

Lesson Plan

June 28th, 2026

This Month's Truth: I Am Uniquely Designed

Bible Story: God's blessing to believers (Ephesians 1)

Theme Verse: Acknowledge that the Lord is God. He made us, and we are His. (Psalm 100:3a)

Teachers rally with your team a few minutes before kids start to arrive: Rally is a pre-service time for you to be expectant and equipped before the kids start arriving. Go over the lesson and any ideas for the day. Pray over your space and for the kids that will be coming that they will be connected to the person of Jesus.

Share: We are teaching kids from the book of Ephesians today. Paul told the Ephesians that God chose them to know, love, and follow Him. He promised to give the people the Holy Spirit to help them follow Him and point others to Him. (Read Ephesians 1:7-8.) This is true for us as well! Kids can know that they matter to God!

Pray: Lead the group in prayer, thanking God that the kids you lead matter to Him.

Pre Service

Arrival time, please use this time to build relationships with kids and encourage them to build relationships with one another.

Service

What To Do:

- **Teacher Start 5-minute countdown 5 minutes prior to service start time.**

Teacher Opener: Welcome everyone! My name is _____, and I am excited to see you! Turn to a friend, share your name, and give each other a fist bump. (Allow time.) We get to talk about a special treasure today—you! Point to yourself and say, "Who, me?" (Who, me?) Yes, you! Each of you is uniquely designed by God, and you are priceless in His eyes. Let me hear you say, "Priceless!" (Priceless!)

Head, Shoulders, Knees, Cup

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What To Do: We are going to play a game called “Head, Shoulders, Knees, Cup!” Head, shoulders, knees, what? (Cup!) Find a friend, grab a cup, and then move around the room so you and your teammate have enough space to place the cup on the floor between you and you can both take a step back without bumping into anyone. (Allow time.)

Leader Tip: If space does not allow with how many kids you have you can do rounds. Only half or less go then the next group. Then have the winners play to get a winner over all.

Great job! I will call out different words, and you will follow the prompt. If I say, “Head,” you will put both your hands on your head. If I say, “Shoulders,” you will put both your hands on your shoulders. If I say, “Knees,” you will put both your hands on your knees. But when I say, “Cup,” you will try to be the first person to grab the cup between you and your friend. Whoever grabs the cup the fastest will be the winner and will play the winner of another group.

Keep It Going: Consider playing where they stay in the same group and tally how many cups they get. Then announce a winner from tallies.

Leader Tip: Say the words quickly and slowly. For example, say, “Head, knees, shoulders, knees! (fast) Head, knees, shoulders, Cup!” (Slow)

Loud And Clear: Let’s all give one another a hand as we return to our seats.

Transition Script to go into the Intro Video: Repeat after me! (Point to the kids when it is their turn to repeat.) “Miles!” (Miles!) “Mollie!” (Mollie) “And Stephen too!” (And Stephen too!) Awesome job! Miles, Mollie, and Steven are the creators of the one-of-a-kind online show, That Show with Mollie and Miles! And Stephen too! If you are ready to check out the latest episode, say, “I am ready!” (I am ready!)

Play Intro Video

What You Say: Say, “We found the treasure!” (We found the treasure!) The best treasure was Stephen discovering that Mollie and Miles valued him as a friend. It is always a good thing to help our friends know they matter to us. This is why it is amazing to remember that we matter to God! Say, “I matter to God!” (I matter to God!) That is right, you do! God uniquely designed you. He loves you, cares about you, and values you. Everything about you matters to Him. Point to yourself and say again, “I matter to God!” (I matter to God!) That truth is something we can all treasure and enjoy!

Worship

What You Say: Let's all come up front and worship together this morning!

What To Do:

- Turn lights off
- 2 songs of worship
- **Teachers and Small Group Leaders worship with the kids, modeling what it looks like to give God our praise. Stand in the front of the room, or next to the kids- but not in the back.**
- Dismiss the kids back to their seats when the songs are over

What To Do:

- Have the kids **open up** a physical Bible and find the Bible story for that day.
- Use the Bibles provided in the classroom if a kid does not have their own Bible with them.

Transition Script to go into the Bible Story Video: (Open the Bible to Ephesians 1.) We get to learn from the most important book ever written! It is called the Bible. What is it called? (The Bible!) The Bible is God's true message to us about Himself. Our Bible story today comes from the book of Ephesians (ih FEE zhuhnz)! What book? (Ephesians!) This book is in the New Testament, which is the second part of the Bible. A man named Paul wrote a letter to Christians in the city of Ephesus (EF uh suhs). We will learn that each one of us matters to God! Say, "I matter to God!" (I matter to God!)

