



UNIQUENESS | WEEK 1 | FEBRUARY 2, 2025

## Elementary Lesson

# They Say It's Wonderful

**Monthly Virtue:** Uniqueness—Learning more about yourself so you can make a difference

**Bible Story:** They Say It's Wonderful (Fearfully and Wonderfully Made) • *Psalm 139:1-14*

*(Supporting: Genesis 1:26-28, Ephesians 2:10)*

**Key Question:** What are the qualities you have that can make a difference in the world?

**Basic Truth:** I am made by God to be unique.

**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 (NIV)*

### LEADER BIBLE STUDY

*Have you ever thought about what makes you, you? We all have different backgrounds, families, or favorite colors. We all enjoy different sports, foods, vacations, and have different friends and experiences in life. Even twins have different fingerprints! Together, all of those pieces make up who we are. But we can't understand who we are and what we were created to do without first understanding the way God sees us. Every single one of us was created in the image of God. But even as image bearers, we were created as unique. There is only one you, and this month we have the chance to explore how God can use the ways we were created to make a difference.*

**Key Question:** How would you describe yourself? If you were to ask your friends what's one word they would use to describe you, what would they say? Would you agree with them? Often times we assign labels to ourselves or think less of ourselves than others do. We hope this question will help preteens begin to look at themselves the way that God looks at them. We start the month in *Psalm 139:1-14* where King David has just written a psalm about God's love for us. Since the beginning, we were created in the image of God. God knew and formed the deepest parts of us, and as image bearers, God loves us no matter what.

#### Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

#### Morning Flow

Doors Open  
9:15/11:00

Large Group Starts  
9:35/11:20

Small Group Starts  
10:05/11:50

## LARGE GROUP

### COUNTDOWN AND WELCOME (3 Minutes)

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN, SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)

LGL: “Welcome everyone! I’m so glad you are able to come hang out with us in KidCity today. My name is [INSERT NAME]. We are going to have a lot of fun today, but before we do let’s go over these announcements/KidCity Expectations.

**(SLIDE: JERSEY SUNDAY)** Next week is JERSEY SUNDAY!! Wear a shirt or jersey repping your favorite team of any sport!

**(SLIDE: BAPTISM)** *(Said on the fourth weekend of the month only)* “Today are baptisms at Hope. Baptism is a way of telling the world that you love God and have made the decision to follow Him with your life. It’s a big deal! Is there anyone here who is getting baptized today? *(Pause and if someone is, go ahead and give them a high five and get the kids to clap).* Awesome!”

**(SLIDE: KIDCITY EXPECTATIONS)** “Now, let’s quickly go over our KidCity Expectations (rules) so we can make sure that we make the most of our time today: *(Don’t dwell on these too long, but make sure you review them briefly so we can set everyone up for success.)*

1. Be Kind
2. Be Safe
3. Have Fun

### LARGE GROUP GAME (5 Min)

#### LEND ME A HAND

(Lend Me a Hand Prompts – precut, Bowl)

All this month we are talking about what makes you, YOU! In other words, uniqueness.

**(SLIDE: VIRTUE)** Uniqueness—Learning more about yourself so you can make a difference.

God has made each and every one of you, and each of you are different in many ways. However, there is one thing that makes us all the same, and that is that we are all made in God’s Image. We are going to talk about that some more later, but for now let’s check out our verse for the month.

**(SLIDE: 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)*

*Take a minute to explain that ‘Psalms’ is a book in the Old Testament, and that the first number means ‘chapter’ and the second one means ‘verse’. ‘NirV’ is what translation the Bible is in. The Bible wasn’t originally written in English! There are different translations.*

You’ll have more time to practice this month’s verse, but for now let’s play a game!

**(SLIDE: LEND ME A HAND)**  
**(SLIDE: 30 SECOND COUNTDOWN)**

**HOW TO PLAY**

- Split your group into two teams. Have each team choose two players of the same gender (so 2 boys and 2 girls for a total of 4 players on the stage). Only one team will be playing at a time, so determine which team will go first.
- Have the first team's players at the front of the room next to the container of prompts and facing towards the audience. One player will stand with their hands on their hips, and the other player will stand behind them and slide their arms through the gap between the front person's arms and body.
- The players will draw a word from the container and act it out for their team to guess. The player behind will be the hands for the player in front. The player in front can only use their facial expressions to act it out. Neither player can talk or make noises.
  - *If you lead K-1<sup>st</sup>, draw their slips and whisper it to them.*
- The players will have 30 seconds to act out as many words as possible. When the team guesses correctly, another card is drawn. The team can "pass" for another card.
- When time is up, count how many words were guessed correctly.
- Now have the other team play. Play either as many rounds as it takes to use all of the cards, or UP TO 3 minutes of game play.

"That was so fun! Now everyone stand up and let's worship God!"

**WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)**

**(VIDEO: AT THE TOP OF MY LUNGS, THAT'S WHO I PRAISE)**

**BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)**

**(No Supplies)**

I want you guys to picture a comfy couch, maybe the one at your home. Now, before that couch got to your home, there were some things that had to happen first. What are some of those things? *(Pause for responses, guide them to say things like coming up with the design, gathering supplies, testing it, building it, etc.)* Great thoughts! There's a lot that goes into the creation of something.

"So, what about people? Way back when . . . who thought people would be a good idea? Who decided what we needed to live and survive? Who thought about our emotions and abilities? Who thought it'd be great for us to care for one another? Who takes care of us? And what should people be doing with their lives?"

"For some of you, those questions might sound strange. But people are unique, aren't we? We're different from objects. We're even different from plants and animals and mountains. On top of that, we're also different from each other. We all look so different from each other. We act differently from each other. We enjoy different things. We speak different languages. This all begs the question: Who had all of that in mind way before we could even know what happened to set



humans in motion?

