

You are Valuable to God!

Memory Verse: Psalm 139:14 “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.”

Main Teaching: I am valuable to God

Word Up: I am valuable to God

Supplies:

- Word Up Booklet – Word Up (Resource Pack)
- Recording for “Let’s Get Started” and “Jesus is the Good News” - Worship (Sing About the King 3 CD)
- Optional Song Visuals for “Let’s Get Started” and “Jesus is the Good News” (cefpress.com)
- Club Rules Visual
- Memory Verse Visual – Memory Verse (Resource Pack)
- Joni Eareckson Tada Story – Missionary Story (Resource Pack)
- One balloon for each small group – Small Group
- Copy of Invite from God for each small group – Small Group / Wonder Time (Resource Pack)
- Memory Verse Token Psalm 139:14 for each child – Dismissal (Resource Pack)

Schedule at a Glance (75 min club):

15 min – Small Group Name Game
 10 min – Worship
 10 min – Rules Chart
 15 min – Memory Verse
 5 min – Missions Story
 10 min – Small Group Balloon Game
 10 min – Small Group Wonder Time

INTRODUCTION

It only takes a quick glance at culture to see that people often place little value on life. Abortion, sex trafficking, euthanasia, child abuse, and other sins plague our world, our country, and our cities and towns. Children often feel the brunt of these assaults on the value of human life. They can be discarded or used at the discretion of evil adults in their lives. Some of these children are in the classes you teach. This lesson series is designed to give children a biblical view of their value in God’s eyes and the hope that comes with knowing about that value. As children learn of their worth, they will be challenged to see and value others as God does. To God, children are not outcasts but are His precious, valuable creations. We have value because God gives us value. He made us in His image. That is what sets us apart from His other creation. The great price Jesus paid to reconcile man to God demonstrates the value He has placed on us. As you teach this lesson, pray God will use these truths to help children see they are not outcasts, but valuable creations of God.



SMALL GROUP

Name Game

Kids sit in a circle. Everyone says their name and a food that starts with the first letter of their name. The leader writes down the food. Then, call out a food and everyone yells the name of the person that said that food and points to them. You could also do this with animals if you have time.

WORSHIP

"Let's Get Started"

"Jesus is the Good News"

CLUB RULES**Looks Like/Sounds Like Chart**

"When you are driving in a car, why is it important to follow the traffic rules? You might crash, hurt someone etc. In Good News Club it is important to have rules too. That way everyone can learn about Jesus and have fun, and no one gets hurt." If you know the rules for the school you are in, you can use those, or you can use the Up Rules. "





WORD UP!

"I am valuable to God!"

(If possible, bring something valuable to you.) This (name item) is valuable to me! It's special because (give reasons why you value it). I would be very sad if I lost it. It's precious to me. But as valuable as I think this is, you and I are much more valuable to God. You are His precious treasure that He loves! You aren't valuable because of something you did. You are valuable because God made you valuable. He even paid a great price for you. We're going to learn more about what it means to be valuable to God. Say with me, **"I am valuable to God!"** (Say with children.) Any time in the club when you say "Word UP!" the kids stand and say "I am valuable to God!"



MEMORY VERSE

"I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."
(Psalm 139:14)

INTRODUCTION

(Hold up something roughly 2 to 2.5 inches [5-6 cm] long.) Did you know that when a baby has been growing in his or her mom for only 12 weeks, all the baby's major organs (important body parts) are already developed and functioning? The baby is only just over two inches long but has every major organ—heart, lungs, stomach, intestines, brain, and more. That is amazing! There are so many amazing things about how a baby grows inside his or her mom. Even the Bible talks about how amazing it is!