Play Bible Story Video

Questions to consider asking after the video:

- What is something that you learned about God from the video?
- What is something that you learned about people?
- What can you take away from the video?
 - How can you apply the lesson from today into your life?

Making The Connection Script: Have you ever known or are you a part of a really big family? (Allow kids to respond.) You may know someone who has a lot of siblings and cousins, but God

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has an even bigger family! And you know what else? Ask, "What?" (What?) God made each one of us to be a part of His family! To become a child of God and be part of His family, we must be adopted into His family by believing in Jesus and asking Him to rescue us from our sin.

In today's Bible story, Paul told the Ephesians that before God made the world, He chose them to know, love, and follow Him. He promised to give them the Holy Spirit to help them follow Him and point others to Him. In our lives today, through Jesus, we have the good news of redemption, which means Jesus took on the punishment for sin that we deserve and rescued us from sin by paying the price we owed. This is because each of us matter to God! Say, "I matter to God!" (I matter to God!)

Use the Three Circle Graphics on the Playlist

(Circle three) God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to earth. Jesus died on a cross to take the punishment we deserved for sin. Sin is when we do what we think is best rather than following what God says is best. But Jesus came back to life on the third day, showing He is more powerful than both sin and death! Jesus rescued us from sin so we can become a part of God's amazing family! We can have this redemption through the forgiveness of our sin because of what Jesus did for us. When we trust in Jesus to forgive and rescue us from sin, God gives us an inheritance, which is a very special gift from God. When we trust in Jesus, we also receive the Holy Spirit who helps us follow God and point others to Him. God did this not because of anything we did to earn it but because He loves each one of us.

(Circle one) This redemption helps us live the way God created us to live. Paul reminded the Ephesians that, before God made the world, He chose for people to be able to know, love, and follow Him. When God created the world, He uniquely designed people to have a relationship with Him.

(Circle two) Sadly, sin entered the world. Sin breaks our relationship with and separates us from God. No matter how hard we try, we all sin, and our sin deserves to be punished. That is why we need redemption! In our Bible story today, we learned that even though our sin deserves punishment, there is hope because of what Jesus did for us through His death on the cross and that He rose from the dead.

Sin and brokenness can cause us to wonder why God would want a relationship with us. We may think we are not good enough or smart enough. We may think other people are more worthy of being loved. But God uniquely designed each one of us. He made us who we are, and He wants a relationship with us because we matter to Him. Everyone, say, "I matter to God!" (I

matter to God!)

If you have questions about what it means to follow Jesus, you can talk with me or your Small Group Leader. Each one of us matters to God, and He wants to have a relationship with you.

Everyone, say, "I matter to God!" (I matter to God!) Jesus died on a cross and rose again to rescue us from sin. You can repent by turning away from your sin and asking Jesus to forgive you. That is how you become a part of God's family! He uniquely designed each one of us, and He wants everyone to follow Him! Everyone, say, "I am uniquely designed!" (I am uniquely designed!)

Theme Verse Review:

Theme Verse motions:

Acknowledge that the Lord is God. (Start with hands at your waist, palms facing upward. Swing them up, facing each other.)

He made us, and we are his. (With hands still up facing each other, bring your right hand to your chest, then your left hand to your chest.)

Psalm 100:3a (Hold your hands out like a book.)

What You Say: In God's eyes, we are priceless to Him! Say, "Priceless!" (Priceless!) Our Theme verse reminds us of that truth because it shows that He uniquely designed us! Let's learn our Theme verse together!

Play Theme Verse Video

What You Say: God says that we are His, and He made us! This amazing truth shows us that we matter so much to God. God uniquely designed each one of us, and He cares for us. Everyone, say, "I matter to God!" (I matter to God!)

Large Group Closing:

What You Say: Say, "I matter to God!" (I matter to God!) Jesus invites all of us to trust Him, so we can have a relationship with Him and redemption from our sin. This word means that Jesus took the punishment we deserve for our sin and rescued us from paying the price we owed.

When we trust and follow Jesus, God adopts us into His family forever! God did this not because of anything we did to earn it, but because of His love for us. Sometimes we may wonder why God would want a relationship with us, but we can know that He wants it because we matter to Him. Let's spend time in prayer, thanking God for how much we matter to Him. Let's pray in 3-2-1.

