

# Saturday Morning Church Time

## NEEDS PROVIDED:

- Labels
- pens or pencils
- certificate paper
- ink pad, paper, wipes

## GAME (10 min): Who am I?

Using the labels, put an animal on each student's back or forehead without them seeing it. Then, have children walk around to try to figure out what animal they have. Here's the catch: there is no talking allowed in this game. Students are to shrug at another to ask what animal they have. The responder can act out the animal or make its noise, but the guesser can only speak to make an educated guess at what creature they have. Once they have figured out their animal, students are to act like it around the room. This one can get noisy!

## ASK:

*What was strange or challenging about the game?*

*What makes humans so very unique and different from animals? Brainstorm ways that people are unique. Discuss characteristics that make us special, as well as how we are each unique.*

**SAY:** For one thing, we can speak! It's much easier to communicate when we can use our words. But that isn't the only thing God gave us that makes us special. He created us in very amazing and wonderful ways.

God is the Creator who made us to enjoy variety, because *He* loves unique and special things!

Think of this ... what did God create to pollinate flowers? (let them guess – there's lots of right answers!)

Even though only **one** is technically needed, our creative God made over 10 types of organisms including bees, hummingbirds, butterflies and even bats to do the pollinating. And did you know that in just butterflies alone, there are more than different 17,000 species? They come in every imaginable color, size and shape! 17,000 kinds of butterflies - WOW!!

Now, if God thinks so creatively about butterflies, don't you think He's even **more** creative with humans? God saved the very best thing for last when He made people!

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## BIBLE STORY (7 min)

*Have each child find Genesis 1:26-28 in their Bible. They can read together when you get to that part.*

So God created mankind in his own image, **in the image of God** he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." -Genesis 1:26-28

What do we see here? God made us special because He modeled us after HIM! No other animal is like that. God put people in charge of everything else on earth. This means we need to take care of those other things. But it also means everyone is made after God. Think of your least favorite person (DON'T SAY THE NAME OUT LOUD!). If you could, does it sound fun to do something unkind to that person? Well guess what...they are made after God, too! Does that change things? IT SHOULD!! We are all inspired by God:

Have a child read Genesis 2:7: "Then the Lord God formed a man[c] from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being."

Humans are a direct result of God— His own air and desire. God took plain old dirt and made a person! But one person wasn't quite enough...

Have a child(ren) read Genesis 2:18-22 "The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. 21 So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man."

God put people in charge of animals and even let Adam name them. But we need more than just pets, so God gave Adam a companion. God created us to need other people. Whether it's a spouse, a sibling or just a friend, we are wired and created to depend on one another.

And guess what else is neat? We are all unique people, too!

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## **OBJECT LESSON** (7 minutes):

Give children paper and ink pads and have everyone make some fingerprint art. When everyone is done, look closely at fingerprints. See if they can find 2 that are exactly alike.

No two people have the same exact fingerprints! Isn't that awesome? God is so great...He knows just how many hairs are on your head, and He knows more about you than you even know because He made you...

## **EVERYONE LOOK IT UP** (3 minutes):

Psalm 139: 13-16 "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. 15 My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."

God made us and placed us here on earth. He loves us because we are His creation. That's it! We are His children. When you make something, it is especially yours. That is how our heavenly Father feels about us. He made us...we are His!

## **MAKE IT** (8 minutes):

Give each child a blank certificate paper. Have them decide (or adults can help them decide) what makes them special and unique and then create a Certificate of Uniqueness. Decorate however they want. *Examples: Good Piano Player, Good Baseball Player, Smart Student, Pretty Eyes, Loyal Friend, Funny Kid, Awesome Sister, Curly Red Haired Awesomeness, etc.*

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Thank God for making us so special and unique, and pray for success in doing His will.

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