PRESENTATION

The Bible is God's Word. Everything in it is true, including this verse we are going to learn today! (Read Psalm 139:14 from Bible.) Our memory verse is found in the Bible in the book of Psalms. The Bible is one big book divided into 66 smaller books that all point to God's one big story. Psalms is one of these books. A Psalm is a poem or song. The book of Psalms is made up of 150 poems and songs to God. You can find it near the middle of the Bible. (Open to middle of Bible, showing Psalms.) Our verse is in chapter 139, which is the big number, verse 14, which is the small number. It is hard for all of you to see the verse from my Bible so I have it here on the visual. (Show visual and read with children.) Psalm 139:14 is called the address or reference of this verse because it tells us where to find it in the Bible. Let's say just the address in a cow voice, a sheep voice and a duck voice to help us remember the address.

EXPLANATION

I praise you—The writer of this Psalm says he has a reason to praise God—to tell how wonderful God is.

for I am fearfully and wonderfully made—God is the Creator of all things. He made everything and everyone in the world. He made you! The writer wants to praise God because he knows God made him in a wonderful way. The word "fearfully" means to be in amazement of. He is saying, "God is amazing and He made me in amazing and wonderful ways!" This is true for every single person on the Earth. Sometimes, because the world isn't perfect, babies are born with diseases or problems. But even then, God has made each person intentionally and carefully. Every person is amazing and wonderful because God made them!

Wonderful are your works—Everything God does is wonderful and marvelous, but this verse is talking especially about God making people. When God makes a baby to grow in his or her mother, it is wonderful. Each person is an amazing work of God.

my soul knows it very well—When the writer says that his soul knows very well, he is saying he is so sure God's work in making people is wonderful, that he knows it deep down in the very center of who he is.

God makes every person in an amazing and wonderful way because God is amazing!

APPLICATION

Saved: If you have already believed in Jesus as your Savior, **remember your value comes from God.** He made you to be you—different than anyone else who has ever lived on the Earth. You can praise Him for His greatness and for making you who you are.

Unsaved: God wants every person to know they are made in an amazing and wonderful way by Him. That's one reason God put Psalm 139 in the Bible. God made you and He says you are valuable. You are so valuable to Him that He sent Jesus, His perfect Son, to die and rise again so your sins can be forgiven. Sins are anything you say, do or think that makes God sad or breaks His laws. Things like lying, or making fun of someone who is different than you are, or even thinking mean thoughts about someone else. Because of our sin, we are separated from God. But God wants to have a relationship with you. When you believe in Jesus, you will have a friendship with God that starts right now and lasts forever!

INVITATION



What about you? Do you know that you have sinned? Do you know that Jesus died on the cross to take the punishment for your sin? Have you made the decision to put your trust in Him? The Bible says in Romans 10:13 *"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved"*. This verse is talking to you and me and everyone in the world. To call on Jesus is to believe that Jesus is the only one who can save you. It is putting all your trust in Him to save you from your sin instead of in yourself or in things that you do. If you trust Him, you will be saved, or rescued from the punishment of sin. Will you call on Jesus today to save you from your sins? Please bow your head and close your eyes. If you called on Jesus for the very first time today, or you want to talk to someone more about doing that, please show me by raising your hand. If you raised your hand, please meet me (*designate location*) and I'll show you more from God's Word how you can be saved.

REPETITION

God Made Me

Make cards with different body parts on them; i.e., eyes, ears, head, fingers, toes, nose, etc. Have children pull a card out of a bag every time the verse is said. When they pull out a card, they name what it is and say, "God made my [name of part]." Then they can choose something to do with that part of their body while they say the verse, such as blinking their eyes, wiggling their ears, touching their nose, etc. Depending on your club dynamics, you might want to give them a few options to pick from for each card rather than having them choose something on their own.

MISSIONS STORY

Joni Eareckson Tada

Written by Jody Foster

Adapted by Aubrey Kyle and Sarah Porch

Illustrated by Stephen Bates

Part 1

What are some of your favorite things to do? *(Allow response.)* Eight-year-old Joni *(pronounced Johnny)* Eareckson loved spending time with her dad while riding their horses around the beautiful countryside where they lived in Baltimore, Maryland. Joni knew God was the magnificent Creator and that she was a part of His creation, but Joni was only beginning to understand that God loved and cared about her.

