowl – To remind us that God created the streams and the rain. Listen to the sounds of the water being shaken or poured into the bowl. Feel the water in the bowl
- A sponge – Pass the sponge around and encourage participants to feel and squeeze the sponge to remind us of the soft ground. Pour some water on the sponge and watch how it soaks up the water like the soil
- Small plant or flower – To remind us that God makes plants grow. What is your favourite flower?
- Fruit or vegetables –



Spoken prayer

Big and Small praise prayer *Encourage the group to act out the different things described in this prayer)*

For mountains and oceans, a sky full of stars and a bright golden sunrise

Praise God for big things

For insects, flowers and tiny drops of dew

Praise God small things

For crashing waves, stormy nights and heavy rain

Praise God for loud things

For a breath of wind, a gentle whisper

Praise God for quiet things

For elephants, and solid oak trees

Praise God for strong things

For snowflakes and cobwebs - a tiny baby

Praise God for fragile things

For hummingbirds' wings, hares and cheetahs

Praise God for fast things

For the growing trees and slugs and snails

Praise God for slow things

For planets and other countries

Praise God for far away things

For my own heartbeat and the person sitting next to me

Praise God for close-by things

Thank you that you are big and strong but you show your love in gentleness.

Thank you that though you are loud as thunder, you speak to us in the silence.

Thank you that though you could be faster than the speed of light

You choose to walk at our pace and to hold our hand.



Everyday with Jesus – Walking the Way

What could we do this week to carry on what we've learned? Maybe members of the group could come up with a suggestion. If not, get them to choose from these two challenges:

- Find out more about the food you eat for one day this week. Where does it come from?



