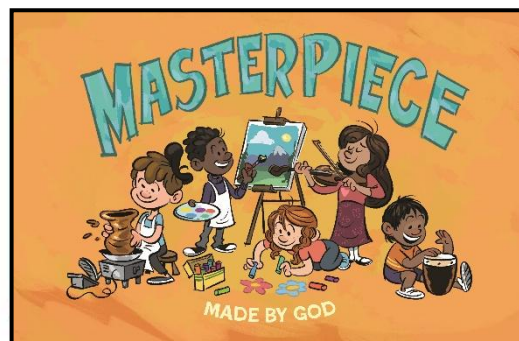


2nd & 3rd Grade

WEEK 1 - STARTER



Activity Name: Blind Self Portraits

What You Need: ☐ Paper plates ☐ Drawing supplies

What You Do:

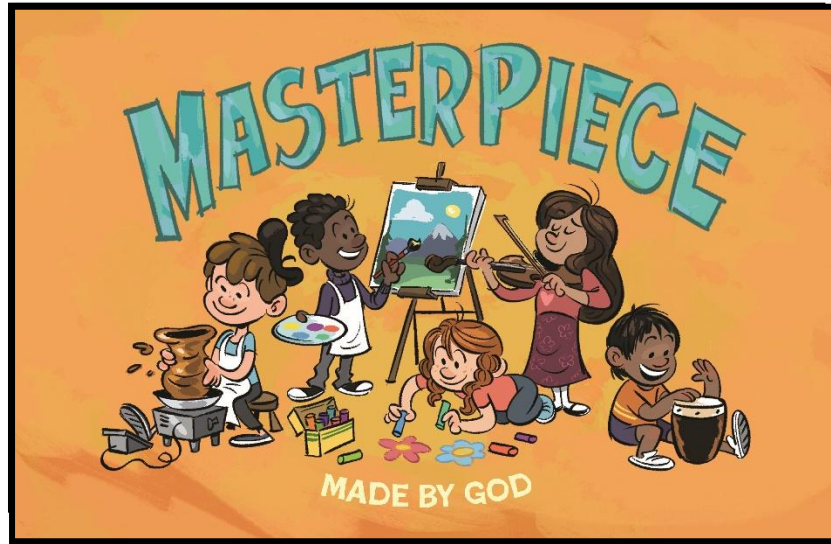
- Give each kid a paper plate and some coloring supplies.
- Instruct the kids to place the paper plate on top of their head and hold it there with one hand.
- Tell them they are going to draw a self-portrait (a picture of themselves) on the plate—but they can't look!
- Guide them step-by-step: "Draw your eyes. Now draw your nose. Add a big smile! Now draw your hair. Don't forget your ears!"
- Have everyone take the plates off their heads and look at their masterpieces. *(Expect a lot of laughter as eyes and noses are floating off the faces!)*

What You Say:

These portraits are hilarious! It's really hard to draw something when you can't see what you're doing, isn't it? Well, when God created you, He wasn't guessing or drawing in the dark. He designed every single part of you perfectly and on purpose. He picked your hair color, the shape of your nose, and your smile. But the most amazing part is that you are made in God's image. God made you to reflect Him, to show the world what He is like. You are not an accident; you are God's masterpiece!

[Bottom Line] I am made in the image of God.

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



Bible Story: Image of God • *Genesis 1:26-30; Colossians 1:15*

Bottom Line: I am made in the image of God.

Monthly 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.* • *Psalms 139:14 NIV*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- If God made you to be like Him, why is it easy to believe mean or untrue things people say about you?
- What are some ways you can show what God is like at school, with friends, or at home?
- Jesus showed us what God is like. Which is harder for you: being kind, humble, forgiving, truthful, or loving? Why?
- If God made every person, how should we treat people we don't like or don't understand?
- What does it mean that God made us in His image?

Activity Name: Creation Bingo

What You Need: ☐ Bible ☐ Bingo Cards ☐ Bingo calling cards ☐ cotton balls (to use as card markers)

What You Do:

- Open the Bible to Genesis 1:26-30. Read it out loud to the kids.
- Then summarize the key points of the passage with thoughts like:
 - Genesis—the first book of the Bible—tells of God creating the universe and everything in it.
 - When God made people, they were His most special creation! And we can learn a lot about who we are based on the first people God created.
 - As we see from these verses in Genesis, God made you in His image. That means you reflect Him to the world!
- Then turn to Colossians 1:15, and read it out loud to the kids.
 - Summarize this by saying: ‘God didn’t want us to wonder what He is like, so Jesus came, and He is the exact image of God because He is God.’
- Give each kid a bingo card and a handful of placeholders/markers in a small container/bowl.
- Point out the middle space. Say: “Before we start, everyone put a marker on the middle space. What does it say? ‘God’s most special creation.’ Who is that? *(Pause.)* That’s right, YOU! People!”
- Pull a calling card, and announce the creation item (e.g., “The sun!”). If kids have it on their board, they cover it with a placeholder/marker.
- Play until someone gets five in a row and yells, “CREATION!” (or “BINGO!”). Play a few rounds as time allows, having kids clear their boards between rounds. If time and interest allow, play different versions, like four corners or blackout.

What You Say:

God made light and dark. He made the sky, the sun, the moon, and the stars. He made the land, plants, fish, and animals. After He made each one, God said it was good. But when God made people, He did something special. The Bible says in Genesis 1:26–27 that God made people in His own image. He made us to be like Him and gave us the job of caring for His creation.

What does it mean to be made in God's image? It doesn't mean we look exactly like God. It means God put something special inside each of us. He gave us hearts, minds, and souls that can show the world what He is like. We can love, show kindness, forgive, help others, and tell people about Him. God didn't have to make us, but He wanted to. He loved us before we were even born, and He made every person in His image.

That's why the middle space on your board is so important. Out of everything God created, people are His most special creation. **Remember our Bottom Line: I am made in the image of God.**

Close in prayer/Invite kids to pray as well.