

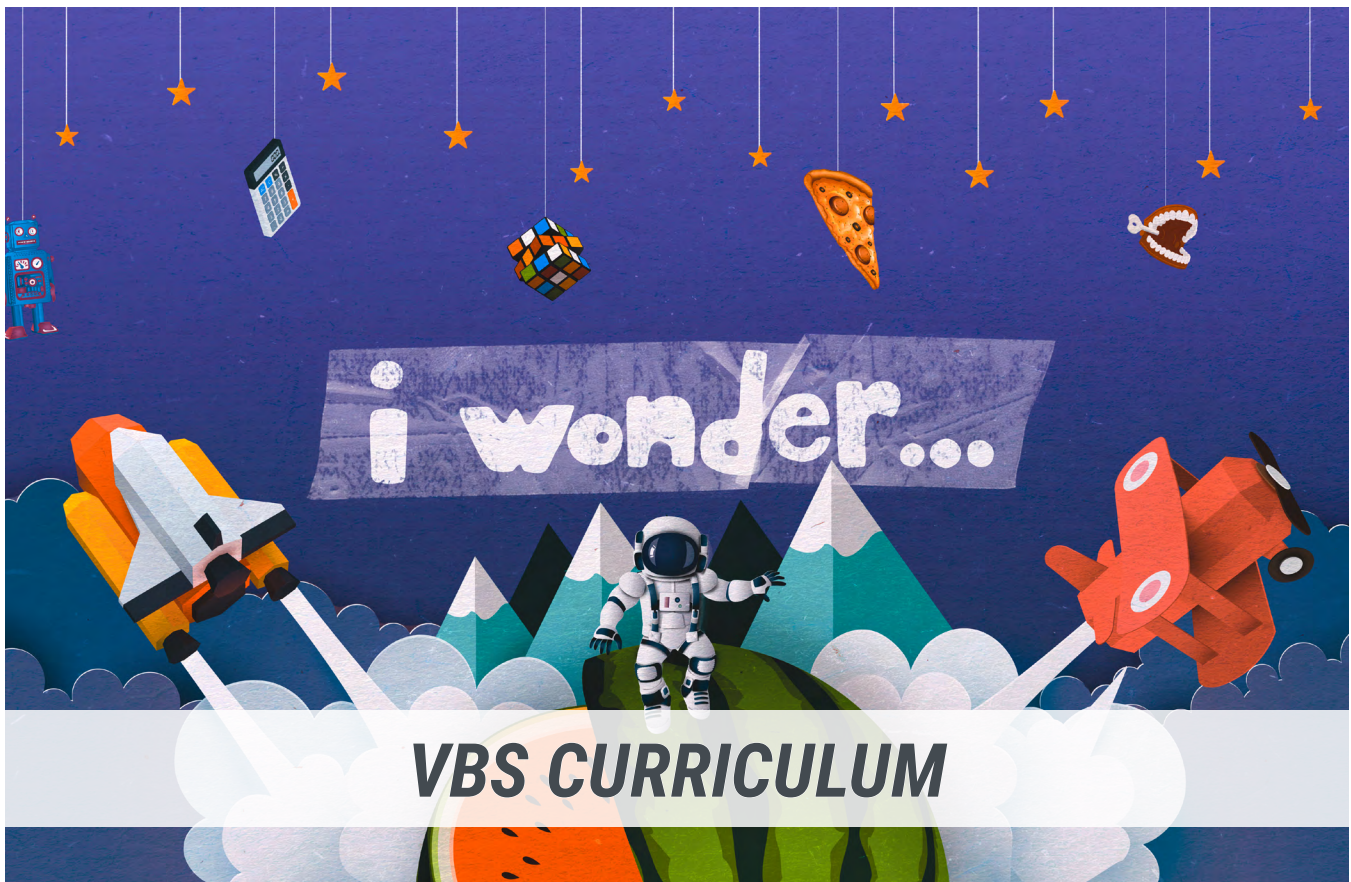


A 4-PART SERIES FOR VBS ABOUT

SPIRITUAL HABITS

FROM OUR ANNUAL *TEACHING STRATEGY*

BY LINDA MOON & KELLE GENTRY



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OVERVIEW

i wonder...

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ABOUT THIS SERIES

What makes you wonder? What sparks your curiosity? What makes you want to explore, discover, and experiment? Kids are naturally curious, but how can we harness their curiosity to help them wonder about the God who made them? When you're curious about who God is, it's easy to find ways to make your relationship with Jesus grow. That's why, in this 4-part series for VBS, we're going to engage kids' imaginations! Kids will not only get curious about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics — they'll get curious about the God who created it all! They'll hear from early church leaders like Paul, Peter, John, and Timothy, who helped the first Jesus-followers wonder **what made their stories unique, what gifts God gave them** (and how they could use those gifts to serve), **what they could learn from others,** and **how they could spend time with God.**

DAY 1

On day 1 of *I Wonder*, kids discover how **God created and saved everyone** for a purpose.

- **BIG IDEA:** I wonder what makes my story unique?
- **THE BIBLE:** Ephesians 2:4-10
- **BUILDING BLOCKS:** Music, Activity, Question, Video, Object Lesson, Snack, Reflection, Response, Discussion

DAY 2

On day 2 of *I Wonder*, kids discover how they can **use their gifts for God.**

- **BIG IDEA:** I wonder what gifts God gave me?
- **THE BIBLE:** I Peter 4:10; II Timothy 1:6-7
- **BUILDING BLOCKS:** Music, Activity, Question, Video, Object Lesson, Snack, Reflection, Response, Discussion

DAY 3

On day 3 of *I Wonder*, kids discover how they can **love others like God does.**

- **BIG IDEA:** I wonder what I can learn from others?
- **THE BIBLE:** I John 4:11, I Peter 4:8
- **BUILDING BLOCKS:** Music, Activity, Poll, Video, Object Lesson, Snack, Reflection, Response, Discussion

DAY 4

On day 4 of *I Wonder*, kids discover how they can **live their lives for God!**

- **BIG IDEA:** I wonder how I can spend time with God?
- **THE BIBLE:** Colossians 1:9-12, 3:16, 4:2-3
- **BUILDING BLOCKS:** Music, Activity, Poll, Video, Object Lesson, Snack, Reflection, Response, Discussion

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH: Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.

Looking for memory verse sign language you can share with your families and volunteers?

Go to growcurriculum.org/Psalm40-5a and share away!

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THIS SERIES



DECORATE

This year's decorating theme is **STEM** because we're talking about how we can deeply wonder about all the wonders God has done! You can find decorating ideas, a [Spotify playlist](#), posters, and graphics in this month's [Programming folder](#).



DESIGN

We made **lots of graphics** for you! Use them to create slides, social media posts, and more! You can find them in your [Graphics & Video folder](#).



SHOP & PREP

We made a list of everything you'll need to buy, borrow, or dig out of your storage closet in order to make this series happen. We've also included everything you'll need to print, cut, glue, build or make, in order to make this series happen. Get your editable Shop & Prep List [right here](#).



CUSTOMIZE

You know your kids and ministry better than we do, so **you'll probably want to make some tweaks to the lessons**. You can do that by editing the Word documents in your series downloads, or the [Message Builder](#), or [the Grow App](#).



HACK

If you're using Grow for your toddlers, you may want to make some tweaks to make it more age appropriate. **Get the Preteen Hacks** for the entire series [right here](#) and **the Special Needs Hacks** for the entire series [right here](#) and the **Preschool Hacks** for the entire series [right here](#). Or . . .

- ▶ **DAY 1:** [Preteen](#) & [Special Needs](#) & [Preschool](#)
- ▶ **DAY 2:** [Preteen](#) & [Special Needs](#) & [Preschool](#)
- ▶ **DAY 3:** [Preteen](#) & [Special Needs](#) & [Preschool](#)
- ▶ **DAY 4:** [Preteen](#) & [Special Needs](#) & [Preschool](#)






COMMUNICATE

To make sure volunteers and families are in the loop, don't forget about these . . .

- ▶ [Volunteer Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Handouts](#)
- ▶ [Memory Verse Sign Language](#)

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

LINDA MOON & KELLEEE GENTRY

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Linda is the Lead Editor of Children’s Ministry Resources for Stuff You Can Use and also the Director of Education at her church in La Cañada, California. She has been a children’s pastor for over 12 years, but has served in kidmin ever since the 7th grade! As such, she has experience in nearly everything from leading Bible Study to volunteer training to even worship song choreography! Her passion is teaching and developing next gen leaders. She adamantly believes in lifelong learning and fostering meaningful relationships at all levels.

Kellee serves at Stuff You Can Use as the Grow Lead Strategist. She loves helping churches brainstorm, problem solve, and implement Grow curriculum and strategy into their ministry. She has 12 years of experience in both multi-site and portable churches, serving families in various roles. Currently she is serving as the Director of Family Ministries at High Hill Christian Church in Missouri. Kellee co-hosts the Kids Ministry Answers podcast.

If you’d like to connect with Linda or Kellee about any of the above (or anything at all!), you can reach out to them via email, social media, and the Stuff You can Use Facebook group!

ADDITIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Elle Campbell, Brooklyn Lindsey, Amber Stephens, Stephen Switzer, Steph Whitacre

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SKITS: Sonya May, Andy DeNoon

MUSIC: Rain for Roots, Harvestark Studios, Erica Mason

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MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

i wonder...

BY SUNNY BROWN

MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK: Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.

Looking for sign language? Go to growcurriculum.org/Psalm40-5a and start memorizing!

We all know that strategic hand motions help kids remember what they're learning, but what if you could accomplish *even more* than simply helping kids remember Scripture? Every Grow Kids memory verse is provided in age-appropriate signs, using a combination of SEE and ASL. Encouraging kids to learn each memory verse in this way will better **include kids and families impacted by hearing impairment**, and will **promote awareness and inclusion** for the rest of your kids and families!



MANY,



LORD



MY



GOD,



ARE THE WONDERS,



YOU



HAVE



DONE



THE THINGS YOU PLANNED



FOR



US.

DAY 1 OVERVIEW

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what makes
my story unique?

THE BIBLE

Created and Saved by God:
Ephesians 2:4-10

STUFF FOR THIS DAY

TEACHING – DAY 1

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HOW TO PREPARE FOR THIS DAY



DESIGN

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SHOP & PREP

We made a **list** of everything you'll need to make this day happen. Get your editable Shop & Prep List [right here](#).



CUSTOMIZE

You know your kids and ministry better than we do, so **you'll probably want make some tweaks** to this day's lesson. You can do that by editing the Word document in your series downloads, or the [Message Builder](#), or [the Grow App](#).



HACK

If you're using Grow for your toddlers, you may want to make some tweaks to make it more age appropriate. **Get the Preteen Hacks** for Day 1 [here](#) and the **Special Needs Hacks** for Day 1 [here](#) and the **Preschool Hacks** for Day 1 [here](#).



COMMUNICATE

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DAY 1 LESSON OUTLINE



THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what makes
my story unique?

THE BIBLE

Created and Saved by God:
Ephesians 2:4-10

THIS DAY AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP TIME

- **VIDEO** | Countdown to Wonder
- **MUSIC** | Worship in Wonder
- **ACTIVITY** | Straw-ry Rockets
- **ACTIVITY** | STEM Self-Portraits
- **QUESTION** | Have you ever wondered?
- **BIG IDEA** | I wonder what makes my story unique?
- **SKIT** | Adventures in Wonder Lab
- **BIBLE STORY** | Created and Saved by God
- **ACTIVITY** | Moving Stories
- **OBJECT LESSON** | Created for Good Works
- **PRAYER**
- **ACTIVITY** | Play Stations
- **VIDEO** | Countdown to More Wonder
- **SNACK** | STEM Appétit!
- **REFLECTION** | What Makes My Story Unique
- **RESPONSE** | God's Laboratory
- **MEMORY VERSE** | STEM-ory Stack

SMALL GROUP TIME

- **DISCUSSION**
 - What has God done for us even though we make mistakes?
 - How have we been saved?
 - Why did God create us?
 - Read Ephesians 2:8-9. Why do you think God saved us by grace through faith instead of through our own works?
 - What do you think it means to be "God's handiwork"?
 - What is something that happened in your life that shows that God was a part of that story?
 - Who are some people you can share your story with?
- **ACTIVITY** | God's Handiwork
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

DAY 1 HACKS FOR PRETEENS

i wonder...

BY MIKE SHELEY

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR PRETEENS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every day, but preteens tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this day in order to keep your preteens more engaged.

MUSIC | Worship in Wonder

Add these songs to the pre-service mix or use them during worship:

- ["God of Wonders"](#) by Third Day
- ["Countless Wonders"](#) by Chris Tomlin
- ["Wonder"](#) by Hillsong UNITED

ACTIVITY | Straw-ry Rockets

In addition to or in place of this activity, have preteens create an acrostic. They can write their name down along the vertical edge of a piece of paper (if you have time, use both first and last names). Then, have each kid write one unique characteristic about themselves that starts with each letter of their name. It could be an experience they have had, a physical attribute, an interest, or something unique about their family.

ACTIVITY | STEM Self-Portraits

Using the same frame and cardboard, have preteens use pencils to lightly sketch a rough self-portrait guide. Then, have them use different colored ink pads to color their thumb and fingers before pressing down on their sketch and making their self-portrait with their unique fingerprints and thumbprints.

QUESTION | Have you ever wondered?

Ahead of time, draw a giant outline of a question mark on poster board or paper with a bold poster marker. When you get to this activity, give preteens three to five minutes to write out as many questions of wonder as they can. Have them use fine-tip markers and put one question per sticky note. When time is up, have them add their thoughts to the poster board or paper, overlapping but completely covering the question mark.

ACTIVITY | Moving Stories

Turn this into a type of Charades by having the audience guess what scenario you gave the volunteers. You can also have preteens suggest their own scenarios.

ACTIVITY | God's Handiwork

Instead of a rocket, have a printable for preteens that is a silhouette or outline of a body, and draw in body parts. Have lines like you use to identify objects in a diagram connecting to: eyes, lips, teeth, tongue, nose, mouth or a speech bubble, fingers, feet, and toes. Then, share the facts about our uniqueness from this page on [Answers in Genesis's site](#). Have preteens write the corresponding unique trait with each line on the picture.

DAY 1 HACKS FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

i wonder...

BY KIMBERLY DORPENYO

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every day, but kids with special needs tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this day in order to keep your kids with special needs more engaged.

MUSIC | Worship in Wonder

For every worship session, use simple, repetitive actions. If kids can't do the actions, provide space for them to jump or move the way they need to move (be prepared for hands and arms to flap—this is often a form of stemming). Have noise-canceling headphones available for friends that could experience over-stimulation. Have buddies to dance with kids in wheelchairs.

ACTIVITY | Straw-ry Rockets

Many friends with special needs will need help cutting and writing. Helpers can either put their own hands over the child's hands to guide them or take the child's hands over their hands as they cut and write. For those who cannot do either, have a few rockets pre-made. You might also consider getting straws of different lengths and diameters to make it easier to push the air out.

BIBLE STORY | Created and Saved by God

Utilize story-sequencing pages ([like these](#)) to help kids focus and have an easier outline to follow. Have the initial question, two to three key points, and Big Idea pre-printed. They can be glued, taped, or adhered to poster board or foam core with [Velcro dots](#). Try out this hack for every Bible story and Discussion time!

ACTIVITY | Moving Stories

Many friends with special needs learn better from visual cues. Either have slides, posters, or cards

with the story on it so they can see as well as hear the scenario. They may need help actually acting. Be sure to have noise-canceling headphones available.

OBJECT LESSON | Created for Good Works

Have kids stand in the front and hold the items. If they need their own area during the object lesson, set up a playhouse in the corner so they can actually put everyday items in different spaces of the house.

MEMORY VERSE | STEM-ory Stack

Have the memory verse pre-printed on parts of robots and have the kids glue the robot onto paper or stick magnet robots to cookie sheets.

DAY 1 HACKS FOR PRESCHOOLERS

i wonder...

BY IDA MUNDELL

HOW TO HACK THIS DAY FOR PRESCHOOLERS

In kids ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week. Here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your preschoolers more engaged.

BIBLE STORY | Created and Saved by God

Busy hands = focused minds! Preschoolers can build [a sticker robot](#) while you tell the Bible story.

ACTIVITY | Moving Stories


Simplify the scenarios for preschoolers, or use picture cards of emotions ([like these](#)) or images of animals as prompts for them to participate in this activity.

REFLECTION | What Makes My Story Unique

If you have access to a Polaroid camera, take a photo of each preschooler. Let preschoolers glue their photo on a plain white paper with the heading "I wonder what makes my story unique?" (This can either be pre-printed or handwritten by you.) Upon pick-up, or in your communication with families and caregivers, instruct families and caregivers to write things that make their child's story unique. If you don't have access to a Polaroid, no worries! The project remains the same, with the exception of the preschoolers drawing a photo of themselves and not using a printed photo. If your test tubes are large enough, preschoolers can roll their photos and put them in the test tubes on their own.

MEMORY VERSE | STEM-ory Stack

Create a robot-themed sensory bin (or bins) [like this](#). Write the memory verse word by word on a repeating item like a certain shape from [these foam shapes](#). Tell your preschoolers that the memory verse is hiding in the bin and that it is their mission to find all the pieces. (You can tell them



what shape the memory verse pieces are written on if you think they need the extra help.) When you say “GO!” preschoolers will search for and pull out the memory verse pieces. When they are done help them put the pieces in the correct order and read the verse with them. Have them repeat the verse with you, too! Repeat as many times as time allows.

DAY 1 LESSON GUIDE

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what makes my story unique?

THE BIBLE

Created and Saved by God:
Ephesians 2:4-10

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

VIDEO | Countdown to Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play today's intro video to pump kids up before your program begins!*

MUSIC | Worship in Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Lead kids into wonder-filled worship with our I Wonder theme songs! Consider also adding the following to your praise-list: "[God of Science](#)," "[We're Alive \(Ephesians 2:4-5\)](#)," and "[We Are His Workmanship \(Ephesians 2:10\)](#)."*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Add these songs to the pre-service mix or use them during worship: "[God of Wonders](#)," "[Countless Wonders](#)," or "[Wonder](#)."*
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Use simple, repetitive actions. Provide space for them to jump or move the way they need to move, and make sure to include kids in wheelchairs. Have noise-canceling headphones available.*

ACTIVITY | Straw-ry Rockets

- Welcome to Day 1 of *I Wonder!* Today we are going to wonder about the unique story God is telling with each of our lives and how our story might connect with God's big story of salvation through Jesus.

- Let's start by creating something that tells a little bit of our stories—our very own “straw-ry” rockets!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute one rocket cut-out to each kid. Have them draw a picture of themselves inside the window, write or draw a few clues about themselves anywhere on the rocket, and then color and decorate it. Afterward, have them attach the bulb of a plastic pipette to the back of their rocket, so the open part of the pipette bulb is facing down. When everyone is ready, have each kid insert their straw into the bulb and blow into their straw to launch their rocket. You could have them compete to see whose rockets go the farthest or highest, or use this as an icebreaker, where kids try to figure out who the nearest rocket belongs to based on the design. Check out [this site](#) for more detailed instructions.*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *In addition to or in place of this activity, have preteens write their name down along the vertical edge of a piece of paper and write one unique characteristic, ability, or fact about themselves that starts with each letter of their name.*
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Partner kids with peers or leaders to help with cutting and writing, or have a few rockets pre-made. Different-sized straws may be needed.*

ACTIVITY | STEM Self-Portraits

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Take the glass or acrylic pane out of each 4x6 picture frame and replace it with a sturdy piece of cardboard inside the frame. Using a variety of different small objects, kids will create their [own self-portrait](#) inside a picture frame.*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Have preteens try to create their self-portraits using their fingerprints and thumbprints!*
- God created each one of us special and unique. No two people are exactly the same—even twins! God did that on purpose!
- Not only are we physically unique but each of our lives and stories are different, too.
- I wonder how God made you unique. Turn to a buddy and tell them something that makes you one-of-a-kind!
- **What unique qualities or features has God given you?**
- **How can those qualities or features be used to tell your unique story?**

QUESTION | Have you ever wondered?

