

ALLEY SG – February 1 - 2, 2025

Today's Bible Story: They Say It's Wonderful (Fearfully and Wonderfully Made) • *Psalm 139:1-14*
(Supporting: *Genesis 1:26-28, Ephesians 2:10*)

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

Today's Bottom Line: God made you, knows you, and loves you.

Monthly Memory Verse: "How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well." *Psalm 139:14 (NirV)*

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Bibles, index cards, pens

What You Do:

- Divide your group into two teams and give each group a Bible.
- Ask kids to find Psalm 139:1-14.
- Working with their team, instruct each team to choose five keywords from today's Bible Story.
 - Ask, "What words stand out the most?"
- Direct each team to neatly write each of their words on separate index cards using a pencil.
- Encourage the teams to talk and write quietly so the other team doesn't see or hear their chosen words.
- Once each team is finished, explain that they will take turns giving a kid on the opposing team one of their keyword cards.
- That kid must use their elbow to "write" the keyword in the air for their team to guess.
 - Model how to put your right hand on your right shoulder and point your elbow forward. Then, "spell" out the word as if your elbow was the end of a pen.
- After the word is guessed, spark a discussion about why they chose that keyword.
- Encourage kids to use the Bible to refer back to Psalm 139 as they explain their choices.
- Let the kid who spelled the word with their elbow choose someone from the other team to go next.
- Provide that kid with a keyword card from the opposing team.
- Repeat until everyone has had a turn elbow-writing and all the cards have been guessed and discussed.
- For further discussion, ask:
 - Why is it important to know that God made you and knows everything about you?
 - Do you think believing that God created you in a special way changes how you live? Why or why not? If knowing that does change how you live, what are some ways it changes things?
 - How does knowing that God made everyone change how you treat other people?

2. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

What You Need: Coloring supplies, "DNA" Activity Page (one per kid)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a "DNA" Activity Page and set out red, yellow, green, and blue coloring supplies.
- Explain to kids that DNA stands for "deoxyribonucleic acid." It is genetic information inside the cells of the body that helps make each person unique.
- Share with kids that DNA looks like a twisting ladder under a very strong microscope.
- As you read the statements below, encourage kids to fill in the "DNA Chart" using the coloring supplies that correspond to each statement.
 - If kids are unsure about their answers, reassure them that any choice they make is okay.

- Suggested Statements:
 - If you like to play sports, color a bar yellow. If you like to sing or dance more, color a bar blue.
 - If your hair is dark, color one of the bars red. If your hair is lighter, color one of the bars green.
 - If you like to read, color a bar yellow. If you'd rather watch a movie, color a bar red.
 - If you like to organize and keep things neat, color one of the bars blue. If you don't mind a messy room and hate cleaning things up, color a bar green.
 - If you're more comfortable being quiet, color a bar blue. If you like to talk a lot, color a bar red.
 - If math or science is your favorite subject in school, color a bar yellow. If writing or art is your favorite subject, color a bar green.
 - If you have brown eyes, color one of the bars red. If your eyes are blue or another color, color a bar yellow.
 - If you like to be in charge and be the leader, color a bar blue. If you prefer to be a helper, color a bar red.
- As kids finish, let them compare their DNA chart with other kids in the group.
- Gather kids together and ask the following questions:
 - What are some words that best describe you? (*NOTE: Consider sharing one or two positive words describing the kids in your group. This is an opportunity to encourage kids without comparing or embarrassing them.*)
 - Why do you think God chose to make each of us unique?
 - What are some benefits of being different from others?
 - How does it make you feel to know that God made, knows, and loves you?

3. Discussion Questions

- The writer of Psalm 139 reminds us that no matter where we are, God is with us. Why is that a good thing?
- How might our words and actions change if we remembered that God is always with us?
- Have you ever compared yourself to others?
- Is it harmful to compare ourselves to others? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to remember that God made us unique for a reason?

4. Verses to Take with You

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, ball

What You Do:

- Divide kids into groups of two.
- Provide each pair with a Bible and invite them to look up Psalm 139:14.
- Read the verse together slowly, discussing it in parts.
- For example (NIV in parentheses):
 - *How you made me is amazing and wonderful. (I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.)*
 - Ask: What would you say is the most amazing thing about how God made us?
 - *I praise you for that.*
 - Ask: How can we show our praise and appreciation to God for how God made us?
 - *What you have done is wonderful. (Your works are wonderful.)*
 - Ask: What does this part of the verse tell you about God?
 - *I know that very well. (I know that full well.)*
 - Ask: How does it feel to know God made us, knows us, and loves us?
- Guide kids to sit in a large circle.
- Give one kid the ball.

- Lead kids to say the verse word by word (with help as needed) as they pass the 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.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL: PRAY

- Ask, "Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? (*Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises*)"
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below...
"Dear God, thank You for making each of my friends here special! Help us remember that You made us in Your image and that You love us no matter what. Every time we look in the mirror, let us be reminded that You made us, know us, and love us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."
- If there is still time, pass out the Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home to bring back next week for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell their parents one way God created them special.