



WEEK
ONE
OCTOBER 2021

LARGE GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Someone Like You
Image of God
Genesis 1:26-28

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You were made in God's image.

MONTHLY 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

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Individuality—Discovering who you're meant to be so you can make a difference

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter

WORSHIP LEADER: "Yes, let's worship God for the way He made us! I'm ready to sing and dance with all of you.

AUDIO: *The Best Is Yet To Come*

AUDIO: *The Blessing*

Host enters, holding a bag of mixed candy.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

OPENER

HOST: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you. We're kicking off a brand-new month here at [your environment's name], and there's something I'd like to know before we get started. Raise your hand if you love CANDY!"

Hold up the candy bag.

"Me, TOO! I remember when I was a kid, my grandpa would take me to the local candy shop, and I could fill up a bag with all my favorites. Personally, I would pick anything that was chocolate-covered. (Personalize with your own story/preferences.) I loved that I could pick out my own unique mix, just for me! It was my own custom creation.

"And you know what? You and I are custom creations, too! When God made each one of us, He gave us our own individuality—and He did it for a reason."

SLIDE: LIFE APP

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO LIFE APP



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"Individuality is discovering who you're meant to be so you can make a difference."

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIFE APP TRANSITION TO THEME

"God made each and every one of us special and different. Maybe He made you with brown eyes or a good singing voice or a funny personality. As you grow up, you'll discover all the amazing ways that God made you, YOU!

In all of history there never has been, or ever will be, anyone like you.

"To celebrate how God made each of us as completely unique individuals, I have a great idea for a game. I thought it would be fun for each small group to make their Small Group Leader out of candy! Like this."

Reveal the candy self-portrait you made beforehand.

"This is me. It looks just like me, don't you think?"

Give a bag of assorted candies, a sheet of cardstock, and a couple of glue sticks to each group.

"Here are the supplies you need to create a candy version of your leader. This candy is for decorating, not eating, okay? Just glue the candy to the paper. Work together and be creative! If your leader has red hair, use the red licorice. Or if your leader likes to run, make a road for her to run on using some fruity Tootsie Rolls®. Use what you know about your leader to help your group create the perfect custom creation. You only have two minutes, so work quickly! Ready? Let's go!"

AUDIO: FUN INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

Set a timer on your phone for two minutes.

When time is up, give each group a chance to (quickly) share their creations and explain what makes their leader special. Provide wet wipes for the kids to clean their hands, if needed. Display the finished creations on a shelf or table where everyone can see them.

"Great job, everyone! You worked hard to show how God made your leaders such amazing individuals. As I look at your awesome leaders and all of you, it reminds me just how amazing God is. He created each and every one of us! Look at what David wrote about that in Psalm 139:14. It's our memory verse for this month. Say it with me."

SLIDE: MEMORY VERSE

HOST AND KIDS: "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)

HOST: "That's right! The way God made us is amazing and wonderful . . . and we should praise Him for that."

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP



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BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hi, everyone! Those creations you made of your Small Group Leaders were ah-mazing!

Reference the "candy leader" creations from the Opener.

"You kind of inspired ME to make some candy creations, too. I didn't quite get a chance to finish them, so is it all right if I finish up while I tell you our story? *(Pause for response.)* Okay, great!

Move behind the three easels. The easels should face away from the audience as you begin.

"Our story today starts at the very beginning of the Bible, in the book of Genesis. *(Hold up Bible.)* In Genesis, we read how God created the world. In the beginning, there was nothing . . . then out of nothing, God made EVERYTHING!"

GOD CREATED EVERYTHING

Open the Bible to Genesis 1:3 (NirV) and read.

STORYTELLER: "God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light.

"God created the oceans.

Pick up some blue candies and glue them to the ocean section of posterboard #1 (the creation scene). The easel should still face away from the kids, but they'll see how you added candies to finish the scene.

"There we go! God also made land—mountains and forests. And He made all the plants that covered the land—tiny flowers, giant trees, and lush jungles.

Glue some brown and green candies to posterboard #1 as you reference the land and plants.

"God created the sun, moon, and stars.

Glue some white candies to the black background of posterboard #1 to represent the stars.

"God created birds, fish, and all the other animals, too.

Glue some multi-colored candies in various places on the land and water to posterboard #1.

"God had made an AMAZING and beautiful world!"

Turn the easel around so the kids can see posterboard #1.



