

Uniqueness is learning more about yourself so you can make a difference.

DAY 1

Read Psalm 139:13

Uniqueness is learning more about yourself so you can make a difference. Of all the people in the whole world, there is NO ONE exactly like you. You might find someone who likes many of the same things you do, but you will never find anyone who's exactly like you. Because no two people were created together in the same way. Even twins! Isn't God creative?

Imagine for a minute what it must have been like when God was creating you. Maybe God said, "I'll give this one deep brown eyes and a love of art," or "I'll give this little guy a brain that loves numbers underneath all that curly hair." God knew exactly what you'd look like, what you'd sound like, and what you would DO once you made your big appearance. God made you, knows you, and loves you!

Ask your grownup to show you your baby book or some pictures from your preschool years. What did they think you would be like as you grew up? Were they right? Why or why not?

DAY 2

Read Psalm 139:14

Do you ever look at the people around you and think, "If only I could run fast like so and so..." Or, "I wish I could draw like that guy." It's normal to do the comparison game and wish we were more like someone else, but uniqueness isn't about some other person's story. It's about YOUR story. It's discovering all the unique and special things about you that can be used to make a difference. Instead of focusing on what's true about the people around you, ask God to show you how your uniqueness can be used to make your world a better place.

Thumbprint Selfie

Create a thumbprint portrait of YOU! Use a stamp pad or color your finger with a marker and place your thumbprint on the page. Draw a face, hair, arms, and legs to create a "thumbprint portrait." Then draw a large thought bubble like you find in a cartoon coming from the thumbprint's mouth. Inside the thought bubble, write one or two things that make you, you.

DAY 3

Read Psalm 139:15

The bones in your body are pretty amazing. Without them, you'd be one big squishy pile of organs, muscle, and skin. You wouldn't be able to do anything you can do now.

Before you were born, God made sure everything was exactly the way you were created to be. God put all those bones in all the right places, making each and every single one of us unique and different but STILL exactly the way God wanted us to be. And guess what? All that forming and shaping was for a REASON! God has big plans for you, and that plan includes sharing God's love with everyone around you!

No Bones About It

Try to guess the answers to the questions below. Check your answers to see if you're correct.

1. How many bones are in the human body?
2. What is the longest bone in the human body?
3. Where are the smallest bones in your body located?

Answers: 1. 270-300 at birth; 206 by adulthood; 2. The femur; 3. Your ears!

DAY 4

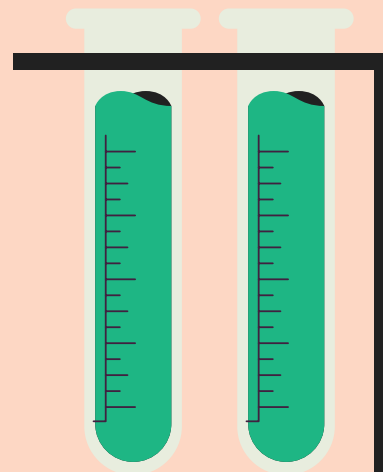
Read Psalm 139:15b-16

Did anything happen today that took you by surprise? Maybe you had a pop quiz on your spelling words. Maybe your dad came home early from a business trip. While most of us have a pretty good idea of what to expect each day, every day brings a few surprises.

Want to hear an amazing, blow your mind kind of truth? God knows every single thing about the day ahead, from the cereal you'll eat for breakfast to who you'll play with at recess. God even knows the exact moment you will drift off to sleep in your bed tonight. Nothing is a surprise to God. So as you discover who God made you to be, ask God to guide you today to make a difference in the world around you.

Do you have a plan for tomorrow? Is it a school day? Write down three things you think you'll do tomorrow. As you head for bed at the end of the next day, check your list to see if you were right!

God made you,
knows you,
and loves you.



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DAY 1

Read Genesis 1:27

What are some things that you know about God?
God is. . .

- Loving
- Trustworthy
- Creative
- Powerful
- Forgiving
- Good

According to Genesis 1:27, God created human beings in

Wow! Of all the amazing things that God created, people are set apart. YOU are made in God's image! You are different from the plants and flowers, from the birds of the air and the fish in the sea. You have a soul. You can love. You can create and show kindness. You can forgive and be counted on as trustworthy. You were made BY God and in God's image. What an amazing thought!

God is...

Create a doodle page about God. Write GOD in large block letters in the center of the page. Then take a few minutes to write down all the characteristics about God that you can think of in any way you want to on the page.

