

You are Valuable to God!

Bible Lesson: You are valuable to God! Genesis 1:1, 26-27, 3:1-15; Psalm 130:13-15; I Corinthians 15:3-5

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 “I Praise You” - Worship (Sing About the King 3 CD)
- Optional Song Visual for “Let’s Get Started” – Worship (cefpress.com)
- Memory Verse Visual for Psalm 139:14 – Worship (Resource Pack)
- Rules Poster
- Flashcards for Bible Story “You are Valuable to God” – Bible Lesson
- Optional objects for Bible Story: \$20, \$1, nature item, baby bottle or baby doll, necklace or ring, wooden cross or large nail, crown
- Royal Treasure Hunt Jewel Point Cards – Review Game (Resource Pack)
- Quiet Time Week 1 handout for each child – Dismissal (Resource Pack)

Schedule at a Glance (75 min club):

15 min – Small Group
10 min – Worship
10 min – Rules Chart
15 min – Bible Lesson
15 min – Review Game
10 min – Small Group



SMALL GROUP

Say Memory Verse

Have kids say their memory verse from last week to their small group leader.

Review Names

Review Names of everyone in your small group. You can play the name game where they say their name and something that God made that starts with the letter of their name.

What team have you been on?

Discuss with the kids what teams they have been on. Take notes in your small group notebook to help you remember what the kids say.

WORSHIP

To learn songs and motions, go to cefonline.com/freedemos

“Let’s Get Started”

“I Praise You”

CLUB RULES

Looks Like/Sounds Like Chart

"Last week in club we talked about club rules for large group time. This week, we are going to talk about small group time, and transitioning from small group to large group. Small group time is a great time for you to talk and ask questions. Your leader wants to get to know what you like. But that can only happen if we are respectful and listen to each other and the Small Group Leader." Talk about how the Up Rules work in small group time, and how they should transition from small group to large group. Then role play following those rules and not following those rules.



WORD UP!

"I am valuable to God!"

"Have you ever made something for someone else? Maybe it was a homemade Christmas gift or a painting or a card. If you give that to your mom, she will value it because you made it! God is the one that made you and He

values you over everything. Today in club whenever someone says 'Word Up', stand up and say 'I am valuable to God!'"



BIBLE LESSON

(Hold up \$20 bill and \$1 bill.) If I offered you one of these bills right now, which one would you take? Why? (Allow responses.) You'd take the \$20 because it's more valuable than the \$1. You can buy more things with it because it has more worth.

Sometimes people treat others like these two bills—all people have value, but they think one person is more valuable than another. They may treat people differently based on what they look like, where they're from, who their family is, or what they can or cannot do. But these things don't give people value or take their value away. Today we're going to talk about the one who gives everyone great value, no matter what they are like or who they are.

PROGRESSION OF EVENTS

The one I'm talking about is God. God is the Creator of everything! He put thought and care into everything He made. On the count of three, shout out something God made. (Do with children.) God could have made everything the same. But He didn't. Because He is awesomely creative, He makes everything unique and special. He puts care into everything He does.

Flashcard 1-1 or Item from nature (flower, branch etc.)

Every snowflake (or flower or leaf) is different and has its own special pattern. Can you imagine how many creative patterns are in all the snow that comes down in a snowstorm? God makes each snowflake unique, because He is creative!

Every person's fingerprints also show God's creativity. Nobody's fingerprints are exactly the same. Fingerprints show God's creativity and care.

God's creativity is especially shown in how He made people! God made every single person who has ever lived on Earth. God made people to be like Him in certain ways. This is called being made in God's image. (Read Genesis 1:26a, 27.) Like God, you and I are creative—we like to make things. Like God, you and I can love. Like God, you and I can communicate and express our thoughts. We are able to relate to God, to other people, and even with His creation. People are like this because we are made in God's image. Animals are wonderful creations of God, but they aren't made in God's image like you are. God created people to know Him and love Him! When God made the first people, they were perfect. When He made the world, everything in it was perfect too. The first two people, Adam and Eve, lived perfectly with God, talking with Him and loving Him.

But then all that changed. One day Adam and Eve thought they knew better than God. They didn't trust God's love and His rules, and they sinned. Sin came and ruined God's perfect world. Now, plants and animals would die. Animals would be mean to each other. Sickness and death became a part of living on Earth. And people were far from God. This was not what God designed.



