

LESSON 1

I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERTULLY MADE

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDERTULLY 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, and knowing us. God does everything with purpose, including creating us!

WORD OF WONDERTULLY: 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

- Welcome Question: If you could be really, really good at anything, what would you choose?
- Curiosity Questions
- Elementary Multisensory Activity: Play Dough Me
- Preteen Multisensory Activity: Me in 3D
- Declaring God's Wonder
- Prayer of Invitation and Worship
- God's Big Story: Hear It, Watch It, Experience It!
- Connecting the Wonder Truth
- In Awe of God's Wonder
- Word of Wonder Activity
- Discussion Questions for Elementary Kids and Preteens
- Small Group Prayer Time
- Elementary Responding in Worship: Made by God
- Preteen Responding in Worship: My ID
- Blessing Your Kids



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’s one way that you’ve 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**

Theology Editor and Ministry Volunteer
Contributor to Wonder Ink

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?

A psalm is a poem meant to be sung. Psalm 139 talks about God's omnipresence and omnipotence—He is everywhere and knows everything. The author realizes there's 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.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY:

God doesn't merely observe us from afar; He knows us personally and loves us deeply. Just as David wrote that God knows all about him, Jesus pointed to the sparrows and assured His disciples, "God does not forget even one of them. In fact, he even counts every hair on your head!" (Luke 12:6–7).

LESSON 1 ELEMENTARY & PRETEEN

Small Group

Spark curiosity 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

Pre-Service Connection (15–20 min)

RESOURCES: whiteboard, poster paper, or butcher paper, writing utensils, board games or games

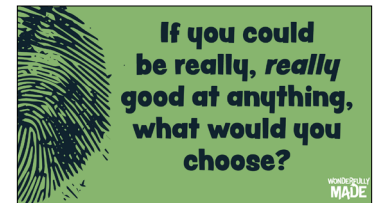
[Games & Activities Guide](#)

Small group leaders should be seated in place in their small groups 20 minutes prior to service time. Have activities ready to keep children occupied and engaged WITH you. This time is important to build relationships, welcome new kids, and keep structure in the room - you should be an active participant with them! Learn the kids names, and make sure they all know yours too!

As kids arrive ...

Warmly welcome new friends, and introduce them to your group.

Use the Welcome Question and the following "I'm Curious" questions to engage kids. Say "I'm curious.." before each question and give kids an chance to think before answering 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.



Consider having a whiteboard or poster for kids to write or draw answers to any of the questions:

- **Look around the room. What's something that someone else in the room is really good at?**
(If your group is small, consider affirming a skill or talent you see in each kid or invite other leaders to share what they appreciate about different kids. For example, some kids might be good at cheering up other people with a smile, at listening to others, or at playing a sport or an instrument.)
- **Do you think people are born with different skills and talents? Or do you think they develop skills and talents as they get older? Why do you think that?**

Small Group Begins

After the Opening Activity or game, Large Group Leader will begin small group time by reading the Welcome Question aloud and inviting everyone to open their Bibles and begin.

Word of Wonder Activity

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)

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid), paper plates (1 per kid), marker (prep only)

Ahead of time, use a marker to write one phrase from the Word of Wonder on each paper plate. (You'll need one plate per kid.) Prepare a verse set of plates for each small group.

Our Word of Wonder for the Wonderfully Made series comes from today's part of God's big story and reminds us that God made us on purpose, for a purpose. Let's say the verse together. Open your Bible to Psalm 139:13–14. If possible, display the Word of Wonder Slide or watch the [Elementary Word of Wonder Video](#). Introduce kids to Psalm 139:13–14 by reading it several times together.

Invite kids to practice the Word of Wonder by playing a paper plate relay! Mix up the plates and set them out on the floor on the opposite side of the room as the kids. Have the kids take turns running to the plates, picking one up, and returning to the group. Once they've gathered all the plates, challenge kids to put the plates in verse order. Be available to help them as needed, especially if there are younger kids or struggling readers in your group.