- Science is all about asking questions to find out how and why things work the way they do. Discovering the temperature at which water boils or how infections spread all began with asking the right questions!
- **Have you ever wondered about how or why something happens?** Let's share as many as we can think of. Your questions can be serious, like, *How do dreams work?* Or something silly, like, *Do penguins sneeze?*
- Those are some good questions! There are endless questions we can ask about our universe, but **have you ever stopped to wonder about how and why God loves you so much?**
- Today our Bible story is going to tell us that God created and saved us through Jesus. And while that's true for everyone, each of us were created and saved for a specific purpose. Because of Jesus, we each have a unique story to tell!

- ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Give preteens three to five minutes to write out as many questions of wonder as they can on sticky notes. When time is up, have them stick their notes on a large poster with a question mark drawn on it, completely covering the question mark with sticky notes.

BIG IDEA | I wonder what makes my story unique?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Distribute the Big Idea printables and have kids color and decorate the airplane template. Then fold the paper airplane together step-by-step. The completed airplane should show the day's Big Idea. Have kids shout the Big Idea together as they throw their airplanes into the air!
- Today's Big Idea is: **I wonder what makes my story unique?**

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

SKIT | Adventures in Wonder Lab

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Perform or play a pre-recorded video of today's theme skit.

BIBLE STORY | Created and Saved by God

- Hi everyone! Today you are all researchers in our Bible lab! As such, we are going to work together to find evidence that helps us answer the question of the day. Once we collect all our data, we can draw a conclusion about our initial question. Let's get started!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Put on a lab coat, goggles, and nitrile gloves for each week's Bible teaching. Place or project an image of a chalkboard behind you with the following words on it: Question, Data, Conclusion. Ask for an adult or kid volunteer to put on a [robot helmet](#) (or make one) to become "Bible Bot" and read Ephesians 2:4–10 in a robotic voice when prompted.
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** Busy hands = focused minds! Preschoolers can build [a sticker robot](#) while you tell the Bible story.
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Utilize [story-sequencing pages](#) to help kids focus and have an easier outline to follow. Have the initial question, two to three key points, and Big Idea pre-printed. They can be glued, taped, or adhered to poster board or foam core with [Velcro dots](#).
- Step one. Today's Big Idea is: **I wonder what makes my story unique?** [Write the Big Idea on the board next to "Question."]
 - Now that is an intriguing question! By "story", of course, we mean what we can tell others about our lives—especially the parts about being a part of God's family.
 - The word "unique" tells us that our stories are somehow all different from each other's. That means no two stories—like no two people—are exactly the same.
- Step two. Let's collect some data! For that, we turn to the Bible. [Write Ephesians 2:4–10 next to "Data."]
 - **Bible Bot, what does it say in Ephesians 2:4–7?** Paul is telling the Ephesians (and us!) to remember that God loves every person on earth so much that God sent Jesus

to die for the sins of the world. Jesus was perfect and without sin, but by dying and coming back to life, all people have a chance of knowing God.

- God didn't have to do this, so Paul reminded the Ephesians that they were saved by grace. **Do you know what grace is?** It's a word we use to describe what happens when we get something we don't deserve. For example, we might expect to get a gift when it's our birthday or if we follow directions. But what about when we're not doing anything special or what about when we misbehave? Would you think you deserve a gift then? No, right? But that's what grace is.
- **Ok, Bible Bot, how about Ephesians 2:8–10?** Humans don't deserve God's grace, because of sin. Sin is anything that goes against what God wants us to do. The sin in our lives means we deserve to be separated from God forever. But God gave us grace and saved us from sin. We do not deserve it, but God *gives* it to us anyway. That's right! God gives it to us! For free!
- Nothing we do can do will earn us this grace. No matter how smart, kind, or good we are . . . no one can say that they got saved on their own. It's God's gift to us.
- Step three. What can we conclude about our question: **I wonder what makes my story unique?** *[Write the word "Purpose" next to "Conclusion."]*
 - Before God saved us, God created us. Each of us are created with a special purpose. We are God's handiwork and masterpiece. God created each one of us to do a special job. When we share our story, we are telling others about God.
 - Your story is made unique by God creating and saving you for a reason—a purpose designed especially and only for you!

ACTIVITY | Moving Stories

- As you think about your unique story, think about ways you can share it with others. Storytelling isn't just words. It's motion, too! When you tell a story, you use your mouth, yes, but also your arms, legs, and heads.
- Let's practice being storytellers by playing this fun game!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Ask for a few volunteers to come to the front and line up on one side of the room. Give each volunteer one of the scenarios below and have them walk across the front of the room like they're in that story. Use the following or make up your own:*
 - You are walking through a foot of snow.
 - You are walking across a scorching hot desert.
 - You are walking barefoot through a lake filled with JELLO.
 - You are walking home from school after you had a very bad day.
 - You've injured your right leg and it's in a cast.
 - You're sneaking past a pack of sleeping wolves.
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** *Simplify the scenarios for preschoolers, or use picture cards of emotions (like these) or images of animals as prompts for them to participate in this activity.*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Turn this into a type of Charades by having the audience guess what scenario you gave the volunteers. You can also have preteens suggest their own scenarios.*

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Provide slides, posters, or cards with the story on it so they can see as well as hear the scenario.*

- **What made each of these stories unique? How did you show that in how you walked across the room?**
- In order to make your story believable, you had to “walk the walk” and convince us of what was happening. We have to do the same with our walk with Jesus. We can show our stories through our actions and how we live our lives!

OBJECT LESSON | Created for Good Works

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Lay out a bunch of everyday items that are typically found in a specific room in the home (e.g., a framed painting, broom, hanger, plunger, frying pan, hair dryer, remote control).*
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Have kids stand in the front and hold the items or set up a playhouse in the corner so they can actually put the items in different spaces of the house.*
- **In what area of the home would each of these items be used to the fullest?**
 - It’s true that some of these things could be used in more than one place. But it wouldn’t really be living up to its fullest potential or original purpose.
 - You *could* put a painting in the closet, but what good would it do there? The painting would be much better hung up on the wall where it could be seen and enjoyed.
- Each of these things has a specific purpose and even if it could be used in other places, it shines when it’s being used the way it was intended.
 - The same is true for you. We are God’s masterpiece and we shine when we live out the purpose God has given to us.
- God designed you thoughtfully and intentionally. You were each created with specific gifts, talents, abilities, and personalities. You were put in a specific place, too, not to be hidden away. God wants you to use everything you have, including your experiences, to share your unique story.
- **Have you ever wondered what makes your story unique?**

PRAYER

- God, as we wonder what makes our story unique, you show us that you created and saved us for a purpose. Help us to be brave as we share our stories, so more people can come to know your story. Amen.

ACTIVITY | Play Stations

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *See the “Play Stations” section for some ideas for this free play segment. You can set up the same stations every day or change them up for each session. Let kids float around between stations freely, but designate leaders to supervise. Some ways to monitor the flow is to tell the kids that each station cannot exceed a certain number of kids (e.g., 5-6), so if they see a station that is full, they can go to another one. If you feel there is a station that is more popular, set a timer for how long kids are allowed to stay, or ensure them that the station will be back the next day.*

NOW WHAT? *What does God want us to do about it?*

VIDEO | Countdown to More Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play today's teaching video to give kids a little bit of a break before continuing on with the program.*

SNACK | STEM Appétit!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Follow [these instructions](#) to help kids create their own butterfly lifecycle snack.*
- **Do you know the lifecycle of a butterfly?**
- The process a caterpillar goes through to become a butterfly is called metamorphosis. A butterfly egg takes about a month to develop. That might not seem like a lot of time to us, but it's pretty much a lifetime for a butterfly.
- Our unique stories will develop all throughout our lifetime as well. Be on the lookout for God working in major ways and be ready to share that with others.

REFLECTION | What Makes My Story Unique

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a [plastic test tube](#) and a small slip of paper (quarter-page). Have them write "My story is unique because . . ." and complete the sentence with factoids about themselves or something they learned today (e.g., "God saved me and gave me a purpose"). Then have them roll up the paper and put it inside the test tube. Allow kids to take their test tubes home to help them remember the Big Idea.*
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** *Let preschoolers glue a photo of themselves (polaroid or printed) on a paper that says, "I wonder what makes my story unique?" Upon pick-up, or in your communication with families and caregivers, instruct them to write in things that make their child's story unique.*
- You might not feel like you have a special purpose yet. Maybe you think you're too young, too shy, or not important enough. But God created you exactly as you are, saved you, and prepared a purpose for you that only you can fulfill.
- Maybe it won't happen anytime soon, but know that God has something unique planned just for you. So take pride in the special story God is writing through your life.
- Keep this in mind the next time you think to yourself, **I wonder what makes my story unique?**

RESPONSE | God's Laboratory

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Have kids fill up their printable with words, phrases, or pictures that make them unique, or describe a time they were able to do something special for God. If possible to hang items from your ceiling, punch a hole in the top of each one, thread it with yarn, and hang it. Otherwise, you can attached the completed printables to the wall.*
- We weren't created by God in a lab through a series of experiments. God designed each of us and created us exactly the way we are. But our story is not just about how we were made. It's about what we were made for.

- Today's Big Idea is **I wonder what makes my story unique?**
- In Ephesians 2:4–10, we talked about being saved through God's grace and not by anything we did to earn or deserve it. Even though we didn't do anything to have God save us, we can do something now that we know God saved us!
- The things that make each of our stories unique are the special things God chooses to do through us. Maybe your story is unique because of . . .
 - A special ability you have.
 - How you came to believe in God.
 - Where you were born.
 - The language you speak.
 - The number of people in your family.
- Whatever it is, take a moment and thank God for allowing it to be a part of your story.

MEMORY VERSE | STEM-ory Stack

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Split kids into teams and give each team a stack of 20 to 30 plastic cups. First have the kids write one word of the memory verse on each cup. Then each team should try to build the tallest tower possible, placing the cups in the order of the memory verse. The catch is they need to use a device other than their hands to complete this task (e.g., [grabbers](#), tongs, clamps, or clothespins).
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** Create a robot-themed sensory bin (or bins) [like this](#). Write the memory verse word by word on a repeating item like a certain shape from [these foam shapes](#). Tell your preschoolers to find all the pieces. When they are done help them put the pieces in the correct order and read the verse with them.
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Have the memory verse pre-printed on parts of robots and have the kids glue the robot onto paper or stick magnet robots to cookie sheets.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- What has God done for us even though we make mistakes?
- How have we been saved?
- Why did God create us?
- Read Ephesians 2:8–9. Why do you think God saved us by grace through faith instead of through our own works?
- What do you think it means to be “God's handiwork”?
- What is something that happened in your life that shows that God was a part of that story?
- Who are some people you can share your story with?

ACTIVITY | God's Handiwork

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a copy of the printable. Have kids color or paint the parts then stamp their handprint in the middle to create a rocket.

- Our memory verse, Psalm 40:5a, says “Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.”
- One of the wonders God has done was creating you! We read in Ephesians 2:10 that we are God’s handiwork. This means that we’ve been made by God’s own hands. How cool is that?
- When we begin to wonder what God can do in and through our unique stories, our lives have the chance to—like rockets—launch into things that are out-of-this-world amazing!

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Instead of a rocket, have a printable for preteens that is a silhouette or outline of a body, and have them draw in body parts: eyes, lips, mouth, fingers, feet, toes. Using facts from [this site](#), have preteens write the corresponding unique trait with each line on the picture.*

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Practice the memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we’ve provided.*

DAY 1

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what makes
my story unique?

THE BIBLE

Created and Saved by God:
Ephesians 2:4-10

QUESTIONS

- What has God done for us even though we make mistakes?
- How have we been saved?
- Why did God create us?
- Read Ephesians 2:8–9. Why do you think God saved us by grace through faith instead of through our own works?
- What do you think it means to be “God’s handiwork”?
- What is something that happened in your life that shows that God was a part of that story?
- Who are some people you can share your story with?

ACTIVITY

Give each kid a copy of the printable. Have kids color or paint the parts then stamp their handprint in the middle to create a rocket.

When we begin to wonder what God can do in and through our unique stories, our lives have the chance to—like rockets—launch into things that are out-of-this-world amazing!

MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK: Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.

Looking for sign language? Go to growcurriculum.org/Psalm40-5a and start memorizing!

THE BIG IDEA:

I wonder what makes my story unique?

THE BIBLE:

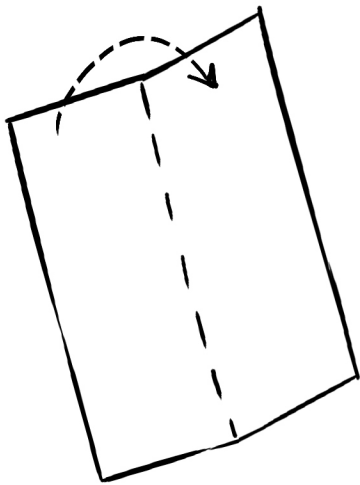
Created and Saved by God: Ephesians 2:4-10



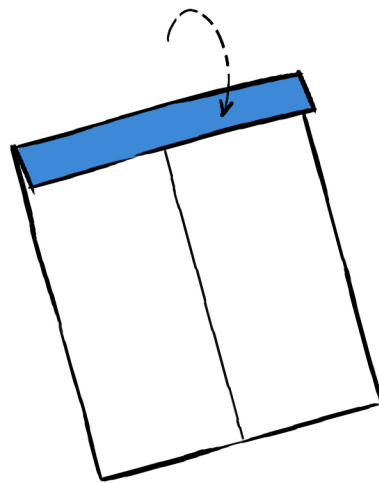
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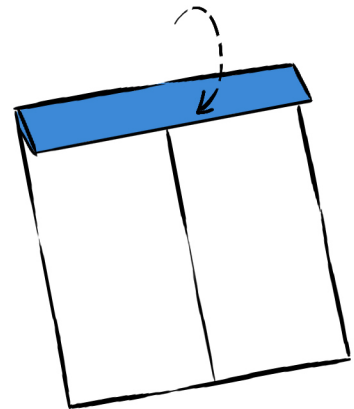
WONDER PLANE I



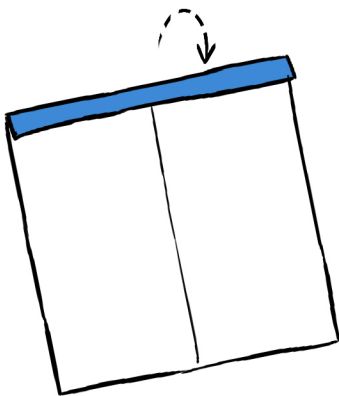
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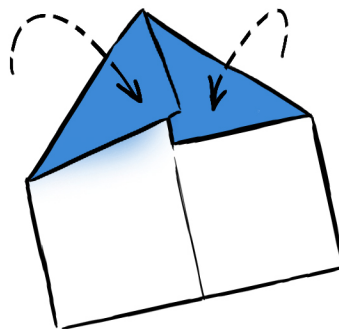
2 FOLD THE TOP DOWN TO THE LINE



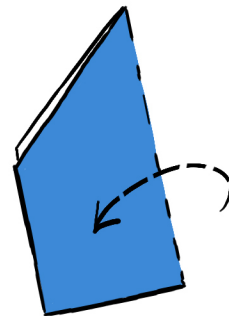
3. FOLD IT DOWN AGAIN



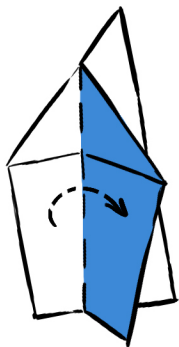
4. FOLD THE FLAP IN HALF AS SHOWN HERE



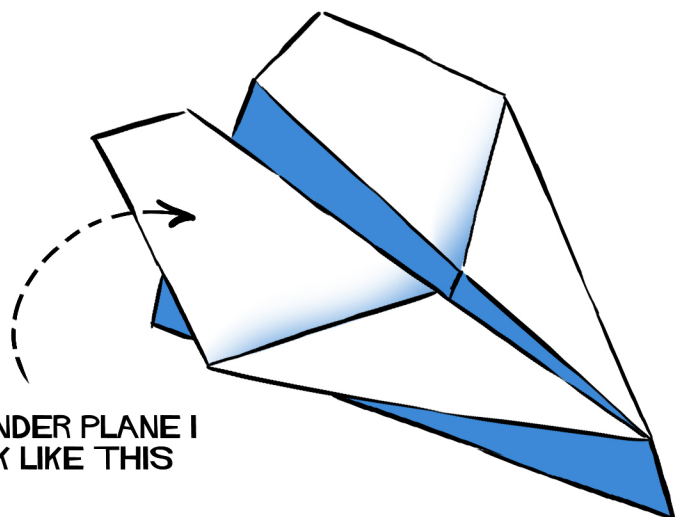
5. FOLD THE TOP LEFT AND RIGHT CORNERS TO THE MIDDLE



