

GRADE

2

## God Creates the World

Keep these ideas in mind as you study Unit 1, Session 2.

In Genesis, we can read two stories about how God created the world.

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In the first Creation story, God created every part of the world and saw that everything was very good.

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The Jews were living in exile in Babylon when the first Creation story was written. They had been forced to leave behind their own culture—their beliefs, customs, language, and dress. They also faced racism, or mistreatment due to their ethnic origin.

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Babylonian creation stories were filled with images of death and destruction caused by different gods, but in the Jewish creation story, God created the universe calmly with wisdom and peace.

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Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini was devoted to missionary work and helping Italian immigrants who were not treated well by society. She is the patron saint of immigrants. PAGE 7

The story of Adam and Even shows us a loving God who created man and woman to help care for the earth.

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God created man and woman as equals. However, woman in many cultures have not been treated as equal to men. This kind of discrimination is sexism.

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As Catholics we have a duty to oppose sexism, racism, and other forms of discrimination.

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