

Bible Passage: Psalm 139

CHRIST CONNECTION: God made us and cares for us. He sent Jesus to save us from our sins.

Key Passage phrase: GOD MADE ME. PSALM 139:14

LEADER DEVOTIONAL

From the garden of Eden to the great restoration of the last days, men and women have attempted to hide themselves from God, seeking safety and avoidance of the consequences of sin due to those who think, speak, and act contrary to God’s good design.

We first find this in the garden following the initial sin of Adam and Eve. After seeking their own pleasure, satisfaction, and authority, they felt the onset of conviction over their sin. Their solution to this sense of wrongdoing was to hide from the One who made them, loved them, and had given them the instructions they rebelled against. No surprise to us, God knew where they were. He drew them out of their hiding and confronted them in their attempts to hide their sin.

Even in the last days, this effort to hide from God won’t be successful. In Revelation 6 as the seals are being opened, verse 15 speaks of kings, nobles, generals, rich, powerful, slaves, and free people hiding in caves and among the rocks as the wrath of God for sin becomes more and more imminent. In an effort to hide from God, they run for cover hoping they can escape the looming punishment. In the subsequent chapters of this apocalyptic letter, that coming wrath is revealed against the ungodly and their hiding proves to be to no avail.

Reading these accounts of people seeking to hide from God brings to light at least two very important truths. First, we cannot hide from God. There is nowhere we can go in His creation that He will not be aware of. Second, God knows not just where we are, but every other detail of who we are as well.

In light of this, Psalm 139 provides the most freeing of assurances to our failed attempts to hide, giving the reader a beautiful understanding of the sovereignty of God and the value of every human life. Not only is there no where we can go to hide from God, but every other detail of our lives is known to Him, and even determined and directed by Him.

The next time you are tempted to hide from God because of sin, guilt, or shame, remember these central truths. There is nowhere you can go to flee from God. He knows you better than you know yourself. And He wants you to accept that, willingly confess your sin to Him, and trust that He is gracious and merciful to forgive His children because of His Son, Jesus.

TERMS TO KNOW

Omniscient: having all knowledge, which is true only of God. God knows people better than they know themselves.

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WELCOME

Lead preschoolers to complete “Hidden Pictures” activity page.

SAY: *All of the people who were hidden in the picture looked different from each other. God created people to be unique. That means we are all different from each other. How does it feel to know that God loves you and created you special?*

Tell the following Bible story using the provided storytelling tips or show the video. Use the bold version of the Bible story for younger preschoolers.

BIBLE STORY

EVERY PERSON MATTERS

King David wrote a psalm, or song, to God. David praised God. God knows every person, and He is always with us.

David wrote, “Lord, you know me. You know when I sit down and when I stand up. You know everything I think about. You know when I travel and when I rest; You know everything about me. You know what I am going to say before I open my mouth.

“You are all around me. Everywhere I go, you are there with me. I cannot run from You or hide from You.

“You created me. You made me in my mother’s belly. I will praise You because You made me wonderfully. Everything You make and do is wonderful!

“You knew me and saw me before I was born. You knew what my life would be like. You planned out all my days.”

Finally, David prayed, “God, look at my heart and know what makes me worry. See if I am doing wrong and lead me on the right path forever.

CHRIST CONNECTION

SAY: *Every person matters. God created us and cares for us. He sent His Son, Jesus, to save us from our sins. As we love and follow God, He commands us to show love to everyone.*

CRAFT

DRAW WITH CHALK

Pass out black construction paper. Encourage children to trace their hands on the paper using chalk or construction paper crayons. Allow children to decorate their drawings. Print *God made me. Psalm 139:14* on each child’s artwork. Keep baby wipes nearby for easy cleanup.

SAY: Our artwork reminds us of the truth that God made us. He knows what you will do with your hands tomorrow and when you grow up. We can praise God because He made us and loves us!
is loving. Later, God sent Jesus so we can be forgiven when we do not obey God. Jesus was punished for our sins.

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ACTIVITY

Play a listening Game

Invite preschoolers to play a listening game. Remind the children that God made each of us and loves us all. Every person is special because God made us. Explain you will name different ways to describe people by the way they look, foods they like to eat, and things they like to play. Instruct children to stand up if the statement describes them or to remain seated if it does not describe them. Say a statement and guide them to stand or remain seated to follow directions. Give time for children to sit back down between statements. Possible statements ideas include children with specific hair color, children with specific eye color, boys, girls, children who like to eat ice cream, and children who like to play outside. Use a variety of prompts so that everyone has several opportunities to stand.

SAY: *Each of you stood when I named things that described you. We stood for different things. God made each of us, but we are not exactly the same. Each of us is special and God loves us!*

SNACK AND PRAYER

Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show the Bible story picture poster as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

SAY: *What was your favorite part of today's Bible story?*

SAY: *What did you learn about God in today's Bible story?*

SAY: *Where can you go to hide from God?*

SAY: *What makes people special? People are special because God made us in His own image.*

CLOSING ACTIVITES

Before doing closing activities, please have the children help you clean up the toys and materials that have been used today. After the room is cleaned up, set out markers or crayons and let kids work on today's **Bible Story Coloring Page** until their parents arrive. You can also choose a book to read to the children as they color or for those who don't want to color. Please make the effort to have the children quietly engaged when parents arrive.

When parents arrive to pick up their children, tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well today.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Please clean up by doing the following:

- 1) Leave toys set up on tables so they can be sanitized.
- 2) Use surface spray to wipe down tables.
- 3) Sweep up any cracker crumbs or dirt.