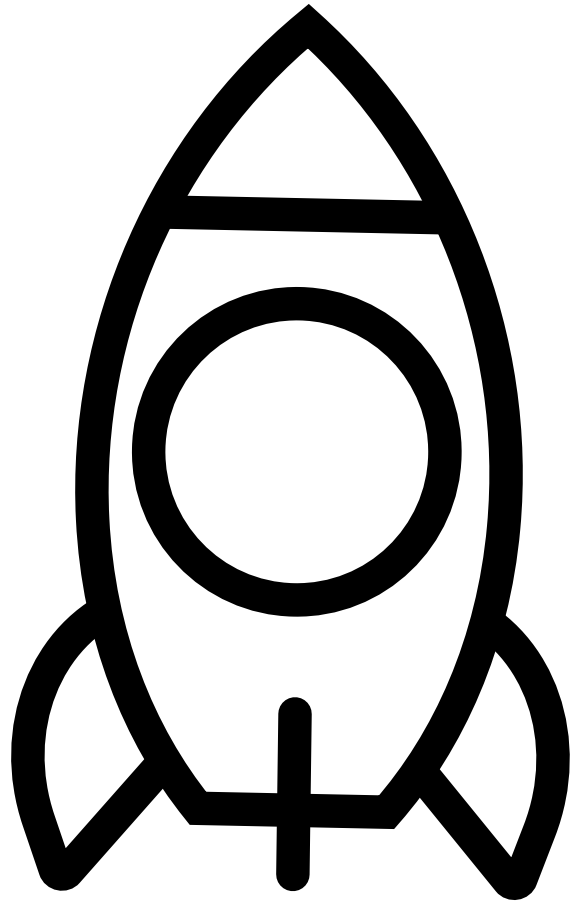
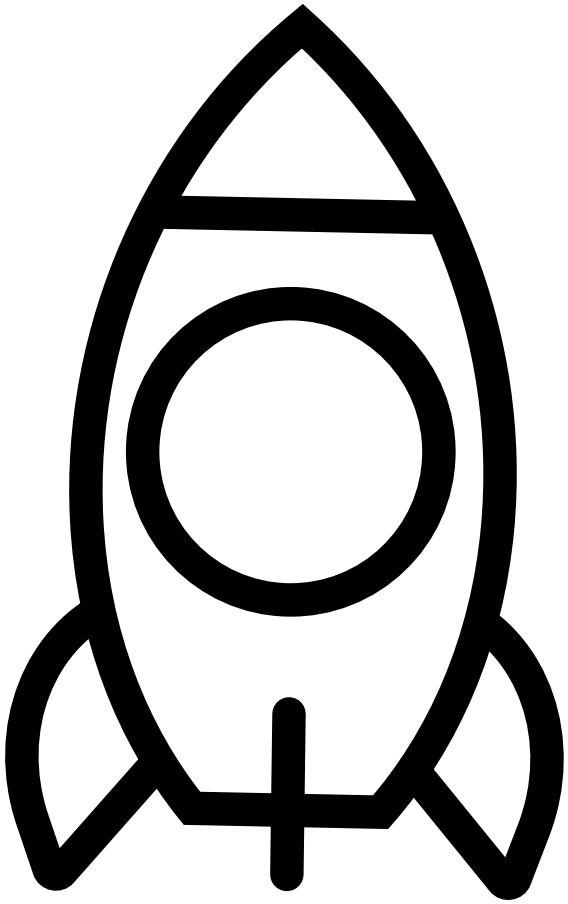
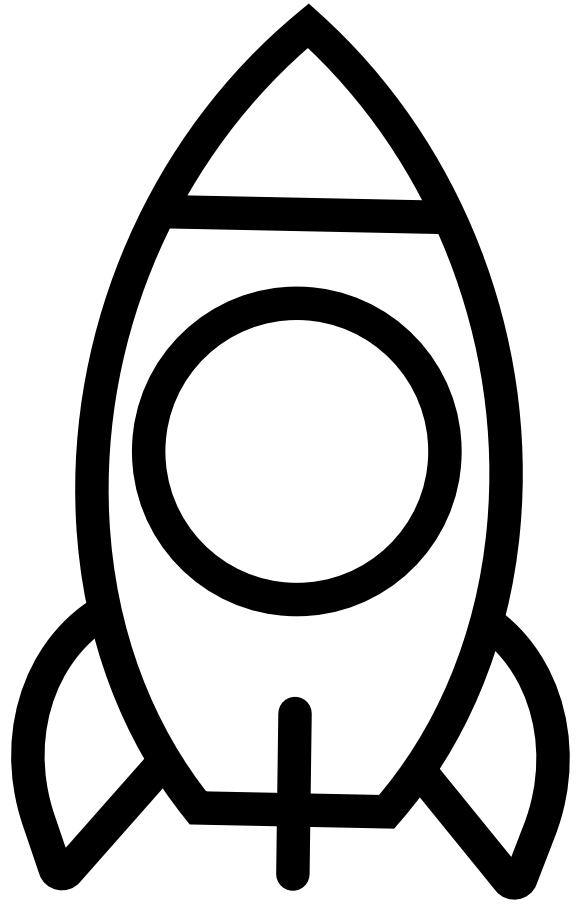
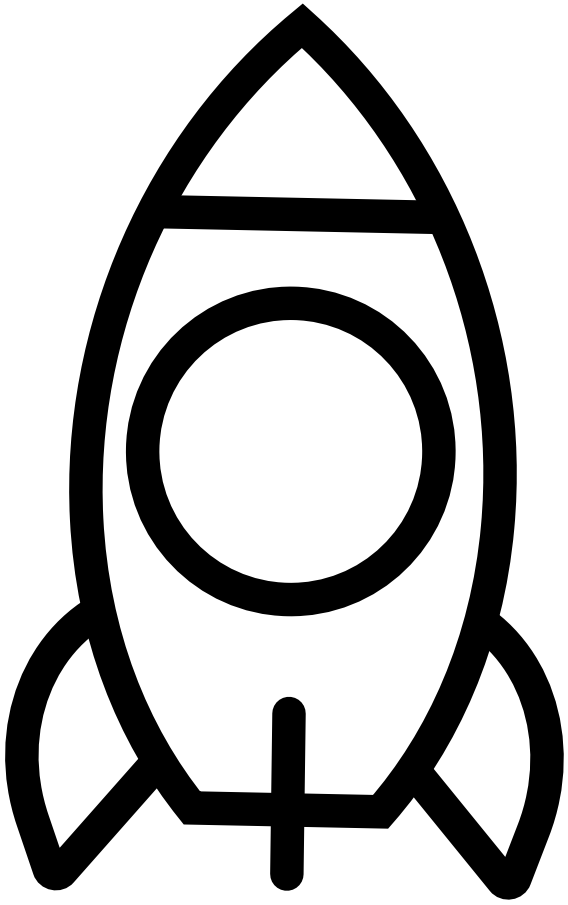
6. FOLD THE PAPER IN HALF FROM RIGHT TO LEFT

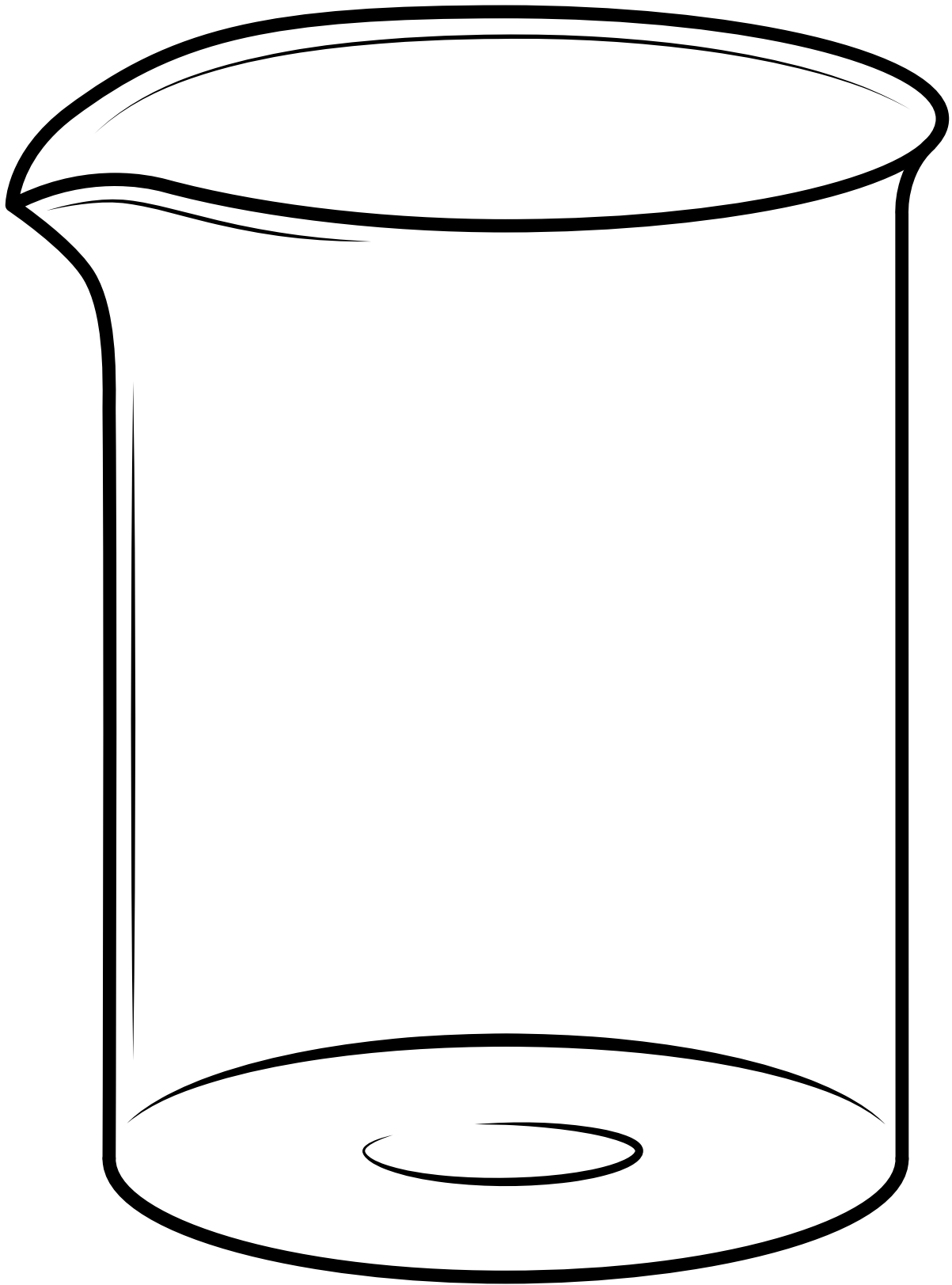


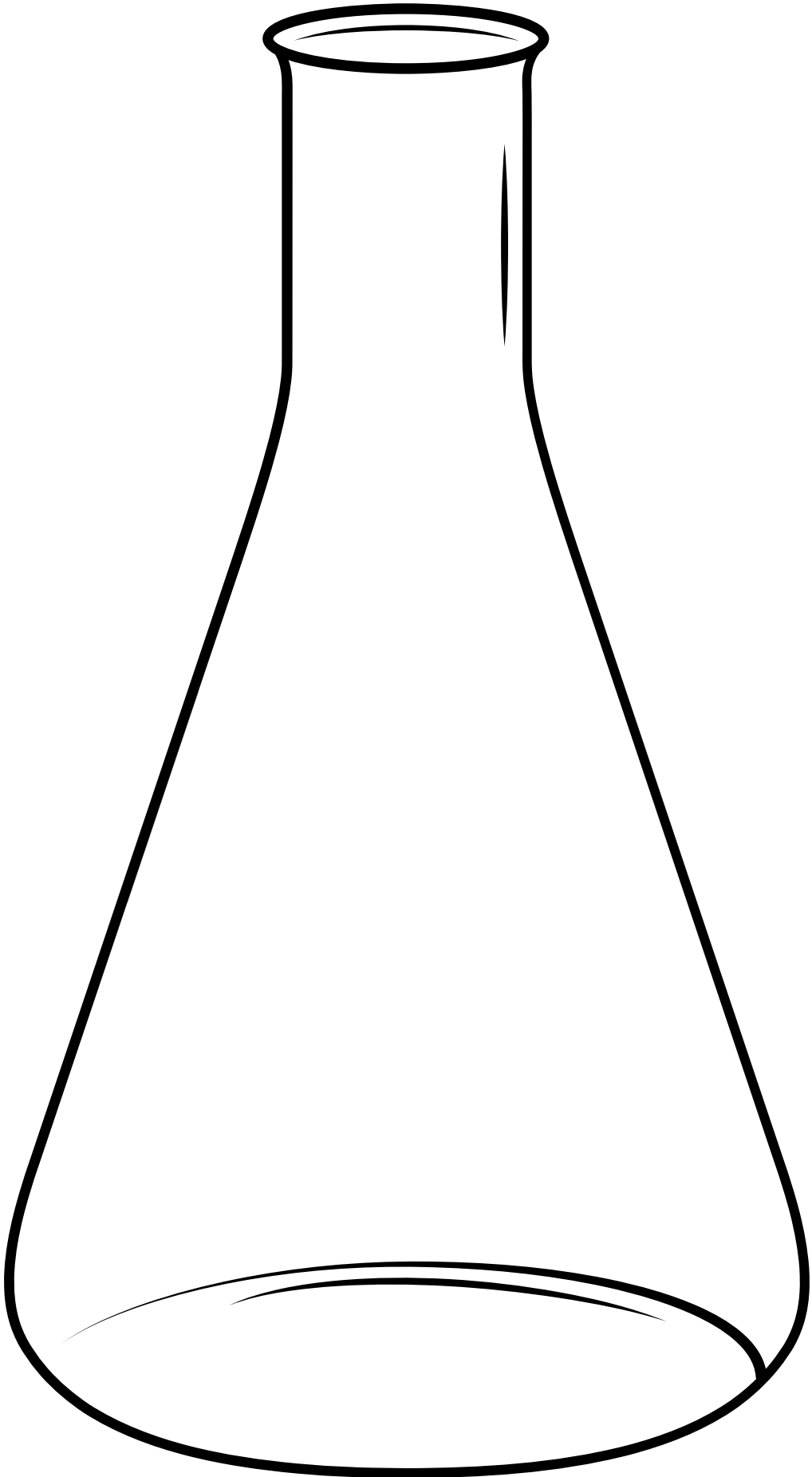
7. FOLD AS SHOWN TO MAKE A WING. REPEAT THE OTHER SIDE

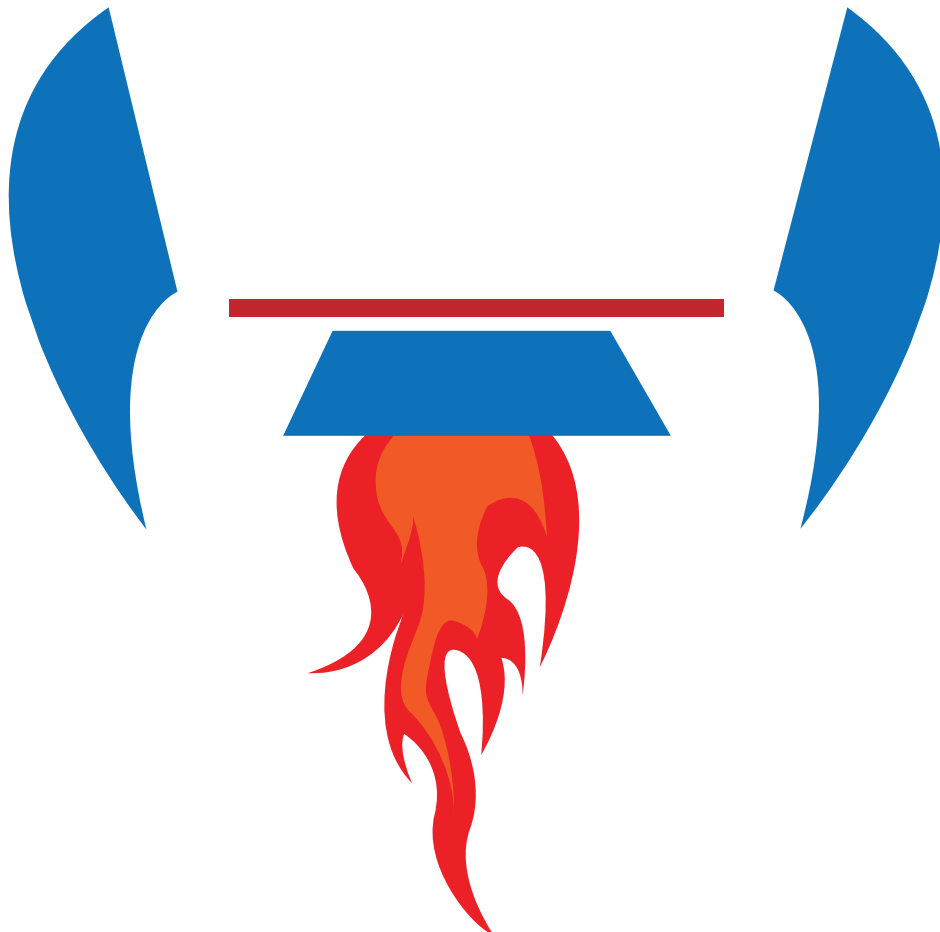


8. YOUR WONDER PLANE I WILL LOOK LIKE THIS









DAY 2 OVERVIEW

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what gifts
God gave me?

THE BIBLE

Using Gifts from God:
I Peter 4:10; II Timothy 1:6-7

STUFF FOR THIS DAY

TEACHING – DAY 2

- ▶ [Shop & Prep List](#)
- ▶ [Lesson Outline](#)
- ▶ [Preteen Hacks](#)
- ▶ [Special Needs Hacks](#)
- ▶ [Preschool Hacks](#)
- ▶ [Lesson Guide](#)
- ▶ [Small Group Guide](#)
- ▶ [Printables](#)

FAMILIES & VOLUNTEERS

- ▶ [Volunteer Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Handouts](#)
- ▶ [Memory Verse Sign Language](#)

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THIS DAY



DESIGN

We made **lots of graphics** for you! Use them to create slides, social media posts, and more! You can find them in your [Graphics & Video folder](#).



SHOP & PREP

We made a **list** of everything you'll need to make this day happen. Get your editable Shop & Prep List [right here](#).



CUSTOMIZE

You know your kids and ministry better than we do, so **you'll probably want make some tweaks** to this day's lesson. You can do that by editing the Word document in your series downloads, or the [Message Builder](#), or [the Grow App](#).



HACK

If you're using Grow for your toddlers, you may want to make some tweaks to make it more age appropriate. **Get the Preteen Hacks** for Day 2 [here](#) and the **Special Needs Hacks** for Day 2 [here](#) and the **Preschool Hacks** for Day 2 [here](#).



COMMUNICATE

To make sure volunteers and families are in the loop, don't forget about these . . .

- ▶ [Volunteer Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Handouts](#)
- ▶ [Memory Verse Sign Language](#)

DAY 2 LESSON OUTLINE

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what gifts
God gave me?

THE BIBLE

Using Gifts from God:
I Peter 4:10; II Timothy 1:6-7

THIS DAY AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP TIME

- **VIDEO** | Countdown to Wonder
- **MUSIC** | Worship in Wonder
- **ACTIVITY** | There's an App for That
- **ACTIVITY** | Build-a-Bot
- **QUESTION** | What makes it the best gift ever?
- **BIG IDEA** | I wonder what gifts God gave me?
- **SKIT** | Adventures in Wonder Lab
- **BIBLE STORY** | Using Gifts from God
- **VIDEO** | "The Present"
- **OBJECT LESSON** | Use It or Lose It
- **PRAYER**
- **ACTIVITY** | Play Stations
- **VIDEO** | Countdown to More Wonder
- **SNACK** | STEM Appétit!
- **REFLECTION** | What Gifts God Gave Me
- **RESPONSE** | Gift Guide
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Memorable Gifts

SMALL GROUP TIME

- **DISCUSSION**
 - Who receives gifts from God?
 - What are we supposed to do with the gifts God gives us?
 - Read I Peter 4:10. What do you think it means to be a "faithful steward"?
 - Read II Timothy 1:7. Why do you think we need "power, love, and self-discipline" when we exercise our gifts?
 - Why do you think God has given you certain abilities?
 - Is there a gift or ability that you don't have but would like to have?
 - What could you do to develop that gift or ability?
- **ACTIVITY** | Gifts Shouldn't Be Hidden
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

DAY 2 HACKS FOR PRETEENS

i wonder...

BY MIKE SHELEY

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR PRETEENS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every day, but preteens tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this day in order to keep your preteens more engaged.

MUSIC | Worship in Wonder

Here are some fun worship songs from Rend Collective you can use to connect with your preteens:

- ["You Will Never Run"](#)
- ["My Lighthouse"](#)
- ["Rescuer"](#)

ACTIVITY | There's an App for That

Work this out ahead of time to have two or three preteens who can demonstrate these apps on devices. You can connect them to a TV with a simple adapter to make it easier for everyone to see.

