

Alley SG - March 2-3, 2019

Bible Story: Art in Me (Image of God) • *Genesis 1:26-28*

Bottom Line: God made me in His image.

Key Question: What do you think it means to be made in God's image?

Memory Verse: I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. (Psalm 139:14, NIV)

1. Just for Fun

What You Need: "Image Cards" (1 set per group), paper plates (1 per student), markers (campus supplies)

What You Do:

- **Give** kids a paper plate and markers.
- **Allow** kids to select an "Image Card," and (without letting anyone else see what is on their cards) **challenge** kids to draw the image on their paper plate. The catch is that kids must put the plate on top of their heads and draw the images on the plate on top of their head.
- **Allow** the group time to try to identify the images on the plates.

2. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Hula-hoops (2 per group), sticky notes (6 per student), pens (campus supplies)

What You Do:

- **Set** two hula-hoops at one end of your area and gather kids at the opposite end. **Label** one hula-hoop, "GOD" and the other hula-hoop, "US."
- **Give** 6 sticky notes and a pen to each kid.
- **Encourage** kids to write three things that describe GOD and three things that describe US. If kids are struggling to think of descriptive words, consider asking: What are traits of God we have learned in previous months?
- **Allow** kids to line up in two lines, and as a relay have them *speed walk* down one at a time and place their sticky notes in the correct hula-hoop. For variety, they can hop, skip, jump, etc.
- After everyone has had a chance to place his or her sticky notes in the hula-hoops, **gather** the kids in a circle around the hula-hoops and discuss the words. **Group** together similar words in each hula-hoop.

Tip: Give kids the freedom to explore who God is—this activity is not a Biblical definition of who God is but an opportunity to explore how kids perceive who God is. No need to classify the descriptions as right or wrong but allow freedom to discuss examples kids provide.

3. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: Hula-hoops and sticky notes from Take a Snapshot Activity, Bibles, sticky notes, pens

What You Do:

- **Read** Genesis 1:26-27 and Psalm 139:14.
- **Ask:** How do these passages describe us?

- **Revisit** words in the hula-hoops from the Take a Snapshot Activity. If necessary, ask kids if based on the passages you just read there are words we should add to describe God or us? They can write any additional words on the additional sticky notes.
- **Overlap** the hoops in the shape of a Venn diagram.
- **Guide** the group to place the sticky notes describing **both God and us** in the area formed by the intersecting hoops.
- **Discuss** the results. Potential questions to ask:
 - Are there words that describe us that can't be used to describe God? What are they? Why don't they describe God?
 - What words describe God and don't describe us?
 - What do you think it means to be made in God's image? *(This is an opportunity to discuss that we are made in the image of God but we aren't God. God has no sin and is perfect. Even though sometimes we will mess up, even though sometimes we will not listen God, even though we are not perfect, we still matter to God.)*

4. Discussion Questions

- What are ways God created us to be different? What do we all have in common?
- How can knowing you are created in God's image help when you mess up? How about when you are unsure or feeling insecure?
- When you are struggling with someone who is annoying or frustrating, why is it important to remember they are also made in God's image?
- How should the fact God made *everyone* in His image affect how you treat others?

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: "Verse Cards" (1 Card per student, per service), pens

What You Do:

- **Tell** kids to pick a "Verse Card."
- **Encourage** kids to write a prayer to God on the back of their card. If necessary, prompt kids to:
 - Thank God for who He is. Encourage kids to select a word or two from the Take a Snapshot Activity that describes God (e.g. Thank You, God, for being good and kind. Or thank You, God, for Your wisdom).
 - Thank God for creating them in His image. Encourage kids to be specific (e.g. Thank You, God, for creating me to be kind, just like You. Or thank You, God, for creating me to love to draw).
 - Thank God for someone in their lives and encourage kids to be specific why they are thankful for that person (e.g. Thank You, God for my friend, Jeff. I am thankful for how Jeff listens to me. Or thank You, God, for my grandma because she is such a great storyteller).
- **Challenge** kids to spend some time this week memorizing Psalm 139:14.

BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT "COMMUNION CALL"

HAND OUT "GOD TIME" CARDS TO EACH STUDENT BEFORE DISMISSING AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO BEGIN WORKING ON THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY

IF STUDENTS BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE \$3 IN ALLEY CASH!