DAY 2

Read James 1:17

Everyone loves a great gift. Whether it's your birthday, Christmas, or another special occasion, there's something special about receiving a wrapped gift to open. What could it be—something you've eagerly waited for or something awesome you never expected?

On the day of your birth, God sent the most beautifully wrapped gift into the world. You—individual, unique, wonderful you—are a GIFT straight from God. But here's the really important thing to remember. Gifts are given to be used and enjoyed. It would make NO sense for you to leave all those beautifully wrapped gifts on the table at your birthday party without opening them! God has given you special gifts and abilities to be used for good. When you unwrap those gifts—when you discover them—they can be used to make a BIG difference!

At dinner tonight, go around the table and talk about the best gift you've ever been given. Why was it special?

DAY 3

Read 1 Corinthians 12:4

When you think about the gifts that God has given you, are you grateful? Have you taken the time to thank God for the way God made you to make a difference? Or do you believe the lie that some gifts are better than others? Or that maybe your gifts aren't "cool" enough?

One BIG thing to remember when it comes to uniqueness is that ALL gifts are needed. ALL gifts are important. While you may not have decided which gifts you've been given, you do have the choice to USE your gifts to make a difference. God is counting on you to open up those gifts and make them available to others. Don't waste time looking at other people's gifts. There are all different kinds of gifts. Only YOU can offer the ones God has given you. So the question is, will you?

Fill in the blanks below as a prayer to God today.
God, thank You for the gift of
that You've given me. Help me to use that gift this week by

DAY 4

Read Luke 12:7

Hairs On Your Head

Have you ever tried to count the hairs on your head? Go ahead. Grab a chunk of your hair and try to count it. If it's too short, ask your adult if you can attempt to count her hair. Give yourself two minutes. And go!

Did that little exercise frustrate you? It should! Counting the hairs on your head is impossible. But it's not impossible for God. God knows everything about you because God made you. God made you on purpose FOR a purpose. All those individual, special, unique characteristics that make you who you are were given to you for a reason. As you begin to discover the gifts God has given you, you can use those gifts to point others to God and to make the world around you a better place for everyone.

God made you to make a difference.

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DAY 1

Read Romans 12:6a

Let's pretend that you receive an invitation to a friend's birthday party. But this isn't a typical invitation. At the bottom, you see the following:

"Dear (insert your name here), for my birthday this year, I really want a new blue razor scooter with lights on the back. If you could get it for me, that would be awesome. Don't worry about wrapping it. Thanks."

Wait, what? That's not how it works! The birthday kid doesn't get to choose the gifts they receive. Well, guess what? Neither do you. God is the giver of gifts, passing them out in the way that God sees as best. God wants you to receive those gifts gladly and use them to make a difference.

You're A Gift

Grab a piece of paper and create a gift tag. Write TO: (Insert Your Name) and FROM: GOD. Hang this tag on your mirror. As you look at yourself in the mirror this week, read this tag and be reminded that God gave you unique gifts to share with the world around you.

DAY 2

Read 1 Corinthians 12:11

When Paul wrote these words to the new believers in Corinth, they had the important and challenging responsibility of sharing the good news about Jesus! Maybe some of the people in that early gathering of believers were struggling to figure out how God would use them and how they could make a difference with their gifts.

Do you ever feel that way? Do you ever think, "How could I really make a difference for God?" God has given different gifts to different people with the hopes that we will work together to make an even BIGGER impact. Working together can start within your own family.

Family Dinner

As you sit down for dinner, put a large piece of butcher or solid color wrapping paper and markers in the center of the table. Read this verse aloud to your family. Set a timer for two minutes and let each family member write down their name, then list their gifts on the paper in front of their seat. When finished, let each person share what they've written. Keep the paper on the table for tomorrow.

DAY 3

Read 1 Corinthians 12:15–18

Think about your gifts and abilities like a body. What if your eye said, “I don’t want to be an eye anymore. Feet are much cooler. I think I’ll be a foot now”? Or what if your chin said, “Chins are so boring. I’d rather be an elbow”?

Just like each body part has something special and unique to offer, so do you with your gifts! If you decided you didn’t like one of the gifts God gave you anymore or if you wanted to be just like someone else, you wouldn’t be able to do what God created you to do! God has carefully created your body to do exactly what it needs to do, and has also gifted you to do what only YOU can do.

Family Dinner Part 2

Tonight at dinner, sit in a different seat. Set a timer for two minutes. Read the name of the family member in front of you and then list some gifts that you see in that person. Some may be the same as that person’s original list but some might be different. Hold onto this list—you’ll need it next week!