Leader Tip: For Preteens. Challenge the kids to start putting the plates in verse order while some kids are still grabbing plates. See if they can have the whole verse in order by the time the last plate is delivered!

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

Psalm 139 is a song written by King David about how well God knows us and how involved He is in our lives. In these verses, David praises God for creating him and recognizes that every part of him was made by God on purpose. David is amazed by God's power, wisdom, and care in creating people. This psalm reminds us that our value comes from being created by God, not from what we do or what others think about us. As you read, think about what David wants us to understand about God's role in creating us and why that should affect the way we see ourselves.

Read Psalm 139:6–14 aloud as kids follow along or invite several confident readers to each read several verses.

Elementary Questions

- **Who wrote Psalm 139?** *(King David)*
- **What's the farthest away place you can think of? If you went to this place, would God be there? How do you know that?** *(Consider reading Psalm 139:7–10.)*
- **How does the writer, David, feel about God?**
- **What amazes you about God?**
- **What's one wonderful thing about the way God made you?**
- **God created every part of us! How do you think He feels about you?**

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 with God in prayer right now.

Preteen Questions

- **What's 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?** *(Consider reading Psalm 139:7–10.)*
- **How do you think it is that God knows us so well?**
- **God guides us and holds us close, even when we try to run away from Him. Why do you think He does this? What do you think this tells us about God?**
- **What amazes you about God?**
- **You're God's wonderful creation. What does creation say about the Creator?** *(Possible answers: God is amazing! He made things out of nothing. He's powerful and creative. He made us. He knows us. He's always with us.)*

God is amazing, powerful, and creative. He's 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 in prayer right now.

Small Group Prayer Time

Have your group sit in a circle. Invite kids to share requests and praises. Explain that kids will have the opportunity to pray for the person to their right. (Point to the person to your right and help kids know which direction is right.) Kids can pray for their neighbors out loud or silently, or they can simply bow their heads respectfully. When they're finished praying (or simply ready to pass it on to the next person), they can gently slap the floor to indicate they are done.

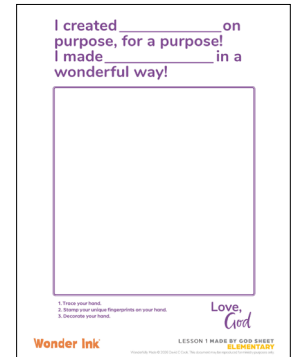
Elementary Responding in Worship: Made by God

SUPPLIES: fine-tipped markers or pens (1 per kid), washable markers, wet wipes, cardstock, ink pads (1 per several kids, optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [Made by God Sheet \(1 per kid\)](#), “Masterplan” from the [Wonderfully Made Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Ahead of time, print a copy of the Made by God Sheet onto cardstock for each kid.

Today we read words of praise that King David wrote to God in Psalm 139: “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made” (v. 14 NIV). God created you on purpose, for a purpose, and there is only one you in all of the world! Did you know that God created every person with a unique fingerprint? Of the billions of people in the world, no one’s fingerprint is exactly like yours. No one has ever had your fingerprint, and no one ever will! Even identical twins have different fingerprints! That’s how carefully God made you! Let’s spend some time reflecting on the amazing and wonderful way God made you.



Distribute the Made by God Sheets and give each kid a fine-tipped marker or pen. Invite kids to write their names in the blanks at the top of their sheets. Then read the sheet together: **I created** (kids say their name) **on purpose, for a purpose! I made** (kids say their name) **in a wonderful way! Love, God.**

Next, invite kids to trace one of their hands in the box on their sheets. When they’re done tracing, collect the fine-tipped markers or pens and set out washable markers. Show kids how to carefully color the tips of their fingers (where their fingerprints are) with a washable marker and press them onto their traced hand like a stamp. (Alternatively, if you have ink pads, kids can press their fingertips into the ink pad.) Invite kids to stamp a fingerprint at the end of each traced finger or decorate the entire hand by stamping their fingerprints in different colors and shapes all over. When they are done stamping, they can use wet wipes to clean the marker off their fingertips.

