

Our Story

- Read, as a family or group, the first and second chapters of Genesis. Discuss the differences between the two. What are the major themes of each chapter? What are the implications for us that God created the world? That God “saw that it was good?”
- Discuss Baby Antonio, Maria, and Ibu Sahun’s stories. What lessons can we learn from their experiences?
- Choose several of the facts on the inside page and try to define globalization. Discuss:
 - Ways in which globalization is helpful or harmful to us and to others.
 - Concerns about the long-term future – population, consumption, availability of food, clean water, health care – at home and abroad.
 - The implications of, and solutions to, the growing income gap, both within countries and between them.
- Globalization – The expansion of global linkages. In economic terms, the process of increasing integration of national economies at the global level. In social terms, the increasing interconnectedness of peoples and cultures and the increasing exchange of ideas. Look up www.emory.edu/SOC/globalization for various views and many links.
- Invite someone who has recently moved to the United States from a developing country to speak at your church about the situation in their home country and their views on globalization.
- Pray, as a family, as a community, together three times:
“O God, give us – all of us – this day our daily bread.”



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And God Saw That It Was Good

God’s Story

*In the beginning.... God said, “Let there be light.”
And God saw that the light was good.
God said, “Let the dry land appear.”
And God saw that it was good.
Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation.”
And God saw that it was good.
And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky.”
And God saw that it was good.
And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures.”
And God saw that it was good.
And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind.”
And God saw that it was good.
Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness.”
God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good.*

– Genesis 1 NRSV abridged



Personal Stories

A Story About Baby Antonio and Maria in the United States

Antonio was born to Maria, a young mother who was sent home with him the day he was born. Only she didn't have a home. She was a single parent with no extended family support. She loved her baby and within the limits of public assistance was able to find a small room to rent. When Antonio was about three months old, Maria

called a health clinic to report that her baby was sick. The nurse told Maria to bring him in. Maria said she didn't have transportation. The nurse asked for the baby's symptoms and, after hearing Antonio had suffered diarrhea for two days, concluded he had a flu virus and advised Maria to keep the baby hydrated. "Feed the baby liquids every hour. Pedialyte or apple juice is good."



Maria went to her refrigerator. She didn't have any Pedialyte or apple juice or even ice. But in her cupboard she did have tomato sauce, so she filled the baby's bottle with it and stayed up all night feeding him every hour on the hour. The sodium content of the tomato sauce accelerated the baby's dehydration, and by morning his tiny body was lifeless. <www.childrensdefense.org>

Ibu Sahnun Speaks from Indonesia

Ibu belongs to the "Tiga Senangkai" Association in the village of Montong Ara.

When I received a loan of 50,000 rupiahs [less than \$6] from the [International Fund for Agricultural Development, a United Nations agency] project, my life changed as I could afford to buy more goods and then I could sell them in the village. Moreover, I could take part in activities organized by the association and I had the opportunity to learn how to read and to write. Now the situation has changed once again because the prices of rice and oil have gone up, so it has become difficult to buy enough things for my activity. <www.ifad.org/media/success/indonesia.htm>

Globalization Stories¹

each number is a human story

- Millennium Development Goal (MDG) #6: Halt the spread and begin to reverse HIV/AIDS, malaria and other major diseases. Seven million agricultural workers in Africa have died of HIV/AIDS since 1985. Sixteen million more deaths are likely in the next two decades, seriously affecting agriculture and education. <www.fao.org> Countries such as Brazil, Senegal, Thailand and Uganda have shown that the spread of HIV can be stemmed.²
- MDG #7: Ensure environmental sustainability. More than 1 billion people lack access to safe drinking water and more than 2 billion lack sanitation. During the 1990s, however, nearly 1 billion people gained access to safe water and the same number to sanitation.
- MDG #8: Create a global partnership for development, with targets for aid, trade and debt relief. Make the global systems more friendly to people who are poor.
- When poverty and hunger are reduced among women, population rates usually decline. <www.bread.org>
- One-third of the world's food is harvested from irrigated land, and 70 percent of the water drawn from rivers or underground sources is used for irrigation. <www.bread.org> In some developing countries, the figure is as high as 85-95 percent. <www.fao.org> Some experts say that 21st century wars are likely to be fought around water rights.
- The wealthiest fifth of the world's people consume 86 percent of all goods and services, while the poorest fifth consumes 1 percent. <www.undp.org>



¹ Additional facts, updates, Web links, stories and educational materials at www.hungermore.org.

² Millennium Development Goal targets for 2015, set by the world's leaders in September 2000.