

GOD MADE ME VALUABLE

STORY: CREATION / YEAR: VALUE

BIG TRUTH: GOD MADE ME VALUABLE

Genesis 1:27; Psalm 24:1-2; 104:24; Isaiah 43:4; 49:15; Zephaniah 3:17; Matthew 6:26; 30-34; Luke 12:4-7; 24; 28-31; John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 1 John 3:1; 4:9-10

BIBLE VERSE: PSALM 139:13-14

"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it well."

BIG IDEAS

- Everyone has value and worth because we are made in God's image.
- Our failures and sin do not change our value and worth.
- We are made lovely by God's love for us through Jesus.

BIBLE STORY: JOHN 4

Every person is created by God and has great value. Because every person is created in God's image, we are all valuable no matter how we sin or fail. God loves each person and has made us all uniquely and incredibly. We are of great value to Him and we should value all life.

STORY: CREATION

God created everything. Everything we see, hear, feel, taste, and that exists was created by Him. Not only did He create everything, but He created everything perfectly, including humanity. He created mankind in His very image and likeness to reflect His worth. All of creation was made just like He wanted and designed it to be. To His delight, God looked at everything He made and declared that it was good. All creation exists for God, is good, and was created to bring Him glory.

BIG AIMS



Every child should know that:

- God created man and woman in His image



Every child should feel:

- Unique among all creation as an image bearer



Every child should:

- Respect other people as image bearers



Every child should want:

- To be holy and reflect God's image well

FAMILY DEVOTION: EVERY PERSON IS VALUABLE

There isn't one person who has ever lived that wasn't valuable to God. Everyone has great value and is loved by God. We are valuable because God has made us valuable, not because of anything we do or don't do.



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God knows our lives before we are even born.

- God is our Creator and He has a plan for our lives before we are even born.
- God knows us and is involved in creating us.
- He is the all-knowing Creator who knows the course of our lives before we are even born.

God forms us in our mother's womb.

- God is the giver of all life.
- We are first thought of in God's mind and then He creates us in our mother's womb.
- He allows our lives to begin in our mother's womb, creating every detail of us.
- He knows us and forms us in our mother's womb and knows how long we will live.

Because God creates us in His image, we are valuable.

- God is intimately involved in all of our lives and He is especially in our beginning.
- We are not born accidentally or by chance. God knows us and forms us.
- He is our powerful and great Creator who gives us life in our mother's womb.
- God's creation of us in His image gives us great value.
- Every person is created in God's image and every person has value.

BIBLE STORY: JOHN 4

The Samaritan Woman

Opening Illustration:

Gather together several soft balls and medium sized containers. Divide the children into two to three small teams. Give each team one of the balls and ask them to toss the ball into the container. If they hit the container, they get to name something that God created. If they miss the container, they get to name some way that God rules over creation. Once they've played several times, lead them in a discussion about how God is the Creator of everything, even people and He rules over everything.

- Who is the Creator of all things? (God is the Creator of all things.)
- Who rules over all of creation? (God is the ruler of all creation.)
- God is our Creator. He creates every person and He cares for us, too.
- God is the Creator of everything everywhere.

BIG IDEA: EVERYONE HAS VALUE AND WORTH BECAUSE WE ARE MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE.

What does it mean for something to have value? (It means it is worth money or it is considered special to someone.)

God is the greatest being alive.¹

- Because God is the one, true God, His image is valuable.
- We are created in God's image, so we are very valuable.
- There is no one like God.
- No one is as mighty or as great as God is.
- Since God is so mighty and great, we are of great value.
- The Samaritan woman was valuable to Jesus. She was so valuable, He was willing to pass through Samaria even though it was normal for Jews to go around Samaria.



Help the children make a list of all the people who are valuable to a town or city. For example, a fireman is valuable because he puts out fires and rescues people. Lead them in a discussion about how we are all valuable to God and we are all made in His image.

God created every person in His image.

- Every person is formed in the image of God.
- We are all a reflection of God's image.
- We are made in His image even if we sin or fail at obeying Him.
- Even those who do not follow God are made in His image.
- Every person is created by God in His image.

Our value and worth are found in God.

