

WEEK OF AUGUST 16th, 2020

Bible Story: Esther

Bottom Line: God created you for a purpose.

Memory Verse: "Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom." Psalm 145:3

FOR STARTERS: ANIMAL INVENTIONS

What You Need: "Animal Inventions" Activity Page, pens

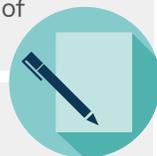
What You Do: Each of the animals listed has been the inspiration for an invention.
- Draw a line from the animal to the invention you think it helped inspire.



Answers:

bat (radar)	hummingbird (helicopter)
armadillo (army tank)	scorpion (needle)
chameleon (camouflage)	snake (anesthetic)
fish (electricity)	snail (suction cups)
flying squirrel (parachute)	caribou (snowshoes)
squid (jet propulsion)	

What You Say: "God designed animals with a purpose. Creative people observed them and used that to invent something new. God created you for a purpose too, and gave you a creative mind to accomplish your purpose! Today we're going to hear a story of one particular person's purpose."



FUTURE PLANS

What You Need: Paper, pens

What You Do: Trace your hand on a piece of paper.
- Write in each finger something you would like to do in the future (play a sport in high school, teach preschoolers, serve in the military, study animals, fly a plane, be a doctor, etc.)

Ask the following questions:

- Why is this of particular interest to you?
- What has to happen in order for you to accomplish this?

If you could do this, how could you use it for God?

What You Say:

"You probably have more than a 'handful' of things you'd like to do someday. God also has a plan for you, and a purpose for you within His plan. It might be exactly what you want to do or it might be completely different. If you keep following Jesus, you'll discover the purpose and plan God has designed just for you that no one else can do it. It's all yours."

PRAYER: Dear God, thank You for being so creative and making us all with such different and unique purposes! We know that nothing can stop You from creating, and nothing can stop us from being who You created us to be. Thank You! Amen."

FOCUS

What You Need: Spoons, small ball (ex. Ping pong ball), paper clip, small amount of water

What You Say: Put the ball on your spoon and walk around the room without dropping the ball. Do the same with a paperclip on the spoon, and then a spoonful of water.

What You Say:

"You had to move differently and concentrate differently with each of the objects. It will be the same in life – each season will have a different purpose and a different focus for you. You'll learn new things, and your creativity will change in different ways, too. I'm so excited that God created you for a purpose. Let's thank God for His awesome creativity!"



WHO CAN HELP

What You Need: "Characteristic Cards" Activity Page, scissors



What You Do: Place the "Characteristic Cards" on a table. I'm going to read a scenario, and you are going to select a person who could help in the scenario. (there could be more than one possible answer) Tell why you chose that person and how they could help.

SCENARIOS:

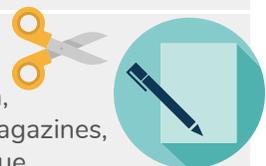
- The jump ropes used for gym class are a tangled mess.
- It's time for the Christmas pageant. The director needs help with creating the set and the costumes.
- A kid on the soccer team struggles with getting the ball to where it's supposed to go.
- The local animal shelter needs someone to care for the animals and walk the dogs.
- There's a bake sale to raise money for the youth group's mission trip.
- Two friends are in a fight. Who can help them work out their differences?
- The teacher has left the room, and the class is getting crazy. Who can help everybody calm down and follow the rules?
- Someone fell, and their hand is bleeding.

What You Say:

Recognizing what you like to do and what you are good at can help you know that God created you for a purpose.

CREATIVITY VERSE

What You Need: Paper, pencil or pen, "Memory Verse" Activity Page, old magazines, newspapers, or junk mail, scissors, glue



What You Do: Set the memory verse page on the table. On the blank piece of paper, copy the verse using large lettering with spaces between the letters. (Younger kids may copy just the first phrase) Look through old magazines, newspapers or junk mail, cut out letters that match, and glue them over the top of the letters you wrote. It's ok if you don't find all of the letters.

What You Say: "You gave these old magazines new purpose! The people who made these letters didn't expect that we'd use them for writing a Bible verse. When we follow Jesus, we can know that God uses us for His purpose. You may not know what it is, or what the final masterpiece will look like, but you can be confident that God created you for a purpose."