REFLECTION | What Gifts God Gave Me

If you are not familiar with mind-mapping, check out [this post](#). Give each preteen a sheet of paper and some colored pencils. At the center of the page, have them write their name in a circle. Then, out from the circle, draw branches to the words Mental, Physical, Natural, Learned, Words, and Music. From each of these new branches, they are to add more branches that have a word or short phrase describing something about them that fits that branch. When they are done, preteens will have a great resource to take home, reminding them how gifted and complex they each are!

MEMORY VERSE | Memorable Gifts

Have all the supplies set up in an area where preteens can work but where younger children will not see them. Ideally, have the preteens do all preparation work for the “gifts” ahead of time. If that’s not possible, have them work on this at some earlier point in the day. Preteens will gain a great learning experience in serving while—intentionally ironically—using their gifts to help others learn about using their gifts!

DAY 2 HACKS FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

i wonder...

BY KIMBERLY DORPENYO

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every day, but kids with special needs tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this day in order to keep your kids with special needs more engaged.

ACTIVITY | There's an App for That

Give kids the printable of the phone with the apps, and a second copy with all the apps cut out. Have kids glue on the apps on the corresponding space on the printable as it is talked about.

ACTIVITY | Build-a-Bot

Include your friends in a team and provide a one-on-one. For kids who would rather work individually, provide sheets [like these](#) so kids can build sticker robot.

MEMORY VERSE | Memorable Gifts

Write the words of the memory verse on gift boxes, one word per box. Line up the boxes and have the kids recite the verse. Then turn a box around so that the word doesn't show, and have kids say the verse while supplying the missing word. Keep turning boxes around until they can recite the verse without any words showing.

DAY 2 HACKS FOR PRESCHOOLERS

i wonder...

BY IDA MUNDELL

HOW TO HACK THIS DAY FOR PRESCHOOLERS

In kids ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week. Here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your preschoolers more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Build-a-Bot

Before your preschoolers build-a-bot, play a round of Robot Says. It's just like Simon Says, except you would give instructions in a robot voice and kids have to do everything like a robot!

VIDEO | "The Present "

Preschoolers may have a hard time articulating their God-given gifts. Provide an assortment of photos that illustrate what they might be good at. The images could be things like: playing, giving hugs, helping clean, baking, smiling, and dancing. You can find these photos in magazines or online. Ask preschoolers to look through the pictures you provide and pick some that show what they are good at. Then have them glue the pictures on a plain paper with the heading "I wonder what gifts God gave me?" Talk about how preschoolers are a gift to their families, their friends, to you and to the world at large!

RESPONSE | Gift Guide

Preschoolers love to learn through role playing! Give your preschoolers a chance to act out each of the different types of gifts that are listed in this module (Leading, Serving, Giving, and Encouraging). For leading, they can be the leader in a game of Follow the Leader. For serving, they can pretend to serve their friends food or drink. For giving, they can find their favorite toy in your environment and pass it to a friend. For encouraging, prompt your preschoolers to say something nice about the person sitting to their left or right. Let everyone have a chance to role play! If time allows, ask your preschoolers which part they liked to play best.

MEMORY VERSE | Memorable Gifts

Preschoolers love opening gifts! Print or write the memory verse on an index card and put it in a tiny box. Wrap that tiny box in a bigger box, wrap that box in a bigger box, and repeat several times. Make enough gift boxes for a group of four to five children to have their own. When you say "GO!" the preschool small groups will work together to unwrap all of the boxes, eventually finding the memory verse. Read the verse aloud and have kids recite it together after you and repeat as many times as time allows.

DAY 2 LESSON GUIDE

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what gifts
God gave me?

THE BIBLE

Using Gifts from God:
I Peter 4:10; II Timothy 1:6-7

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

VIDEO | Countdown to Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play today's intro video to pump kids up before your program begins!*

MUSIC | Worship in Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Lead kids into wonder-filled worship with our I Wonder theme songs! Consider also adding "[2 Timothy 1:7](#)" to your praise-list.*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Here are some fun worship songs for your preteens: "[You Will Never Run](#)", "[My Lighthouse](#)" and "[Rescuer](#)"*

ACTIVITY | There's an App for That

- Welcome to Day 2 of *I Wonder*! Today we are going to wonder about the gifts we've all been given and how we can use those gifts to serve others.
- Something that has served humans well is technology! Contrary to what you might think, technology isn't really about invention. Tech is actually about solving problems and finding new and better ways to do things.
- Before smartphones came along, it would take multiple devices to complete even a simple task. So today we're going back in time to look at some throwback tech!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print or project the images from the There's an App for That printable provided. (Bonus points if you can bring in the real things!) Have kids guess what each item does, then talk about which apps on the phone image can perform the tasks of these throwback tech products.*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Work this out ahead of time to have two or three preteens who can demonstrate these apps on devices. You can connect them to a TV with a simple adapter to make it easier for everyone to see.*
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Give kids the printable of the phone with the apps, and a second copy with all the apps cut out. Have kids glue on the apps on the corresponding space on the printable as it is talked about.*
- What a world we live in, right? For nearly everything you can think of, there's an app for that!
- But the one thing no app could ever replace is you! When creating you, God installed some "apps" of your own to help you serve God and others. These apps are called gifts!

ACTIVITY | Build-a-Bot

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Split the group into teams of three to four kids. Give each team a bin filled with a variety of items (e.g., straws, popsicle sticks, modeling clay, string, paper, balloons, plastic spoons, LEGO pieces, and rubber bands).*
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** *Before your preschoolers build-a-bot, play a round of Robot Says. It's just like Simon Says, except you would give instructions in a robot voice and kids have to do everything like a robot!*
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *For kids who would rather work individually, provide sheets [like these](#) so kids can build sticker robot.*
- Using the items provided, work in teams to make your own robot! Here's the catch: your robot needs to perform a function that helps people. After everyone's finished, you will get to show us your invention. Don't worry, we know they won't really work. Just pretend your creations are prototypes for ones that could!
- **What does your robot do to help people?**

QUESTION | What makes it the best gift ever?

- Let's pretend that you have to go out and find the best gift ever for someone. Or think about if someone gave you the best gift ever.
- **What are the qualities of a gift that makes it the best gift ever?**
- For some people, the best gift ever is something they've always wanted. Some people might think the best gift ever costs a lot of money. For others, it's something thoughtful or handmade. It just goes to show, "the best gift ever" is different for each person.
- Today's Bible story tells us about the gifts God has given us. And whatever those gifts are, they are the best ever—even if we're not exactly sure what they are yet.
- God's gifts are things that we may not even know we need or have, but each of us have been given these gifts in order to serve others. And that makes them the best gifts ever!

BIG IDEA | I wonder what gifts God gave me?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Distribute the Big Idea printables and have kids color and decorate the airplane template. Then fold the paper airplane together step-by-step. The completed airplane should show the day's Big Idea. Have kids shout the Big Idea together as they throw their airplanes into the air!*
- Today's Big Idea is: **I wonder what gifts God gave me?**

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

SKIT | Adventures in Wonder Lab

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Perform or play a pre-recorded video of today's theme skit.*

BIBLE STORY | Using Gifts from God

- Welcome back, Bible lab researchers! Once again, we are going to work together to find evidence that will help us answer the question of the day. Once we collect our data, we can draw a conclusion about our initial question. Here we go!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Put on a lab coat, goggles, and nitrile gloves for each week's Bible teaching. Place or project an image of a chalkboard behind you with the following words on it: Question, Data, Conclusion. Ask for an adult or kid volunteer to be "Bible Bot" and read I Peter 4:10 and II Timothy 1:6-7 in a robotic voice when prompted.*
- Step one. Today's Big Idea is: **I wonder what gifts God gave me?** *[Write the Big Idea on the board next to "Question."]*
 - When we say "gifts," we're not really talking about presents that come in a box or a bag. I'm talking about the abilities, talents, and even experiences that each person has. They're usually things we are good at or really enjoy doing.
 - **Can you name some gifts that people might have?**
- Step two. Let's collect some data! For that, we turn to the Bible. *[Write I Peter 4:10 and II Timothy 1:6-7 next to "Data."]*
 - **Hey, Bible Bot! Can you tell us what it says in I Peter 4:10?** This verse tells us to use our gifts as "stewards of God's grace." Remember, we learned about grace last time. Grace is a gift we get that we don't deserve, right? That means the gifts from God should be used in the same manner they have been given to us—freely and **graciously. God gave us our abilities for a reason . . . to help others.**
 - **Bible Bot, what does II Timothy 1:6-7 say?** This Bible passage says that we should keep practicing and working on the gifts we have because God wants to use us and our gifts. Which makes sense, because God gave us those gifts!
- Step three. What can we conclude about our question: **I wonder what gifts God gave me?** *[Write the word "Serve" next to "Conclusion."]*
 - Maybe you've never thought of abilities like being a good athlete, being good at math, or even being great at tidying up as gifts that come from God, but they do! And no matter what your gift is, God wants you to use it to serve others.

VIDEO | “The Present “

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Watch “[The Present](#)” with the group.
- **Why do you think the boy was unhappy with the present from his mom?**
- **Can you think of a reason why the boy’s mom gave it to him?**
- Sometimes, we might feel like we have no gifts. But did you know that even you just living your life is a gift? When you share an experience with someone else, you start to understand how someone else feels, which helps you comfort someone or cheer them up.
- Are you thinking, **I wonder what gifts God gave me?** The answer just might be . . . you!
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** Provide an assortment of images (e.g., playing, giving hugs, helping clean, baking, smiling, dancing) that preschoolers can choose from. Then have them glue the pictures on a piece of paper with the Big Idea written on it. Talk about how preschoolers are a gift to their families, their friends, to you and to the world at large!

OBJECT LESSON | Use It or Lose It

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask for an adult volunteer to come up and help you with this object lesson. Light a small tea candle and ask the volunteer to not let the candle go out. Provide them with a small piece of cardboard to help fan and/or protect the flame.
- **Have you ever seen a campfire? What do you do to start a campfire?**
- Do you know how to keep the fire going? You have to stir it up and rekindle the flame from the ashes. To rekindle the fire means you stir it up and keep it alive. You have to fan the flame. Do you know what happens when you don’t do that? It will burn out.
- We already know that God has given all of us gifts and we are to use them to serve others. In II Timothy 1:6–7, Paul is writing to remind Timothy of his gift and for him to “stir it up” or “fan it back to life” just like we fan a fire back to life. Paul didn’t want Timothy’s gift to burn out!
- Just like a campfire can go out if you don’t fan the flames, you can lose out on your gifts if you don’t use them.

PRAYER

- God, you’ve given each of us wonderful gifts. Some of us have similar gifts and some of us have very different ones. We are thankful for all of them. Show us how we can use every last one for you and for the people in our lives. Amen.

ACTIVITY | Play Stations

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** See the “Play Stations” section for some ideas for this free play segment. You can set up the same stations every day or change them up for each session. Let kids float around between stations freely, but designate leaders to supervise. Some ways to monitor the flow is to tell the kids that each station cannot exceed a certain number of kids (e.g., 5-6), so if they see a station that is full, they can go to another one. If you feel there is a station that is more popular, set a timer for how long kids are allowed to stay, or ensure them that the station will be back the next day.

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

VIDEO | Countdown to More Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play today's teaching video to give kids a little bit of a break before continuing on with the program.

SNACK | STEM Appétit!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Follow [this recipe](#) and have kids layer on treats, like sedimentary rocks do in nature! Alternatively, you could slice store-bought Rice Krispies treats or snack bars in half and use frosting or marshmallow spread to "glue" treats together in layers. Show a video about sedimentary rocks (like [this one](#)) some time during this segment.
- **Do you have a favorite type of rock?**
- There are many different types and shapes of rocks, but one of the coolest ones are sedimentary rocks. Sedimentary rocks form when bits of dirt and rock layer on top of each other over time . . . a lot like our snack!
- Even if you are not sure what your gifts are yet, God will reveal them to you at the perfect time. Maybe God is preparing you to use the gift that's in store for you and you just have to wait for all the layers to form!

REFLECTION | What Gifts God Gave Me

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Label five different areas on a table: Leading, Serving, Giving, Encouraging, and Searching. You could also use a LEGO baseplate or paper plates to section off each area. Give each kid a few blocks of your choosing. Indicate each area of the table as you describe them to the kids. You could also add images to each label such as a superhero for "leading," two hands cupped for "serving," a present for "giving," friends giving a high-five for "encouraging," and a magnifying glass for "searching."
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Have preteens try [mind-mapping](#) as an extension of this activity. After writing their name in a circle in the middle of a piece of paper, have them draw branches from the circle to the words Mental, Physical, Natural, Learned, Words, and Music. From each of these new branches, they are to add more branches that have a word or short phrase describing something about them that fits that branch.
- Today's Big Idea gets us thinking: **I wonder what gifts God gave me?**
- The Bible tells us there are different kinds of gifts God gives us. But the neat thing about these gifts is that they are not meant to be enjoyed all by ourselves. Our gifts are meant to be used for others.
- I am going to mention a few of the gifts you might have. Listen to each gift and what they mean; then decide which one fits you. If you think this is a gift God has given you, go ahead and stack a block in the area with that label.
 - **Leading:** I like taking charge when there's a job to do.
 - **Serving:** I like helping others.
 - **Giving:** I like sharing the things I have.
 - **Encouraging:** I like caring for people and making them feel included.

- You might find that you have more than one gift. Stack as many blocks as you feel is right. Or you might not be sure you have any. That's ok! You can go ahead and put your block on a gift you'd like to have or in the area that says, "Searching." We can pray together and ask God to show you your unique gift!

RESPONSE | Gift Guide

- Recognizing what gifts you have been given by God is important. And knowing what to do with those gifts can be a challenge.
- **Let's re-read I Peter 4:10. What are we supposed to do with these gifts?**
- God gives us gifts so we can use them for others.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare four pieces of poster board with these words written in the center: *Leading, Serving, Giving, and Encouraging*. Separate your group into each of the four gift categories. You could sort them according to their perceived gifts from the previous Reflection module or team them up randomly. Give each kid a few sticky notes and something to write with.
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** Give your preschoolers a chance to act out each of the different types of gifts that are listed in this module. For leading, they can be the leader in a game of Follow the Leader. For serving, they can pretend to serve their friends food or drink. For giving, they can find their favorite toy in your environment and pass it to a friend. For encouraging, prompt your preschoolers to say something nice about the person sitting to their left or right.
- On a sticky note, jot down or draw an idea of how someone could use the gift that your team is assigned to do. Get creative and come up with as many ideas as you can! Stick them on your poster board and share your gift guide with the rest of the group.

MEMORY VERSE | Memorable Gifts

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Split the group into five teams. Cut the memory verse graphic (provided in your Programming folder) and cut out each of the words and the Scripture reference so that you have 17 separate pieces of paper. Repeat this four more times. Put the five sets of memory verse pieces into five different boxes, then gift-wrap them. Give a box to each team, and, on your mark, have them unwrap the box and arrange the words of the memory verse in order as quickly as possible!
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** Print or write the memory verse on an index card and put it in a tiny box. Wrap that tiny box in a bigger box, wrap that box in a bigger box, and repeat several times. Make enough gift boxes for every four or five kids to unwrap together when you say, "GO!". Once they open the last box, have kids recite the verse after you.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Have preteens do all preparation work for the "gifts" ahead of time. Preteens can use their gifts to help others learn about using their gifts!
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Write the words of the memory verse on gift boxes, one word per box. Line up the boxes and have the kids recite the verse. Then turn a box around so that the word doesn't show, and have kids say the verse while supplying the missing word. Keep turning boxes around until they can recite the verse without any words showing.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- Who receives gifts from God?
- What are we supposed to do with the gifts God gives us?
- Read I Peter 4:10. What do you think it means to be a “faithful steward”?
- Read II Timothy 1:7. Why do you think we need “power, love, and self-discipline” when we exercise our gifts?
- Why do you think God has given you certain abilities?
- Is there a gift or ability that you don’t have but would like to have?
- What could you do to develop that gift or ability?

ACTIVITY | Gifts Shouldn’t Be Hidden

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have kids write the Big Idea on a piece of paper in large letters, except for the word “gifts.” Squeeze lemon juice into a bowl and add a spoonful of water. Mix gently. Dip the cotton swab into the liquid and write “gifts” with the mixture. Let the liquid dry completely so the message is invisible. To share your secret, set the paper in sunlight or hold it close to a lightbulb.
- Today we learned that God has given each one of us special gifts that we are supposed to use to serve others.
- These gifts are not to be kept hidden to ourselves. We are to be good stewards of what God has given us and use those gifts!

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Practice the memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we’ve provided.

DAY 2

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what gifts
God gave me?

THE BIBLE

Using Gifts from God:
I Peter 4:10; II Timothy 1:6-7

QUESTIONS

- Who receives gifts from God?
- What are we supposed to do with the gifts God gives us?
- Read I Peter 4:10. What do you think it means to be a “faithful steward”?
- Read II Timothy 1:7. Why do you think we need “power, love, and self-discipline” when we exercise our gifts?
- Why do you think God has given you certain abilities?
- Is there a gift or ability that you don’t have but would like to have?
- What could you do to develop that gift or ability?

ACTIVITY

Have kids write the Big Idea on a piece of paper in large letters, except for the word “gifts.” Squeeze lemon juice into a bowl and add a spoonful of water. Mix gently. Dip a cotton swab into the liquid and write “gifts” with the mixture. Let the liquid dry completely so the message is invisible. To share your secret, set the paper in sunlight or hold it close to a lightbulb.

MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK: Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.

Looking for sign language? Go to growcurriculum.org/Psalm40-5a and start memorizing!

THE BIG IDEA:

I wonder what gifts God gave me?

THE BIBLE:

Using Gifts from God: I Peter 4:10; II Timothy 1:6-7



I WOULD
WHAT

GOOD

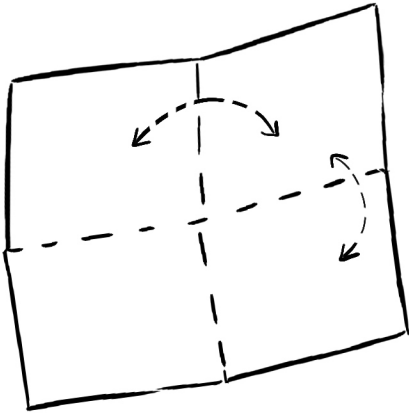
GAVE

WANT
GIFTS

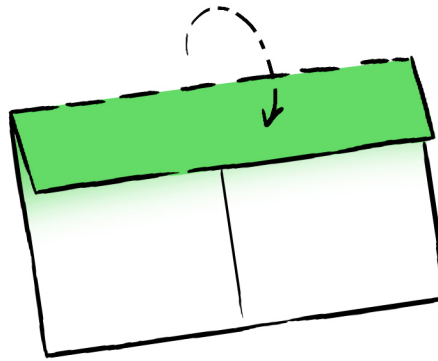
DO

ME?