“Well, that’s a great question—definitely one worth asking. And if you’ve been around here for a little while, you might remember that when we have great questions, we have a great place to look for answers: the Bible! The Bible was written by all sorts of people who had personal encounters with God and wrote them down for people to experience God and learn about God and God’s plan for their lives.”

**(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 4 MIN)**

God made us to belong to Jesus! God made us to do good in the world. When we choose to follow Jesus, we get to show God’s love to the world around us by how we reflect God’s love and care and concern to those we meet. We are MADE with purpose and for a purpose! How amazing is that!?

You are unique! Check this out...

**(SLIDE: BASIC TRUTH)** I am made by God to be unique.

God didn’t make you to be like someone else. God is excited about you being YOU. This isn’t about something we need to do. It’s about something we need to remember about what is true . . . God made us. God knows everything about us. And God loves us more than we could ever imagine.

“We were made in the image of God. And God loves us so much that Jesus came so we could have a relationship with God that will last forever. On the cross, Jesus paid the price for our sins—the things we’ve done wrong. You don’t have to DO anything to earn God’s love. It’s a gift. God made you completely unique, on purpose! Uniqueness is about learning more about yourself so you can make a difference.

Ok, let’s turn to the person next to us and answer our Key Question for today.

**(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION)** ‘What are the qualities you have that can make a difference in the world?’

*Have kids turn and talk to their shoulder partner for 60 seconds. Your KQ slide on Playlister will keep track of time for you. While kids are talking, walk around and listen in to what they are saying and give prompts if needed. Don’t try to resolve anything, kids will have a further discussion within their small group time.*

“Ok friends, come back together in 3, 2, 1...”

“I heard some great thoughts floating around. You are going to have more of a chance to talk about this in small group time, but for now let’s pray.

Dear God, thank you for making us in your image so we can reflect your love and glory to the world around us. I pray that we are faithful with the gifts and talents you’ve given us and use them





to bring people to you. Amen.

## DISMISS TO SMALL GROUPS



### SMALL GROUP

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### TALK ABOUT IT (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

*There are no right or wrong answers but try to challenge the kids to think deeper.*

Key Question: What are the qualities you have that can make a difference in the world? What makes you unique?

*(Answers will vary: I'm kind, I get along easy with all different kinds of people, I'm good at art/sports/languages/coding, etc.)*

### LOOK IT UP (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

*Grab Bibles, look up, and read the following passage.*

Look Up: **Ephesians 2:10**

Say: “The book of Ephesians is in the New Testament and is written by the apostle/missionary Paul. He was writing to the church that he started in the city of Ephesus.”

### PRACTICE IT (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

**(“DNA” Activity Page – 1 per kid, Crayons/Markers)**

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “DNA” Activity Page and set out red, yellow, green, and blue coloring supplies. (Of course, use the colors that you have, but try to make it consistent across the group – so kids may need to share colors)
- Explain to kids that DNA stands for “deoxyribonucleic acid.” It is genetic information inside the cells of the body that helps make each person unique.
- Share with kids that DNA looks like a twisting ladder under a very strong microscope.

- As you read the statements below, encourage kids to fill in the "DNA Chart" using the coloring supplies that correspond to each statement.
  - If kids are unsure about their answers, reassure them that any choice they make is okay.

Suggested Statements:

- If you like to play sports, color a bar yellow. If you like to sing or dance more, color a bar blue.
- If your hair is dark, color one of the bars red. If your hair is lighter, color one of the bars green.
- If you like to read, color a bar yellow. If you'd rather watch a movie, color a bar red.
- If you like to organize and keep things neat, color one of the bars blue. If you don't mind a messy room and hate cleaning things up, color a bar green.
- If you're more comfortable being quiet, color a bar blue. If you like to talk a lot, color a bar red.
- If math or science is your favorite subject in school, color a bar yellow. If writing or art is your favorite subject, color a bar green.
- If you have brown eyes, color one of the bars red. If your eyes are blue or another color, color a bar yellow.
- If you like to be in charge and be the leader, color a bar blue. If you prefer to be a helper, color a bar red.
- **[Make it Personal] Fill in your own DNA Chart along with the kids.**
- As kids finish, let them compare their DNA chart with other kids in the group.
- Gather kids together and ask the following questions:
  - What are some words that best describe you? (NOTE: Consider sharing one or two positive words describing the kids in your group. This is an opportunity to encourage kids without comparing or embarrassing them.)
  - Why do you think God chose to make each of us unique?
  - What are some benefits of being different from others?
  - How does it make you feel to know that God made, knows, and loves you?

## GET STRONGER (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

(Memory Verse Poster, Pens, or Pencils, Memory Verse Sticker, Heart - 1 per small group, "DNA" Activity Page from Practice It)

### What You Do:

- Sit in a circle.
- Let kids know that you will recite the verse together as a group playing "hot potato" passing the heart around the circle.
- The child that is holding the heart at the end of the verse is out. Continue until there is only one kid left.
- Give each child a memory verse sticker and tell them to put it on their DNA Activity Page. Encourage them to take the page home and memorize the verse. Remind them that you will celebrate each child that has memorized the verse on week 4.
- Instruct the kids to write (Write it on your own sheet so younger kids can see how to spell the words out):
  - "Thank you, God, for" on the top of the test tube



- “making me” in the test tube on the left side of the DNA
- “knowing me” in the test tube on the right side of the DNA
- “loving me” in the test under the DNA

## PRAYER

“Dear God, thank you for making each of my friends here special! Help us remember that you made us in your image and that you love us no matter what. Every time we look in the mirror, let us be reminded that you made us, know us, and love us. We love you, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to take home their verse and DNA Activity page. Also encourage the kids to remember the Memory Verse!