



MAIN SCRIPTURES: Genesis 1:1-27 Psalm 139:1-6 MAIN POINT: The Creator of the Universe knows your name.

JESUS CONNECTION: Jesus loves you and wants to be in a personal relationship with you.

@HopeHSM

1. READ *The Bible The Bible*

2. OBSERVE The Straight Facts	3. INTERPRET What Does the Text Mean?	4. APPLY Getting Personal
Who:	Research answers using trusted sources like a Study Bible, BibleProject.com, BlueLetterBible.org, and/or Bible.org	How do you relate to any of the characters, events, or words in this Scripture?
What:	What is the historical and/or cultural context of this Scripture?	
Where:		
 Why:	What else do I know about the author, audience, or context of this passage? Moses wrote this book to the Jews to help them understand their history.	What truth(s) from this Scripture can you apply to your life right now?
 How:	What do key words mean in their original language?	
	What other Scripture might help me interpret this text?	What is God saying to you through
What is Repetitive?	Psalm 139:1-6	this Scripture?
Highlight it		
What is Contrast?	What is this text's clearest meaning?	
Underline it (Hint: What things are unique to the 6 th day?)		

MAIN SCRIPTURES

Genesis 1:1-27 NIV

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. ³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day. ⁶ And God said, "Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water." ⁷ So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. ⁸God called the vault "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning-the second day. ⁹ And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. ¹² The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day. ¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, ¹⁸ to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day. ²⁰ And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky."²¹ So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." ²³ And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day. ²⁴ And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. ²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." ²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."

NOTES

DOODLES





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THE WHAT

WHAT are we talking about and WHY does it matter to me? (2-3 min)

ME

• Tell a story about a time someone forgot your name. The story can begin light-heartedly, but be prepared to make it poignant at the end. Using the story to lead into how having your name forgotten made you feel embarrassed, small, or unimportant.

WE

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: THE NAME GAME

- If you have more than 15 students, divide them into groups of seven or more each, plus an adult or designated student to listen in and judge their groups results. Be sure to split them into groups of people they are less familiar with. If your students know each other really well, play the game with middle names.
- One person in each group should start by saying their name. The second person must say the name of the first person, followed by their own name, and so on. Each time there is a mistake, the group must start over. You can either give a time list or declare the first group to complete their circle the winner.

TRANSITION

• Forgetting someone's name may not feel like a big deal...until it happens to you. Especially when the person who has forgotten your name is important to you, that experience can be humiliating. It's never about your name, though. Not really. It's about you.

SO WHAT

So WHAT does this mean for my faith and life with God? (5-6 min)

GOD

WE ALL WANT TO FEEL KNOWN.

- When someone forgets your name, it can feel like they've forgotten you. It may be irrational, but when someone forgets your name, you might start to wonder:
 - Am I forgettable?
 - Am I not important?
 - How much do I really matter?

NOTES

SO WHAT CONTINUED

GOD CONTINUED

WE ALL WANT TO FEEL KNOWN.

We all want to feel like we matter. But the first step to feeling like you
matter is often feeling like you are known – not just your name but who
you are. You want to feel known and so do I. When we feel like someone
knows us, we feel like we matter.

SOMETIMES WE ARE DESPERATE TO BE KNOWN.

- Sometimes we want to feel that we matter so much that we do destructive things like:
 - Make compromises for the sake of someone's approval
 - Put on a fake front instead of being our real selves
 - Surround ourselves with people who aren't good for us.
- All of those compromises, those masks, those cliques can make us feel good in the short term; but there's a problem with craving attention and approval from other people or things. We might change our personalities, interests, hobbies, beliefs, or looks to earn their attention, but eventually...those people are going to let us down. Then what are we left with?
- Before we dive into that question, I want you to hear something first. You may wonder how it connects, but hang with me. We're going somewhere.

READ GENESIS 1:1-27.

- Maybe use a narrative translation like The Message or The Voice. Consider having someone perform the reading over some instrumental music to help your students really reflect on what's being said.
- I love the pictures this paints.
- On a good day, I may be able to make myself a bowl of mac and cheese, but look at what all God made! The sun, moon, stars, animals, and oh yeah: YOU! Keep that in mind as we read another scripture.

READ PSALM 139:1-6.

- This is a psalm, which means it's the lyrics to a song, that's written by David. Did you catch the first line? David is praising God for the way God knows him, inside out.
- This God the God who knows David so intimately and in so much detail is the same God who created the universe.
- This God knows you and me in that detail too. Think about that, the creator of entire galaxies, didn't just create you. He knows you, too...even better than you know yourself.

