

CITY LG – August 12-14, 2023

Today's Bible Story: Do Something (We Are God's Creation) • *Ephesians 2:10*

Today's Bottom Line: God created you for a purpose.

Monthly Memory Verse: *For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)*

*Campus Team: For a large group game you will need either two larger dry eraser boards and markers OR large sticky papers and markers.

NEED: Fruit & Veggie cards in a bag

WORSHIP

Chasing Me
Undefeated

SLIDE: Theme

Hi, friends! I'm [your name], and I'm so pumped to be hanging out with all of you here in the CITY! This month, we're talking about creativity.

SLIDE: Virtue

Creativity is using your imagination to do something new

SLIDE: Theme

If you think about it, it makes sense that our creativity comes from God. God is more creative than we could ever imagine. And since we're made in the image of God, that means WE can be creative, too!

Remember, there are lots and lots of ways to be creative. You might show your creativity by painting a picture, writing a story, or making up a song. Or you might even use your creativity by cooking! Someone who has a talent for culinary arts is good at preparing, cooking, and serving food in a beautiful way. So I thought we could play a game today with some of the 'art supplies' people use in culinary arts. I'm talking about fruits and veggies!

First, I'll need two leaders (*or you can choose kids depending on how many leaders you have...up to you*) to join me on the stage—one leader (or kid) from each side of the room.

Bring up two contestants. Have them stand next to the large dry erase board.

Pick up the bag with the "Fruit and Veggie Cards" inside.

In this bag, I have cards with different fruits and vegetables written on them. When it's your turn, you'll grab a card from this bag. You'll draw whatever fruit or vegetable is written on the card and your team will try to guess what it is. Make sure you stand to the side when you draw so your teammates out here can see what you're creating!

If they guess the item correctly, then you'll grab another card, and draw what's on THAT one. Keep going until you run out of time! We'll see which team can get the most correct guesses in 60 seconds.

[Contestant's name], you're up first. (*to audience*) Remember everyone, if you're on this side of the room, you're trying to guess what [contestants' name] is drawing. Let's put 60 seconds on the clock. Ready, set, go!

Countdown (60-second version)

Keep count of how many fruits and vegetables the kids guess correctly. Then let the other team have a turn.

Countdown (60-second version)

After the second team has their turn, announce how many answers each team guessed correctly and declare the winning team.

Thank the contestants and dismiss them to their seats.

SLIDE: Theme

Wow! Congratulations to both teams, because that was impressive! You could definitely be creative in the kitchen with those ingredients.

Now I'm excited to share some wise words written by the apostle Paul in the book of Ephesians. *(Hold up Bible.)*

What we call the book of Ephesians was actually a letter written by Paul to the people in the city of Ephesus. Check it out...

Bible Story Video (11:10)

Let's look back at what Paul wrote to the Ephesians. Say it with me.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

Right now, you're at a great age where you're just starting to understand how unique and special God made you to be. And you'll get to keep learning more and more about that as you grow up! Even us adults are still figuring out how we can use the creativity God gave us to make a difference in the world around us.

In the letter Paul wrote to the Jesus followers in Ephesus, he explained to them that God had created them to do good things in the world. And the same thing is definitely true for us today.

We are God's creation. God created us to follow Jesus. And God made us to use our creativity in a really special way! God created us to do good things that will make a difference for the people around us.

"Remember . . .

Video: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

God created you for a purpose.

One of the good things we get to do is show others how much God loves them. We can tell people about Jesus: how He loves us so much that He died on the cross for us then came back to life! And just as importantly, we can SHOW people how much God loves them by the way we treat them. We can do good works, like Paul said, that will help others and show God's love in a way they can really understand.

God made each of us with an important purpose, our own unique way to love God and love other people. If you're wondering what your purpose might be, start by asking some questions. Ask the people around you like your parents, grandparents, friends, teachers, Small Group Leaders, and coaches. Ask them what kinds of unique skills, talents, and creativity they see in you. Ask them to help you think about how you can use those things God gave you to make a difference for other people.

Let's Pray...

"Dear God, thank You for making each of us in Your image. And thank You for also making each of us special and unique in our own way. Help us learn about our purpose and how we can do good works in the world around us. We want to show everyone what You are like and how much You love us! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

"You'll get to talk about that some more later!"

OFFERING:

Where has our offering money been going to this summer? Yep, to families in Kenya! They are experiencing a food shortage because of an on-going drought. We are collecting money for food baskets for families who live in Turkana. If you have any offering, you can bring it up now while we watch this video of Turkana families receiving baskets.

Turkana video #2