

## WEEK THREE – FEBRUARY 2025 – SECOND/THIRD

Bible Story: All I Have to Give | Acts 16:13-15 Bottom Line: Use your gifts to make a difference Memory Verse: "How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well." - Psalm 139:14 (NIrV) Virtue: Uniqueness – Learning more about yourself so you can make a difference

**Series Overview:** Have you ever thought about what makes you, you? We all have different backgrounds, families, or favorite colors. We all enjoy different sports, foods, vacations, and have different friends and experiences in life. Even twins have different fingerprints! Together, all of those pieces make up who we are. But we can't understand who we are and what we were created to do without first understanding the way God sees us. Every single one of us was created in the image of God. But even as image bearers, we were created as unique. There is only one you, and this month we have the chance to explore how God can use the ways we were created to make a difference.

**Bottom Line: Use your gifts to make a difference.** Can you sing or dance? Maybe you are great at encouraging others or helping them with their homework. Everyone has something they can offer or contribute to this world that helps someone else, whether it's a big gift or a small one. So how can you use your gifts to impact someone else today?

## 8:45 - 9:00 | 10:45 - 11:00 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

#### **Connection Centers**

Connect: a time that invites kids to share with others and leaders

What You Need: Activity Bins + Coloring Sheets (find on your shelves in space)

#### What You Do:

- PRE-CONNECTION TIME
  - Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for those who might visit your group for the first time. Think about the ways God has made you unique. Thank God for making you and your few and knowing you deeply. Ask God to help you remind your kids that God made them, knows them, and loves them. Pray that your time together is a chance for the kids to discover more about how special they are and how they make a difference.
- DURING CONNECTION TIME
  - Greet each child by name and with a high five or fist bump!
    - Make sure to grab second sticker from the child + place it on your sticker sheet
  - Invite kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
  - Pull out your activity bins + set aside some coloring sheets for kids to partake in your small group space
  - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them...you can use these :
    - What's something nice you did for someone this past week?"
    - "What's something that made you happy this week?"
    - "If you could change one thing about the world to make it better, what would it be?"
    - "What's your favorite thing to do with your family?"
    - "What's your favorite thing to do when you're not in school?"
    - "What's a way you could be kind to someone this week?"

- AFTER CONNECTION TIME
  - Use this time to review over how to be successful in small group time as well as Flatirons Kids by using the SG Structure 101 sheet featured on your activity shelf
    - Go over each rule to create a great small group experience

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• Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

## 9:00 - 9:15 | 11:00 - 11:15 | OPENING SMALL GROUP

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### **Opening Activity**

*Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery* 

**What You Need:** Coffee filters, washable markers, plastic plates (or tablecloth), prepared spray bottle with water, and a permanent marker

### What You Do:

- Provide each kid with a plastic plate to use at their workspace (or lay a tablecloth down in your group area).
- Give each kid a coffee filter.
- Set out the washable markers.
- Invite kids to decorate their coffee filter with the washable markers.
  - Encourage kids to color all over their coffee filters and create dots, lines, or patterns.
- Once the kids finish, use the spray bottle to lightly spray each kid's coffee filter.
  - Spray them over the tablecloth or paper plates to catch any mess.
- Invite kids to observe the "tie-dye effect" as you spray the filters!
- Once they dry, use a permanent marker to write each child's initials somewhere on the filter (as tiny as possible), so they can be given back to the correct child later.

• Instruct kids to set aside their coffee filters for the Unique Snowflakes Activity.

### What You Say:

"Wow, seeing your drawings, dots, and lines dye the coffee filters and create something beautiful was so cool! *[Transition]* Today, we're going to hear some truth from the Bible about a woman who created something like this—let's listen!"

# 9:15 - 9:50 | 11:20 – 11:50 | LARGE GROUP

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Large Group Overview: In Week 3, we head to Acts 16:13-15, where we find a successful businesswoman named Lydia. On Paul's second journey, he headed to Philippi where he found Lydia and a group of women gathered together to pray. Paul shared the news of Jesus with Lydia, and she used her gifts to serve the believers.

## 9:50 - 10:10 | 11:50 - 12:10 | SMALL GROUP

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# Unique Snowflakes

[Live For God | Application Activity]

*Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery* 

**What You Need:** "Snowflakes" Activity Page, decorated coffee filters from the Early Arriver Activity (or coffee filters), and scissors

### What You Do:

- Give each kid their coffee filter that they created
- Instruct kids to hold up their coffee filters and look around.

- Invite the kids to share what they can see their coffee filters have in common. (all the coffee filters are round, small, folded, see-through, etc.)
- Set out the pairs of scissors.
- Lead kids in making snowflakes from their coffee filters by following the instructions on the "Snowflakes" Activity Page.
  - Remind kids a few times not to cut along the folds (the snowflake will fall apart!).
- Once kids are finished, direct them to unfold and reveal their masterpieces!
- Ask: "Are any of the snowflakes the same now?" (*No! Each snowflake is unique.*)
- Invite kids to point to another kid's snowflake and describe what makes that snowflake unique.
- Continue until every kid has had a chance to share.

### What You Say:

"These are all so cool! I love the designs you came up with for your snowflakes. Friends, we all have something in common—we are all made in the image of God! But no matter who you are, you have something unique to offer too. Just like Lydia had a spacious home, she offered that to others to create space for the church to grow.

"What do you have the most fun doing? What comes easily to you? Ask God to help you find creative ways to use your gifts! You could ask a parent or trusted grown-up to help too.

"When you look at the snowflake you created, remember that you are unique there's no one like you. You have gifts, talents, characteristics, and life stories that are uniquely yours. You have gifts! And with God's help, you can [Bottom Line] use your gifts to make a difference."

### Pray + Dismiss [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

### What You Need: N/A

### What You Do:

- Invite kids to sit with you in a circle.
- Explain to kids that they are going to be your "mirror."
- Begin by making a few hand motions for kids to imitate and direct them to repeat each motion.
  - For example: perform clapping patterns or change facial expressions
- Transition to folding your hands, bowing your head, and closing your eyes, asking the kids to do the same.
- Say a call and response prayer and encourage kids to repeat after you.

### What You Say:

""Thank You, God, for every person in this room.
(kids repeat)
Thank You for making us in Your image.
(kids repeat)
Thank You for giving us unique gifts.
(kids repeat)
Help us to see how we can use our gifts to make a difference.
(kids repeat)
We love You, God. Amen!"
(kids repeat)

As adults arrive to pick up, invite kids to share their tie-dye coffee filters and unique snowflakes! Encourage them to explain what they represent—whose story (Lydia's) and what it means about us (we can use our gifts to make a difference!).