Sin causes all sorts of problems. Sin is doing, thinking, or saying things that are against God and His perfect way. When you treat others as if they are less important than you, you sin. When you bully or call people names, you sin. When you hurt someone else's body or feelings on purpose, you sin. Sin makes a mess of our world. You are born knowing how to sin and even wanting to sin. You don't want to go God's right way—you want to go your own way. (Read Romans 5:12.) When Adam and Eve sinned, they brought sin into the world. One of the things that came with sin is death. Plants die, animals die, and people die. But even worse is that when people die without knowing God, they are separated from Him forever in a terrible place of punishment. This is one of the terrible problems caused by sin.

A world hurt by sin was not what God designed. He made people to live forever with Him, enjoying Him and loving Him. He also wanted people to enjoy and love each other. But ever since sin came into the world, people don't treat each other God's way. People don't see others as God sees them—as His valuable creation. But God wants you to know that you are valuable—you are loved by Him and made in His image!

Flashcard 1-2 or a baby bottle, pacifier or doll

God's love for you started even before you were growing inside your mom. Psalm 139 talks about how lovingly God made you as you were growing where no one else could see you. But God could see you. Listen to these verses from God's Word. (Read Psalm 139:13-14, 16.) No one else could see how you were forming, but God could! When He created you, He even knew how long you would live on Earth.

Did you know God gave you the eye color you have? Maybe it's the same as one of your parents, or maybe it's the same as your great-grandma. God chose that eye color for you! As God was forming you inside your mom, He gave you all the DNA you will ever have. Your DNA determines what you will look like and how your body will work. Not only did God make your body, He also made your personality as you were growing in your mom. There is no one exactly like you. God put thought and care into making you, and He loves you!



God loves you more than you can imagine! He thought about you, put you together inside your mom, and brought you into this world to live and grow. God didn't stop thinking about you after you were born! He keeps thinking about you. He loves you with a great love. (Read Psalm 36:7a.) God's love for you is precious! God loves you because He chooses to. Your value doesn't come from what you do but from God.

Word Up Visual

Word Up, **"I am valuable to God!"** (Say with children.) You can know you have value because God says so. God can be trusted because He never lies. In fact, everything He does is good and right. He cannot do anything wrong. He loves you more than you can ever imagine!

God put thought and care into making you and He loves you! God put you together when you were growing inside your mother.

Think for a minute about all the things going on in your body right now. Take a deep breath. Now let it out. (Do with children.) Do you have to think about taking each breath? No, because your body knows to breathe automatically. God designed your brain and lungs to work together so you can breathe.

Now, put your hand on your chest. (Do with children.) What is beating? Do you have to tell your heart to keep beating? (Allow responses.) No! Your heart started beating when you were very, very small inside your mom. And God keeps it beating! You don't have to tell your heart to beat—it just does because God designed it to do that. Your heart pumps blood to your whole body, bringing life to it. It pumps blood to your lungs, which makes you breathe, and to your brain, which controls everything that happens in your body.

Now turn to the person next to you and look at his eyes. Look closely at the size of the pupils (the dark part in the middle). Each of you close and cover your eyes. Make sure you are still facing each other. I'm going to count to ten. When you hear ten, look at each other's eyes again. You'll have to look fast. Ready? (Count to ten slowly, then have the children open their eyes.) Did the person's pupils change size? (Allow response.) God made our eyes to adjust to light and darkness to help us see. Eyes are like the most amazing camera, only better. No camera made by man can even come close.

These are just some of the ways God is working in your body right now. He thinks about you and He keeps your body working. God designed you in amazing ways. Our memory verse talks about that. (Quote Psalm 139:14 with children.) You are fearfully and wonderfully made by God!

Word Up

Word Up: **"I am valuable to God!"** (Say with children)

Flashcard 1-3 or a necklace or a ring

There are many things people think of as being valuable. Can you name some things people think are valuable? (Allow response.) Money, jewelry, gold, diamonds, or even cars or houses are things people think are valuable. But to God, people are more valuable than any of those things!



If you have believed on Jesus as your Savior, **remember your value comes from God.** Maybe a bully says mean things about you and you wonder if they're true. Maybe people in your family say you are worthless or even hurt you. You may wonder if you actually are worthless. When others hurt your feelings or body, remember those things they are doing are sin. Those bad things don't determine your value. God says you are valuable! He is the one who gives you value. You can trust that when God says you are valuable, you are! You are made in His image and you are precious to Him. You don't have to do anything to earn or keep your value with God. He says, (read 1 John 3:1a). When you believe on Jesus, God says you are His child, and so you are! You can trust what God says about you. If someone is hurting you, it is always good to talk to God about it and to talk to an adult you trust. God might use that person to help. No matter what other people say or do, **remember your value comes from God.**

You have value because God says so! God created people with more value than any of His other created things.

