

## LESSON 1

## I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE

## LESSON AT A GLANCE

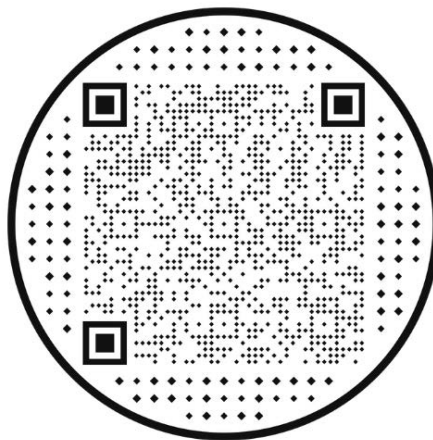
**WONDER TRUTH:** God Made Me on Purpose, for a Purpose**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 139**GOD'S BIG STORY:** King David writes a psalm describing the incredible ways God interacts with us—creating us, being with us, knowing us. God does everything with purpose, including creating us!**WORD OF WONDER:** You created the deepest parts of my being. You put me together inside my mother's body. 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 139:13–14 (NirV)

## CURIOSITY

## BELIEF

## FAITH

- Welcome Question: What skill or talent would you choose to have? Why?
- Curiosity Questions
- Discussion Questions for Younger and Older Kids
- Small Group Prayer Time
- Word of Wonder: Psalm 139:13–14
- Word of Wonder Activity
- Responding in Worship: Wonderfully Made Work of Art

[Wonderfully Made Elementary Spotify playlist](#)



## LESSON 1 **FOR LEADERS**

### INVITATION

**We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...**

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Made Me on Purpose, for a Purpose

**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 139

**WORD OF WONDER:** Psalm 139:13–14

“Where did you come from?”

I asked an innocent question, amused at the barefoot child peeking around the corner of my colleague’s house. We were seated on his porch, taking a moment to debrief a long day’s work.

His daughter had a sixth sense to know that her father was home, so she slipped out the back to come around the building, following the sound of his voice. Without skipping a beat, she looked at me—the stranger interrogating her—and pointed to her father. “Him, I came from him,” she said.

She could have explained that she exited the screen door, but she answered my question with the directness of a child. She came from her dad. Moreover, I was delaying their reunion.

Adults love to share our origins: where we live, where we work, in what locale we were raised. Take a moment to remind yourself that God created you, set your life on a trajectory, and can’t stop thinking of you. Imagine pointing to your heavenly Father to say, “Him, I came from him.”

I invite you to read Psalm 139 and to ask God to give you the perspective of David. There is no way to escape God’s sight and deliberate attention. God created you for a purpose; your heavenly Father gave life as a gift. What is one way that you have been reminded of God’s design this week? As you imagine your earliest moments in the world, how do you imagine God was already shaping you?

—**Jason Hitchcock**

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LESSON 1 **FOR LEADERS**  
**I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS**

**WHO?**

David, Israel's greatest king, is attributed with writing Psalm 139. He is believed to have authored 73 of the 150 Psalms in the Bible. He was a gifted poet and songwriter, often declaring his praise for God in a variety of ways throughout the Psalms.

**WHAT?**

Psalm 139 talks about God's omnipresence and omnipotence—He is everywhere and knows everything. The author realizes there is no hiding from God and invites Him to search his heart, showing him where He wants to change him.

**WHERE?**

In Psalm 139 the “where” is everywhere! God is in the highest heavens and the lowest depths. He is there with us when we are growing in the womb, and He is there with us on our very last day. God is ever-present in our lives.

**WHEN?**

The psalms were written over hundreds of years—from the time of Moses to after the exile from Babylon. Psalm 139, which is attributed to David, would probably have been written sometime in the late 900s BC.

**WHY?**

This Psalm recognizes that God knows us intimately. He created us just as He wanted us to be, and His care for us extends from the womb to death. Therefore, we ask God to search us, refine us, and lead us in His everlasting way.