JESUS CONNECTION

- God created you to be in relationship with Him, but sin broke that relationship before we were ever born.
- God sent Jesus to die on the cross to rescue us from our sin and death; we are not saved by doing good things but by having faith in Jesus Christ.

TRANSITION

• God knows you, the real you, and God wants a close, real relationship with you.

NOW WHAT

So WHAT does this mean for my faith and life with God? (2-3 min)

YOU

YOU ARE KNOWN BY YOUR CREATOR.

- Now let's go back to our earlier question (I told you we were going somewhere). Knowing that people can let us down, what do we do about our deep desire to be known? Sometimes the best thing we can do is to trust that we are already known.
- You are known by the Creator of the universe. You matter to Him so much! He knows every detail of your life, good and bad. He sees you. He loves you. He will never forget you.

NOTES

NOW WHAT CONTINUED

YOU CONTINUED

• Can you write that on your bathroom mirror, lock screen, or somewhere you will see it everyday and truly know it for yourself?

WE

- And let's tell others of this truth! When you see them hurting, remind them they are known and they are loved.
- Let's remind each other. Imagine how much good could spread into everyone's lives by learning and embracing the

PRAY

- Close your time together in prayer, thanking God for knowing each and everyone in your group, knowing them and loving them completely.
- As you close, consider playing or performing (or asking someone else to perform) the song "Royals" by the North Point InsideOut Band.

NOTES





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LEADER CORNER

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to realize God knows "the real them" and wants a personal relationship.

THINK ABOUT THIS

High school students think like a philosopher: they want to discover meaning and process best by processing out loud. The best small group discussions are ones where leaders talk 20% and students talk 80%, so lean into your students and encourage real talk with statements like: "No pressure to give the answer you think I want to hear, I want to know what you think for real..." Encourage your students to have open and real conversations and that small groups is a place where they can process out loud; this is a HUGE step in helping students OWN THEIR FAITH - which is a major goal of discipleship.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.

CONVERSATION GUIDE

GET THEM TALKING

How does it feel when someone forgets your name? Why?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What are some ways our desire to be known is normal?
- 2. What are some ways our desire to be known can be dangerous?
- 3. Why do you think people sometimes compromise who they are to get attention or popularity?

READ GENESIS 1:1-27 and answer the following questions:

- 4. In your own words, summarize the beginning of creation.
- 5. What stands out to you about the beginning of creation? How is this different from other things you have heard? How do you know which to believe?
- 6. What is different about how God created mankind? (*Hint: Look back at verse 27*)

READ PSALM 139:1-6 and answer the following questions:

- 7. In your own words, how well does God know you?
- 8. Do you ever feel like you have to "put on a mask or front" with God? Why do you think that is?
- 9. How can we share our real thoughts, emotions, self, etc with God? As a group, create a list of at least 5 different ways you get real with God.
- 10. How does it make you feel that God knows you so well?
- 11. What does it mean to you that God wants a personal relationship with you?
- 12. How can really knowing and remembering the Creator of the Universe knows your name change the way you live?

NEXT STEP

Encourage everyone to look back over your list of how to get real with God and pick one, tangible next step they can take on their own this week to live out. Have your students share their goal with the group, or if you have a larger group maybe pair up students in groups of 2 to 3 to share with each other.

PRAYER GUIDE

Ask your students to share their prayer requests and close your time together in prayer. Consider doing this as a whole group or keeping students in their smaller groups and having them pray for each other.

MAIN SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1:1-27 NIV

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Psalm 139:1-6 NIV

"You have searched me, Lord, and you know me.² You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.³ You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely.⁵ You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain."

BONUS LEADER RESOURCE

Genesis Dad Joke #1:

Q: At what time of day did God create Adam? A: Just a little before Eve.

Genesis Dad Joke #2:

Q: What type of phone did Eve have? A: An apple.

Genesis Dad Joke #3:

Q: Need someone to watch your pets? A: I NOAH guy.

Genesis Dad Joke #4:

Sarah read the book of Genesis yesterday.

Q: Yeah, what did she think about it?

A: It was good.

Genesis Dad Joke #5:

Q: Where does baseball appear in the Bible?A: Genesis, In the Big Inning...

YOU. ARE. WELCOME. ⓒ ⓒ 🖨 🎒