Flashcard 1-4 or a wooden cross or large nail

Because God gives you value, He offers you friendship with Himself! But your sin makes friendship with God impossible. So God gave what was most valuable to Him—His Son—to bring you to Himself. Through God's Son, you can have a friendship with God and be with Him forever.



Jesus is God's perfect Son. In fact, He is God! He is completely without sin. But even though He never did anything wrong, Jesus came to Earth to take the punishment for sin you deserve. (Read Romans 5:8.) God showed you how much He loves you by sending Jesus. Jesus took your punishment by allowing Himself to be beaten and nailed to a cross where He bled and died. Only by the perfect Son of God taking your place and taking the punishment for your sin can you have a friendship with God like He made you to have. But Jesus' death isn't the end of His story. He didn't stay dead—He came alive again on the third day! He showed He is God who has power over sin and death. After being on Earth for 40 more days, seeing people, and talking to them about God, Jesus went back to Heaven where He is now ruling as King. It is only through Jesus that your sins can be forgiven and you can have a forever friendship with God.

God says you are valuable.

Word Up

Word Up **"I am valuable to God!"** (Say with children.)

Flashcard 1-5 or crown

He made you in His image. Through Jesus, the Savior who is alive and reigning as King in Heaven, you can have a forever relationship with God, which is the best news in the whole world!

CLIMAX

It doesn't matter what others say—God says you are valuable! He invites you to have a friendship with Him through Jesus.

CONCLUSION

Jesus is ruling as King of the universe and someday, if you believe on Him, you will live with Him forever in His perfect kingdom. In His kingdom, no one will say or act like other people have no value. No one will be an outcast (someone left out or rejected). This is something to look forward to!

INVITATION



Jesus died and rose again so you can be close to God and live with God forever. Have you believed on Him to be forgiven? (Read John 1:12.) To believe is to trust completely that Jesus died and came alive again to take away your sins. You receive Jesus when you take Him as your own. When you believe on Jesus, receiving Him as your own Savior, you will become a child of God. You will be part of God's forever family! You will still be part of your family here on Earth, but you will also belong to God forever. He will always be with you and never leave you. Will you receive Jesus as your Savior by believing on Him today? Please bow your heads and close your eyes. If you want to talk to me about believing on Jesus, show me by raising your hand? (Acknowledge responses.) If you raised your hand and want to talk to me about believing on Jesus and becoming God's child, meet me (designate time and location) and I will show you more about that from God's Word.



REVIEW GAME

Royal Treasure Hunt

Cut out jewels from the Royal Treasure Hunt cards in the Resource Pack. These can be hidden around the room or placed up front, point side down. Divide the class into two teams. If the child answers a question right, they get to pick a jewel to turn over. The points on the back of the jewel are given to the team.

Review Questions:

1. In what ways does God show He is creative? (*He makes unique things [people, snowflakes, fingerprints]; answers may vary.*)
2. What does it mean that people are made in God's image? (*People can be like God in certain ways; people are creative; people can love; people can communicate and express their thoughts; people can relate to God and others.*)

3. What happened when Adam and Eve disobeyed God? (*Sin came into the world.*)
4. Who makes every person? (*God.*)
5. What did God see and know about you when you were growing inside your mom? (*He saw me forming; He knew everything about me.*)
6. Why are you valuable? (*Because God says I am; because God made me valuable; because I am made in the image of God.*)
7. What is one way God is working in your body right now? (*He keeps my heart beating; He keeps my brain telling my lungs to breathe; He designed my eyes to adjust to light better than any camera; answers may vary.*)
8. What can you remember when others make fun of you, when you feel worthless, or when you don't like yourself? (*Remember my value comes from God; remember everyone who believes on Jesus is a child of God.*)
9. What is the greatest way God showed you that you are valuable? (*He sent Jesus to die for my sin.*)
10. What is Jesus doing right now? (*Ruling as King in Heaven.*)
11. What does our memory verse say? (*Quote Psalm 139:14.*)
12. When you believe on Jesus as your Savior, what do you become? (*A child of God.*)



SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY

Valuable Things Discussion

Ask the kids what is something that is valuable to them and why? You might want to take notes in your small group notebook so you can remember. After you talk about *things* that are valuable to them, talk about character traits that are valuable to them, like honesty or dependability. Then talk about what qualities about God are valuable to them. Remind them that they are valuable to God because He made them and loves them.

DISMISSAL

Hand out a Quiet Time Sheet – You are Valuable to God! (Week 1 in the Resource Pack) to each child. Encourage them to fill it out and bring it back next week. As children are getting picked up, try and connect with the parents and praise their child in front of them.