Curiosity

Belief

Faith

Identity

## LESSON 1 **ELEMENTARY**

Large Group or Small Group

Spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

### LESSON AT A GLANCE

**WONDER TRUTH:** God Made Me on Purpose, for a Purpose

**SCRIPTURE:** Psalm 139

**WORD OF WONDER:** Psalm 139:13–14

Small group leaders should be in place 30 minutes prior to service time. Have play stations with various board games and activities to keep children seated and busy. This time is important to build relationships, welcome new kids, and keep structure in the room!

### Curiosity Questions

Pose the following “I’m curious” questions. Say “I’m curious...” before each question and give kids a chance to think about and answer each one. After each question, consider having kids share their ideas with a neighbor before you call on one or two of them to share with the group.

#### I’m curious ...

- Do you think people are born with different talents and skills? Do you think people develop talents and skills as they grow and get older? Why or why not?
- What skill or talent are you grateful for? This can be something you’re good at now or something you don’t know how to do yet but hope to someday.

**RESOURCES:** Fearfully and Wonderfully Made Coloring Page

Allow quieter kids who don’t engage with the board games to color. Involve them in the curiosity questions.

**Head to Large Group!**

## Small Group Discussion: Younger Kids

**SUPPLIES:** Bibles (1 per kid)

Distribute Bibles to all kids and help kids find the book of Psalms. Encourage kids to find the passages in their own Bibles and follow along. If kids struggle with finding passage, have volunteers assist them or ask older kids to help younger ones. Read Psalm 139:1; 7–14 aloud. Then discuss the following:

- **Who wrote Psalm 139?**
- **What is the farthest away place you can think of? If you went to this place, would God be there? How do you know that?**
- **How does the writer, David, feel about God?**
- **What amazes you about God?**
- **What is one thing you wondered about while listening to David's words about God? Give kids time to think of their questions. No need to have answers.**
- **David talked about how God is everywhere. Even if we try to run away from God, He will always be there to guide and help us. How does that make you feel? Why?**
- **David writes in Psalm 139:13 about how God put us together inside our mothers' bodies. He created us with care, precision, and power. If God takes that much care in making us, what other things do you think God cares about? Allow kids to respond freely.**

**"God created you with love and care. He knows all about you. There is nowhere you can go without God being with you. He wants to be with you because He created you on purpose, for a purpose. God loves you! Let's talk to God together right now."**

## Prayer Time: Younger Kids

Explain to kids that prayer means talking with God.

**"God loves it when we talk with Him, whether it's in a group or on our own. And God wants us to talk with Him about everything!"**

Ask the kids if they have something they would like to talk to God about. Take prayer requests and praises, then pray for the group.

## Small Group Discussion: Older Kids

**SUPPLIES:** Bibles (1 per kid)

Distribute Bibles to all kids and help kids find the book of Psalms. Encourage kids to find the passages in their own Bibles. [Give a brief overview of the history and context using the info on page 3 of this guide.](#) Have kids alternate reading Psalm 139:1; 7–14. Then discuss the following:

- **What is the most difficult place in the world to get to? If you went to this place, where would God be? How do you know that?**
- **What does God do for us, even when we try to get away from Him?**
- **How does God know us so well?**
- **Why do you think God guides us and holds us close, even when we try to run away from Him?**
- **What amazes you about God?**
- **You are God's wonderful creation. What does creation say about the Creator?** Some answers: God is amazing! He made things out of nothing. He made us. He knows us. He is always with us.
- **What is one thing you wondered about while listening to David's words about God?**
- **David talked about how God is everywhere. Even if we try to run away from God, He will always be there to guide and help us. How does that make you feel? Why?**
- **David writes in Psalm 139:13 about how God put us together inside our mothers' bodies. He created us with care, precision, and power. If God takes that much care in making us, what other things do you think God cares about?**

**"God is amazing, powerful, creative, and everywhere! His love and creativity show in how He creates us and how He cares for us. We are no accident, nor does God ever want to be separated from us. God makes us on purpose, for a purpose! Let's talk to God together right now."**

## Prayer Time: Older Kids

Have your group sit in a circle. Ask for requests and praises. Explain that kids will pray for the person to their right. They can pray out loud or talk to God silently. When they are finished praying, they can gently slap the floor to indicate they are done.