Next, kids can use the markers to finish decorating their handprints in a way that represents who they are (for example, they might draw pictures of their favorite things, use their favorite colors, etc.).

Play “Masterplan” from the [Wonderfully Made Elementary Spotify playlist](#) as kids create. 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 kid may stand up and say, “I created Jake on purpose, for a purpose! I made Jake in a wonderful way! Love, God.”

Make It Inclusive: Some kids may be sensitive to having their hand traced and to getting marker or ink on their fingertips. Offer to draw a hand that kids can decorate however they would like (without fingerprints!).

Preteen Responding in Worship: My ID

SUPPLIES: cardstock, scissors (prep only), pencils (1 per kid), clear tape (1 roll per several kids), paper (1 sheet per kid), wet wipes, magnifying glasses (optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [My ID Card Sheet \(1 per 2 kids plus 1\)](#), My ID Slide, “Masterplan” from the [Wonderfully Made Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Ahead of time, print the My ID Card Sheet onto cardstock, one copy for every two kids plus one extra. Prep the ID cards by cutting along the dotted lines. You’ll need one ID card for each kid, plus one extra to use for demonstration.

Do any of you know what the letters *ID* often stand for? Invite kids to respond. **Yes, *ID* is short for identity. Our identity is who we are! Today we read words of praise that King David wrote to God in Psalm 139: “I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made” (v. 14 NIV). So who are we? We’re God’s unique creation, created on purpose and for a purpose!**

My ID Card

Name: _____

Age: _____

Address: _____

Unique Facts About Me: _____

LEFT THUMB

RIGHT THUMB

God made me on purpose, for a purpose!

Wonder Ink

LESSON 1 MY ID CARD SHEET PRETEEN

God made you in such a careful and purposeful way that He gave you a unique fingerprint ! Of the billions of people in the world, no one’s fingerprint is exactly like yours. No one has ever had your fingerprint , and no one ever will! Even identical twins have different fingerprints! Fingerprints are so unique that detectives often use them to determine who has been somewhere. They can pull fingerprints off doorknobs and table surfaces (or just about anywhere) and use them to identify who was there.

Let’s spend some time creating ID cards to remind us that God made us in a unique and wonderful way! Give a blank My ID Card to each kid, a pencil, and a blank sheet of paper. Set out wet wipes for cleaning off thumbs when finished and rolls of clear tape. Demonstrate how to use pencil and tape to transfer your thumbprints onto an ID card, following these steps:

1. Make a graphite pad: Use a pencil to color a thick, dark patch on a blank sheet of paper—big enough to fit your thumb.
2. Ink your thumb: Press the soft, fleshy part of your thumb firmly onto the graphite patch.
3. Lift your print with tape: Take a piece of clear tape and press it over the part of your thumb that’s covered in graphite. Smooth it down gently so the graphite transfers onto the tape.
4. Stick your print: Carefully peel off the tape and place it in the correct box on a blank My ID Card.

Next, invite kids to put their thumbprints on their My ID Cards and fill the cards out using information that is unique to them. Circulate among the kids, helping them as needed to transfer their thumbprints onto their cards. As kids finish their ID cards, encourage them to show their fingerprints to each other, comparing loops and arches, and noticing how each is different. If magnifying glasses are available, kids can use them to examine their thumbprints more closely.

Play “Masterplan” from the [Wonderfully Made Elementary Spotify playlist](#) as kids work on their cards. When all the kids finish their ID Cards, invite them to sit in a circle. (If your group is large, consider forming multiple circles.) Invite kids to hold up their ID Cards and take turns sharing something unique about themselves. (It’s OK if some kids choose not to share.) After each person shares, encourage the group to say together: “God made [name of person] on purpose, for a purpose!”

Make It Inclusive: Some kids may not like the feeling or texture of inking their thumbs using graphite. That’s OK! Encourage them to look closely at their thumbprints and to do their best to draw a picture that shows the loops and arches.