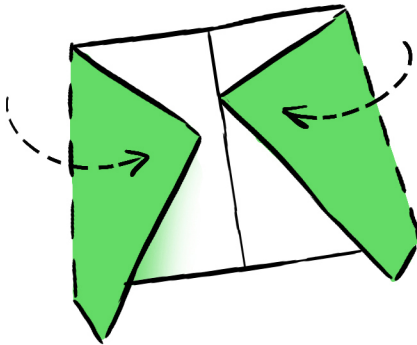
WONDER PLANE II



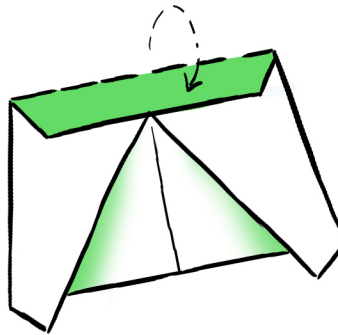
1. TURN THE PAPER TO THE RIGHT.
NOW FOLD IT IN HALF WIDTH AND
LENGTH WAYS AND OPEN IT OUT AGAIN



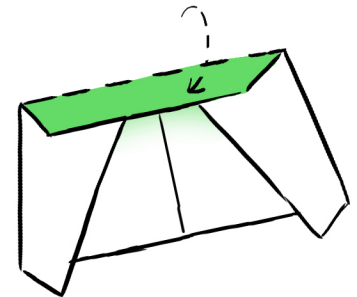
2. FOLD THE TOP DOWN TO
THE CREASE IN THE MIDDLE



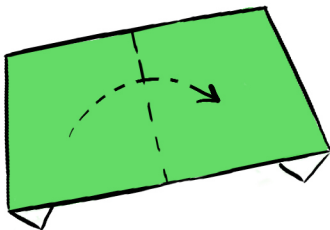
3. FOLD BOTH CORNERS SO THEY
TOUCH THE BOTTOM OF THE FLAP
AND THE CREASE IN THE MIDDLE



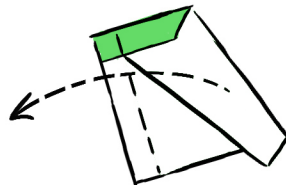
4. FOLD THE TOP DOWN



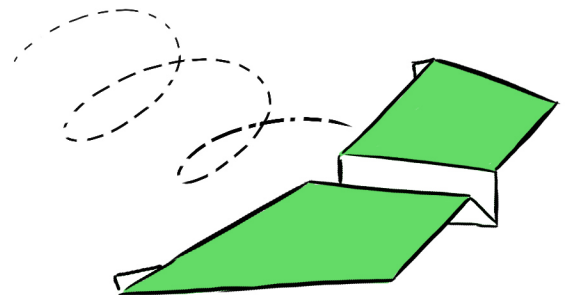
5. FOLD THE TOP
DOWN AGAIN



6. TURN THE PAPER OVER AND
FOLD IN HALD FROM LEFT TO RIGHT



7. FOLD AS SHOWN TO
MAKE A WING.
REPEAT ON THE
OTHER SIDE



8. YOUR WONDER PLANE II
WILL LOOK LIKE THIS











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9

HÉRNIA
JUDITE



ENCICLOPAEDIA
BRITANNICA DO BRASIL

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8

FÓTON
HERMENÉUTICA



ENCICLOPAEDIA
BRITANNICA DO BRASIL

enciclopédia BARSA

7

ENGENHO
FOTOGRAVURA



ENCICLOPAEDIA
BRITANNICA DO BRASIL

enciclopédia BARSA

6

CONURBAÇÃO
ENGENHARIA



ENCICLOPAEDIA
BRITANNICA DO BRASIL

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5

CAMARÃO
CONTRAVENÇÃO



ENCICLOPAEDIA
BRITANNICA DO BRASIL

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4

BATRÁQUIO
CAMARÃO



ENCICLOPAEDIA
BRITANNICA DO BRASIL

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3

APARELHO
BATTLE



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BRITANNICA DO BRASIL

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2

A
APARELHO



ENCICLOPAEDIA
BRITANNICA DO BRASIL

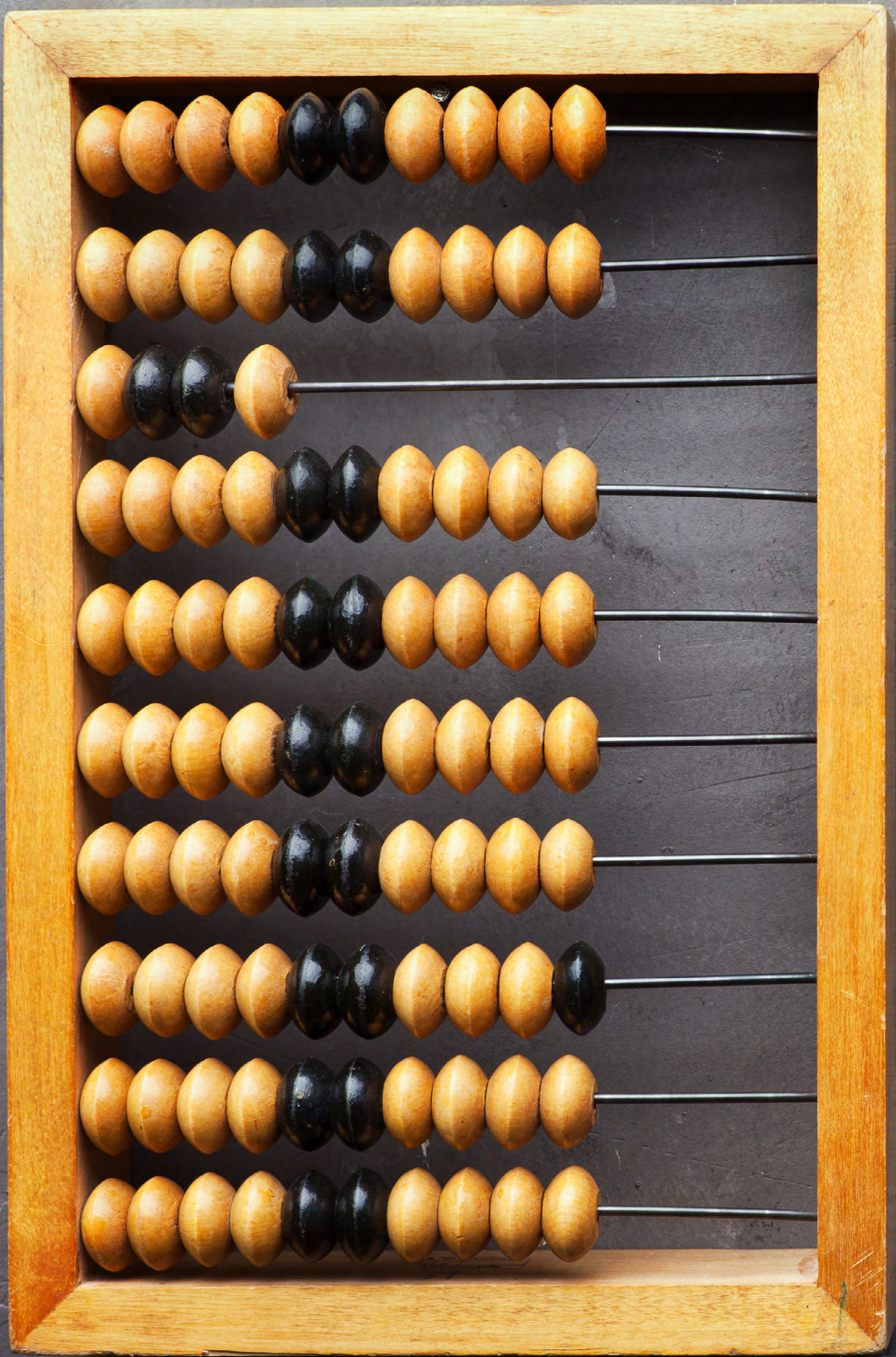
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1

ÍNDICE
ENCICLOPÉDICO



ENCICLOPAEDIA
BRITANNICA DO BRASIL



No.

Telegraph

Please send the following Message in accordance with the Printed Regulations and Conditions of the Department:

No. of Words, Received,

Dispatched,

To { Name _____

Address in full _____

Date Stamp

Signature and full address of sender

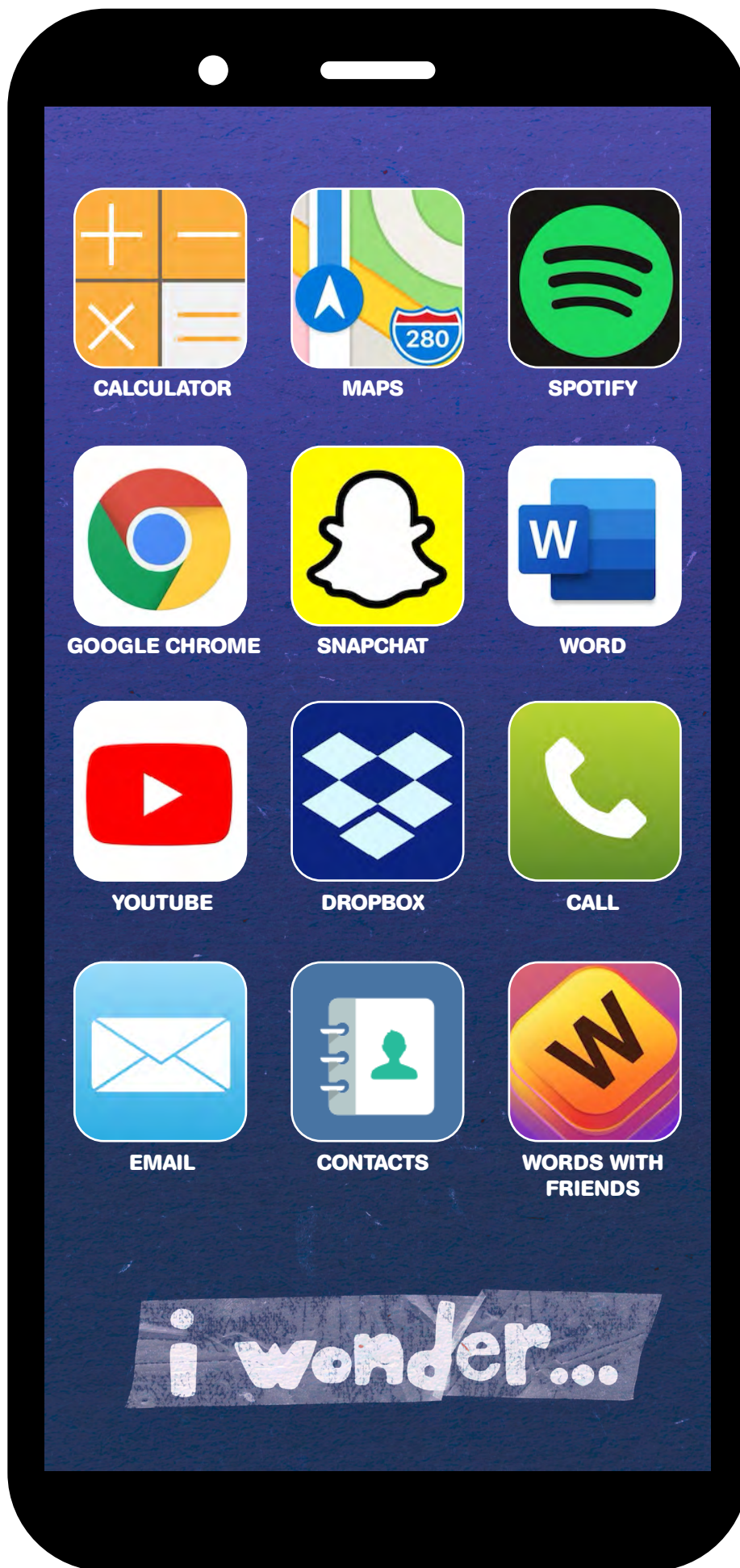












DAY 3 OVERVIEW

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what I can learn from others?

THE BIBLE

Loving Like God:
I John 4:11; I Peter 4:8

STUFF FOR THIS DAY

TEACHING – DAY 3

- ▶ [Shop & Prep List](#)
- ▶ [Lesson Outline](#)
- ▶ [Preteen Hacks](#)
- ▶ [Special Needs Hacks](#)
- ▶ [Preschool Hacks](#)
- ▶ [Lesson Guide](#)
- ▶ [Small Group Guide](#)
- ▶ [Printables](#)

FAMILIES & VOLUNTEERS

- ▶ [Volunteer Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Handouts](#)
- ▶ [Memory Verse Sign Language](#)

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THIS DAY



DESIGN

We made **lots of graphics** for you! Use them to create slides, social media posts, and more! You can find them in your [Graphics & Video folder](#).



SHOP & PREP

We made a **list** of everything you'll need to make this day happen. Get your editable Shop & Prep List [right here](#).



CUSTOMIZE

You know your kids and ministry better than we do, so **you'll probably want make some tweaks** to this day's lesson. You can do that by editing the Word document in your series downloads, or the [Message Builder](#), or [the Grow App](#).



HACK

If you're using Grow for your toddlers, you may want to make some tweaks to make it more age appropriate. **Get the Preteen Hacks** for Day 3 [here](#) and the **Special Needs Hacks** for Day 3 [here](#) and the **Preschool Hacks** for Day 3 [here](#).



COMMUNICATE

To make sure volunteers and families are in the loop, don't forget about these . . .

- ▶ [Volunteer Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Handouts](#)
- ▶ [Memory Verse Sign Language](#)

DAY 3 LESSON OUTLINE

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what I can learn from others?

THE BIBLE

Loving Like God:
I John 4:11; I Peter 4:8

THIS DAY AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP TIME

- **VIDEO** | Countdown to Wonder
- **MUSIC** | Worship in Wonder
- **ACTIVITY** | Numbers Game
- **ACTIVITY** | Bubbling with Love
- **POLL** | What is unconditional love?
- **BIG IDEA** | I wonder what I can learn from others?
- **SKIT** | Adventures in Wonder Lab
- **BIBLE STORY** | Loving Like God
- **ACTIVITY** | Stop Motion Movie
- **OBJECT LESSON** | Loving Others Silly
- **PRAYER**
- **ACTIVITY** | Play Stations
- **VIDEO** | Countdown to More Wonder
- **SNACK** | STEM Appétit!
- **REFLECTION** | What I Can Learn from Others
- **RESPONSE** | Many Faces to Love
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Coded Verse

SMALL GROUP TIME

- **DISCUSSION**
 - What should we do because God loved us?
 - Look at I Peter 4:8. What does it mean that love “covers a multitude of sins”?
 - Why do you think God wants us to show love to everyone?
 - Read John 3:16. How does this verse relate to today’s Bible story?
 - How can learning about and learning from others help us love them?
 - Who is someone you know that is challenging to love?
 - What can you do this week to love that person?
- **ACTIVITY** | Animated Action
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

DAY 3 HACKS FOR PRETEENS

i wonder...

BY MIKE SHELEY

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR PRETEENS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every day, but preteens tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this day in order to keep your preteens more engaged.

MUSIC | Worship in Wonder

Consider using "[Love One Another](#)" by the Newsboys. You can play the actual [music video](#) as a pre-service element and then use the lyric video for the kids to sing along with during worship time.

ACTIVITY | Numbers Game

Use five dice instead of three and increase the number range to 24. Also, you can award as many "steps" as dice used to make a number. (For example, if the number is 6, the team would get 1 step if they used 1 die showing 6, and 3 steps if they used 3 dice showing 2 each.)

ACTIVITY | Stop Motion Movie

Preteens are known for consuming a lot of YouTube, but they are also great content creators. Recruit a team of preteens to put together a 30-second stop motion video as an example you can show the kids for what their final project can look like. As a bonus, have someone film a short "behind the scenes" video of the preteens making their stop motion video. They can share fun ideas and helpful tips for the kids to use when they make theirs.

REFLECTION | What I Can Learn from Others

Hand out sheets of paper and colored pencils or pens. Have preteens hold their paper in portrait position, then fold the paper in half from top to bottom. They will then fold the paper in half again from top to bottom and again in half from side to side. Once they've made all their folds, have your

preteens unfold their papers to reveal a grid of eight rectangles. Have each kid neatly print their first name in the first box and write or draw something about them that others may not know. They will then hand their paper to someone else and do the same writing or drawing. Repeat this until the papers are full or everyone has participated. When kids get their original paper back, not only will they learn a little more about their friends, they will also have a list of names of people to pray for this week as a way to love them!

RESPONSE | Many Faces to Love

There's a chance you might have a preteen who can solve a Rubik's cube quickly. If so, have them demonstrate their ability live or record a video (a video is recommended so you can edit it and play it as fast as you want). And just to show all the kids how fun and possible it is to solve a Rubik's cube, you can show them [this video](#) of a three-year-old solving it in less than a minute!

ACTIVITY | Animated Action

In addition to this activity, give each preteen an index card and a pen. On one side, have them write down just the first name of a person who is challenging for them to love. On the other side, have them write down a specific action they are going to take this week to show love to that person. Encourage them to put their paper somewhere in their room where they will see it every day to remind them to follow through on their plan and to pray for this person.

DAY 3 HACKS FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

i wonder...

BY KIMBERLY DORPENYO

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every day, but kids with special needs tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this day in order to keep your kids with special needs more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Bubbling with Love

Have items pre-measured in larger tubes or beakers. Alternatively, give kids a tube of bubbles and have them play in a separate area.

POLL | What is unconditional love?

Create a visual for unconditional love, like a full heart, and a visual for conditional love, like a heart in a circle with a line through it. Hang these visuals on the wall so the kids see which heart to move to when given the statements.

ACTIVITY | Stop Motion Movie

Include friends with a one-on-one and give them one specific task, preferably something that allows some type of movement. Playdough would be a great option here. If our friends need their own space during this time, have tables with [magnetic tiles](#) or playdough set up in the corner of the room.

ACTIVITY | Animated Action

Have some pre-made flipbooks for kids to color.

DAY 3 HACKS FOR PRESCHOOLERS

i wonder...

BY IDA MUNDELL

HOW TO HACK THIS DAY FOR PRESCHOOLERS

In kids ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week. Here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your preschoolers more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Numbers Game

Numbers can be tricky for preschoolers, but they are great team players. Time for parachute play! Have preschoolers sit in a circle around a [parachute](#). Parachute play is a team sport! Everyone has to work together or the chute won't go up. Have a leader role a large die. Instruct preschoolers to lift the parachute as many times as appears on the die. After the final lift, they can run inside the parachute and try to sit down together. Repeat as many times as time allows.

ACTIVITY | Bubbling with Love

Have all ingredients pre-measured for preschoolers. You may also want to use larger test tubes for preschoolers. Another option for preschoolers is to make playdough volcanoes [like these](#).

SNACK | STEM Appétit!

Stacking with one hand may be challenging for some preschoolers. Instead, encourage them to work in groups of two to three kids to build tall towers with the giant marshmallows, using frosting as "glue."

REFLECTION | What I Can Learn from Others

Place preschoolers in smaller groups of five to seven and have them sit in a circle. Have a leader with each group. Leaders will ask their group a series of "My favorite" questions. (My favorite food, drink, animal, color, game, movie, TV show, etc.) Leaders will say "I wonder what I can learn from [kid's name]?" What is your favorite [fill in the blank]? One at a time, preschoolers will share their

answers. Once everyone has shared, leaders will ask group members if anyone can remember what they learned from their friends.

MEMORY VERSE | Coded Verse

Let preschoolers play the game “Telephone” to practice saying the verse to each other.

ACTIVITY | Animated Action

Have preschoolers draw a picture of how they can show God’s love. You can also invite them to draw a picture to give to someone who could use some love.

DAY 3 LESSON GUIDE

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what I can learn from others?

