

CITY SG – 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)*

1. We Are God's Creation!

What You Need: "Made by God" Pages (NIV version, 1 per kid); markers

What You Do:

- Gather your group to review today's Bible story with the True or False statements below.
- Encourage the kids to give a thumbs-up if they think the statement is true and a thumbs-down if false. Make sure to correct each false statement to make it true!
- **TRUE OR FALSE**
 1. Paul wrote the book of Ephesians. *True*
 2. Paul opened a bookstore in the city of Ephesus. *False, Paul started a church of new believers in Jesus in the city of Ephesus.*
 3. Only Jewish people were a part of this new church in Ephesus. *False, there were Jewish and non-Jewish people who put their faith in Jesus and became part of the church at Ephesus.*
 4. The book of Ephesians in the Bible is actually a letter Paul wrote to the church in Ephesus. *True*
 5. What do you know about Paul? (*This is an open-ended question. Let the kids answer, then explain that Paul didn't believe in Jesus at first. In fact, he arrested people just for believing in Him! But after a crazy experience with a blinding light, he became a believer and a BIG time Jesus follower! Then he traveled around, telling people about Jesus and starting new churches of believers.*)
- Read the 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)*
- Pass out a "Made By God" page to each kid.
 - Point out the text around the frame.
 - Encourage the kids to write their name in every blank of the verse.
 - Then, lead them to read the verse aloud, saying their own names as they repeat it together.
- Tell them to use their creativity to draw a picture of themselves in the middle.

2. Memory Verse Roll

**We are teaching the NIV version of the verse this month, and the Bibles in the carts are NIV. If you are going to have kids use the Bible, the verse will read differently.*

What You Need: a soft ball (one per group)

What You Do:

- Guide kids to sit in a large circle.

- Invite a volunteer to recite the monthly memory verse, then say it a few times together. “*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)*
- Give one kid the ball.
- Lead kids to say the verse word by word (with help as needed) as they pass to ball to the person next to them. Play a few times, getting faster each time.
- Try it again, but instead of passing the ball, roll the ball to someone across the circle saying one word of the verse at a time.
- Play as time allows, encouraging kids to say the verse faster each round.

3. Made For a Purpose

What You Need: “Circles” Pages (1 per child), pens and markers

What You Do:

- Pass a “Circles” Activity Page to each kid.
- Encourage them to use their pens/markers to turn the circles on their pages into something else.
- If they are stumped, encourage them to name some items that are round to get their creative juices flowing!
- If they still need ideas, here are a few: a basketball, baseball, ladybug, tire, donut, apple, cookie, clock, and pizza.
- As they finish, have the kids place their drawings on the floor in front of them to compare.
- Say, “All of these things were created for a specific purpose. God created you for a purpose too. Maybe you’re really good at making people laugh or helping your dad take care of your little sister or you always pick out the best movies to watch. It doesn’t matter how God wired you, you can be yourself and shine God’s light to others.”
- Ask, “What are some unique gifts God has given you?”

4. Pray and Dismiss

- “God, You are so good. Thank You for loving us so much that You spent so much time and attention on crafting us together. Remind us that You made us wonderfully. From our head to our toes, from our gifts to the way our brains are wired, You created every part of us to perfectly fit the dreams You have for us. Help us live out the purposes You have for us and tell everyone we meet that **[Bottom Line] God created you for a purpose.**”

Extra Time Coloring Sheets