



UNIQUENESS | WEEK 3 | FEBRUARY 16, 2025

Elementary Lesson

All I Have to Give

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

Bible Story: All I Have to Give (Lydia) • *Acts 16:13-15*

Key Question: How can you use the ways that God has uniquely made you and the talents you already have to love God and serve others?

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.” *Psalms 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 can you use the ways that God has uniquely made you and the talents you already have to love God and serve others? Has anyone ever told you that you were really good at something? Maybe it was a sport or the way you solve problems. Our prayer is that preteens will begin to explore the different gifts and talents they have and how they can use them to help others.

In week 3, we head to *Acts 16:13-15*, where we find a successful businesswoman named Lydia. On Paul's second journey, he headed to Philippi where he found Lydia and a group of women gathered together to pray. Paul shared the news of Jesus with Lydia, and she used her gifts to serve the believers.

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: 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)

SHAPE THE TORTILLA

(1 Pack of Tortillas - 1 per Large Group Environment)

“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.” *Psalms 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.

“More on that later, but for now, let’s play a game that is all about using your talents and creativity!”

(SLIDE: SHAPE THE TORTILLA)

(SLIDE: GAME SLIDE WITH FUN MUSIC)

HOW TO PLAY

- Divide the crowd up into 2 teams and have each team send up one contestant.
- Secretly tell each contestant their shape, and then when you say, "go," they can start shaping the tortilla by tearing pieces off. *It's suggested that they put the torn off pieces into a trash can or bag for easy clean up.*
 - Suggested shapes:
 - Heart
 - Spider
 - Light bulb
 - Bunny
 - Flower
- If the contestant messes up at any point, they cannot grab a new tortilla or speak at all. They must keep working on their tortilla the best they can.
- The first team to correctly guess the object gets a point, and the team with the most points at the end wins. Play up to 3 rounds. Consider switching out the contestant every round.

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

WORSHIP (6-7 Minutes)

(VIDEO: WAVEWALKER, READY SET MOVE)

BIBLE STORY (12 Minutes)

(No Supplies)

"To kick us off, I brought a few pictures with me. Can you help me brainstorm a little? Sweet. Here's the first one.

(SLIDE: FIREFIGHTER)

"So, obviously this is a firefighter. Anyone know a firefighter in real life? (*Invite responses.*) That's awesome! Now, here's where the brainstorm comes in. What skills/characteristics do you need to be a firefighter? What are some of the characteristics you would hope a firefighter has? (*Pause for responses*)

"Great answers! Yes, firefighters need courage and grit. They need to know how to handle the equipment and know how to climb a ladder. They need to be strong to wear that heavy equipment and carry the hoses and air tanks with them into the fire. They probably need to know some CPR or life-saving procedures. I'm sure there are even more skills that would be important for firefighters to know to be great at their job.

"Let's try this one . . .

(SLIDE: NURSE)



“(Pause for responses) Excellent. Thanks for thinking through that with me! It’s always interesting to think through the unique skills people need to do activities that many of us might take for granted. I love how God made each of us special like that. Okay, let’s try one more . . .

“Now, I don’t have a photo for this next one, but still, I need your help with the same sort of question: What skills do you need to be a follower of Jesus? Are there things you have to be able to do or things you need to know in order to be a Christian? Maybe this sounds like a trick question, but I’m actually serious. I mean, think about it.

“We might have this idea we need to act a certain way or know certain things before we can start following Jesus. But is that true? Are there skills we need to master before we’re able to start following Jesus? Well, let’s not even try to answer that question on our own. Let’s head right to the first place we should look when we have a question about following Jesus: the Bible, God’s Word to us.

“Remember, the Bible is like a library of books that contain letters, history, poems, and wisdom. They were all written by real people who had actual experiences with God. And God inspired them to write down what they learned from those experiences so people like us can understand more about God and the love of Jesus as we go through life with God ourselves. The Bible is also a living book, because God speaks to us through the Holy Spirit who lives inside of us! We can interact with God through the Bible! Let’s head there now!

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY 4 MIN)

“You know, at the beginning we shared some very specific skills that some professionals have. And many of you have some of those skills along with so many other skills we didn’t even mention. And that’s great! On top of that, when we look to someone like Lydia, we can become inspired to trust God with those skills. What we saw in Lydia was her ability to take what she already had and use it to love God and serve others. Sometimes you just have to be creative!

“Of course, the truth is you don’t need a specific set of skills to follow Jesus. You can put your faith in Jesus just the way you are. But here’s what’s so amazing. When you do believe in Jesus, God can use your unique skills and situations to help others know Jesus and show them God’s love.