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MADE IN THE IMAGE

Move to posterboard #2 (the man and woman silhouettes).

STORYTELLER: "But God wasn't finished. Can you guess what God created last? (Pause for response.) Yes! People: Adam and Eve.

Glue a few pieces of candy to posterboard #2.

"People have always been extra-special to God. Let's look in the book of Genesis to find out why.

Open the Bible to Genesis 1:27 (NIRV) and read.

"God created human beings in his own likeness. He created them to be like himself. He created them as male and female.

"Unlike anything God had created so far, people were special to God because we were made in His image. Now, that doesn't mean that we LOOK exactly like God; but it does mean we can show what God is like with the way we live every day.

Glue a few more pieces of candy to posterboard #2.

"We have the ability to feel joy and compassion for others. We can think creatively to solve tough problems. We can do things that God made us to do, with our own unique skills, talents, and personalities. God created each of us to show love to the world through our individual personalities. God made us in His image so we can make a difference in the world around us."

Turn the easel around so the kids can see posterboard #2.

ALL ABOUT LOVE

STORYTELLER: "So how do we do that? How do we use the way God made us to make a difference for other people?"

Move to posterboard #3 (the heart). Glue a few pieces of candy to it.

"Well, let's think about that. Let's say God created you with the ability to draw really well. How could you use your drawing skills to make a difference for someone else?"

Take a couple of answers from the kids. Guide the conversation if needed (i.e. you could make a card for someone to brighten their day). Glue a few more pieces of candy to posterboard #3.

"How about if you have lots of energy and you love to run, jump, and play? How could you use the way God made you to help someone else?"

Take a couple of answers from the kids. Guide the conversation if needed (i.e. you could make friends with a new kid at school and ask him to play at recess). Glue a few more pieces of candy to posterboard #3.



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“What if God made you to be a good listener? How could you use your individuality to make a difference for someone else?”

Take a couple of answers from the kids. Guide the conversation if needed (i.e. you could listen if a friend is having a tough time and show them that you care). Glue a few more pieces of candy to posterboard #3.

“Those were some really great answers! God made each of us in His image. That means we can use our individuality to show God’s LOVE.

Turn the easel around so the kids can see posterboard #3.

“With God’s help, you can discover lots of different ways to show love to others. As you grow up, you’ll see more and more how God can use you in a unique and special way to make a difference for other people.

Move back to posterboard #1 (creation).

“Remember, God made everything that lives on the earth and all the stars in the sky . . . but God created US to be like Him.

Move to posterboard #2 (man and woman silhouettes).

“We were made in God’s image so we can show who God is.

Move to posterboard #3 (heart).

“And so we can use our individuality to share God’s love with others.”

Walk in front of the easels as you wrap-up.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “When you brush your teeth tonight or when you get ready in the morning, I want you to look in the mirror. That boy or girl looking back at you was made in the image of God!”

“God made you completely unique and special. You were made on purpose, so you can show God’s love to others. And there’s no one else out there who can do that exactly like you can!”

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

You were made in God’s image.

“God is so good to us. **[Basic Truth] We can trust God no matter what!** Let’s pray and thank Him for the way He made us.”

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND



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PRAY

STORYTELLER: “God, we praise You for the amazing and wonderful way You’ve made each and every person in this room. Thank You for making everything we see, from the stars in the sky to the fish in the sea. Thank You for making people and giving us our own unique and special individuality. Help us remember when we look in the mirror that You made us in Your image. And please show us how we can use our individuality to share Your love. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: “It’s so amazing to think that the God who created the whole universe made each and every person individually. He took time to create everything from air and light to plants and animals. And God saved His favorite creation for last: people!

“God made you in His image. He created you to be like Him. Why? Because God loves you! God made you exactly the way you are, with your own special individuality. You can use your individuality to show the world who God is.

“Remember . . .

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

You were made in God’s image.

“When you want to help your friend who broke her favorite toy, that’s you showing God’s compassion. When you let your teammate kick a goal in your soccer game when you could have hogged the ball for yourself, you’re showing God’s kindness. When your brother is mean to you, you can show God’s love by deciding to forgive Him.

“God has given each of us the ability to show love to others—and you can do that like no one else can. You can use your gifts, talents, and the unique way God made you to make a difference in the world around you.

“Right now, you get to head to Small Group and talk about that some more with your friends. Have fun!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP