

GOD KNOWS ME

STORY: CREATION / YEAR: VALUE

BIG TRUTH: GOD KNOWS ME

Psalm 139:1-6; 1 Samuel 16:7; 1 Chronicles 28:9; Jeremiah 1:5; 32:17-19; Hebrews 4:12-13

BIBLE VERSE: PSALM 139:16

"Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me when as yet there was none of them."

BIG IDEAS

- God knows us because He made us.
- God knows who we will be.
- God knows us better than we know ourselves.
- God knows us because He sees the heart.

BIBLE STORY: JOHN 1:35-50

In this passage we see Jesus calling His disciples to follow Him. Even before He came to earth, He knew who His disciples would be. He knows each one of us in the same way. Because God is our Creator, He knows the number of days we will live and He has a perfect plan for those days. Just as Jesus knew His disciples even before they left everything to follow Him, we are known by God.

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



KNOW

Every child should know that:

- God created man and woman in His image



DO

Every child should:

- Respect other people as image bearers



FEEL

Every child should feel:

- Unique among all creation as an image bearer



WANT

Every child should want:

- To be holy and reflect God's image well

FAMILY DEVOTION:

GOD KNOWS US BECAUSE HE MADE US

God isn't just our Creator; He is our Father. Because He created us, He knows us very well. He knows what our hearts are like and what we will do with our lives because He formed us.



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171 Promise Land Dr. Gray, TN 37615

STORY: CREATION
GOD KNOWS ME**BIBLE VERSE: PSALM 139:16**

"Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me when as yet there was none of them."

God is an all-knowing God.

- God is aware of all things.
- He knows all things because He is all-knowing and He controls all things.
- God knows everything about everyone because He is the Creator of all things.
- He is the maker of everything and He has power over everything.
- He knows every part of every person because He is the Creator.

God knows each person intimately because He forms every person.

- God designs and forms every person in their mother's womb.
- He creates each person and knows what he or she will look like before they are born.
- God is the maker of every person; He is the life giver.

God knows all the days of every person's life.

- God knows the days of every person.
- Only God knows the number of days a person will live on the earth.
- Only God knows how a person will live their days.
- God is personally involved in the creation of every person.
- He creates and forms every person.

BIBLE STORY: JOHN 1:35-50

Jesus Calls The Disciples

Opening Illustration:

On heavy cardstock paper, write down different things that God created. Make sure to include the following: sea creatures, birds, animals, angels, and man. You can have as many pieces of cardstock as you like. Place the pieces of cardstock on the floor and then play a game of beanbag toss with the children. When a child hits one of the pieces of paper, they get to turn it over and tell the class something that God created. When every child has had a turn, lead them in a discussion about God as the Creator of all things. Make sure to include that God created the sea creatures, birds, animals, angels, and man and He rules over everything.

STORY: CREATION
GOD KNOWS ME**BIG IDEA: GOD KNOWS US BECAUSE HE MADE US.¹****God understands us because He made us.**

- God knows everything about us because He created us.
- He knows what our personalities are like because He created us.
- He understands our strengths and weaknesses.
- He knows all of our abilities.
- He knows our innermost thoughts and feelings.
- He is all-knowing and He is our Creator.
- God knew the disciples of Jesus.
- They were chosen to be Jesus' disciples even before they met Jesus.
- God knew everything about them.



Read Psalm 139:4 to the children. Discuss with them what it means that God knows us and what we are going to say before we even say it. Remind them that God is our Creator and He knows all things

God is the Creator of all people.

- We are all created by God.
- Even before we are in our mother's womb, God knows us.
- He knows every person who has ever lived and every person who will ever live.
- God knows and understands each person.
- He knew who would be Jesus' disciples even before they knew it themselves.
- He knew that they would leave everything to follow Him.
- He understood their strengths and weaknesses and even who they would become.

What does God know about people? (He knows everything about people.)

Why does God know all that He does about every person? (He is all-knowing and He is the Creator of every person.)

1. 1 Corinthians 2:11a: God knows the thoughts and heart of every person. The Holy Spirit is God and the Holy Spirit lives inside of God's people.

STORY: CREATION
GOD KNOWS ME**BIG IDEA: GOD KNOWS WHO WE WILL BE.²****Before we are born God knows who we will become.**

- God is personally involved in our lives.
- He is involved in the forming of our lives.
- He is involved in the daily happenings of our lives.
- God knew all twelve of the disciples before they were even born.
- He knew they would answer the call to follow Jesus.
- God knows each of us the same way.



Ask the children to share what they hope to do or be when they grow up. Share with the children some of the things you wanted to be or do when you were a child. Talk with them about how God always knows exactly what we will be. He knows us and He knows the future.

God knows our future, our present, and our past.

- God knows everything about us.
- He knew Nathanael's past when He revealed he was sitting under a fig tree.
- He knew Nathanael's present as he stood talking to Jesus.
- He knew Nathanael's future because He told Nathanael he would see many more wonders.
- God knows each person in the same way.
- He knows all there is to know about us and all there will be to know about us in the future.

What does God know about each of us? (He knows everything about us. He knows our past, present, and future.)

2. Proverbs 19:21: God knows what man will be; though man may have plans of his own, God knows what the future will be.

STORY: CREATION
GOD KNOWS ME**BIG IDEA: GOD KNOWS US BETTER THAN WE KNOW OURSELVES.³****Because God is our Creator, He knows us the best.**

- God knows our future and our past, so He knows us better than we know ourselves.
- God knows the decisions we will make in the future.
- He knows all the things we've done in the past.
- Jesus knew His disciples better than they knew themselves.
- He knew what they would be doing and where they would be on the day He called them to follow Him.
- He knows these same things about each person.



Pair the children up with someone and then give them several minutes to find out as much information about each other as they can. Ask a few of the pairs to share their information when the time is up. Talk with them about how God knows us even better than we know ourselves.

God understands us perfectly.

- God is the designer of every person.
- He forms every person and makes them unique.
- God knows everything about us and He understands us.
- He understands why we do the things we do.
- He understands why we like the things we like.
- He understands us better than we understand ourselves.
- Jesus understood each of His disciples better than they understood themselves.
- He knew that a better name for Simon was "Cephas," or "Peter."
- He knew that Nathanael would see even greater wonders and signs.
- He understands each of us so much more than any other person does or we do ourselves.

If God understands us better than we understand ourselves, what type of response should we have to Him? (We should obey Him because He knows us better than we know ourselves.)

3. Matthew 12:25: Jesus knew the thoughts of the man, of every man He encountered. He understood their motives even more than they understood themselves.

BIG IDEA: GOD KNOWS US BECAUSE HE SEES THE HEART.**God sees our hearts always.⁴**

- God knows our hearts and understands them.
- He created our hearts and He knows what is in them.
- Jesus knew who Nathanael was and that his heart was not deceitful.
- He knew what Simon, Andrew and all the other disciples were like in their hearts.
- God knows our reasons, or motives for doing things because He knows our hearts.
- He sees our hearts even when we think they are hidden.



Attach a small heart-shaped piece of paper onto the end of an empty paper towel roll. Tell the children that the paper towel roll represents what God can see about us. Let each child take a turn looking in the paper towel roll to see the heart at the end. Talk with them about how God can see our hearts and He knows everything about us.

Our hearts reveal who we are.

- Inside our hearts are our motives and desires.
- Our motives and desires reveal who we are and how we think and feel.
- God knows our hearts and He understands our motives and desires.
- He knows us so well because He sees into our hearts.
- He sees and works in places that only He can reach.
- He, alone, knows us completely and fully.
- No one else knows us like God does because no one else can see into our hearts and know what we really feel and think.

Jesus knew His disciples' hearts.

- Before the first disciples followed Jesus, Jesus knew their hearts.
- Jesus knew them before they were even born and He knew they would follow Him.
- Jesus understood them because He could see their hearts.
- He knew the struggles they would have and He knew what they would do even after He was gone.
- He knows these things about each one of us.

How does Jesus know us so well? (He sees our hearts.)

4. Jeremiah 17:10: God searches our hearts and knows the heart of man. He understands us and our hearts.

HOOKS

**God Knows Our Hearts**

Give each child a heart-shaped paper and some markers. Ask the children to write down a couple of things they love and a couple of things they fear. Have the children share the words they wrote on their hearts with the class. Lead them in a discussion about how God knows our hearts, even the things we don't tell other people.



- God knows everything about us.
- He knows what is in our hearts even when no one else knows.
- God can see our hearts and He knows why we do the things we do.

**God Knows What We Will Be**

Bring in several different sports balls to class, such as a basketball, volleyball, soccer ball, and tennis ball. Choose several children to be your volunteers and take them outside of the classroom. Give each child a different ball and have them wait outside the room until you call them in. Once you are back inside the classroom, ask the rest of the class to guess what the child is going to do in the future by the ball he or she is holding. Ask each child outside of the classroom to come inside one at a time and give the class a chance to guess. Once every child has returned, lead the class in a discussion about how God knows what we will become because He knows the future.



- How did we know what game each classmate was going to play? (We knew by the type of ball he or she was holding.)
- God knows what we are going to be in the future because He knows the future.
- God knows everything.