THE BIBLE

Loving Like God:
I John 4:11; I Peter 4:8

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

VIDEO | Countdown to Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Play today's intro video to pump kids up before your program begins!*

MUSIC | Worship in Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Lead kids into wonder-filled worship with our I Wonder theme songs! Consider also adding the following to your praise-list: ["Love the Lord"](#) and ["When I Look."](#)*
 - ✳ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Consider adding ["Love One Another"](#) for preteens, or show the kids the [music video](#) before you start your program.*

ACTIVITY | Numbers Game

- Welcome to Day 3 of *I Wonder!* Today we are going to wonder about how and why God wants us to get along with and learn from each other.
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Split your group into two teams, and have each team choose one player to be their "game piece." This person will move around the room by taking as many steps as they're instructed. Write the numbers 1 to 12 on small strips of paper, fold them up, and put them in a container. Each team will send up two players who will be given three dice. You will draw out a number from the container, and each team will roll their set of dice and try to match that number using any combination of dice. The first team to do so will get to advance their "game piece" one step. Continue play until one team gets their token to the finish line.*

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Use five dice instead of three and increase the number range to 24. Also, you can award as many “steps” as dice used to make a number. (For example, if the number is 6, the team would get one step if they used one die showing 6, and three steps if they used three dice showing 2 each.)

✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** Time for parachute play! Have preschoolers sit in a circle around a [parachute](#). Have a leader role a large die. Instruct preschoolers to lift the parachute as many times as appears on the die. After the final lift, they can run inside the parachute and try to sit down together. Repeat as many times as time allows.

- Great teamwork, everyone! This game showed us that the sum is greater than the individual numbers! We are going to talk more about how winning is about more than just one or two people. From God’s point of view, working together and learning from each other is what helps us grow. That’s what a real win looks like!

ACTIVITY | Bubbling with Love

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have kids make the following mixture in a small cup: baking soda (1 teaspoon), dish soap (2 drops), and food coloring (3 drops). Pour the mixture into the center of two coffee filters and stuff it into a test tube. Over a drip tray, have kids use pipettes to add vinegar to their test tubes until the mixture stops reacting. Alternatively, provide a stopper for the test tube and encourage kids to try adding the vinegar when they get home.

✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** Have all ingredients pre-measured for preschoolers. You may also want to use larger test tubes for preschoolers. Another option for preschoolers is to make playdough volcanoes [like these](#).

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Have items pre-measured in larger tubes or beakers. Alternatively, give kids a tube of bubbles and have them play in a separate area.

- Wasn’t it so neat to see what happens when you added the vinegar to your test tube? This experiment reminds us we can overflow with awesome things when we work together and show one another God’s love!

POLL | What is unconditional love?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have everyone line up single file in the middle of the room. Have them take a step to the right if they think the statement is true and to the left if they think it’s false.

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Create a visual for unconditional love, like a full heart, and a visual for conditional love, like a heart in a circle with a line through it. Hang these visuals on the wall so the kids see which heart to move to when given the statements.

- **Which of these statements are true?**

- Unconditional love means loving someone who . . .
 - Is the complete opposite of you.
 - Shares their toys with you.
 - Said something unkind behind your back.
 - You find annoying.
 - Sticks up for you in an argument.

- Argues with you all the time.
- Always finds encouraging things to say to you.
- Loves Jesus.
- Doesn't know Jesus.
- All of the above statements are true! God gave us unconditional love through Jesus—a love that's not based on anything good or bad we did. No matter who we are or what we've done, love is given from God . . . and love can be given from us, too!

BIG IDEA | I wonder what I can learn from others?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Distribute the Big Idea printables and have kids color and decorate the airplane template. Then fold the paper airplane together step-by-step. The completed airplane should show the day's Big Idea. Have kids shout the Big Idea together as they throw their airplanes into the air!*
- Today's Big Idea is: **I wonder what I can learn from others?**

SO WHAT? *Why does it matter to God and to us?*

SKIT | Adventures in Wonder Lab

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Perform or play a pre-recorded video of today's theme skit.*

BIBLE STORY | Loving Like God

- It's another research day in the Bible lab! I've never had more fun working together to find evidence that helps us answer the question of the day. Once we collect all our data, we can draw a conclusion about our initial question. Are you ready?
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Put on a lab coat, goggles, and nitrile gloves for each week's Bible teaching. Place or project an image of a chalkboard behind you with the following words on it: Question, Data, Conclusion. Ask for an adult or kid volunteer to be "Bible Bot" and read I John 4:11 and I Peter 4:8 in a robotic voice when prompted.*
- Step one. Today's Big Idea is: **I wonder what I can learn from others?** *[Write the Big Idea on the board next to "Question."]*
 - There are tons of things we can learn from others. Our church leaders teach us about the Bible. Our school teachers teach us things like science and math. Hopefully you've already learned something new today!
 - But today's question is not just about learning things that make us bigger thinkers. It's about what we can learn by spending time with others, listening to their stories, and sharing God's love with them!
- Step two. Let's collect some data! For that, we turn to the Bible. *[Write I John 4:11 and I Peter 4:8 next to "Data."]*
 - **Bible Bot, I John 4:11, please!** The way we can be open to learning from others is by remembering that God wants us to love them. The apostle John gives us a very straightforward explanation for why we need to love others—because God loved us first!

- **Next, we need I Peter 4:8, Bible Bot!** This verse tells us how to love. And not just with words. To love one another deeply, we have to allow our love to be greater than the mistakes we or others make. Sure, we might not get along sometimes, but if God's love is at the center, we can say we're sorry, forgive, and not hold it against each other.
- The way we show our love to God is not just by what we say and do for God. It's also about what we say and do for others. We express our thankfulness for God's love by giving love away to those around us.
- Step three. What can we conclude about our question: **I wonder what I can learn from others?** [Write the word "Love" next to "Conclusion."]
 - Even the early Christians back in John and Peter's time struggled with loving one another. In fact, that's why they wrote letters—to keep reminding them!
 - We can sometimes forget things, too. We forget how much God loves us. We forget that everyone is made in God's image. When we do this, we tend to focus on other people's flaws. We forget we are forgiven and we can grow.
 - If we pay attention, we can learn so much from each other, especially about God's big love for all of us.
 - **I wonder what this will look like when we extend God's love to our family? Our friends? Our neighbors?**

ACTIVITY | Stop Motion Movie

- Stop motion animation is a film-making technique that makes inanimate objects appear like they're moving on their own! You do this by taking a bunch of photos of something, moving them only a tiny bit each time. Let's give it a try!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, you might want to assign a leader to a group of three or four kids. Each group should have a device with [Stop Motion Studio](#) downloaded on it and a stand or tripod. Supply each group with a bucket of supplies: foam core to set up a backdrop (or they can use a wall), index cards, sticky notes, markers, crayons, paper, scissors, toys, playdough, and anything else you have lying around. Designate some time during today's programming to show everyone's movies (each movie should be about 30 seconds in length).
- Working as a team, produce a movie that presents today's Big Idea: **I wonder what I can learn from others?** Flex your creative muscles and have fun!
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Recruit a team of preteens to put together a 30-second stop motion video as an example you can show the kids for what their final project can look like. As a bonus, film a short "behind the scenes" video of fun ideas and helpful tips for making stop motion movies.
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Include friends with a one-on-one and give them one specific task, preferably something that allows some type of movement. Playdough would be a great option here.

OBJECT LESSON | Loving Others Silly

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask for a volunteer to come help you and give them a can of silly string to hold. Depending on the size of your group, get cans for the rest of the group to play with afterward.
- Do you guys know that this? This is the *greatest* invention ever made . . . silly string! It is fun to spray, it comes in so many colors, and it is cheap! Can you name a better invention?
 - Ok, [volunteer's name] and I are going to have the best silly string fight, right here! Ready? I'm totally going to win!
 - [Aim the can of silly string at the kid without taking the cap off and dramatically "spray" the volunteer. Wait for some kids to tell you that the cap is still on the can.]
 - Silly me! In order to have fun with this silly string, I have to take the cap off and spray it from the can.
- You know what, love is like silly string! If it stays inside of us, it can't do its job. It needs to be set free. When we let love flow outward to others, it will grow and expand. It can even be fun to love others!
- But unlike this can of silly string, God makes sure that our supply of love never runs out, so we can go on and love others silly!

PRAYER

- God, help me love my family, friends, neighbors, teammates, and even my enemies the same way you love me. Open my heart to accept others and listen to their stories, struggles, and feelings. Thank you for all the people you have placed in my life that I can learn from. Amen.

ACTIVITY | Play Stations

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** See the "Play Stations" section for some ideas for this free play segment. You can set up the same stations every day or change them up for each session. Let kids float around between stations freely, but designate leaders to supervise. Some ways to monitor the flow is to tell the kids that each station cannot exceed a certain number of kids (e.g., 5-6), so if they see a station that is full, they can go to another one. If you feel there is a station that is more popular, set a timer for how long kids are allowed to stay, or ensure them that the station will be back the next day.

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?**VIDEO | Countdown to More Wonder**

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play today's teaching video to give kids a little bit of a break before continuing on with the program.

SNACK | STEM Appétit!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Kids will work in groups of two to three to make the [tallest tower](#) they can using marshmallows and uncooked spaghetti. The trick is they can only use one hand, so they really need to work together! Prepare [s'mores kits](#) for kids to munch on after this activity.

✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** Encourage preschoolers to work in groups of two to three kids to build tall towers with the giant marshmallows, using frosting as “glue.”

- **Can you imagine how much more challenging it would be if you had to build this tower all by yourself with only one hand?**
- Whether it’s science, technology, engineering, or math, teamwork is so important. Working in a team means we have people to bounce ideas off of and to rely on for information.
- So in a way, teamwork is admitting that we don’t know everything . . . and that’s ok! That’s why God gave us people we can learn from and share God’s love with!

REFLECTION | What I Can Learn from Others

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare a few magnetic doodle boards. Hand them out to a few kids, and have them write or draw something about themselves that not everyone would know (e.g., My favorite animal is lizards, I am afraid of bees, or I want to be a pilot when I grow up). The next kid looks at their doodle, erases it, then adds their own. Keep going until everyone has had a chance to add their response.
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** Place preschoolers in smaller groups of five to seven and have them sit in a circle with a leader. Leaders will say “I wonder what I can learn from [kid’s name]? What is your favorite [fill in the blank]? Once everyone has shared, leaders will ask group members if anyone can remember what they learned from their friends.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Have kids fold a piece of paper three times to make eight rectangles. Have each kid neatly print their first name in the first box and write or draw something about them that others may not know. Have kids swap papers, and repeat the writing or drawing inside another box on the new paper. Repeat this until the papers are full or everyone has participated.
- Learning from others starts with having God’s love toward them in our hearts. When we can see someone through God’s eyes, we want to know more about them and what God is doing in their lives. And learning those things can help us love them even more!
- As a people who are loved so much by God, it’s very important that we ask ourselves, **I wonder what I can learn from others?** Because the answer is . . . a lot!

RESPONSE | Many Faces to Love

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a [small box](#) and six different colored [sticky notes](#). Kids will write or draw on each of their six sticky notes and cover all the surfaces of the box. Invite everyone to come to the front and stack their boxes together to make a giant Rubik’s Cube (27 boxes = 1 Rubik’s Cube). You can stack them so that each side has the same color showing or stack them randomly. If your group is comprised of less than 27 kids, make extra boxes to fill empty slots. For larger groups, make more than one large Rubik’s Cube.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** If you have a preteen who can solve a Rubik’s cube, have them demonstrate their ability live or record a video. You can also show them [this video](#) of a three-year-old solving it in less than a minute!
- Today’s Big Idea is **I wonder what I can learn from others?** We talked about how we can learn from others by loving them like God loves them.

- **Have you ever tried solving a Rubik's Cube before?** Loving others is kind of like solving a Rubik's Cube. It's tough, but not impossible.
- On each of the sticky notes, write or draw a way you can show love and kindness to someone. Each color represents a different person in your life:
 - **Purple** = a friend
 - **Yellow** = a family member
 - **Pink** = someone at church
 - **Orange** = a teammate or classmate
 - **Green** = a passerby
 - **Yellow** = a neighbor
- Place one sticky note on each side of the box so all the sides are covered. It's ok to leave some of them blank if you can't think of something right away. Pray to God during the week and ask for ways you can love and learn from those people!

MEMORY VERSE | Coded Verse

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Print and distribute the printable. Each number in the code refers to a letter's position in the English alphabet (i.e., 1 = A). Using the key provided, have kids decode the memory verse.*
- ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** *Let preschoolers play the game "Telephone" to practice saying the verse to each other.*

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- What should we do because God loved us?
- Look at I Peter 4:8. What does it mean that love "covers a multitude of sins"?
- Why do you think God wants us to show love to everyone?
- Read John 3:16. How does this verse relate to today's Bible story?
- How can learning about and learning from others help us love them?
- Who is someone you know that is challenging to love?
- What can you do this week to love that person?

ACTIVITY | Animated Action

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Give each kid a thick stack of sticky notes. Instruct kids to start drawing on the last page and move toward the top of the stack. Kids will draw an act of kindness. When they're finished, have kids swap with one another other to view each other's flipbooks. Watch [this video](#) to get an idea of what this might look like.*
- ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** *Have preschoolers draw a picture of how they can show God's love. You can also invite them to draw a picture to give to someone who could use some love.*

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *In addition to this activity, have preteens reflect on how they can love someone who might be challenging to love by writing their name on one side of an index card and a specific action to show them love on the other side.*

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** *Have some pre-made flipbooks for kids to color.*

- In response to today's Big Idea—**I wonder what I can learn from others?**—let's animate an action that we can do to show God's love to another person.

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Practice the memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we've provided.*

DAY 3

SMALL GROUP GUIDE

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder what I can learn from others?

THE BIBLE

Loving Like God:
I John 4:11; I Peter 4:8

QUESTIONS

- What should we do because God loved us?
- Look at I Peter 4:8. What does it mean that love “covers a multitude of sins”?
- Why do you think God wants us to show love to everyone?
- Read John 3:16. How does this verse relate to today’s Bible story?
- How can learning about and learning from others help us love them?
- Who is someone you know that is challenging to love?
- What can you do this week to love that person?

ACTIVITY

Give each kid a thick stack of sticky notes. Instruct kids to start drawing on the last page and move toward the top of the stack. Kids will draw an act of kindness. When they’re finished, have kids swap with one another other to view each other’s flipbooks. Watch this video to get an idea of what this might look like.

MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK: Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.

Looking for sign language? Go to growcurriculum.org/Psalm40-5a and start memorizing!

THE BIG IDEA:

I wonder what I can learn from others?

THE BIBLE:

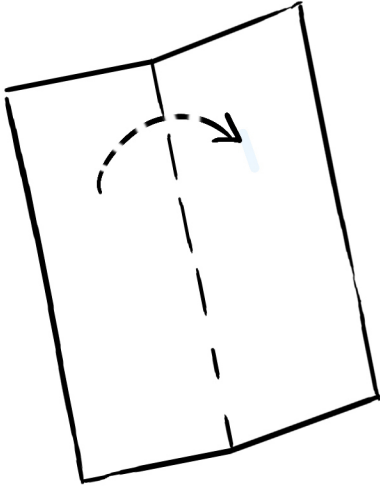
Loving Like God: | John 4:11; | Peter 4:8



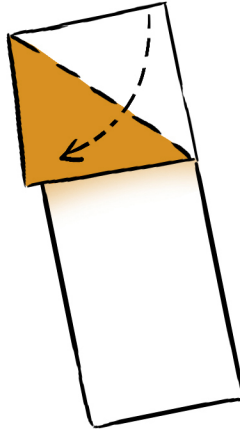
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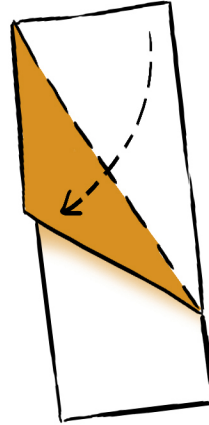
WONDER PLANE III



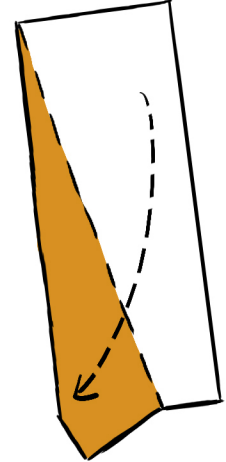
1. FOLD THE PAPER IN HALF FROM LEFT TO RIGHT



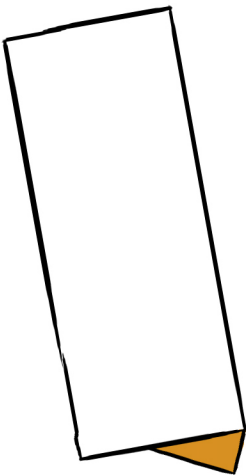
2. FOLD THE TOP CORNER DOWN TO THE EDGE, AS SHOWN



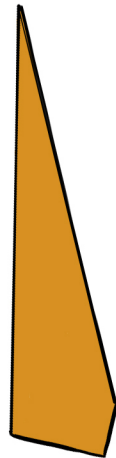
3. FOLD THE NEW FLAP OVER AGAIN



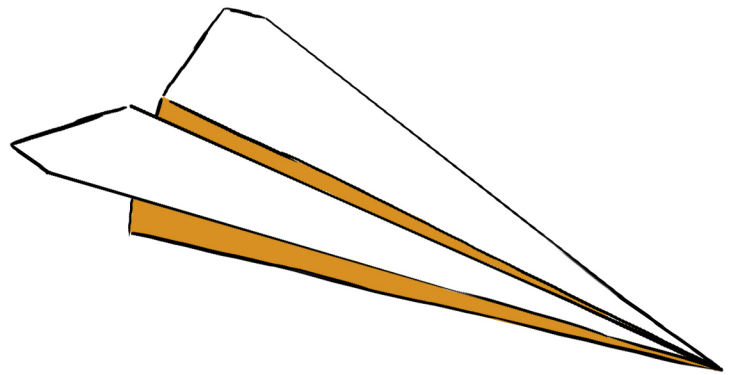
4. FOLD IT OVER ONE LAST TIME



5. TURN THE PAPER OVER



6. REPEAT STEPS 2 TO 4



7. YOUR WONDER PLANE III WILL LOOK LIKE THIS

I Wonder... Can You Crack The Code?

Write the letter above each number. Then, read the message!



13

1

14

25



12

15

18

4



13

25

7

15

4

1

18

5

20

8

5

23

15

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z

I Wonder... Can You Crack The Code?

Write the letter above each number. Then, read the message!

Many Lords
 my God are
 the wonders
 you have
 done the
 things you
 planned
 for us

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z

DAY 4 OVERVIEW

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder how I can spend time with God?

THE BIBLE

Living for God:
Colossians 1:9-12, 3:16, 4:2-3

STUFF FOR THIS DAY

TEACHING – DAY 4

- ▶ [Shop & Prep List](#)
- ▶ [Lesson Outline](#)
- ▶ [Preteen Hacks](#)
- ▶ [Special Needs Hacks](#)
- ▶ [Preschool Hacks](#)
- ▶ [Lesson Guide](#)
- ▶ [Small Group Guide](#)
- ▶ [Printables](#)

FAMILIES & VOLUNTEERS

- ▶ [Volunteer Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Handouts](#)
- ▶ [Memory Verse Sign Language](#)

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THIS DAY



DESIGN

We made **lots of graphics** for you! Use them to create slides, social media posts, and more! You can find them in your [Graphics & Video folder](#).



SHOP & PREP

We made a **list** of everything you'll need to make this day happen. Get your editable Shop & Prep List [right here](#).



CUSTOMIZE

You know your kids and ministry better than we do, so **you'll probably want make some tweaks** to this day's lesson. You can do that by editing the Word document in your series downloads, or the [Message Builder](#), or [the Grow App](#).