Sometimes Joni wondered, *Does He really love me?*

As a teenager Joni was popular. She had lots of friends, was great at playing sports like tennis and hockey, made excellent grades in school, and was nominated to the honor society. Yet, Joni couldn't help but feel like something was missing from her life. She knew *about* God but she wasn't sure about her relationship with Him.

"Mom, may I attend Young Life Camp?" Joni asked one day. "It's a Christian camp, and everyone says it'll be great. Several of my friends are going, too." What do you think Joni's mom said? Touch your knees if you think she said yes, and touch your shoulders if you think she said no. *(Allow response.)* If you touched your knees, you're right! Joni's mom said she could go to the camp!



One night at camp after singing and playing games, Joni listened carefully as the leader shared, "God loves you so much that He sent His perfect Son, Jesus Christ, to die for you. God hates sin, but Jesus took the punishment for your sins when He died on the cross. After three days, Jesus came back to life. Believing in Jesus and what He did for you is the only way to have your sins forgiven."

Later that night, Joni sat outside on a huge rock near the camp. She couldn't stop thinking about what the speaker had said.

I've never thought about myself as a sinner before, she thought, but I know it's true. I can't save myself from my sin, but God loved me enough to send His only Son to die for me. That night, Joni trusted God to forgive her sin and asked Him to help her obey His Word. When she got home from camp, Joni told her friends and family this exciting news, and she soon began telling others what God had done for her as well.

Joni wanted to serve God and know Him better. One day Joni prayed, "God, do something in my life to help me know You better. Change my life so I'll love You more."

A few weeks later on a hot July afternoon, Joni went with her sister Kathy to the Chesapeake Bay. It was a perfect day to spend in the cool water.

Joni loved to dive, so she swam away from the shore to a small, wooden raft. Pulling herself up, she shook off the water. "Aaaah, this feels great!" Balanced on the edge of the raft, she lifted her arms over her head and dove through the smooth surface of the water as she had done many times before. But this time her head hit something hard and her arms went out of control. She heard a loud buzzing, and felt a sharp tingle, like she'd been electrocuted!

**What had happened to Joni?
Would she be okay? You'll have to
come back next time to find out more.**



SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

Name Game with Balloon

Kids sit in a circle. Kids tap the balloon, trying not to let it hit the floor. Every child who taps the balloon says their name. When the balloon hits the floor the person that picks it up says the name of the kids on both sides of them. As you learn everyone's name, you could go around the circle and say everyone's name out loud. Social distancing variation: Give every child a piece of paper to roll up and tap the balloon with so no hands touch the balloon.



SMALL GROUP / WONDER TIME

An Invitation from God

Do you like to get letters? Today we are going to open a letter that has an important truth from God's Word in it. (Choose a child to open the first letter. You can put the invitation note from the Resource Kit in an envelope for the child to open.)

It's an invitation! It says, "God invites you to know Him!" How do you think you can get to know God? (*Allow response.*) The best way to know God is through His book, the Bible. The Bible is different from any other book ever written. Here are three ways you can know the Bible is true and is God's Word. (Have 3 slips of paper in your Bible for kids to pull out and read the titles.)

1. **God gave His words to men to write down.** Forty different people wrote the 66 books in the Bible over a period of 1,600 years. They lived at different times and in different places. God told them what to write, and they wrote it down.
2. **God's words were copied carefully over many, many years by men called "scribes".** They didn't have copy machines or printing presses. A scribe would take part of the Bible and very carefully recopy it word-for-word onto a new scroll so none of God's words would ever be lost.
3. **God's word agrees.** Even though the Bible was written over a long period of time, all of it agrees together. All the books tell the wonderful story of God working to rescue people from their problem of sin.

Discussion:

Do you have a Bible? Have you ever read it? Show the kids a Bible app and a paper copy of the Bible. A good place to begin reading is in the book of Mark. When you read the Bible, that is God talking to you. When you pray that is you talking to God. Is there anything you would like to tell God today? End in prayer.

DISMISSAL

Hand out the memory verse token to each child and encourage them to memorize the verse and bring the token back completed next week. As they leave, use each child's name to say "Alex, you are valuable to God."