Closing Prayer: God, thank You for caring so much about us. We are so grateful that we matter to You. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, so we can have redemption from our sin and a relationship with You. Help us remember how much we matter to You. Amen.

Transition to Small Group Time: Split the kids into small groups. This can be done either by age, grade, or gender.

Small Group Time:

Option #1: Connection Questions

What To Do: Let's talk together about how God sees us as priceless to Him!

1. Who matters to you and why does that person matter to you? (Allow kids to respond and then share your answer.)
2. The word VIP stands for "Very Important Person." When you have a VIP pass, you are allowed to go places that other people cannot go, and you get special treatment. God loves us so much that He sees us all as VIPs! He invites all of us to be in a relationship with Him through His Son, Jesus. How can knowing that God sees you as a VIP help you know that you matter to God? (I know that **I matter to God** because He sees me as someone very important to Him.)
3. The Bible tells us that God uniquely designed each one of us, and we matter to Him. Let's open our Bibles to **Ephesians 1:7-8** and read about it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.) The Bible tells us we matter so much to God that through Jesus, we can have redemption from our sin. The word redemption means that Jesus took the punishment we deserve for our sin and rescued us from sin by paying the price for sin we owed. We can receive this redemption by believing that Jesus died on a cross and rose again and asking Him to forgive our sin. How does this passage help us

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know that each one of us matters to God? (Jesus gives us redemption because we matter to Him.)

4. Paul told the Ephesians (ih FEE zhuhnz) that God chose them to know, love, and follow Him. The same is true for us today! God sent His Son, Jesus, so that we could be adopted into His family. God made us for a relationship with Him because we matter to Him. Who can you tell about what you are learning about Jesus? (Allow answers and share your own answer.)
5. The Bible tells us we are priceless to God because we matter to Him. What is something you learned today? Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer and share your own answer.)

Option #2: Priceless Treasure

Leader Prep:

1. Wrap the aluminum foil square around a paper plate, securing it with glue.
2. Take the cut out jewels and glue them to the paper plate.
3. Glue the Bible story circle to the center.

What To Do: We are uniquely designed by God, and we are priceless in His eyes. So let's make a craft to remind us that we matter to God. Say, "I matter to God!" (I matter to God!)

To start, wrap your aluminum foil square around your paper plate, putting a little glue on the back to keep it in place. (Allow time, assisting as needed.)

Leader Tip: Make sure the shiny side of the aluminum foil is facing up.

Take your cut out jewels and glue them to the foil. Leave some gaps between the jewels and gems so the shiny foil shows through. Say, "Shiny!" (Shiny!) (Allow time, assisting as needed.)

Say to your friend next to you, "I matter to God"! (I matter to God!)

Keep It Going: Allow kids to place stickers or jewels onto their jewel craft.

Loud And Clear: We made amazing jewels! What was your favorite part about making a jewel? (Allow kids to respond.) Jewels are treasures because they have so much value. However, to God, we are worth even more than any jewel in the entire world. You are priceless to Him! Say, "Priceless!" (Priceless!)

Option #3: Activity Page

What To Do: This activity page helps us remember some big things we have learned about today. As you color and work on activities, talk to a friend about some of your favorite parts of our time together.

Leader Tip: Get to know the kids better. Ask them what they remember about the Bible story or remind them that the Ephesians mattered to God, and we matter to God too. In God's eyes, we are priceless. He uniquely designed each of us and made the way for us to be adopted into His family.

Loud And Clear: God uniquely designed every single one of us, and He sent Jesus so we could have a relationship with Him. God did this not because of anything we did to earn it but because He loves us! God wants a relationship with us because we matter to Him!

Close out in prayer:

What To Do:

- Ask for any specific prayer requests
- Pray with the group
- Lead the group in the prayer below.

What You Say: God, thank You that each one of us matters to You. We are so thankful that You sent Your Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and come back to life, so that we can be adopted into Your family. Thank You for giving us redemption through Jesus. You uniquely designed us, and we see that we matter so much to You. Help us remember how much You love us and want us to follow You. Amen.

Dismissal:

Leader Tip: Work with your team to dismiss the kids in a fun, manageable, and safe way. As kids leave, make sure they have all of the crafts and papers. Share with the person picking them up something positive you observed today. Invite them back next week.