



WEEK ONE - MARCH 2019 - PRETEEN

Bible Story: *Art in Me • Genesis 1:26-28*

Key Question: *What do you think it means to be made in God's image?*

Memory Verse: *"How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well." - Psalm 139:14 NIrV*

Life App: *Individuality - Discovering who you are meant to be*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what.*

Summary: We start the month by looking closely at Genesis 1:26-28. When God created people, He did something special. He created them in His image and gave them the job of taking care of creation.

8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Just for Fun

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: “Image Cards” Activity Page, paper plates, markers

What You Do:

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Give kids a paper plate and markers.
- Allow kids to select an “Image Card,” and (without letting anyone else see what is on their cards) challenge kids to draw the image on their paper plate. The catch is that kids must put the plate on top of their heads and draw the images on the plate as they sit on their heads.
- Allow the group time to try to identify the images on the plates.

What You Say:

“Just like your artwork, God created us to be different, but in spite of our differences, we all have one thing in common. [Transition] Let’s head to Large Group to discover what it is.”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Key Question: *What do you think it means to be made in God’s image? If they’ve been around church for a while, kids may have heard about this idea. They may still wonder what it actually means, especially as they are starting to understand the world as preteens. We hope kids start to understand how believing that God made them in His image can change the way they see the world.*

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP

1. Verses to Take With You

[Memory Verse Activity]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: “Verse Cards” Activity Page, butcher paper or poster board, pencils, markers, tape

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Verse Card.” The cards each have a different translation of Psalm 139:14.
 - Tell kids to read their verses a few times to familiarize themselves with them.

- Instruct them to find someone else with a different translation.
- Challenge kids to share their verses with each other and to identify similar words or phrases in the various translations. Kids can highlight these on their cards.
- After kids have compared two or three translations, discuss what words were similar among the translations.
- Ask:
 - What does it mean to be amazing and wonderful?
 - Sometimes when people look at a beautiful piece of art, they say that it's amazing and wonderful. They are in awe of it and call it a "masterpiece." What does that word mean to you?
 - Does a masterpiece have value? Why or why not?
- Gather kids around the paper and explain that we are going to create a masterpiece—a one-of-a-kind piece of art.
- Label the butcher paper "Image of God" and allow kids to decorate the paper with "Hand Art." Kids can create their own version of "Hand Art" or use the instructions below for a guideline.
- Hand Art Instructions: For a visual go to <http://bit.ly/2KukKNr>
 - With a pencil, kids lightly trace one of their hands and some of their wrist on a piece of paper.
 - With a marker, kids draw a straight line across the paper to the outline of their hand. Once they reach the outline, they draw a curved line inside the hand to the next point on the outline and continue with a straight line.
 - Using at least three markers in different colors, kids fill the gaps between the lines by drawing parallel lines along the marker line they drew; kids repeat the same order of colors to fill all the gaps.
- Encourage kids to fill in the spaces of "Hand Art" with words that described God and us.
- Hang the mural up in your environment and leave it up all month.
- Explain to kids, the mural will serve as a reminder that we are all created in God's image, we are all His masterpieces, and with God's help, we can discover what He has planned for us.

2. Discussion Questions

[Bible Story Review]

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- ASK:
 - What are ways God created us to be different? What do we all have in common?
 - How can knowing you are created in God's image help when you mess up? How about when you are unsure or feeling insecure?
 - When you are struggling with someone who is annoying or frustrating, why is it important to remember they are also made in God's image?

- How should the fact God made everyone in His image affect how you treat others?

3. Make It Personal With Prayer

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: “Verse Cards” from the Verse to Take with You Activity, pencils, markers

What You Do:

- Tell kids to pick a “Verse Card.”
- Encourage kids to write a prayer to God on the back of their card. If necessary, prompt kids to:
 - Thank God for who He is. Encourage kids to select a word or two that describes God (e.g. Thank You, God, for being good and kind. Or thank You, God, for Your wisdom).
 - Thank God for creating them in His image. Encourage kids to be specific (e.g. Thank You, God, for creating me to be kind, just like You. Or thank You, God, for creating me to love to draw).
 - Thank God for someone in their lives and encourage kids to be specific why they are thankful for that person (e.g. Thank You, God for my friend, Jeff. I am thankful for how Jeff listens to me. Or thank You, God, for my grandma because she is such a great storyteller).
- Challenge kids to spend some time this week memorizing Psalm 139:14.

As adults arrive to pick up, don't forget to hand out this month's content overview to each parent!