## Word of Wonder

### WORD OF WONDER

You created the deepest parts of my being. You put me together inside my mother's body. 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 139:13–14 (NirV)

Have kids open back up to Psalm 139

**"The Word of Wonder for the Wonderfully Made series is Psalm 139:13–14. God created each of us on purpose, and this verse tells us exactly how. Let's read the Word of Wonder together!"**

Have kids open their Bibles to Psalm 139:13–14, lead kids in saying the Word of Wonder with the following motions:

**For you created my inmost being;** (press hands to chest)

**you knit me together in my mother's womb.** (clasp hands as if molding play dough)

**I praise you** ("raise the roof" arms)

**because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;** (stretch an arm up on "fearfully" and "wonderfully")

**your works are wonderful,** (stretch arms above head again)

**I know that full well.** (point to temples)

Psalm 139:13–14 (NIV)

**You created the deepest part of my being.** (press hands to chest)

**You put me together inside my mother's body.** (clasp hands as if molding play dough)

**How you made me is amazing and wonderful.** (stretch an arm up on "amazing" and "wonderful")

**I praise you for that.** ("raise the roof" arms)

**What you have done is wonderful.** (stretch arms above head again)

**I know that very well.** (point to temples)

Psalm 139:13–14 (NirV)

**Leader Tip:** For Older Kids. Ask older kids to come up with their own motions to remember the Word of Wonder.

Talk about these questions:

- **This verse describes God's work as amazing, wonderful, and praiseworthy. How would YOU describe God's power and purpose in creating people?**
- **Why do you think God takes such care and attention when He creates us?**

## Word of Wonder Activity

**SUPPLIES:** paper plates, markers, table (optional)

**RESOURCES:** [Word of Wonder Verse Template](#)

Before the kids arrive, cut out the words on the Word of Wonder Verse Template and glue/tape each word on its own paper plate. Make two sets of verse plates. Gather your kids in a circle and hold up each plate as you say the verse together. Divide the group into two teams and shuffle each set of verse plates. Line up both groups on one side of your space and hand out a plate to each kid.

**"Our Word of Wonder is all mixed up! When I say, "Go!" the first person in line will run to the far side of the room and place her plate on the floor (or table, if using). When she tags the next person in line, he will run over and try to place his plate in order. Any kids without a plate still need to run to the far side of the room and check their teammates' work to make sure the verse is in order. The first team to get all their plates in the right order wins!"**

## Responding in Worship: Wonderfully Made Work of Art

**SUPPLIES:** fine-tipped black markers, colorful markers, wet wipes (optional)

**RESOURCES:** [Wonderfully Made Sheet \(1 per kid\)](#), [Wonderfully Made Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

**"The Bible says you are fearfully and wonderfully made. There is only one you in all the world, and God created you just the way you are, on purpose, for a purpose. You are a work of art, and God loves you! Let's show off God's masterpieces together right now."**

Distribute the Wonderfully Made Sheets and give each kid a fine-tipped black marker. Direct kids to write their names in the blank at the top of their sheets. Encourage them to trace their hand and wrist/arm in the center of the frame. Direct kids to decorate their traced fingers, hands, and arms with different designs that represent who they are (for example, pictures of their favorite things, designs in their favorite colors, etc.). If there's time, encourage kids to write adjectives that describe their unique personality in the white space around their traced hand (for example, *helpful*, *fun*, *smart*, *good reader*, etc.).

### Make It Inclusive!

Some kids may be sensitive to having their hand traced. Offer to draw a hand they can fill in themselves.



Consider playing music from the [Wonderfully Made Elementary Spotify playlist](#) as kids work quietly. When kids are finished, invite them to take turns standing and reading their sheets out loud as a declaration of their identity. For example, a child may stand up and say, "Jake is wonderfully created by Me. Love, God." Kids who wrote adjectives describing themselves may choose to share those out loud as well.