- Because God, who is the most holy being, created us, we have value and worth.
- We are valuable because God made us and He makes us valuable.
- Because God considers us to have worth, we have worth, no matter the actions and decisions we make.²

1. Psalm 95:3: God is the greatest of beings. No one is higher or greater than He.

2. Zephaniah 3:17: God rejoices over His people. He finds great value in man who is created in His image.

BIG IDEA: OUR FAILURES AND SIN DO NOT CHANGE OUR VALUE AND WORTH.³**We have value and worth because God formed us.**

- Our value comes from God and not from anything we do.
- The Jews did not think the Samaritans had worth. They looked down upon the Samaritans. They would bypass Samaria in order to avoid any interaction with the Samaritans.
- When Jesus chose to go through Samaria to Galilee, He showed His followers that every person has value because every person is made in God's image.
- The Samaritan woman at the well had great value and worth because she was created in God's image, not because she did anything to make herself worthy.
- Every person, no matter where they come from, has value because their Creator is valuable and He says they are valuable.

Nothing we do takes away the value we have.

- The Samaritan woman had made bad choices in her life. She had made sinful choices and failed at many things.
- She had not glorified God with her life, but she still had value and worth.
- Jesus proved the value of every life by going through Samaria to Galilee.
- Even though the Samaritan woman had sinned, she was very valuable to God.
- She was made in God's image and that made her valuable.



Give each child a piece of blank paper and a marker. Ask the children to make a mark for every time they have disobeyed God this past week. Ask them questions about their week to help them think of times they have disobeyed, such as “did you obey your parents every day this week? Were you nice to your brothers and sisters every day this week?” Next, lead them in a discussion about how their pieces of paper can't really be used for anything now, but that's not how God sees us. Show them that even though they disobeyed or behaved badly this week, He still sees them as valuable.

What gives people value and worth? (Being made in God's image gives people value and worth.)

3. Romans 5:8: God shows us mercy and loves us even while we are sinners. We are valuable to Him no matter the life we live.

BIG IDEA: WE ARE MADE LOVELY BY GOD'S LOVE FOR US THROUGH JESUS.**Our value is given to us by God.**

- Nothing we do or say makes us valuable.
- God gives us life and He gives us value.
- He is our Creator and He determines what is valuable and what is not.
- Because we are made in God's image, we have great value.
- God loves us and His love for us makes us valuable and lovely to Him.



Ask the children to name something that is very valuable to them. Allow them to take turns describing it and explaining why it is valuable. Most will probably say that they love the thing that is most valuable to them. Lead them in a discussion about how God loves us and His love makes us valuable and lovely to Him.

God's love makes us valuable.

- God's love is perfect and eternal.
- We have value because God loves us. We are important to Him.
- God loves us and made us in His image to be known by Him.
- God's love makes us lovely because His love works in our hearts.
- When we have saving faith in His Son, Jesus, our hearts are changed by God's love.

Because of God's love for us, He sent His Son to pay our sin debt.⁴

- At times in our lives, we have disobeyed God and behaved badly.
- Our disobedience and poor choices are our sin debt to God.
- Because God loves us, He considered us so valuable that He sent His Son to pay our sin debt.
- We could not pay our own sin debt, yet God made a way for us to be with Him without having to pay our own sin debt.
- God's love changes our hearts and shows how valuable we are to Him.
- Nothing we do makes us lovely. It is only God's love of us that makes us lovely.
- We are lovely because God loves us and considers us valuable.
- He gave up His only Son that He might be reconciled to us if we repent of our sins and believe in His Son, Jesus.

How are we made lovely? (God's love makes us lovely. We are not made lovely by anything we do or say.)

4. John 3:16: It was God's love for us that caused Him to send His Son to die on the cross for our sins.

HOOKS

**Everyone Is Valuable**

Print out or write Psalm 139:13-14 on a large piece of paper. Create a puzzle of the verse by cutting puzzle pieces out of the piece of paper after the verse is written on it. Divide the children into teams and let them take turns timing themselves putting the puzzle together. Do it several times to give each team an opportunity to do it quickly. Lead the children in a discussion about how each person is valuable because they are made in the image of God.



- What do these verses say about how we are created? (They say that we are fearfully and wonderfully made.)
- Does this mean that we have value? (Yes. We all have value.)
- God made every person in His image and this means that we are very valuable.

**God's Love Makes Us Valuable**

Divide the children into groups of three to four. Give each group a piece of paper and some markers. Ask the group to list some of the things that each person in their group loves and why they love them. When each group is finished making their list, have the groups share their lists and explanations. Lead them in a discussion of how God's love makes us valuable. He loves us and considers us to be very valuable.

