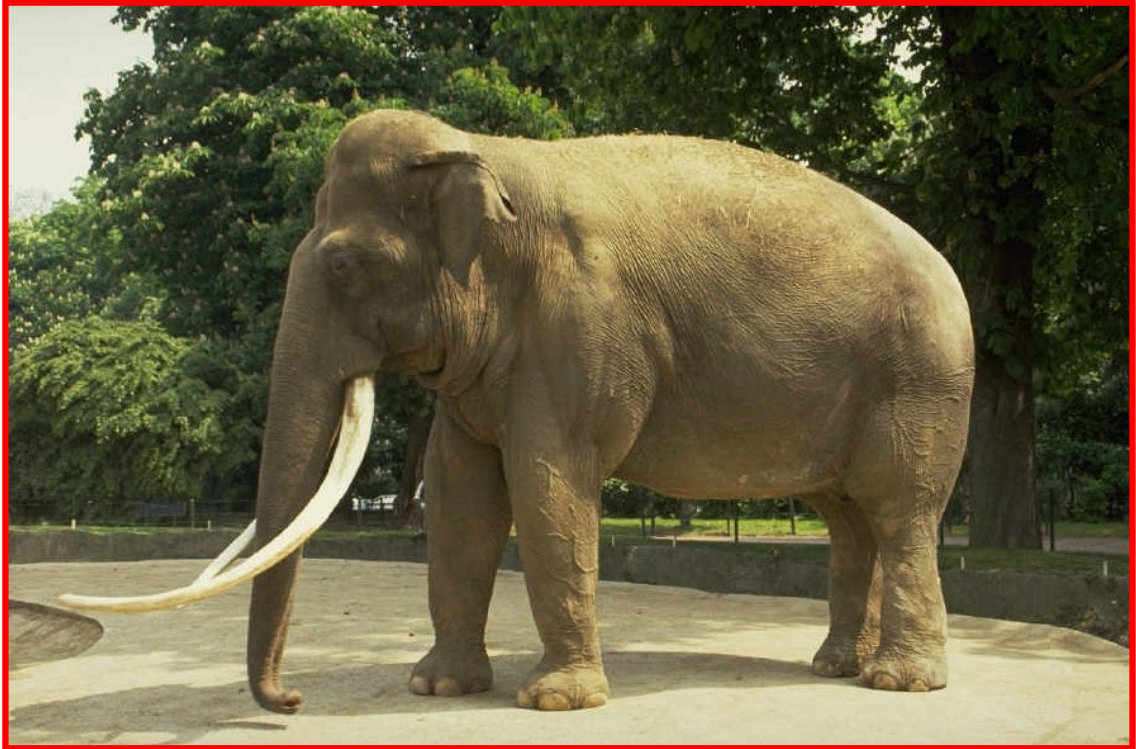


Lesson 7

God's Animal Kingdom Classroom

Elephant



Elephants are the largest animals that live on the land. They are very powerful animals who can easily lift great weights. They are smart and can be trained to do many tasks. Elephants are dedicated parents and neighbors who will group together to protect their young or a sick elephant against lions or tigers. As big as they are, elephants are very sensitive to touch. They will not step on another animal no matter how

small it is. The elephant's trunk is strong enough to pull down large branches or small trees but is sensitive enough to pick up a pea.

What can we learn from the elephant?

Elephants teach us that you can be big and powerful yet gentle and kind. Elephants do not bully smaller animals around and, in fact, are careful not to step on smaller animals which are in the way.

Elephants teach us to cooperate with each other to protect young or sick neighbors. They will not leave a dying elephant and will try to help the sick or dying elephant get up on its feet. We can learn a lot about how to treat others from the elephant.

Elephants will group together to fight dangerous animals such as lions and tigers in order to protect the young or sick. It is scary to face several hungry lions or tigers and yet the elephant will do that for its young or friends. The Bible tells us in Romans 5:7, "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

The elephant with its great strength and sensitive nature reminds us of Jesus who also has great strength yet is very sensitive. It was written about Jesus in Matthew 12:20, "A bruised reed he will not break and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out." This means that Jesus will not use His great power as the Son of God to crush weak people whose lives are damaged. Instead Jesus will mend our sinful, broken lives.