HACK

If you're using Grow for your toddlers, you may want to make some tweaks to make it more age appropriate. **Get the Preteen Hacks** for Day 4 [here](#) and the **Special Needs Hacks** for Day 4 [here](#) and the **Preschool Hacks** for Day 4 [here](#).



COMMUNICATE

To make sure volunteers and families are in the loop, don't forget about these . . .

- ▶ [Volunteer Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Email](#)
- ▶ [Family Handouts](#)
- ▶ [Memory Verse Sign Language](#)

DAY 4 LESSON OUTLINE

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder how I can spend time with God?

THE BIBLE

Living for God:
Colossians 1:9-12, 3:16, 4:2-3

THIS DAY AT A GLANCE

LARGE GROUP TIME

- **VIDEO** | Countdown to Wonder
- **MUSIC** | Worship in Wonder
- **ACTIVITY** | Cloud Soap
- **ACTIVITY** | Upgrade an Invention
- **POLL** | Spending Time
- **BIG IDEA** | I wonder how I can spend time with God?
- **SKIT** | Adventures in Wonder Lab
- **BIBLE STORY** | Living For God
- **VIDEO** | "How Do I Pray?"
- **OBJECT LESSON** | Let It Sink
- **PRAYER**
- **ACTIVITY** | Play Stations
- **VIDEO** | Countdown to More Wonder
- **SNACK** | STEM Appétit!
- **REFLECTION** | How I Can Spend Time with God
- **RESPONSE** | Periodic Table of Evidence
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Towering Verse

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- What are some ways we can spend time with God according to the verses we read today in Colossians?
- Read Colossians 1:9. What do you think is the difference between knowledge, wisdom, and understanding?
- Read Colossians 3:16. What should we have in our hearts as we spend time with God?
- Say our memory verse, Psalm 40:5a, aloud. Name some of the wonders God has done.
- What is your favorite way to spend time with God?
- Think about something you spend a lot of time doing. How can you invite God into that time?
- What is something you can do to encourage others to spend time with God?
- **ACTIVITY** | Wonder Puzzles
- **MEMORY VERSE** | Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

DAY 4 HACKS FOR PRETEENS

i wonder...

BY MIKE SHELEY

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR PRETEENS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every DAY, but preteens tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this day in order to keep your preteens more engaged.

MUSIC | Worship in Wonder

Since this version of "[This is Living Now](#)" includes the rap, get two or three of your preteens to learn it and jump in to lead that part! "[Together](#)" and "[In Your Light](#)" are additional songs you could use about how we live out our faith together.

ACTIVITY | Upgrade an Invention

For preteens, challenge them to "activate features" of what they already have to help them spend time with God.

- For example, do they have a device with reminders or alarms? Have them set an alarm or reminder for a specific time that repeats every day to remind them to read their Bible.
- They could take a picture of a Bible verse or even of a physical Bible and make that their lock screen to remind them to read their Bible before they use the device.
- It could also be non-tech. They could put a sticky note on one side of the door to their room or of their desk or mirror. When they see it, they will remember to read their Bible and can move the note to the other side of the door or desk. Before they go to bed, they can reset it for the next day.

These are just a few examples. Encourage preteens to brainstorm and think of some that specifically work for them.

POLL | Spending Time

Many preteens are or will soon be aware of this fact and many have a tool on their devices that shows them a “receipt” for exactly how they spend their time, like [Apple’s Screen Time](#). Have preteens make their own screen-time page, but focused on spending time with God. Have them make a key that shows what each color is for (same as the choices listed here). Then have them make a simple chart showing how much time they will spend on each from when they wake up to when they go to bed.

BIBLE STORY | Living For God

Preteens need guidance but want to do things on their own. Help them with both for the habit of reading their Bibles with a few suggested reading plans—or even just introducing them to what reading plans are through “[What is a Reading Plan?](#)” then pick a reading plan to go through together:

- [Live a Life of Worship](#) (6 days)
- [Focus](#) (6 days)
- [Shiny Influence](#) (6 days)
- [Bible experience for Preteens](#)

SNACK | STEM Appétit!

Sometime before this activity, show your group of preteens [this video](#) from 2018 of a Rube Goldberg machine created to pour cereal with a new spin! Then, challenge them to come up with a Rube Goldberg machine to mix treats. It probably won’t be as elaborate as the one in the video, but it will be more complex than the ones kids will make that day. Allow them to really have fun with this and show the other kids what can be done working together with creativity.

DAY 4 HACKS FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

i wonder...

BY KIMBERLY DORPENYO

HOW TO HACK THIS SERIES FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

In children's ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every day, but kids with special needs tend to get overlooked, so here are a few adjustments you can make to this day in order to keep your kids with special needs more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Cloud Soap

Give kids pieces of paper with an outline of a cloud on it. Have friends glue cotton balls inside the cloud.

VIDEO | "How Do I Pray?"

Give each kid a pipe-cleaner and give them a bead of each color:

- Red – Admit to God a mistake you've made.
- White – Ask God to forgive you.
- Yellow – Thank God for something.
- Purple – Praise God.
- Green – Ask God for help.
- Pink – Pray for someone else.

This activity helps to learn color, practice fine-motor skills, and keep their hands busy. They can twist the pipe cleaner like a bracelet around their wrist. Print out the directions in color for kids to take home, and feel free to shorten or modify this list!

RESPONSE | Periodic Table of Evidence

As a supplement or replacement for this activity, have an [empty periodic table](#) pre-printed for kids. Provide stickers or labels of things they may be grateful for and let them decorate the periodic table.

MEMORY VERSE | Towering Verse

The tumbling blocks may overstimulate some friends, so have [cardboard blocks](#) with the memory verse on them in a different area of the room.

DAY 4 HACKS FOR PRESCHOOLERS

i wonder...

BY IDA MUNDELL

HOW TO HACK THIS DAY FOR PRESCHOOLERS

In kids ministry, you've got a wide range of ages you need to engage every week. Here are a few adjustments you can make to this week in order to keep your preschoolers more engaged.

ACTIVITY | Cloud Soap

Make [cloud dough](#) and invite preschoolers to play with it while you welcome them back for Day 4.

VIDEO | "How Do I Pray?"

Before or after the video, explain to preschoolers the "High Five" way to pray! If time allows, now or later, trace their hands and send them home with their own [prayer guide](#).

OBJECT LESSON | Let It Sink

For a fun spin on this object lesson, invite preschoolers to build a LEGO or block tower, but with the smallest block or brick on the bottom. Keep adding larger and larger blocks. (you want the tower to eventually fall over). Have preschoolers rebuild the tower with the largest block on the bottom. Tell them that the largest block represents spending time with God. When we give God the best and first parts of our day, our hearts will grow big and strong!

DAY 4 LESSON GUIDE

i wonder...

THE BIG IDEA

I wonder how I can spend time with God?

THE BIBLE

Living for God:
Colossians 1:9-12, 3:16, 4:2-3

LARGE GROUP TIME

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

VIDEO | Countdown to Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play today's intro video to pump kids up before your program begins!

MUSIC | Worship in Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Lead kids into wonder-filled worship with our *I Wonder* theme songs! Consider also adding the following to your praise-list: "[You Are Awesome](#)" and "[This Is Living Now](#)"
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Since this version of "[This is Living Now](#)" includes the rap, get two or three of your preteens to learn it and jump in to lead that part! "[Together](#)" and "[In Your Light](#)" are additional songs you could use about how we live out our faith together.

ACTIVITY | Cloud Soap

- Welcome to Day 4 of *I Wonder!* Today we are going to wonder about the ways we can give our time to God. Let's kick things off by engineering our very own clouds.
- **How many of you ever wondered what it would be like to touch a cloud? Do you think they are fluffy like cotton balls? Or are they sticky like cotton candy?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Put an unwrapped bar of [Ivory soap](#) in a shallow dish and "cook" it in a microwave for 90 seconds on high power. Please note that this experiment will only work with

Ivory soap so while you may be tempted to use a different soap . . . don't! Be careful pulling the soap out of the microwave as it will be hot at first. Make one soap cloud per group of two to three kids. Have them break off pieces of the cloud and crumble it into flakes over a large bowl. Add a little bit of water to their soap flakes and have kids mold it like dough. You could even get [cloud-shaped cookie cutters](#) to make new bars of soap kids can take home.

✂ **PRE-SCHOOL HACK:** Make [cloud dough](#) for preschoolers to play with.

✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Give kids pieces of paper with an outline of a cloud on it. Have friends glue cotton balls inside the cloud.

- With just a little imagination and time, we can learn to do amazing things! Imagine what could happen if we gave our time to God!

ACTIVITY | Upgrade an Invention

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Using the Upgrade an Invention printable, kids will choose one of the inventions listed and “upgrade” it to a way they can use it to spend time with God.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Additionally, challenge preteens to “activate features” of what they already have to help them spend time with God (e.g., setting an alarm for Bible reading time).
- Sometimes, inventors don't create something completely new—they upgrade something that already exists.
- Wouldn't it be cool if we had a refrigerator that shot out a Bible verse with your ice cubes or if your toothbrush prayed a prayer while you brushed your teeth?
- **If you could upgrade an invention so it helped you spend time with God, what would it be?**

POLL | Spending Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Set up five bins labeled: Reading, Singing, Exploring, Sharing, and Praying (or add pictures to represent each of them: Bible, microphone, binoculars, speech bubble, prayer hands). Give each kid \$24 in play money (lesser amounts are fine) and have them put their money in bins based on where they might distribute their time. Tally up how much is in each bin to see which answers are the most popular.
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Have kids map their own “screen time,” focusing on spending time with God. Have them make a key that shows what each color is for (same as the choices listed [here](#)). Then have them make a simple chart showing how much time they will spend on each from when they wake up to when they go to bed.
- A lot of people say “time is money.” Alright, so I'm going to give you all some money. Each dollar is equal to one hour. How would you “spend” your time with God, if you had these choices:
 - Reading Bible stories about God.
 - Singing worship songs to God.
 - Exploring the nature God made.
 - Sharing about God.
 - Praying to God.

BIG IDEA | I wonder how I can spend time with God?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Distribute the Big Idea printables and have kids color and decorate the airplane template. Then fold the paper airplane together step-by-step. The completed airplane should show the day's Big Idea. Have kids shout the Big Idea together as they throw their airplanes into the air!*
- Today's Big Idea is: **I wonder how I can spend time with God?**

SO WHAT? *Why does it matter to God and to us?*

SKIT | Adventures in Wonder Lab

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Perform or play a pre-recorded video of today's theme skit.*

BIBLE STORY | Living For God

- It's our final day of being in the Bible lab together! You have all been excellent researchers so far! Let's see what data we can collect today to help us draw a conclusion about today's Big Idea question!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Put on a lab coat, goggles, and nitrile gloves for each week's Bible teaching. Place or project an image of a chalkboard behind you with the following words on it: Question, Data, and Conclusion. Ask for an adult or kid volunteer to be "Bible Bot" and read Colossians 1:9–12, 3:16, and 4:2–3 in a robotic voice when prompted.*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *Introduce preteens to developing a habit of reading the Bible. Check out the resources listed in the Preteen Hacks document.*
- Step one. Today's Big Idea is: **I wonder how I can spend time with God?** *[Write the Big Idea on the board next to "Question."]*
 - Spending time with God, hmm. This is a very important question indeed! Even though we can't see God, God is always with us and is waiting for us.
 - But most of the time, we are so busy with doing other things, we tend to ignore God altogether. That's why we need to think about what we can do to make deliberate choices to spend time with God.
- Step two. Let's collect some data! For that, we turn to the Bible. *[Write Colossians 1:9–12, 3:16, 4:1–3 next to "Data."]*
 - **Bible Bot, please tell us what Colossians 1:9–12 says.** Thank you, Bible Bot! This passage tells us that spending time with God starts with knowing God more and then doing things that make God happy. That makes sense!
 - **Could you process Colossians 3:16, Bible Bot?** This verse tells us one way we can spend time with God—reading the Bible and singing to God with grateful hearts!
 - **Colossians 4:2–3, if you will, Bible Bot.** These last verses tell us to spend time with God by praying to God. We can pray for the things we need, the fears we have, the good day we just had . . . we can talk to God about literally anything! And don't forget, we can pray for others, too.

- Step three. What can we conclude about our question: **I wonder how I can spend time with God?** [Write the word "Life" next to "Conclusion."]
 - Looking at the book of Colossians, we find that spending time with God is not just about doing one or two things a day and checking them off a list. It's about how we live our lives all the time, in ways that honor God. Whether it's in reading the Bible and praying, or doing something kind to help a neighbor, we can spend time with God by living our lives for God!

VIDEO | "How Do I Pray?"

- One of the best ways to spend time with God is by praying! Prayer is simply talking to God. But just because it's simple, doesn't mean we don't occasionally get stuck on what to say!
- **Do you ever wonder how you are supposed to pray?**
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this video, "[How Do I Pray?](#)" by Harvestark Studios.
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** Before or after the video, explain to preschoolers the "High Five" way to pray! If time allows, now or later, trace their hands and send them home with their own [prayer guide](#).
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Give each kid a pipe-cleaner and give them a bead of each color: Red – Admit a mistake to God; White – Ask God to forgive you; Yellow – Thank God for something; Purple – Praise God; Green – Ask God for help; Pink – Pray for someone else. They can twist the pipe cleaner like a bracelet around their wrist.
- The best thing about prayer is that there is no right or wrong way! Start by saying "Hi, God!" and tell God what's on your mind. It's like talking to a good friend. You can tell God what you're excited or worried about, ask questions, and admit when you need help.

OBJECT LESSON | Let It Sink

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Fill two large beakers (or tall water glasses) about three-quarters of the way with water. Set aside two raw eggs, one to two cups of salt, and a spoon.
 - ✂ **PRESCHOOL HACK:** For a fun spin on this object lesson, invite preschoolers to build a LEGO or block tower, but with the smallest block or brick on the bottom. Keep adding larger and larger blocks until it falls over. Have preschoolers rebuild the tower with the largest block on the bottom. Tell them that the largest block represents spending time with God. When we give God the best and first parts of our day, our hearts will grow big and strong!
- Let's try a little experiment. This beaker shows us how we might spend our day. The egg represents our time with God.
- When we put God first, we give more weight to God. We remember to spend time with God throughout the day in everything we do, so—just like this egg here—God's Word "sinks" into our hearts. [Drop an egg in the beaker with only water.]
- But more often than not, we find ourselves getting preoccupied with a lot of things. Like doing schoolwork, playing video games, watching TV, eating snacks, and stuff like that. **Can you name some other things that fight for our attention?** [For each suggestion given, put a spoonful of salt into the second beaker. Stir until salt dissolves.]

- Now, these are not all bad things. As a matter of fact, some of these things are very important. But when we spend too much time on only these things, our time with God just floats away! *[Add the second egg to the salt water mixture. It should float.]*
- Spending time with God doesn't mean we don't do anything else. It just means we include God in everything we do! **Wonder how you can spend time with God?** Let this experiment sink in!

PRAYER

- God, how wonderful it is that we get to spend time with you every day. Thank you for always being near enough to receive our worship and to hear about our day and our feelings. Help us to spend time with you by making every moment a life lived for you. Amen.

ACTIVITY | Play Stations

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** See the "Play Stations" section for some ideas for this free play segment. You can set up the same stations every day or change them up for each session. Let kids float around between stations freely, but designate leaders to supervise.

NOW WHAT? What does God want us to do about it?

VIDEO | Countdown to More Wonder

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play today's teaching video to give kids a little bit of a break before continuing on with the program.

SNACK | STEM Appétit!

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Kids can work in groups of two to three to apply concepts of simple machines (levers, pulleys, etc.) and create a [Rube Goldberg machine](#) that helps them mix two different kinds of treats. Check out detailed [instructions here](#).

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Before this activity, show your group of preteens this video from 2018 of a Rube Goldberg machine created to pour cereal with a new spin!

- **What was your process for building this machine?**
- This machine has so many parts that when one thing is off or broken, the entire machine doesn't work.
- Sometimes when we try to juggle too much in our lives, we might not do well in some areas. Like when we're sucked into a video game, we might forget to do our homework. Or if we're super focused on our school work, we might forget to call our friend on their birthday.
- When it comes to spending time with God, it's not enough to just fit God into our schedule. We have to fit our schedules around God by making our lives revolve around Him!

REFLECTION | How I Can Spend Time with God

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Split kids into groups of four to five or into their designated small groups. Give each group a pizza pan and enough gear cut-outs for each kid to have three. After kids fill out their gears, have them glue them to the pizza pan. Then have them make a clock on top, using number

stickers and garden labels for clock hands (or they can make their own). [Here's an idea](#) of what their finished products might look like.

- On the first two gears, write something you usually do at a specific time. Include the actual time you do that activity. For example: "7:00 a.m. – Wake up." Glue these onto the clock.
- On the third gear, write a specific time you can dedicate to God each day, if you don't have one already. What will you do during that time? Glue these on top of the other gears.
- We started the day thinking, **I wonder how I can spend time with God?** Now we know that when we live for God, we spend time with God! And we can live for God in even the smallest things we do every day.

RESPONSE | Periodic Table of Evidence

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Near the top of a sheet of colored paper, have kids write their first initial in uppercase and their last initial in lowercase in large letters (e.g., Linda Moon would be written Lm), and their full name underneath in smaller letters. Under that, they can write or draw about a specific moment in their lives they are thankful for (e.g., when they were born, their team won a game, they got a new sibling or learned a new skill). Put up completed ones and arrange them like a periodic table. Have kids make multiple pages so you can get a sizable display!
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Have an [empty periodic table](#) pre-printed for kids. Provide stickers or labels of things they may be grateful for and let them decorate the periodic table.
- A big part of spending time with God is saying, "Thank you" for all the good things God has given to us. Let's see how much evidence we can gather for how much God deserves our gratitude and our time!

MEMORY VERSE | Towering Verse

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** This activity consists of memorizing the verse while playing a game of tumbling blocks (i.e., Jenga)! Write or type out this week's verse on a piece of paper or adhesive labels. Cut out each word and affix it to the short end of blocks only on one side of the tower, and in order. Every time someone removes a block, recite the memory verse together. Eventually, pieces of the memory verse will be missing, so it will make the kids have to recite it from memory. Once the tower falls over, ask the kids to work together to put the verse in the correct order (see [this image](#) for reference). For added fun, use [giant Jenga blocks](#) or make your own using empty soda can boxes.
 - ✂ **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Use [cardboard blocks](#) with the memory verse on them in a different area of the room.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **What are some ways we can spend time with God according to the verses we read today in Colossians?**

- Read Colossians 1:9. What do you think is the difference between knowledge, wisdom, and understanding?
- Read Colossians 3:16. What should we have in our hearts as we spend time with God?
- Say our memory verse, Psalm 40:5a, aloud. Name some of the wonders God has done.
- What is your favorite way to spend time with God?
- Think about something you spend a lot of time doing. How can you invite God into that time?
- What is something you can do to encourage others to spend time with God?

ACTIVITY | Wonder Puzzles

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare four different colors of craft sticks. Give each kid six sticks of each color. Have them line up each set of sticks and put a piece of painter's tape across to hold them steady. Have them flip it over, write one of the Big Ideas from the week, and decorate it. They can peel the tape off and mix the sticks around to create a puzzle. Repeat for the remaining three color sets. If you have time, kids can swap and try to solve each other's puzzles.
- **What four things did we wonder about during I Wonder VBS?**
 - I wonder what makes my story unique?
 - I wonder what gifts God gave me?
 - I wonder what I can learn from others?
 - I wonder how I can spend time with God?
- Let's make a puzzle for each of the Big Ideas we talked about during VBS. Take them home to remind you of everything we learned together. There's always so much more to wonder about our wonderful God!

