



WEEK THREE – FEBRUARY 2025 – PRETEEN

Bible Story: *All I Have To Give* | Acts 16:13-15

Key Question: *What are your gifts?*

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.

Key Question: What are your gifts? Has anyone ever told you that you were really good at something? Maybe it was a sport or the way you solve problems. Our prayer is that preteens will begin to explore the different gifts and talents they have and how they can use them to help others.

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: Game Room, Card Games + Art Room

What You Do:

- *PRE-CONNECTION TIME*
 - Before kids arrive, spend some time reflecting on your group and what makes each of your students uniquely made and wonderful.
- *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.
 - Interact with preteens in their respective spaces (Game Room/Art Room/Board Games, etc.)
 - Ask questions in order to connect with + get to know your few as you partake in activities alongside them
- *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
 - Transition into the Opening Small Group Activity

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

Opening Activity

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: Prepared index cards, various objects

What You Do:

- Invite your group to sit in a circle.
- Place the various objects you've chosen in the middle of the circle.
- Then, place a numbered index card next to each object, but don't follow any particular order.
- Explain to the group that you will start a story called "Milo Makes a Difference."
 - *Note: If you have a kid named Milo in your group, change the name. Choose a different name if preferred.*
- Share with kids that the story is about a kid who did incredible things to help others!
- Begin narrating the story. Use one of the following prompt suggestions.
 - "Milo was an ordinary kid, but he had a unique ability that no one else seemed to notice . . ."
 - "Milo always wondered how he could make a difference in the world. One day, he found something lying on the ground that would change everything . . ."
- After a few sentences, choose a kid to continue the story from where you left off.
- Before that kid begins, instruct them to take the object marked with a "1" and include it in the next part of the story.
- After the new storyteller has shared a few sentences, invite them to point to another kid to continue. The next storyteller will take the object marked with a "2" and weave it into the story.
- Encourage kids to be creative and have fun but remind them to keep the story focused on Milo using the various objects to do some incredible things!

What You Say:

“Great job telling a very unique story about a one-of-a-kind kid. We could tell many stories about all of you, how unique you are, and what you’ve done to help others! [Transition] **In our Bible story today, we’ll meet someone who combined their skills and possessions to do something that made a huge difference. Let’s go!**”

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

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

Bible Story Extension

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: Bibles, paper plates, yarn, glue sticks, tape, prepared “Connect the Story Dots” Activity Page

What You Do:

- Gather kids together in your group area.
- Give each kid a card from the "Science Lab Review" Activity Pages. Ensure each kid's card has at least one matching card held by another kid.

- It's okay if not all the cards are used at first since you'll play multiple rounds. You can swap or add different cards for each round.
- Just make sure each card you hand out has at least one match.
- Invite kids to find someone with a matching card.
- Direct each pair to grab a Bible and look up Acts 16:13-15 if they need to review the Bible Story.
- Then, instruct them to sit with their pair for a few minutes to discuss the question on the card.
- Give the groups a few minutes to discuss.
- Then, collect the cards, redistribute them, and invite kids to find someone with a matching card again.
 - *NOTE: If you had extra cards left over that weren't used yet, swap them in, but be sure they have a match!*
- Repeat the steps above for a third round of review.
- After the kids have discussed three review questions with different partners, gather everyone together.
- Read each card aloud and invite kids to share the answers they discussed.
- Use the following questions for further discussion.
 - What are you good at? How could you use that gift to help others know Jesus?
 - What skills do we need to follow Jesus?
 - When you follow Jesus, how do you show His love to others when you use your gifts to help?
- ***[Make it Personal] Share an example of how your unique skills and gifts serve others. Wrap up by reminding kids that anyone can follow Jesus regardless of their gifts. One gift God gives everyone who believes in Jesus is the Holy Spirit who lives inside of us, so anyone who follows Jesus will have all the help they need!***

Discussion Questions

[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Ask:
 - We often describe gifts as things we are good at, but even our character traits and personality are part of how God made us unique!
 - What are some character traits that make people different from one another? *(Some ideas for kids could include bold, quiet, brave, compassionate, sense of humor, and creativity.)*
 - How can God use our personality to make a difference?
 - Why do you think we refer to our skills and talents as “gifts”?
 - What can you do to discover what you are good at?

Make It Personal With Prayer

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Divide your group into pairs. It’s okay if there’s a group of three.
- Direct kids to pray silently for the person in their group to use their gifts, talents, and skills to make a difference this week.
- After a few minutes, invite kids to join you in a circle.
- Invite any kids who would like to pray aloud for the group to do so.
- Close the group in prayer.