

Alley SG—October 2nd-4th, 2021

Today's Bible Story: Someone Like You (Image of God) • *Genesis 1:26-28*

Today's Key Question: How would you describe God?

Today's Bottom Line: You were made in God's image.

Monthly 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. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: "Gingerbread Cookie" Page, markers, Bibles

What You Do:

- Give each kid a "Gingerbread Cookie" Activity Page.
- Set out markers for the kids to use.
- Ask some of the questions below, encouraging kids to color their Gingerbread Cookies according to the directions you give.
 - *NOTE: Feel free to modify and add to these questions, based on what you know about the kids in your group.*
- Questions could include:
 - Would you rather fly like a bird or swim like a dolphin? If your answer is fly like a bird, color the face **orange**; if your answer is swim like a dolphin, color the face **yellow**.
 - Would you rather eat pizza or ice cream? If your answer is pizza, color the right arm **red**; if your answer is ice cream, color the right arm **green**.
 - Would you rather sing or dance on stage in front of a group of people? If your answer is sing, color the left arm **blue**; if your answer is dance, color the left arm **brown**.
 - Would you rather be able to run as fast as a cheetah or be as strong as an elephant? If your answer is cheetah, color the left leg **orange**. If your answer is elephant, color the left leg **blue**.
 - Would you rather have the chance to direct a movie or invent a new toy? If your answer is directing a movie, color the right leg **purple**. If your answer is inventing a new toy, color the right leg **green**.
 - Would you rather have a pet dragon or a pet unicorn? If your answer is a dragon, draw and color scales on the body. If your answer is a unicorn, color the body with a rainbow of colors.
- Prompt kids to compare their gingerbread people.
 - Are there any that look identical?
 - Ask: What does unique mean? Emphasize how God created each of us different from each other.
- Give kids a Bible.
- Look up and read Genesis 1:26-27.
- Ask:
 - How are humans different from any other of God's creations?
 - Despite our differences as people, what do all of us have in common?
 - What does it mean to be made in the image of God?
- Explain that while we may struggle with how to define what it means to be made in God's image, we can say we reflect God in a way no other part of His creation does.

2. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: Bibles, flyswatters (2 per group), markers, big sticky post it sheet (1 per group, per service), sticky notes(1 pad per group)

What You Do:

- Give kids a Bible.
- Look up the memory verse, Psalm 139:14, and read it together.
- Write the verse on a Big Sticky Post-It. (you can stick it to the wall or place it on the floor)
- Divide the group into two teams.
- Give one kid from each team a flyswatter and instruct the kids with the flyswatters to stand/sit on either side of the verse sheet.
- Explain that you will use a sticky note to secretly cover up a word of the memory verse, and turn the teammates around so they don't see you do it.
- When you show the teams the verse, the first kid to swat the sticky note gets an opportunity to guess the hidden word.
- If they guess correctly, their team gets a point.
- If they guess incorrectly, the other team gets a chance to guess and earn a point.
- Award a point to the winner of the round and ask kids to pass the flyswatters to one of their teammates.
- Make sure everyone gets a turn.
- *Optional:* Increase the difficulty by covering up multiple words.
- Ask:
 - What does the verse say about God?
 - Why does the psalmist praise God? What are some other reasons we can praise God?

3. Discussion Questions

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Ask:

- What does it mean to be made in the image of God?
- Sometimes it is hard to wrap your head around what it means to be made in the image of God and we need to trust God no matter what. What can help us to remember no matter how we feel that God made us in His image?
- What does it say about how we should treat others, knowing that they are made in the image of God? What about the annoying kid in your class—how would it define how you treat them to remember they are made in the image of God?

4. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: Note Cards and Pens

What You Do:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Ask kids to think back to earlier in your group time and remember the words they used to describe God.
- Encourage kids to write those words on their note cards.
- To get as many words as possible, ask kids to share their words with each other and write others' words on their own note cards, too.
- Guide the group in prayer using Psalm 139:14. Encourage kids to use their words during the prayer.
- A sample prayer could be:
 - God, You are . . . *(Pause for kids to fill in the blank aloud or silently. Kids can fill in the blank using the words on their cards.)*

- God, how You made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise You for that. (*Pause for kids to list some awesome characteristics of God.*)
- God, what You have done is wonderful. I know that. (*Pause for kids to think of what God has done.*)
- God, help us to remember we are made in Your image, and help us to see others the way You see them.
- In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.