DAY 4

Read Acts 16:15

Lydia was a successful businesswoman. She had a home which she opened up to Paul and others who were putting their faith in Jesus. She chose to use what she had to help others. You can too.

God made you on purpose with a purpose. Your uniqueness—the special things that make you YOU—can be used by God to make a BIG difference. Lydia probably never thought that all these years later, we would be reading and learning about the difference she made. Your life could have the same kind of impact. But it starts with asking God to help you discover your gifts, and to give you the courage to use those gifts to make a difference!

Cross It Out

Cross out all the x’s in the letter jumble and write all the remaining letters in the blanks below to reveal this week’s Bottom Line.

XXXUXXSXXXEXXXYOXXXXUXXRXXXX
GXXIFXXXTXSXXXTOMXXMXXAXXKE
XXXXXXAXXXDXXXIFXXXXFXEXXX
RXXENXXXXXXCXXXXE

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Use your gifts to make a difference.

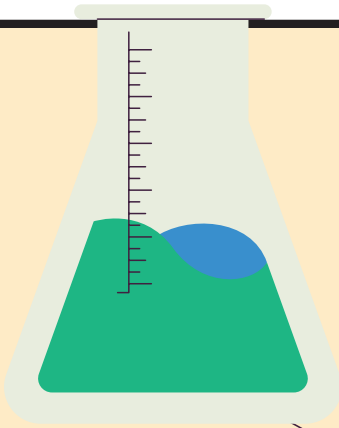
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DAY 1

Read 1 Peter 4:10

God gives us many different gifts. But guess what? Those gifts don't mean anything if you don't choose to use them to serve others. God wants us to use them over and over and over again. You can use your gifts to make a difference, even right now!

Gather your family around the table and take a look at your lists from last week. Maybe your dad is a great cook or your sister loves to help garden and keep a beautiful yard. Look at the lists to see what everyone "brings to the table" in terms of what they're good at. Begin to talk about how you can use those gifts to serve others this week. Maybe you could cook and serve at a soup kitchen. Maybe you could do yardwork for a neighbor who's sick. Make a plan to serve together as a family this week using the gifts God has given you.



DAY 2

Read 1 Timothy 4:12a

Do you ever think you're too young to make a difference? Using your gifts for good isn't a "later" thing. It's a "right now" thing. God's not asking you to serve like an adult or someone older. God is asking you to set an example right now. . . no matter your age, to make a difference in the world around you. Don't use your age as an excuse. Begin now by living in such a way that you show others what you believe. You can make a difference right NOW. Today.

Walk The Verse

Trace your feet on some paper and cut them out. Using these as a pattern, cut out two more of each foot for a total of six separate footprints. Break the verse into six sections, writing a section on each footprint. Lay them out in order and walk along the footprint path as you say the verse. Then, turn one foot over so the blank side is showing. Walk along the path while remembering the words that are missing. Continue to play until all footprints are on the blank side and you can recite the verse from memory.

DAY 3

Read Romans 12:1

Find a dictionary or ask your parent to help you look up the definition of the word “offer.” Write it below.

Offer:

You already know that God made you. You know that God has given you certain gifts and abilities that are different from the gifts and abilities of others. But did you know that these gifts aren't really even about you? After all, you didn't create you.

God made you for a reason. God wants you to use your gifts for OTHERS and for God. When we offer our bodies to God as the verse says, that means we are willing to let God use us and the gifts we've been given to make a difference. You don't have to wait until you're older, or until you feel more confident, or until you one day feel “ready.” Make today count and do something with those God-given gifts to make the world a better place.

DAY 4

Read 1 Corinthians 12:19-21

Do you have a Mr. Potato Head? If you have one, grab all the parts you can find. Take a few minutes to put it together the right way. Now take it apart and put the parts back in the WRONG places. (If you don't have a Mr. Potato Head, draw one on a piece of paper with pencil, then erase some of the parts and put them in different places.) Looks pretty silly, doesn't it?

Now think about your church. Imagine that the individual people, like you, are all part of one bigger body. Imagine each person's gifts, given by God, are like those parts of a Mr. Potato Head toy. All the parts are needed. And all the parts have to work together in the right places to accomplish what they need to accomplish.

God knows that we can do much more together than we can do alone. That's why God has given different gifts to different people. It's not that some are better than others. All are needed. All are important. As you continue to learn about your unique gifts, practice using them to make a difference!



You can make a difference right now.