

Use this guide to help your family learn what God has to say about individuality.

First, watch this week's video!

Individuality: Discovering who you're meant to be so you can 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, NIV

Bible Story

Matthew
Matthew 9:9-13

Bottom Line

Knowing Jesus changes how you see yourself.

Activity

Color-Coded Candy

What You Need:

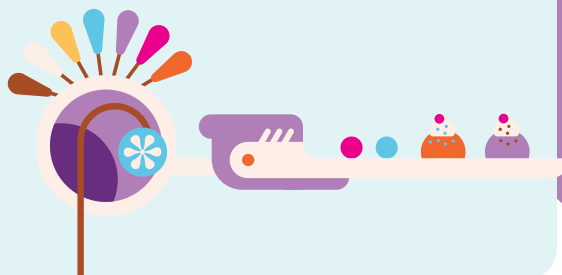
A small bag of multi-colored candy

What You Do:

Open the bag and have each person take a few pieces of candy. For every color you draw out, you each have to answer the following questions:

- Green: What is one job or chore you have?
- Red: What is one thing you enjoy doing?
- Orange: What is one thing you don't like to do?
- Purple: What is a book or movie you like?
- Yellow: If you could make or invent anything in the world, what would it be?
- Blue: What's one thing you really like about yourself?

Say, "It was fun to chat and learn more about ourselves and each other! When you know how God made you, you can start to see yourself the way God sees you!"



Talk About the Bible Story

What was the name of the man who Jesus saw at the beginning of the story? (*Matthew*)

What two words did Jesus say to Matthew when He saw him? (*"Follow me."*)

Why was it surprising that Jesus wanted to eat dinner at Matthew's house? (*Matthew was a tax collector, which meant that people didn't like him or trust him. By eating with Matthew, Jesus was showing everyone that Matthew and people like him were valuable.*)

What do you think God sees when He looks at you? What does it mean to see yourself the way God sees you?

Parent: Talk about a time when you did something wrong and it made you feel like you didn't measure up. What did you do to feel better? How were you able to change how you saw yourself?

Prayer

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"God, thank You for sending Jesus so that we can know You and follow You. Thank You for this reminder that You see all of us—including our mistakes and mess-ups—and You love us completely. Please teach us to see ourselves the way You see us. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

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Key Question

How would you describe yourself?

Activity

Artist for the Day

What You Need:

Hand mirror and dry-erase marker

What You Do:

Give the hand mirror and marker to your child, or stand in front of a mirror together.

Tell them to draw a portrait of you on the mirror, while looking at themselves. You can both take turns. The portraits will be interesting-looking, for sure. The sillier, the better! The point is that it's hard to see yourself clearly when you're looking at someone else.

When you're finished, say, "It was kind of hard to draw each other while we were looking at ourselves! But when we're trying to see ourselves the way God sees us, it's helpful to learn more about and think about Jesus. As we focus on Jesus, it'll start to change how we see ourselves."

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