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Practice the memory verse with the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) we've provided.

DAY 4

SMALL GROUP GUIDE



THE BIG IDEA

I wonder how I can spend time with God?

THE BIBLE

Living for God:
Colossians 1:9-12, 3:16, 4:2-3

QUESTIONS

- What are some ways we can spend time with God according to the verses we read today in Colossians?
- Read Colossians 1:9. What do you think is the difference between knowledge, wisdom, and understanding?
- Read Colossians 3:16. What should we have in our hearts as we spend time with God?
- Say our memory verse, Psalm 40:5a, aloud. Name some of the wonders God has done.
- What is your favorite way to spend time with God?
- Think about something you spend a lot of time doing. How can you invite God into that time?
- What is something you can do to encourage others to spend time with God?

ACTIVITY

Prepare four different colors of craft sticks. Give each kid six sticks of each color. Have them line up each set of sticks and put a piece of painter's tape across to hold them steady. Have them flip it over, write one of the Big Ideas from the week, and decorate it. They can peel the tape off and mix the sticks around to create a puzzle. Repeat for the remaining three color sets. If you have time, kids can swap and try to solve each other's puzzles.

What four things did we wonder about during I Wonder VBS?

- I wonder what makes my story unique?
- I wonder what gifts God gave me?
- I wonder what I can learn from others?
- I wonder how I can spend time with God?

MEMORY VERSE OF THE WEEK: Psalm 40:5a (NIV)

Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us.

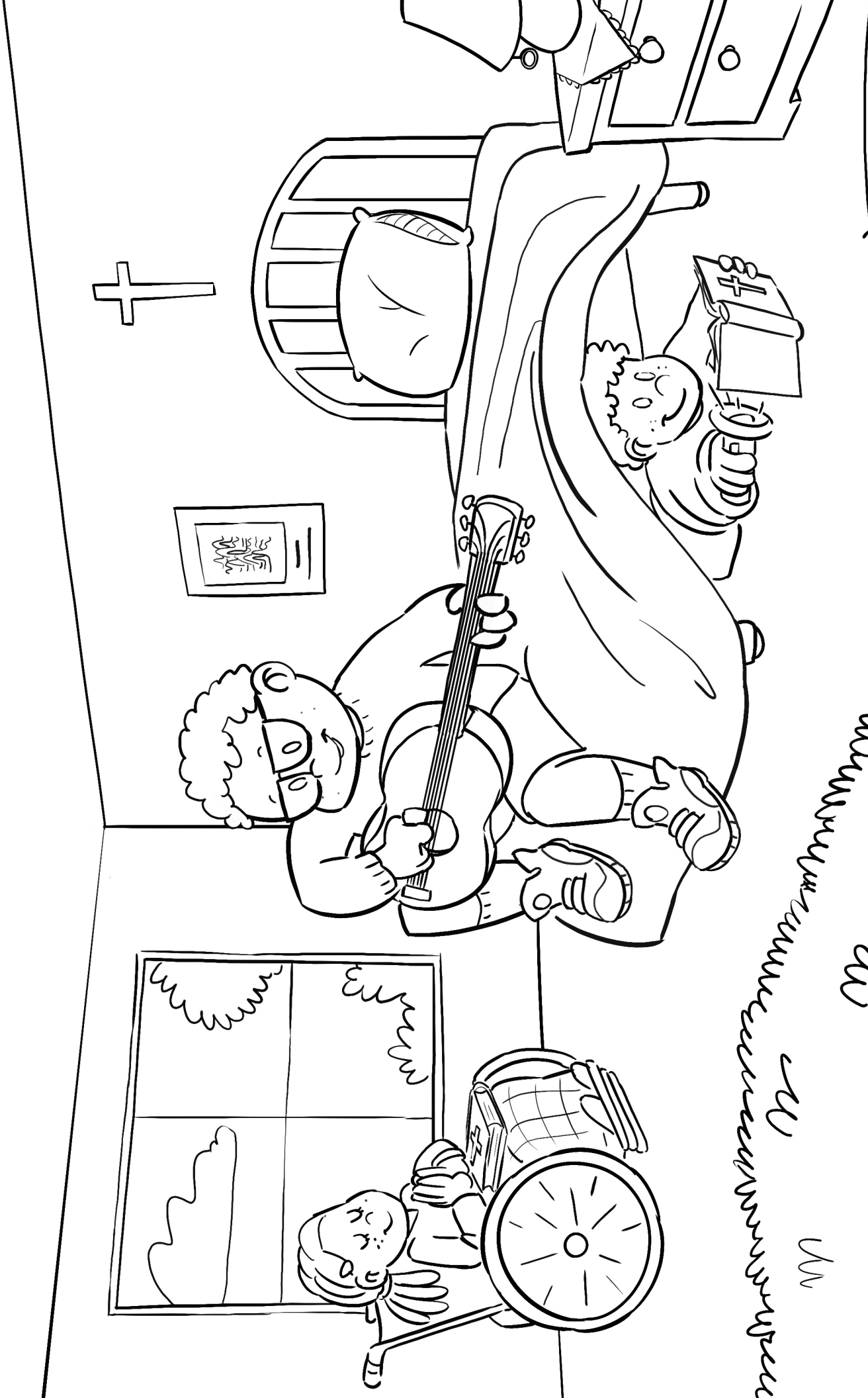
Looking for sign language? Go to growcurriculum.org/Psalm40-5a and start memorizing!

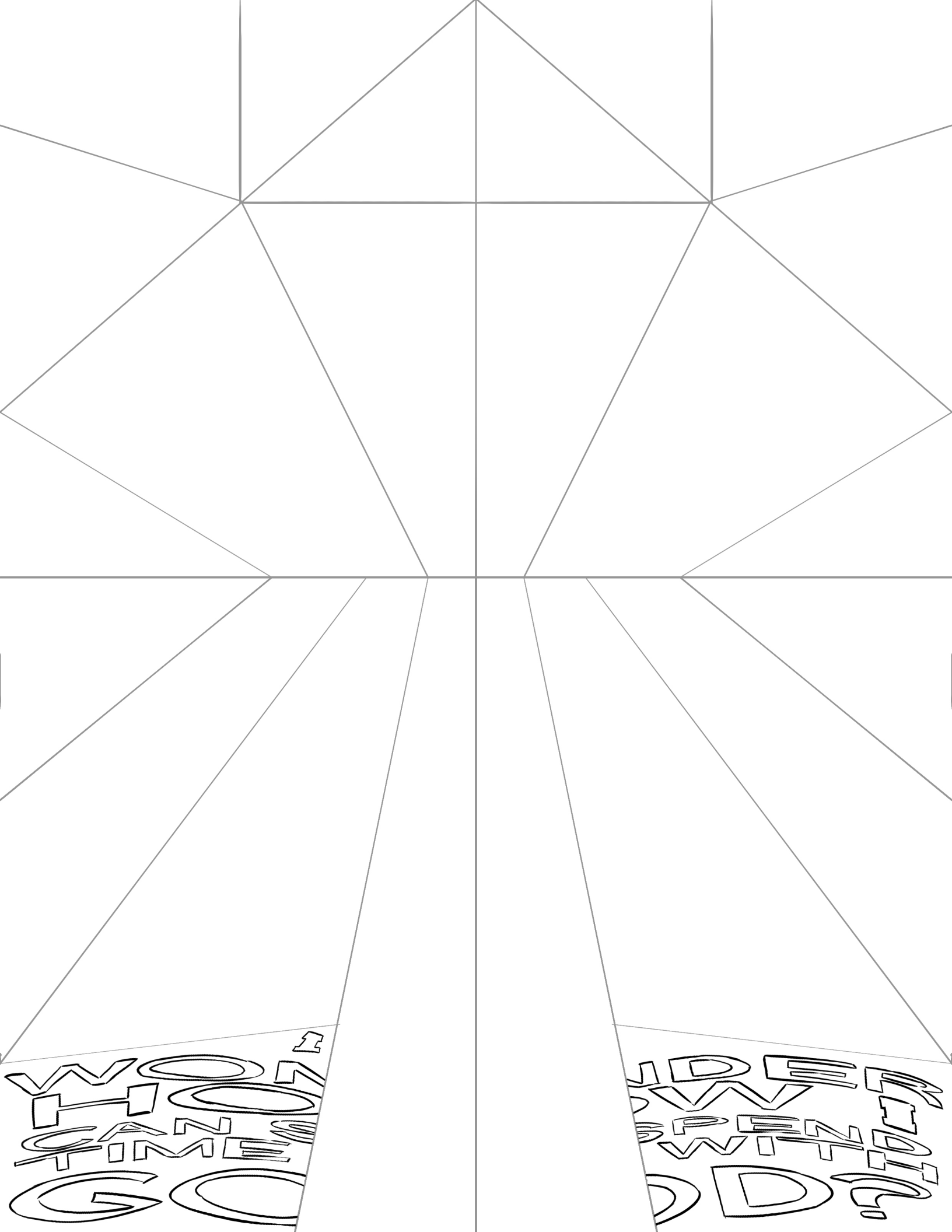
THE BIG IDEA:

I wonder how I can spend time with God?

THE BIBLE:

Living for God: Colossians 1:9-12, 3:16, 4:2-3

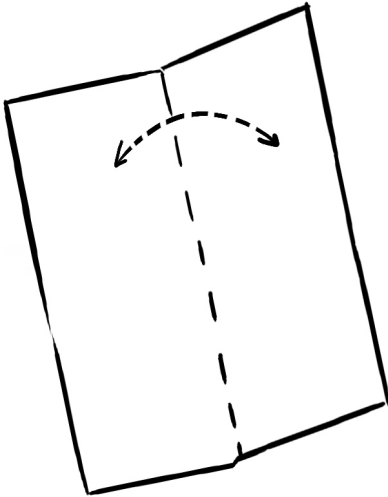




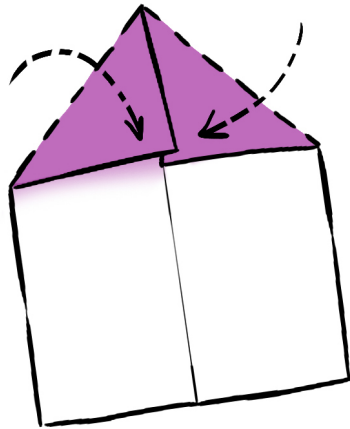
WHO
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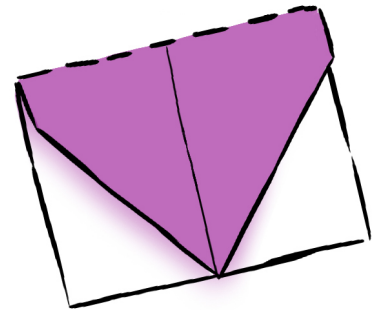
WONDER PLANE IV



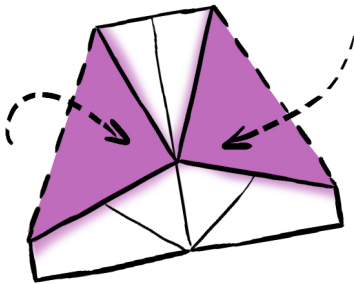
1. FOLD THE PAPER IN HALF AND OPEN OUT FLAT AGAIN



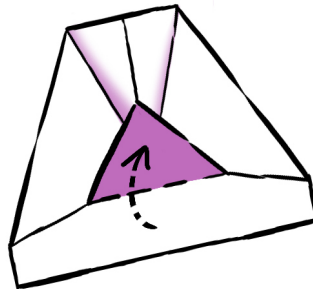
2. FOLD THE TOP RIGHT AND LEFT CORNERS TO THE MIDDLE



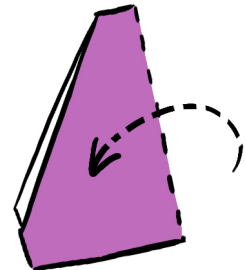
3. FOLD THE SHIP IN HALF FROM TOP TO BOTTOM



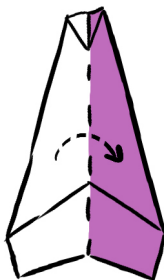
4. FOLD IN THE LEFT AND RIGHT SIDES



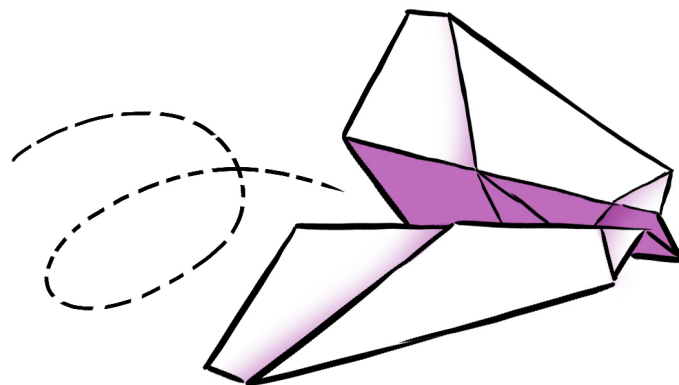
5. FOLD THE TRIANGLE UP



6. FOLD THE SHIP IN HALF, RIGHT TO THE LEFT, AS SHOWN HERE



7. FOLD DOWN TO MAKE A WING. REPEAT ON THE OTHER SIDE

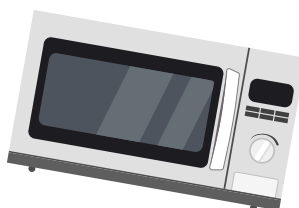
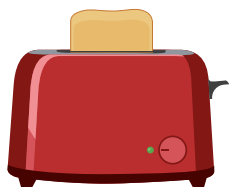
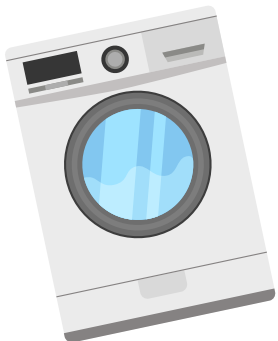
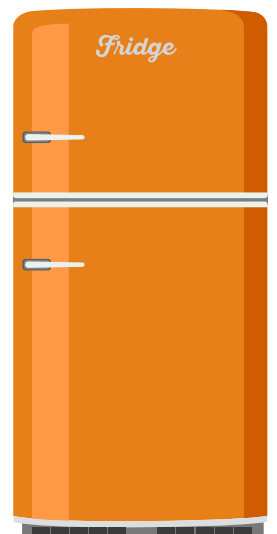
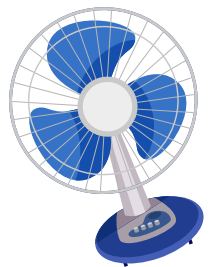


8. YOUR WONDER PLANE IV WILL LOOK LIKE THIS



UPGRADE AN INVENTION

Pick one of the inventions on this page. How can you UPGRADE it to help you spend time with God?
Draw a picture of your new invention below!



DAY 5 MINI-EVENTS

i wonder...

Here are some ideas on what to do if you decide to have an extra day of VBS! Rather than the usual programming, here are some fun ways to close out I Wonder.

EVENT | Museum Day

- Plan a trip to your local science museum to try out some in-person STEM activities. This can be run as a family event for parents and their kids to go as a family or as a trip led by VBS volunteers. Check local science museum websites for group pricing. Collect release forms from parents of the kids attending this trip. Prep and pack lunches for the kids.
- You can also check out [virtual tours](#) as an alternative.

EVENT | Space Day

- This can be run as either Day 5 of VBS or as an event for the whole family. Set up inside or outside and have groups rotate through a series of space-related STEM games and events that relate to the theme of I Wonder.
- You can select from, or do all of, [these activities!](#) We suggest—nay, insist—you try out the [stomp rocket!](#)

EVENT | Engineering Day

- Host an Engineering Day (or night) where families come together to rotate through five engineering challenges. Search online for cool gadgets, gizmos, whatsits, and doodads families can make together, like this [bristle bot!](#)
- We suggest you purchase this [Family Engineering Book](#) for challenge ideas. This resource is an inexpensive way to prep, set up, and run your own family engineering event. It's also available in [Spanish](#).

EVENT | H₂O Day

- Make this a Day 5 event for your VBS. Set up outside and have groups rotate through a series of STEM activities involving water. You can also include swimming pools, sprinklers, inflatable slides, water squirters, and other outdoor favorites for an epic day of water play!

- Here are some suggestions for STEM-related water activities:
 - **Build a Waterslide.** Kids will use materials to create their own waterslide and try to successfully land their LEGO mini figure into the pool.
 - **Marble Maze.** Kids will use pool noodles to create a water marble maze to try and make the longest run they can.
 - **Water Balloon Launcher.** Kids will use PVC pipes to construct their own version of a water balloon sling shot stand and see how far it can launch a water balloon.
 - **Water Bottle Flip.** Kids will try to flip a water bottle as high as they can and try to get it to land upright.
 - **Drops on a Coin.** Kids will use a penny, water, and a pipette to determine how many drops of water they can fit on their coin before it spills over.

PLAY STATIONS

i wonder...

Play Stations are activity centers that require less structure and encourage free play. These are a great way to break up a full-day program to give your kids (and volunteers!) a break. You can set up the same stations every day or change them up for each session. Let kids float around between stations freely, but designate leaders to supervise.

Some ways to monitor the flow is to tell the kids that each station cannot exceed a certain number of kids (e.g., 5-6), so if they see a station that is full, they can go to another one. If you feel there is a station that is more popular, set a timer for how long kids are allowed to stay, or ensure them that the station will be back the next day.

STATION 1 | Build-a-Thing

- Kids will have an (almost) endless supply of popsicle sticks, rubber bands, and clothespins to build whatever thing they can dream up!

STATION 2 | Cup O' Lego

- Kids will each be given one cup of various Lego bricks. Using just the bricks in their cup, kids will design and construct a bridge to get their Lego mini figures across the water.

STATION 3 | Run, Marble, Run!

- Kids will be given their own sheet of cardboard, and will use straws and tape to construct a marble run. Taping straws from top to bottom they will see if they can get their marble to run the maze, [like this](#).

STATION 4 | Magnetic Makers

- Kids will use magnetic tiles to construct their own creations or you can provide task cards like [these](#) with 2-D or 3-D challenges.

STATION 5 | Paper Plane Challenge

- Kids will use a variety of paper and techniques to build the best paper airplane.

STATION 6 | STEM Library

- Kids will have a chance to read some STEM-inspired stories, both fiction and non-fiction! Borrow the suggested titles (see Shop & Prep List) from your local library, purchase them, or see if anyone can lend you their copy!

STATION 7 | Fort the Love of STEM

- Kids will use all the essentials to build a classic blanket fort! Make it more challenging by changing up the number of people that need to fit inside.

STATION 8 | On Your Mark, Get STEM, GO!

- Kids will use a straw, sponge, and sandwich bag to race their toy cars. Check out [this video](#) to get an idea of how it should go.
- Stack two sponges inside a plastic sandwich bag. Place the drinking straw between the two sponges inside the bag and have one end stick out through the bag's opening. Seal the zipper as tightly as possible (except for where the straw sticks out) and tape over it as well.
- Kids can blow into the straw to inflate the bag, then position the straw behind a toy car. Have them press down on the bag to release air and charge the car forward!