“Think about some of the ways that God has uniquely made you and the talents you already have. What would it look like to use those to love God and serve others?

“Maybe you like to experiment with baking. Could you bake to raise money for a mission trip or to help out a struggling family?

“Or maybe you love sports. Could you help teach a sports camp for kids in your neighborhood who aren’t able to afford one?

“What about those of you who are great at a subject at school? Could you help serve others by tutoring someone who is struggling in class? There are so many ways we can use what we have to



make a difference.

“Before we go to our Key Question, let’s say our Basic Truth together on the count of 3...ready, 1, 2, 3...

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

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

(SLIDE: KEY QUESTION) ‘How can you use the ways that God has uniquely made you and the talents you already have to love God and serve others?’

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-5th)

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

Key Question: 'How can you use the ways that God has uniquely made you and the talents you already have to love God and serve others?'

(Answers will vary: I have determination and I can use that help others not give up when things get hard, I am good with words so I can use them to give presentations in school about my faith, I am good with languages so I can learn to talk to the student in my school that doesn't speak English, etc.)

LOOK IT UP (K-5th)

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

Look Up: **Acts 16:13-15**

Say: "The book of Acts is a history book telling the story of the Early Church. It starts right when Jesus goes back to Heaven, having told his followers to go to the entire world and tell people about the Good News of the Gospel – that Jesus came to save us from our sins and give us a way to be a part of God's family forever! Acts tells the story of His followers doing just that."

PRACTICE IT (K-5th)

(Wordless Book colored paper cut into quarters [yellow, black, red, white, green] – 1 quarter sheet of each color per kid [K-3rd Only], stapler/hole punch with yarn or pipe cleaners, Example of Wordless Book [4th-5th Only], 11x17 paper, Markers/Crayons, Bibles, "Roman Road Take Home" - 1 half sheet per kid - double-sided)

What You Do:

- SAY: "It's good that you all have identified the ways that you are gifted and talented, but if you do not know how to tell anyone about Jesus and lead them to having a relationship with Him, then those talents could go to waste! Today, you are going to learn one (or more) way(s) to share the Good News of the Gospel.
- If you lead a K-3rd grade group, you are just going to walk them through making and using 'The Wordless Book'. If you lead a 4th-5th grade group then you are going to show them the Wordless Book example and how to use it, but you will focus on 'The Roman Road' method for the bulk of your group time.
- The Wordless Book: (K-5th)
 - Provide colored paper to illustrate the different colors used in the Wordless Book



(yellow, Black, Red, White, Green).

- Explain what each color represents:

- **Gold/Yellow:** This color represents heaven, which is a beautiful place where God lives. It reminds us that God wants us to be with Him forever in a perfect place.
- **Black:** This color stands for sin, which is the wrong things we do that separate us from God. It's like when we make bad choices or don't obey God's rules. Everyone sins.
- **Red:** Red is the color of Jesus's blood. It reminds us that Jesus loved us so much that He died for our sins. Because of His sacrifice, we can be forgiven for the bad choices we make!
- **White:** This color means forgiveness and a new start. When we accept Jesus and ask for His forgiveness, our hearts become clean and pure like the color white.
- **Green:** Green represents growth. Just like plants need water and sunlight to grow, we need to read the Bible, pray, and go to church to grow in our relationship with God.
- Kids can create their own mini Wordless Book using the paper and colors. Either staple them together or hole punch the corner and thread the yarn through.
- Have the kids practice by turning to the person next to them and going through the book.
- **The Roman Road: (4th-5th)**
 - Start off reviewing the Wordless Book from above (but not creating it).
 - Write out the key verses from Romans (Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, 10:9-10) on a whiteboard or piece of paper. Make sure they are in that order.
 - Work together to look up the verses in their Bibles. Go ahead and underline those verses! Discuss what each scripture means and how they build on each other.
 - Divide kids into small groups. Tell them to either create a skit demonstrating the Roman Road or to draw a visual on the large pieces of paper. Be sure that each team has a Bible.
 - After a couple of minutes, have the smaller groups share what they came up with.
 - Send home the Roman Road take home.

GET STRONGER (K-5th)

(Supplies Vary)

What You Do:

- Follow the instructions of the "Books of the Bible" activity that is in your bin.

PRAYER

"Dear God, thank you that you have made a way for us to have a relationship with you through your son, Jesus. Thank you that you've given us gifts and talents to share that Good News with others! Amen."

